

Members and guests feedback comments for *Kneecap*

A rollicking, feisty, fabulous little film, sustained by humour and commitment to its cause. I came with earplugs and trepidation but left with elation; the kneecapping and rapping were key to the action and the swearing revealing of the depths of feeling - now they've got ME at it, begorrah and drat it but when everything's done an undoubted grade one!

A difficult film to rate, I can't decide whether I loved it or hated it. Decidedly uncompromising narrative and messages which, on reflection I am glad I saw. It brings back memories of being in Central London during the IRA bombings and now, I realise, not really understanding what was driving the terrorism. In my opinion, hardly a film to recommend in general but of value. Interestingly, I find I have talked about it to friends quite a bit. So, I'll go for GOOD rather than Poor.

This was wild, manic, irreverent and laugh out loud funny. I loved it. A very brave choice for RFS as it's probably not everyone's cup of tea.

Definitely an interesting film and a fresh and different coverage of The Troubles in Northern Ireland. Impressive platform for the Gaelic language. However, it did not pull me in emotionally and I simply did not care enough about the main protagonists.

A strong subject and a very different take on the problems in Northern Ireland. Strange that swearing and strong language is more acceptable in Gaelic. Enjoyed it and the black humour made it a really strong film.

F***ing brilliant.

Ludicrously funny

Full of energy and humour.

I don't laugh out loud at many films. This one I did and I had seen it before. What an anarchic and joyful film only enhanced by the very very colourful language and very loud music.

Very entertaining and vibrant film. Lots of humour amid the serious issues shown.

This film was stylistically fresh and lively. It had traces of originality and thinking outside of the cinematic box...only thirty years on it very much came across like the Grandson of *Trainspotting*. The acting was great, even if the protagonists were playing themselves. Anyhow, for the most part it was enjoyable and the time flew past and there were no longeurs, which is always a good thing. The reason why I did not award it an Excellent was that the plot as such was contrived, one of them ends up shagging the niece of a high ranging police chief, who as it turns out burns down the recording studio, with the niece going onto learn Gaelic. Even if this were all true, it still comes across as a story line that too neatly fits one of its many holes. In real life, from what I have read about them, I am not convinced by Kneecap one iota. Apart from their execrable music, they come across as intellectually challenged faux radicals playing at politics and pretending to be revolutionaries, all the time in thrall to The Man and having to sing for their supper just like any other chancer. Anyway, it does not look like Kneecap and their forlorn country will sink into its very own bogpeat any time soon but being objective, I still say a good film and a good choice.

Entertaining and well-acted with some laugh out loud moments.

A dire saga of drink and drugs befuddled eejits cavorting around Belfast on the premise they were helping to preserve/promote their national language and identity.

It was good to see a film that didn't traumatise me! It was engaging and fun and I enjoyed it.

Quite a departure for RFS to show this anarchic film. It reminded me of *Trainspotting* with its energy and dark humour. It was enjoyable even if the drug use was a bit too much.

Good to see support for the message that everyone has the right to use their own language and enjoy their choice of music but for me the weakness of the film was conflating these rights with drug dealing and use.

A terrific film, full of energy and wit. It even made me begin to appreciate rap music!

I assume that this film was a publicity video for the West Belfast Tourist Board! But as I don't understand the north Ireland accent much of it unfortunately passed me by.

Not your typical RFS film! Fast-paced, funny and thought-provoking and set in the North of Ireland (!) against a backdrop of post-Troubles heritage. All the more interesting when you realise with the closing credits that the hip-hop three are a real band, playing themselves. An unusual choice of film - I'm looking forward to seeing the comments from other members.

Appreciate the idea behind the film...an insight into the contemporary culture of Northern Ireland. Apparently based upon a true story of a father who faked his own death. I found the dialogue hard to follow and as a result some of the humour failed to reach me!

It was interesting to hear the use of Gaelic throughout the film which you don't often hear in London. There was some humour in the film but I am uncertain what the overall message of the film was other than - Not to suppress your roots and explore your language and identity.

Thoroughly enjoyed Kneecap. Frenetic, fun modern-day narrative explaining the complexities and history of the Irish language and the political unrest of Northern Ireland. Fantastic performances from the real band members to make it a very original film.

I thought this was an unusual and amusing film even though it was set in Belfast. There were a number of interesting themes including how languages survive and the sectarian divide all these years after The Troubles. The music was great.

A brave and unusual film which I enjoyed.

Thank you. For me, this is the best film of the season by far. Can you show it again, so that I can catch the small parts I missed, getting my ear around the accent.

An excellent film, very funny; yet powerful story, based on fact. Hopefully, no-one is encouraged to mix drugs as was portrayed. Peace in the north is relatively recent and there are huge divisions between the two communities. The protestants are very slowly adjusting to not being the all-powerful colonists of old.

Double the drugs of *Trainspotting* but only half as funny.

Most enjoyable film in a long time. Even the music!

If you try hard enough, you can normally find some redeeming factors in most films. But I am struggling to find any in this one. If this film was deemed to be humorous, then I clearly must have had a humour bypass.

Full of zany humour and a fresh take on Northern Ireland. Mostly enjoyable although perhaps a bit too flippant about drugs. I arrived home that night to a Newsnight item all about the dangers of Ketamine addiction - does terrible things to your bladder apparently!

A brilliant and engaging film! So funny and different and it was great to hear the Irish language used in such a creative way.

Exuberant, entertaining, original.

Funny and transgressive entirely in the spirit of the cultural use of Gaelic and Rap music- I enjoyed it - it had energy and told some truths about the legacy of British imperialism but also the literally fractured and varied responses it has spawned - interesting unique take on "The Troubles" A confident vibrant film.

One of the best films I've seen in a long time. Brilliant comedic timing and a brilliant story line. I laughed out loud all the way through. The scene where they are taking drugs in the teacher's garage was hilarious and when they take ketamine instead of cocaine—well I thought I was gonna die laughing. The music was inspiring and fresh, I didn't even know they were a real band. I love the mix of Gaeilge and English language, which prompted me to listen to their music and being Irish myself found myself wanting to learn Gaeilge myself. All in all— I haven't laughed so much in ages. The film was genius! 10/10.

I enjoyed it just as much on a second viewing - highly original, subversive and an absolute hoot. Richard Peppiatt, the director and co-writer of the film used to be a journalist. His 2011 resignation letter to the then proprietor of the 'Daily Star', Richard Desmond, is an interesting read (Google 'Rich Peppiatt resignation letter').

From start to finish, this film was entertaining, creative and very thoughtful.

Laugh out loud funny with some very serious messages.

A quirky, funny film with a novel presentation.

Funny, anarchic, swears, political and all round great fun. Sex and drugs and rock and roll – what's not to like?!

Funny in places and tedious at times.

I hated the constant awful bad language and depictions of drug use. Some lines were quite funny but I wouldn't class this as a comedy.

It was a blast! Great music, funny, inventive, and rude. Another great pick RFS.

Loved the music!

Loved it! I had been looking forward to this for some time, as I enjoy seeing and reading anything on NI and Irish history generally: a little bit taken aback by the loud and swearsy nature at first but once I'd got used to it I was able to follow most of it and as a student of the Irish language it was great to hear it on the screen (only the second Irish language film at RFS I think?). Enjoyed the interplay between the characters (though did struggle with the quick speech and accent at times!) and the style of the film - made me think of both *Trainspotting* and *Moulin Rouge* at times. Not a fan of American rap but certainly enjoyed this Irish version and I've had 'H Double O D...' going around my head all week since! I'm now envious that my daughter has already seen Kneecap, the band, live.

A waste of time. The word illiterate springs to mind.

It was great fun and interesting to find out that it was based on truth. A plea from my husband for subtitles even if the film is in English. He is quite deaf so he missed a lot but enjoyed it anyway.

Another great choice which I would never have gone to watch at a cinema. *Trainspotting* for Northern Ireland....

I had no idea how segregated NI still is even with the establishment of a united parliament. Very funny take on life in NI and even more interesting to see the film is based on their real lives!

Brilliant. Captures the culture, historic troubles, brutality and yet resilience of the people wonderfully well.

Thank you for showing what may have been a controversial choice. But that I thought was one of the best films I have seen you show.

Very in-your-face – but hugely entertaining film. It was only afterwards when I read the reviews, that I realised the band were playing themselves – I had thought that the music and rapping felt authentic. Certainly, a change from usual RFS fare!

Despite the praise the film has received it did very little for me. The subtitles were obviously helpful when there actually were subtitles but it was also difficult to follow much of the heavily accented English. I came out thinking my evening could have been far better spent. Also, I don't feel like giving much praise to anything connected to a musical group one of whose member's comments has allegedly been "The only good Tory is a dead Tory. Kill your local MP".

A lively, energetic, foot tapping film, spoilt for me somewhat because I couldn't understand all the dialogue. But the two leads who I've since learned are real people playing themselves, were fabulous and definitely have major charisma. Really enjoyed the performance of the teacher come rocker too. There were some very witty lines, it was really well shot and held my attention well, it reminded me of other Irish films like *The Commitments* a bit, although I'm not sure if that was Northern Irish. I've only not given it a 4 (*Good? Ed.*) because it wasn't to my personal taste in the same way that other recent films have been.

Funny, frightening, loving, annoying, passionate -perfect ingredients for a film.

The film had some amusing comedic episodes but there was too much drug taking and bad language for my taste. It would have been useful to have had subtitles throughout, as some of the heavily accented English was difficult to understand!