

# It's A Wonderful Life (U)

Often called the "ultimate Christmas film", Frank Capra's Oscar nominated masterpiece certainly lifted the spirits of the 10 members who attended the screening.

The film starts with the family and friends of George Bailey (James Stewart) praying for him, as he has suddenly found himself on the brink of financial and social ruin, and is contemplating suicide. In heaven, the Archangel Joseph and God (Sir) discuss how to help him, and enlist Angel Second Class Clarence (Henry Travers) to help him (and, in the process, earn his "wings" as an Angel First Class). Clarence is then shown a potted history of George's life so that he can formulate a plan to save George, before being sent to Earth just as George is about to jump into a freezing river.

What follows is "the greatest Christmas gift" as George is shown what would have happened to the people he loved, knew and met if he had never been born. Hankies at the ready!