



'IN THE SPOTLIGHT'

Each month we put a different person 'in the spotlight' and pose 12 wide-ranging questions to them. This month, we feature **Sue Wiper, owner of Evesham's fabulous independent Regal Cinema.**

1. Tell us an interesting fact about yourself that not many people know.

I was named White Wandering Woman by a Chief of the Navaho Nation and granted free passage over sacred lands – it's a long story.

2. What book made most impact on you as a child?

The Weirdstone of Brisingamen by Alan Garner – this book opened my eyes to magic and myth.

3. What is your favourite film, and why?

This is impossible to answer. I don't really have favourite films as such, I have favourite scenes in films which I watch over and over. monologues to camera (favourites are Matt Damon why work for the NSA, De Niro/Al Pacino restaurant scene in Heat, Johnny Depp prologue to Libertine, Christopher Walken's watch up his ass scene in Pulp Fiction etc). More recently, Frances McDormand in 3 Billboards, mostly every scene. I love the actor / director dynamic in film-making as in life.

4. What are your main hobbies/interests, apart from reading, of course?

I like writing. When I completed my doctorate in 2015 (about identity and how we create and recreate ourselves by telling tales), I missed the discipline of having to write. My constant passions are gardening and cooking and talking to our flat-coated retriever.

5. What would be the three things you would like to have if you were stranded on a desert island?

YouTube. A dog. A huge trunk with all my books in it.

6. What would a look at your bookshelves tell us about you?

My love of existential philosophy, travel, cooking, and adventure. One of my favourite books is Ernest Mickler's White Trash Cooking. Zen and the Art of Motorcycle Maintenance remains a close friend.

7. If you could invite any three people, dead or alive, to a dinner party, who would they be, and why?

Bob Dylan, Robert De Niro, Kurt Cobain and I'm sneaking Leonard Cohen in there. Because I love them all as artists.



8. What kind of music do you like, and is there one favourite soundtrack?

I like folk rock and big ballsy anthems that blast out and get you dancing. Bruce Springsteen's Candy's Room, Killer's Human (or are we dancers), Debbie Harry's Atomic and "our song" which is Cat Steven's How Can I Tell You.

9. What are your favourite charities/good causes, and why?

We support local schools within 15 miles of Evesham – it's important to help them with their fundraising, particularly now. Our family has supported Sightsavers for a long time, a charity which works in developing countries to prevent avoidable blindness and to promote equality for sight impaired people.

10. Who is the person who has influenced you most/you most admire?

My husband, Ian. He is the bravest person I have ever met. He never gives up and he never gives in. He's a good man.

11. What is your connection to Evesham?

Our family bought and restored the Regal Cinema in 2008 (financial crash) and have cared for it ever since through many difficult times, most recently of course, covid. We have just recently mended the roof which was leaking and have made some more improvements including refurbishing our fabulous ladies toilets and revamping the circle bar. The Regal is our passion and we love it absolutely.

12. What would you list as your greatest achievement to date?

Being the best mother that I could be.