



To whom it may concern,

I am writing in support of continuing the Real Film Festival in 2018 and into the future.

Since Annette Hubber initiated the Real Film Festival in 2012, it has grown into one of the most important events on the calendar for regional filmmakers. Annette's passion for film and her industry experience have created a festival that is an important catalyst for regional and national collaboration in screen education and entertainment. In addition to promoting local content through a magnificent selection of features and short films the festival also includes high quality educational opportunities and professional development through its range of industry panels, workshops and networking events.

The opportunity for collaboration and networking that the festival continues to generate is invaluable to the growth and sustainability of Newcastle's film and television industry.

Importantly the Festival includes mentoring emerging talent from the region through the Festival's volunteer-mentor program and supports and develops many local talents who started their careers as volunteers for the festival.

As a direct result of the networking opportunities made available through the Festival my company have employed two volunteers since the festival began. Both have credits on our newly released feature documentary 'Angels Gather Here' soon to be released nationally through our distributor Ronin Films.

The 2017 festival was an outstanding success with great feedback for screenings and workshops. The sold out closing night screenings attracted many Novocastrians and others who travelled from rural and remote country areas of NSW including Brewarrina.

Finally I am a passionate supporter of the The Real Festival because of its vital importance in continuing to grow regional filmmaking.

Kind Regards,
Ian Hamilton
Creative Director