

STORYBOARD



October 2008

FROM THE CHAIR

Once again it is our turn to host the annual Gateway Trophy competition between ourselves, Reading and Bourne End. Each club enters three films. Ours are 'Passing The Time' (Storyline), 'Keeping The Flame Alive' (Documentary) and 'Weir Here'(Open). This is always an exciting night and last year, at Reading, we emerged the winners for the first time since 1998. The event takes place on Friday 17 October, and please come early as we normally expect a big crowd.

In this issue is a special report on how we recently got on in a club competition held by Surrey Border. While on the subject of competitions, our own domestic ones will take on a new look this season. Some of the rules have been changed and all members will need to know what these are, and although these are being circulated to members let me remind you about some of the key changes.

First - the scoring system. You are now required to mark each film out of a score of 50 and you can if you wish optionally put down scores out of ten for Sound, Visuals and Editing but these marks will NOT affect the total marks awarded to each film. You

will also be required to put your name at the top of the voting form. Any forms without a name will not be counted. To ensure that entries do not go over the specified maximum running time of a competition a member of the committee will be assigned to time the entry when it is shown. It will be stopped when it reaches the maximum running time.

The various changes to the rules (suggested by a sub-Committee and subsequently approved by the Management Committee) will allow entrants to vote. It was also proposed and agreed that there will be no need to send any competition entries this year to external judges.

Our meeting at Laleham Village Hall on 26 September marked something of an historical night for the Society for it was exactly 50 years to the night that we held the very first of our regular meetings at the hall. Before we moved here meetings were held at the old Railway Hotel in Staines. The first time I ever came to a meeting at the hall was in December 1970, a very long time ago!! I've made, and sadly lost, many friends since then.

Ken Ferguson

The Society regrets to announce the sudden passing of Ken Willis who with his wife Evi became members almost ten years ago. Our thoughts at this sad time are with Evi and her family. The Society will be making a donation to a charity named by the family.

The funeral service was held at St Matthew's Church, Ashford on Thursday 9th October.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Friday	10 Oct	Video Workshop - Soundtracks
Tuesday	14 Oct	Management Committee Meeting
Friday	17 Oct	Gateway Trophy Competition
Friday	24 Oct	Members' Movies
Friday	31 Oct	IAC Movie Show
Friday	7 Nov	Open Night
Tuesday	11 Nov	Management Committee Meeting
Friday	14 Nov	Video Workshop - Camera Techniques

The next issue of STORYBOARD will be out on Friday 7 November. Please send in your articles, comments and photos by the end of October.

OUR BEST SHOW

I have had a letter from Huddersfield's Jim Kenworthy thanking us for our show we gave them on 25 September.. He writes, "The films were very well received by an audience of approx. 25 members. The general feeling was that this was one of the best programmes we have ever received from you." Thanks Jim. Glad you all enjoyed our programme.

To remind our members of the titles we sent to Huddersfield they were 'Keeping The Flame Alive'; 'Passing The Time'; 'Four Elise'; 'Weir Here'; 'Family History'; 'That's The Way To Do It'; 'Aubrey's Seat'; 'Dubrovnik' and 'Eye In The Sky'. Jim and Nancy are hoping they will be able to make the trip to us on 27 March with the latest Huddersfield show.

Ken Ferguson

SELECTION OF BIAFF WINNERS

At our meeting on 31 October we will be screening some award winners of the 2007 IAC BIAFF competition which attracts hundreds of entries from all over the world. Among the films we'll be showing is a documentary titled 'Picasso Of The Pier' which is a fascinating film about Donald McGill who had a tendency to shock with his saucy seaside postcards. This was an IAC Gold winner.

A film titled 'Brendonk' comes from Belgium and is about an army camp taken over by the Germans in the Second World War. The story is told by a 90-year-old survivor. These two films are part of a varied programme of five, all good examples of fine movie-making. Try not to miss it.

Ken Ferguson

IN BRIEF

We want you to switch your cameras to the 16.9 format and shoot something for our special '16.9' test night on Friday 21 November. Our members get around. Bert Lee is diving in Indonesia, and Vic Stroud is experiencing life in the rain forests of Costa Rica. Hope we see the videos!.. Who will be the first winner of our new One-Minute Competition set to take place on 9 January. Could it be YOU!..

Ken Ferguson

TEA ROTA



17 Oct	Ken and Sheila Harding
24 Oct	Richard Enser & Dorothy Robertson
31 Oct	Douglas Hamilton & David Peters
7 Nov	Derek and Dorothy Knights
14 Nov	Mike and Diana Hurcombe

SURREY BORDER COMPETITION WIN

Whilst members discussed the revised competition rules at Laleham on 3 October, David Peters and I enjoyed a hospitable evening at Surrey Border Film & Video Makers' new venue – a brand new church hall in Farnham – for their Inter Club competition. I was delighted to accept the winners' trophy on behalf of Staines for Graham Large's "Keeping the Flame Alive". The judges, Mike Sanders and Dick Hibberd, liked the film – in particular the storyline and the imagery (especially the simplicity of the opening titles) although they did feel, surprisingly in my view, it was a tad long.

Southdowns Video & Film Makers – last years' winners – entered "Enoch" an amusing fairytale about an elderly couple whose ornamental figure, "Enoch", calls upon a fairy to help them out in hard times. The film included some clever effects. Gosport and Fareham Camcorder Club's "One Day in May" was a straightforward documentary about the annual Horse Fair in Wickham. The final entry was from Circle 8, directed & produced by Terence Patrick whom many members will remember from last year's evening "70 Years in BBC News". Their entry "The Rabbit Woman of Godalming" was an amusing but accurate period docu-drama about an eighteenth century woman who claimed to have given birth to rabbits!



Tim and Judges Dick Hibberd and Mike Sanders

Whilst the judges finished their deliberations, we were treated to a 20 minute documentary about Surrey Borders' "The Making of a Film in an Evening" which looked both fun and stressful. After a break we saw other films by the visiting clubs including an outing for Ken Dalston's "Passing the Time" which continues its universal appeal, striking a chord with "people of a certain age" wherever it is screened and it was an opportunity for me to see "Eye in the Sky" in front of an impartial audience in the light of recent judges' comments.

Tim Stannard

GET WELL SOON

Our best wishes to Barrie who had a knee operation on Wednesday 8 October. He will not be able to drive for at least 2 weeks and is very sorry to have to miss the Gateway competition.

His new email address is

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LETTER

I just wanted to say how much I enjoyed the meeting on the 12th September, it was so good to be back and seeing so many people that I knew, and also to put a "face to a name" of the members I had not met previously!! Thanks to everyone for making me feel so welcome and especially to Margaret for taking me to and from Laleham, greatly appreciated..

I thought that the Village Hall looked great outside, with the window boxes etc and the hall itself looked bright and cheerful.

The hall was full of memories of past members and, in a way, quite sad and yet quite lovely to be there and remember them all .

Best Wishes. Irene Ball

FROM THE WEBSITE

Jeremy 20.9.08: What an excellent evening our first workshop was! Clearly Tim had spent a long time planning it. His Powerpoint presentation had something for everyone and the way in which he managed to put everything across was so good. I'm sure many will benefit from all the advice given and it was most kind of him to offer to e-mail the content to those that would like it. I certainly picked up some very useful tips. Well done Tim! You're a star!

Roy 20.9.08: Well done Tim for your excellent Power Point Presentation on Friday. I think we all gained a little extra knowledge at some time during the evening from the information you gave us. It was very interesting all round and well presented. We will get around to 'Rendering' at some other time in the future.

Tim 22.9.08: This weekend I came across a home-made, or rather garage-made, 'Thomas the Tank Engine' video made in 2000. Entertainment wise it's "OK" rather than great, but it is fascinating technically. The filmmaker had been impressed by the level of detail shown in the TV series and started this project as an exercise to see if he could achieve a similar level. The story has a "video club" angle though some of the "humour" is lost as the engines' characters are based on members of the filmmaker's own video club (based in North Sidney). More interesting than the film itself, perhaps, are the three "Making of..." videos. I thought I'd post these in case any members were thinking of making a film using moving models. Subject for a future workshop, perhaps? Be warned – each film is about 9 minutes.

"Thomas and Friends – Mad Bomber"

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qYsQSDFFWfg>

"Making of" part 1

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1vhxoN3g1Kc>

"Making of" part 2

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nwj9gqSIc3A>

"Making of" part 3

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QYzupJM7d8I>

Steve 7.10.08: Thanks Tim for the link to Thomas the Tank Engine made Aussie style. The making of the movie shows how much time and effort is required in making such a film. The tip about carrying out tests before proceeding with the project cannot be over-emphasised. Has anyone in our club made an animation?

STAINES CINÉ & VIDEO SOCIETY

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