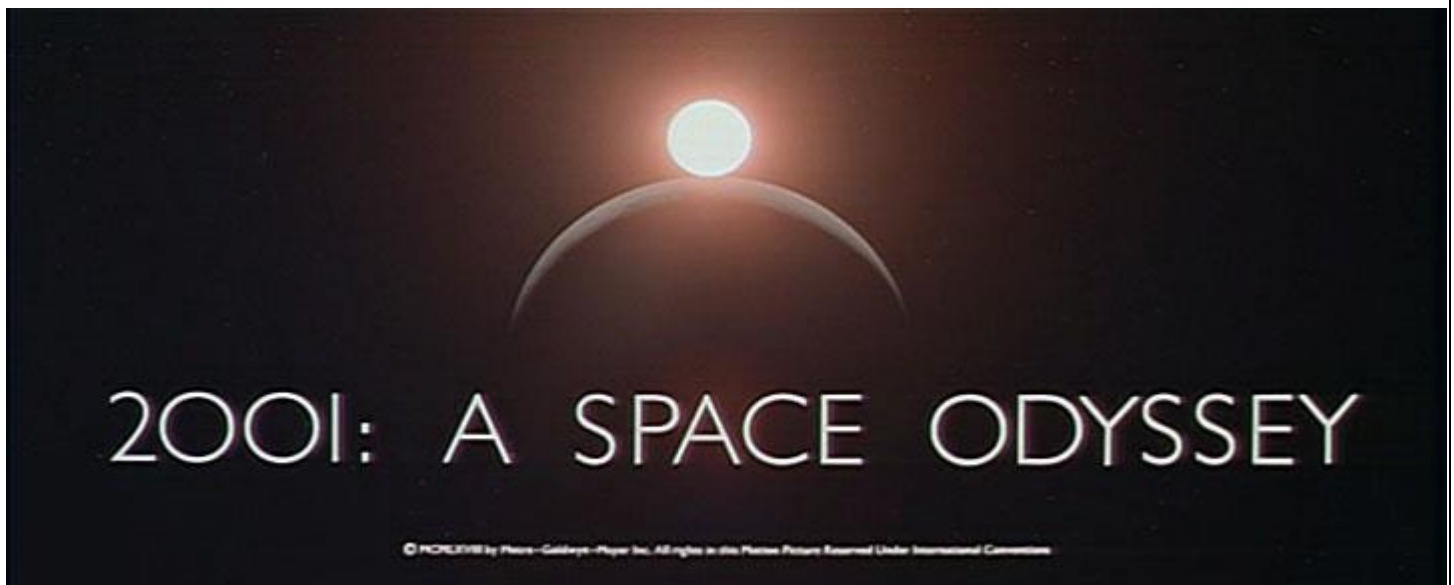




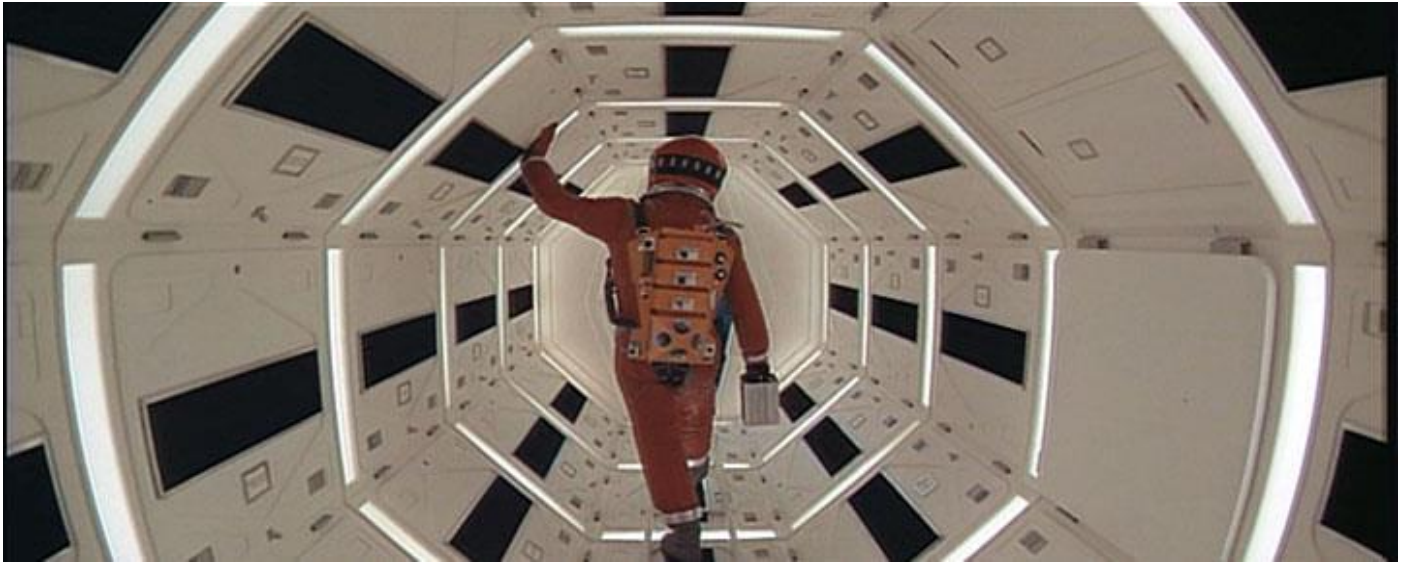
Saturday 5 September at 7.30pm at Mayford Village Hall

Welcome to Woking's New Cinema Club's special presentation, in conjunction with Woking Borough Council, of:



The film is being shown as part of the British Science Festival week which this year is being held in Surrey between 4 and 10 September 2009.





Cast and Crew Credits

When *2001: A Space Odyssey* was released in 1968, it was customary in the film industry to keep the crew credits as brief as possible (how times change!). Only 29 crew members were credited at the end of the film, and it was not until 2000 that all.

Director and Producer: Stanley Kubrick
 Screenplay by: Stanley Kubrick and Arthur C. Clarke
 Director of Photography: Geoffrey Unsworth
 Editor: Ray Lovejoy
 Production Designers: Tony Masters, Harry Lange and Ernest Archer
 Music: Richard Strauss; Johann Strauss Jr.; Aram Khachaturian; Gyorgy Ligeti

Cast:

Keir Dullea	Mission Commander / David Bowman
Gary Lockwood	Astronaut / Frank Poole
William Sylvester	Dr. Heywood / Floyd
Daniel Richter	Moonwatcher
Leonard Rossiter	Smyslov
Margaret Tyzack	Elena
Robert Beatty	Halvorsen
Sean Sullivan	Michaels
Douglas Rain	Voice of Hal 9000
Frank Miller	Mission controller
Alan Gifford	Poole's Father
Edwina Carroll	Aries Stewardess
Penny Brahms	Stewardess
John Ashley	Astronaut
Vivian Kubrick	Floyd's Daughter
Burnell Tucker	Photographer
John Swindell	First Technician
John Clifford	Second Technician
Martin Amor	Interviewer

Credit to the website <http://www.palantir.net/2001/index.html> for the photos and much of the other material in these film notes.

When the Committee of WNCC met to select the film to be screened as part of this annual science event we noted that this year had also been designated the **International Year of Astronomy**, and we contemplated which science fiction films had become “classics”. The resultant list included:

- Metropolis
- It Came From Outer Space
- Capricorn One
- Alien
- E.T.: The Extra-Terrestrial
- Close Encounters of the Third Kind
- Star Wars
- Blade Runner
- Westworld
- Terminator

- doubtless you can think of others!

With Woking's association with H. G. Wells we also considered the various film adaptations of his books, such as:

- **The Island of Lost Souls (1933)**, the original with Charles Laughton (in his first starring US role) as a disturbed, fugitive mad doctor on a remote tropical island who experimentally turned beastly jungle animals into half-human-like creatures; British censors banned the film, claiming it was "against nature"; the film was remade twice with Wells' original book title **The Island of Dr. Moreau** - in 1977 with Burt Lancaster as the sinister scientist, and director John Frankenheimer's version in 1996 with Marlon Brando in the title role
- **Things to Come (1936)**,
- the alien invasion film **The War of the Worlds (1953)**, based upon Wells' 1898 novel; [remade in director Steven Spielberg's **War of the Worlds (2005)**]
- the time travel film **The Time Machine (1960)**, based upon Wells' 1895 novel.

However one film stood out as the ground breaking film of the genre – 2001: A Space Odyssey.

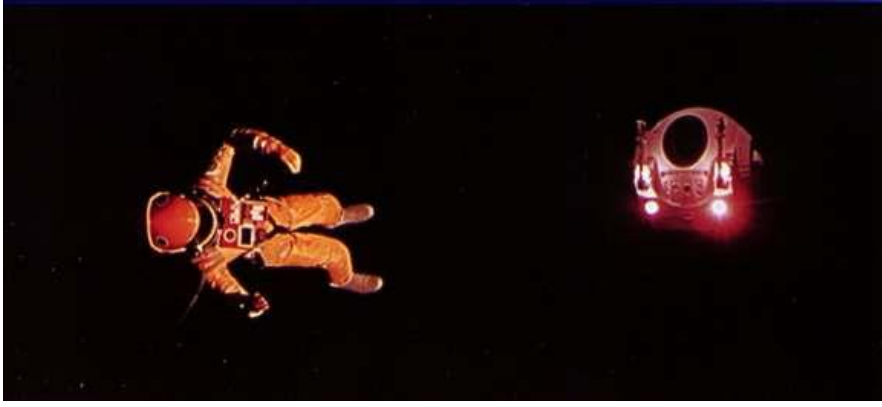


When reviewing the film in 2001 Almar Haflidason wrote on the BBC website:

“If there's ever a re-release in a cinema near you, take advantage of the big screen to get the most out of this visual masterpiece.” I therefore extend my congratulations on your decision to view the film on the big screen here at Mayford Village Hall!

The film is based on Arthur C. Clarke's novel “The Sentinel”, a story Clarke had originally written for a BBC competition, but it didn't even make the shortlist. Although it eventually became an enormous success, the film was not an immediate hit. Initial critical reaction was extremely hostile, with critics attacking the film's lack of dialogue, slow pacing, and seemingly impenetrable storyline.

It restored legitimacy to the science-fiction genre which had been steadily in decline. Indeed the members of the American Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences were so impressed that Kubrick's film won the Oscar for Best Special Effects in 1968 – his only Academy award.



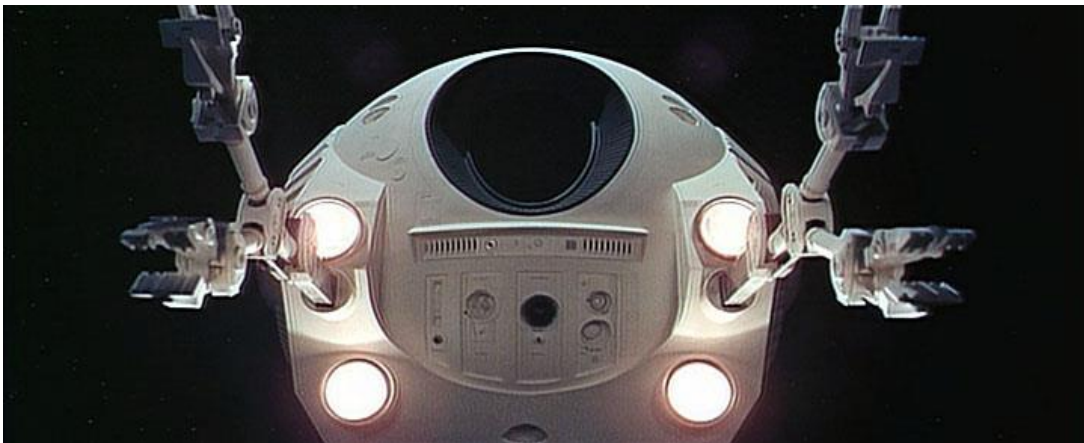
Following its release (10 May 1968 in London, just over a month after the world premier in Washington D. C.), it became the most celebrated space film up to that time.

It visualised space travel with incredible magnificence and seriousness, and it is perhaps important to recall that Neil Armstrong was still a little over 12 months away from his “small step”

moment, which may help to place the quality of the images we are about to see into a historical context.

Kubrick spent five years developing the film. The special effects, were overseen by Kubrick and were engineered by a team that included special effects pioneer Douglas Trumbull - even in today's world of CGI, it's safe to say that the effects are still very impressive. The film's striking cinematography was the work of legendary British director of photography Geoffrey Unsworth, who would later photograph classic films such as *Cabaret* and *Superman*.

Manufacturing companies were consulted as to what the design of both special-purpose and everyday objects would look like in the future. The film also is a rare instance of portraying space travel realistically, with complete silence in the vacuum of space and a realistic representation of weightlessness.



Interpretations of the film are numerous and diverse. Despite having been released in 1968, it still prompts debate today. When critic Joseph Gelmis asked Kubrick about the meaning of the film, he replied: “They are the areas I prefer not to discuss, because they are highly subjective and will differ from viewer to viewer. In this sense, the film becomes anything the viewer sees in it. If the film stirs the emotions and penetrates the subconscious of the viewer, if it stimulates, however inchoately, his mythological and religious yearnings and impulses, then it has succeeded.”



“I tried to create a visual experience, one that bypasses verbalized pigeonholing and directly penetrates the subconscious with an emotional and philosophical content...I intended the film to be an intensely subjective experience that reaches the viewer at an inner level of consciousness, just as music does...You're free to speculate as you wish about the philosophical and allegorical meaning of the film.”

Stanley Kubrick

(July 26, 1928 – March 7, 1999)

Trivia associated with the film:

Clarke denied any link between HAL and IBM (the letters which follow alphabetically from H, A, and L), and stated that if he had noticed it before it was too late, he would have changed it. HAL stands for Heuristic Algorithmic Computer.

Alex North wrote an original score for the film, but Kubrick ditched it when the classical music used on the set to provide atmosphere proved so successful.

Rock Hudson is reported to have been among celebrities who lost the plot of "2001" – he is said to have walked out of the Los Angeles premiere, saying, "Will someone tell me what the hell this is about?"

The advertising for the film included the phrases -- "the most technically complex movie ever made" and "you've never seen anything like it".

Douglas Trumbull asserted that the total footage shot was some 200 times the final length of the film.

The entire film contains only 205 special effects shots, compared to 350 in *Star Wars* (1977) and over 2,200 such shots in *Star Wars: Episode III - Revenge of the Sith* (2005).

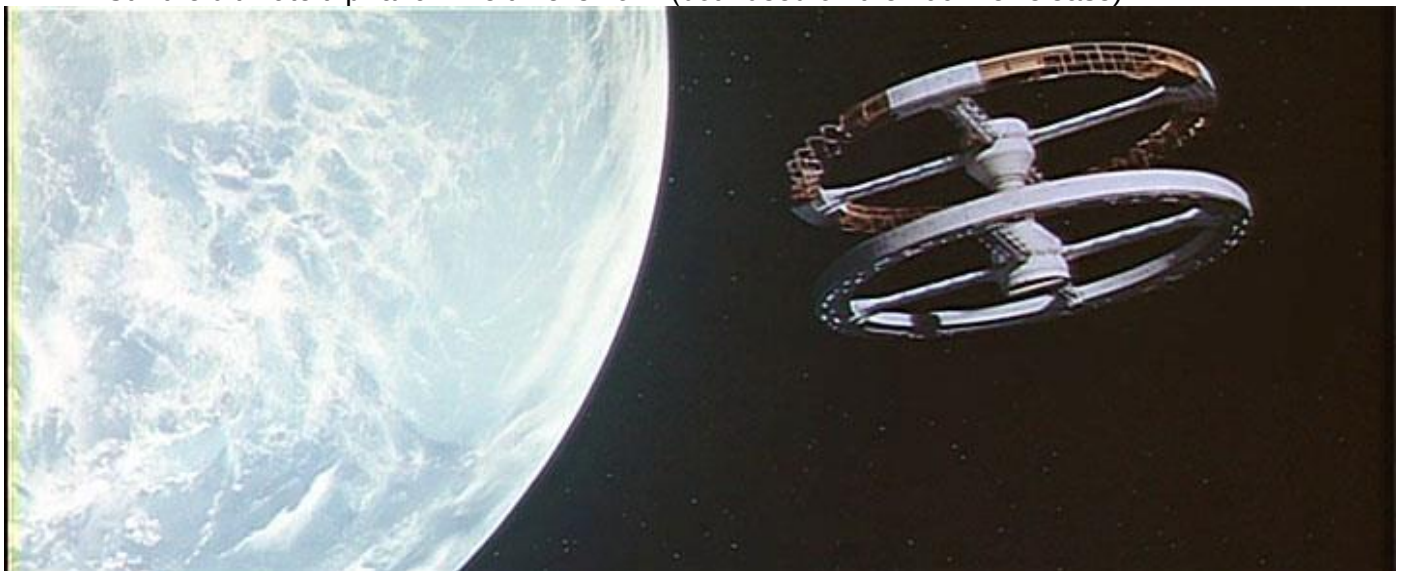
According to Arthur C. Clarke, Stanley Kubrick wanted to get an insurance policy from Lloyd's of London to protect himself against losses in the event that extraterrestrial intelligence were discovered before the movie was released. Lloyd's wouldn't insure him.

When the film was sold to British TV, Stanley Kubrick urged that it be shown in "letterbox" format, with a black area at the top and bottom of the screen. The BBC complained that while this was fine for dialogue sequences, viewers would become confused when the scene shifted to outer space. Their solution, used during the first TV presentation, was to add fake stars to the black areas above and below the picture area. Bitterly opposed by Kubrick, this was never repeated (and certainly will not be tonight!)

Taglines used on posters promoting the film:

"The ultimate trip" (on original release)

"Still the ultimate trip" and "The time is now" (both used on the 2001 re-release)



The British Science Festival is one of Europe's largest science festivals, taking place each September. The Festival is in a different location in the UK each year, bringing you the latest in science, technology and engineering.

This year the Festival is hosted by the University of Surrey in Guildford from 5-10 September with events taking place across Surrey.

Details of the numerous events happening throughout the week can be found on the website:

<http://www.britishtscienceassociation.org/web/BritishScienceFestival/>



I do hope that tonight's presentation persuades you that films are best viewed on a large screen in convivial surroundings with a quality sound system – if nothing else I trust that you agree that £2 is exceptional value and that you liked the refreshments!

If you enjoy tonight, I hope that we will see you at one of the films in the upcoming 30th season of Woking's New Cinema Club, and I list below some of the titles:

Next Thursday (10 September) – Slumdog Millionaire

22nd October – Waltz with Bashir

14 January 2010 – The Boy in the Striped Pyjamas

28 January – To Kill a Mockingbird, which we are presenting to mark the anniversary of President Obama's inauguration and to also highlight the immense social change America has gone through in the last 50 years.

11 Mar – Gran Torino

18 May – Changeling

Please see our brochure for details of the 21 films we are presenting this year (showing on 17 evenings). Membership costs £38 for the season, which we believe offers outstanding value for money.

For more information please either visit our website <http://www.wncc.org.uk/> or call our Membership Secretary, Stephen Lock on 01483 475745 or come along to one of our screenings.

The focus of the season is on those recent films that may have only briefly appeared at your local multiplex (if at all!) together with a few classic older titles. We aim to show the best in world cinema, mixing mainstream Hollywood titles with films from across the world. A regular comment from visitors is that they had wanted to see a particular film but had not managed to see it anywhere else in the area.

All performances are here at Mayford Village Hall and start at 8pm and finish by 11pm. We always have a refreshment interval when tempting homemade cakes can be purchased.

You will be assured of a warm welcome, whether you join or attend only for one film.

I hope to see you again soon.

Mr Iain McGlashan
Chairman
Woking's New Cinema Club

