
Disclaimer: This document was written in 1996 and concerns memories of 1930s life; as such there may be opinions expressed or words used that do not meet today's norms and expectations.

* Transcript ID: HG-92-025PL005
* Scan ID: HG-92-025PL005
* CCINTB Document ID: 92-25-6a-b
* Number of pages: 3
* Date sent: January 1996
* Transcribed by: Annette Kuhn/Standardised by: Annette Kuhn
* Format: Letter
* Details: from Helen Gilmour to Annette Kuhn
* Notes: This transcription has rendered the original text as written, including all spelling and grammatical errors.

REDACTED

REDACTED

Ayr, REDACTED

27th January 1996

Dr Annette Kuhn
University of Glasgow
Dept of Theatre, Film & T.V. Studies
File name. Ex-S let 19.12.95

Dear Miss Kuhn

Firstly, please forgive my delay in replying to your latter. I'm afraid it was caught up in the bustle of the Festive Season. I am interested to note that a T.V. Documentary is being planned in connection with the cinemagoing experiences of Scottish people in the 30s.

Thank you for asking me if I'd be interested in taking part in an interview for the proposed programme. I'd be quite happy to answer any questions – if I can; but I would not like to appear on the T.V. screen if that is a possibility.

I doubt if I can give you any information additional to my article "Q. Here" which I understand you photocopied for your file, some three years ago – already. An earlier article may

contain some “snippets” of interest not included in ‘Q Here’. Copies are enclosed, which I shall be obliged if you will return in due course.

In the BBC Release, mention is made of long serving projectionists. In this connection I am taking the liberty of mentioning – unknown to him – Me. Angus MacAskill (not the weatherman!) who served as Projectionist in the Odeon Cinema, Ayr, for over 30 years, and prior to that, in Glasgow. He retired a few years ago and now resides at

REDACTED

REDACTED

Wokingham, Berks

REDACTED

which I believe is a Residential Home available to retired Cinema and Theatre “people”

Although my visits to the Pictures are not very frequent, depending largely on the film, I did enjoy recently “Rob Roy” and “Braveheart” which I believe have been well received generally. I must admit I did feel rather nationalistic after the last mentioned, only one of many no doubt. I do feel there is too much violence and brutality depicted on the screen to the detriment of the younger generation of today. It is so refreshing to sit back and enjoy the very occasional uncomplicated “romantic” story, viz “Shadowlands”.

I am rather amused nowadays when I compare the programmes of the earlier times which last 3-3½ hours during which time a 2d bar of Cadbury’s chocolate sufficed, with today’s programme of perhaps 2 hours when “a meal” of “Burgers”, Icecream, Crisps, Popcorn, Drinks, etc is consumed. On my last visit to the local Odeon, three female teenagers were out and in at least three times for “ears”. I jokingly remarked on the third occasion – “Are you on the Third Course now”? Time have surely changed!

I do hope I haven’t taken up too much of your time reading this letter. It was not my intention to “pen” as much but I do go on once started and I have never forgotten my father, on receipt of several Trade Show invitations, commenting –

“Here’s one for you Helen entitled

“Gift of the Gab”.

Oh well, so it goes.

Thank you, and your colleague for your good wishes. Please accept the very best wishes for your continued success in researching the cinemas business.

Yours sincerely

Helen Gilmour