

THE BIG SCREEN

THE HUNTSMAN: WINTER'S WAR (12A)***

Scheming Queen Ravenna (Charlize Theron) rules over her realm in the south with a steely glare. Her kind-hearted younger sister, Freya (Emily Blunt), falls madly in love with the Duke of Blackwood (Colin Morgan), who is promised to another, and falls pregnant with his child. Shortly after the birth of a baby girl, the Duke torches the infant in its crib, unleashing a wave of grief and fury in Freya that transforms her into The Ice Queen. She moves north, establishes her own kingdom and kidnaps children from nearby villages to mould into an army of heartless soldiers. The Huntsman: Winter's War barely breaks sweat as it warps familiar fairy tales to facilitate a heavy-handed fable about love's redemptive glow.

MIDNIGHT SPECIAL (12A)****

Television channels flicker to life with breaking news of the abduction of an eight-year-old boy, Alton Meyer (Jaeden Lieberher), by a man identified as Roy Tomlin (Michael Shannon, below). Viewers are asked to remain vigilant and telephone any sightings. Inside a hotel room, Roy and his buddy Lucas (Joel Edgerton) prepare to move Alton - Roy's biological son - under the cloak of night in order to avoid attracting attention. A brief pit stop for petrol leads to devastation on an unimaginable scale and reveals some of the little boy's powers. Back at the compound of a religious cult, which used to be Alton's home, leader Calvin Meyer (Sam Shepard) despatches two obedient disciples, Doak (Bill Camp) and Levi (Scott Haze). Midnight Special plays cat-and-mouse with our frayed nerves.



THE MAN WHO KNEW INFINITY (12A)***

Ramanujan (Dev Patel) is a 25-year-old shipping clerk in 1914 Madras, who dreams about formulae, which he scribbles in chalk on temple floors. With the blessing of his employer, Sir Francis

Spring (Stephen Fry), Ramanujan sends some of his mathematical musings to revered academic GH Hardy (Jeremy Irons), who is a fellow at Trinity College, Cambridge alongside Bertrand Russell (Jeremy Northam). Hardy invites the bank clerk to England to nurture his gift. Working closely with Hardy, Ramanujan makes a series of breakthroughs and challenges the Englishman's long-held atheism. Patel and Irons are a pleasing double act, but sadly, by the poignant end credits, we're no closer to fully understanding Ramanujan's invaluable contribution to a world of rigorous theorems and proofs.

EDDIE THE EAGLE (PG)****

Since he was a boy, Eddie (Taron Egerton) has driven his father Terry (Keith Allen) to distraction with a burning dream to compete in the Olympics. He struggles to find a sport that suits him, so he switches attention to the Winter Olympics and discovers a loophole in the rulebook that would allow him to become Britain's first representative in the ski jump since 1929. Aided by his mother Janet (Jo Hartley), Eddie heads to Germany to a ski jumping training centre run by hard-drinking former competitor Bronson Peary (Hugh Jackman) who takes pity on Eddie and helps the newcomer to master the basics. Eddie The Eagle is an unabashedly crowd-pleasing delight for all ages.

BATMAN V SUPERMAN: DAWN OF JUSTICE (12A) ***

The world struggles to come to terms with the arrival of Metropolis' modern-day messiah, Superman (Henry Cavill). A committee asks uncomfortable questions about the god-like protector and his ability to crush humanity. Martha Kent (Diane Lane) tells her son that he doesn't owe the human race anything but Clark's heart belongs to Daily Planet co-worker Lois Lane (Amy Adams). Unfortunately, tortured vigilante Batman (Ben Affleck) holds Superman accountable for the deaths of the innocent and declares war. While the two crimefighters are locked in battle, inflamed by the scheming of Lex Luthor (Jesse Eisenberg), a new threat arises.

PEOPLE MAKE GLASGOW



HOSPICE LOTTERY WINNERS

The Hospice Lottery winners from Friday 1 April:	McKellar 110928 £10
McDevitt 125204 £500	Adams 117044 £10
Mulheron 088674 £50	Smith 123952 £10
Nicholson 030316 £10	Sorry, no Rollover Winner this week. Next Week's Rollover Prize will be £3900
Forrest 098324 £10	



Jim McLean, of South Lanarkshire Orchestral Society with front row from left- Jack Halferty, Drew Gupwell, Jim, Scott Wilson, Lynsey Thomson. Back row from left- Aidan Maloney, Sean Waters, Jenny Alexander and Kira McManus

STILL HITTING RIGHT NOTE 58 YEARS ON

SOUTH Lanarkshire Orchestral Society has been going strong for 58 years – and Jim McLean has been there since the start. Firstly as a player, then as a tutor, and now as manager, Jim is the “glue that holds it all together”, according to his colleagues and friends.

As SLOS prepares to relaunch its logo and website with a vibrant and contemporary new look, Jim spoke to ANN FOTHERINGHAM about music, mentoring and more

By ANN FOTHERINGHAM

T says a lot about Jim McLean, who has been a member of South Lanarkshire Orchestral Society for almost six decades, that the first words out of his mouth as we begin the interview are thank-you for everyone else.

From the conductors and volunteers to the janny at Uddingston Grammar, the orchestra's rehearsal home, he is quick to pay tribute to everyone involved.

Everyone else, however, is having none of it.

“It does not surprise me that

Jim plays down his part in Slos,” Elaine Duffy, assistant music co-ordinator at South Lanarkshire Council, laughs out loud. “He is a very self-effacing man.

“But Jim is the backbone of the society, the glue that holds it all together. He has the historical perspective, and yet he is clever and creative enough to be able to move with the times, to keep things modern and fresh.

“It is an exciting time for

Slos, with the forthcoming launch of a slightly more contemporary look and website.

“Jim wants the best for the orchestra, and for the young people, and they like and respect him for that. Slos is his life and he is passionate about its future which is why he works so hard on its behalf.”

Graeme Barclay, head of South Lanarkshire Council's Instrumental Music Service, agrees.

“Slos is built on commitment, dedication and hard work, and Jim sums that up,” he says.

“In a very subtle way, he brings out a level of commitment and shared ownership of the society among the young people who are part of it. South Lanarkshire Council supports and celebrates the level of community-building that Slos provides.”

Mr McLean, who grew up in Coatbridge, started learning the piano accordion when he was nine years old.

“When I went to high school, piano accordion was not an option, so I switched to singing, and then piano,” he explains.

“Then Bill Irving, my music

teacher and the first conductor of Slos – which was then called the Lanarkshire Youth Orchestra – found an old cello in a cupboard and taught me to play.”

Originally, the orchestra was made of pupils from Uddingston Grammar, Hamilton Academy, Strathaven Academy and Lanark Grammar. Nowadays, the reach is much further, encompassing most of North and South Lanarkshire. It is aimed at young musicians aged up to 24, and junior members attend free for the first year.

“It expanded very quickly, so in the mid-1960s, a concert band was formed, then came a training orchestra, then a junior concert band,” explains Mr McLean.

“It continued to grow throughout the 1970s and 1980s and now we have six groups – junior, intermediate and senior concert bands and junior, intermediate and senior string orchestras.”

After leaving school, he studied music at the Royal Scottish Academy of Music and Drama in Glasgow – now the Royal Conservatoire of Scotland – but remained part



of Slos, helping out at concerts first as a player, then as a cello tutor.

He became a music teacher, firstly at Coatbridge High and then at Rosehall High, and is now retired. He will turn 72 in June.

As conductor of the strings training orchestra, he inspired and encouraged a generation of young musicians, taking them on residential trips to Salzburg and performing at charity events closer to home.

“We were once asked to perform at a charity night in a fancy Glasgow hotel, where Princess Margaret was the guest of honour,” recalls Mr McLean. “It was an exciting moment for

us. One of my favourite memories is travelling to Salzburg for the International Music Festival, one of the most prestigious events of its kind in the world.

“The young people were very nervous at first, as it was such a formal occasion, but they soon got into the swing of it and loved dressing up for dinner and listening to the musical performances.

“These events were about giving young people independence and helping them to develop social skills and confidence as much as they were about the music.

“That is an important part of Slos for me – it is not just about

producing fine musicians. One or two of our members have gone on to achieve great things, musically. But many have gone on to do very well in other areas of society too, and they credit Slos with helping them to get there.

“I bumped into a man who had played at Slos when he was a boy and he told me he was an auditor for one of the biggest companies in the country.

“He said that lots of what he was doing now he had learned at Slos – discipline, hard work, teamwork, respect. That made me feel very proud of what the society can achieve.”

Mr McLean, who is now orchestra manager, is one of two paid members of staff at Slos – the rest are volunteers.

He beams: “This orchestra did so much for me when I was young that anything I can do to help keep it going for the benefit of more generations of young people, then I will do it.”

He pauses. “I am still here, because I love being part of it,” he says, before correcting himself. “Actually, I do not just love it, I believe in it. It is so important for young musicians to have something like this and I hope it keeps going from strength to strength.”

TV PICK OF THE WEEK

SCOTT & BAILEY, STV, WEDNESDAY, 9PM

SINCE her TV breakthrough in Coronation Street, Suranne Jones has glided through roles in dramas, satirical comedies and even appeared as the human embodiment of the Tardis in Doctor Who, picking up a string of awards along the way.

Success has not shaken the 37-year-old's grip on reality though, and nor have the public.

“Someone said to me the other day, ‘You used to be in Corrie, didn't you?’, and I said, ‘Yes, 12 years ago’,” she reveals with a laugh.

“And he said, ‘How's it going for you?’ I said, ‘Oh, it's going all right’, and he said, ‘You still doing a bit?’ I was just thinking, ‘What have I done?’ I've definitely done stuff.”

Of course, “doing a bit” is a modest way of describing Jones's career. Over the last year alone, she has won a National Television Award for Doctor Foster – and just picked up a Bafta nomination for her performance as Gemma, the titular doctor in the tense series, too, alongside producing and starring in the forthcoming fifth series of Scott & Bailey – while also finding time to marry magazine editor Laurence Akers and give birth to their first child in March.

Despite her healthy CV, she admits she's had moments of doubts.

“Actors are such a funny breed, in that we all have times where we go, ‘I just don't want to do this anymore,’” she confides.

“It's nonsense, because then someone will offer you a job and you'll go, ‘Yes, of course I'll do it.’ That's the insecurity with our job, because you never know where the next role's coming from.”

But with police drama Scott & Bailey



DUO: Lesley Sharp plays DS Janet Scott and Suranne Jones is DI Rachel Bailey in Scott And Bailey

Jones dives in to extra work

returning this month, and a second series of Doctor Foster ordered, it's fair to say Jones is in demand. That said, the actress is taking on responsibilities behind the scenes, in a bid to give herself more staying power.

“You have to try and take control of those fears sometimes, and just go, ‘No, it's fine. This is my job, I'm still doing it at 37. I've been doing it for 18 years now professionally. It's all right.’”

“I like writing and I enjoy the production part a lot, actually. It gives you longevity in a career, where you know sometimes you might not always have the time to do the parts you want to do.”

She is returning to familiar ground, however, as hotheaded DC Rachel Bailey in Scott & Bailey. This series sees Rachel return to the north after a year in the vice squad in London.

Her partner DC Janet Scott, played by Lesley Sharp, has been holding the fort. “The focus is always on the two main women and how real their relationship is,” says Jones, who

came up with the idea for the series while chatting with her former Corrie colleague Sally Lindsay at the pub.

Like Scott & Bailey, the second series of Doctor Foster sees her working as an associate producer, as well as starring in the programme.

Many fans of the show have told Jones they think Gemma is “mental”, but she's enjoying the reaction.

“It was on Gogglebox! I like Gogglebox anyway, and then I was watching it and was like, ‘Oh my God, it's me! Oh my God, what are they going to say?’” she says with a laugh.

Despite her love of the series, Jones has sworn against ever appearing on the show with her husband, should the opportunity ever arise.

“I don't want people to know what I say, because it would be terrible. I scream at the telly!”

“And my husband says I don't shut up during films and dramas and it really p****es him off.

“Eventually he'll just say, ‘Right, quiet now. Cinema rules.’”