



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

20 November 2015

**SHINNING A SPOT LIGHT ON THE HUNTER - NEWCASTLES MAJOR FILM FESTIVAL RETURNS 27 – 29 NOVEMBER**

For the fourth successful year the **Real Film Festival (RFF)** returns to Newcastle for a 3 day creative event in the heart of the city.

With a focus on amazing true stories, emphasis on local people and an incredible array of learning, networking and engagement opportunities, the RFF aims to be the film festival for all ages.

The festival kicks off with a Red Carpet Gala Opening Night at Tower Cinemas with visiting stars from *Pirates of the Caribbean: Dead man tells no tails* and featuring the stunning film ***Sherpa***. This will be followed by a celebratory cocktail party at Customs House Newcastle.

As the festival grows each year, we continue to attract and play host to some of the industries most talented people, with Q&A sessions, in-depth workshops and competitions for all ages and levels of expertise. This year some of the workshops include special effects makeup, game development, how to increase your YouTube likes and online success, directing and many others.

Our very popular *free* open air cinema will again be held at Civic Park, this year featuring the uplifting and inspiring family film ***Paper Planes***. Starting at 7pm and raising money for the Westpac Rescue Helicopter, it will also feature great music from 'Shooting Molly', a great outdoor BBQ and entertainment for the family.

Sunday afternoon sees a collection of fascinating short films being shown at Newcastle Museum. Many of these films have been made by locals about local events and people, and will also feature number of Q&A sessions with Garth Russell, Allan Brady and Beth McMullen.

Our closing night ceremony on Sunday night will feature the uplifting film ***Dream Racer***, and will also feature a question and answer session with Port Stephens local **Christophe Barriere-Varju** the inspiring individual behind this amazing true story. Closing night is also when the winners of the short film competition will be announced, with the winning films screened before ***Dream Racer***.

This year's feature films screened across the three days are; ***Sherpa***, directed by Jennifer Peedom; ***Another Country*** Directed by Molly Reynolds (Q&A session with Molly after the screening); ***How to Change The World***, directed by Jerry Rothwell; ***Drunk Stoned Brilliant Dead***, directed by Douglas Tirola and ***Dream Racer***, directed by Simon Lee.

Tickets for the opening night Red Carpet Gala, workshops, feature films and short films as well as closing night film and drinks are available from the Real Film Festival Website.

**Media contact:**

For further information contact Annette Hubber on [annette@realfilmfestival.com.au](mailto:annette@realfilmfestival.com.au) or 0423020191. Interviews and photos with industry professionals can also be arranged by contacting Annette.

Real Film Festival Website: [www.realfilmfestival.com.au](http://www.realfilmfestival.com.au)

**ENDS**