

STORYBOARD



April 2009

FROM THE CHAIR

A big thank you to Graham and Laurie for doing a good job as judges of our Inter-Club Competition. I agreed with their first choice 'Little Chef' from South Essex Film Makers (the new name for Westcliff). It was superbly filmed with some wonderful close-ups and clever angles aided by a great soundtrack of chopping, slicing and cutting noises! The Orpington entry 'Talking Pictures' ran it pretty close. This was another innovative piece in which the likes of Mona Lisa, the Statue of Liberty, Van Gogh, Nell Gwyn and others had some very clever words put into their mouths. The fiction movies didn't quite come up to the standard of previous years. The best of them in my opinion was Hemel's 'Snared' which the judges placed third. This was about a young woman being stalked after she loses her mobile phone. Quite well acted and directed. Thought the ending was a little weak. Ten clubs took part and along with South Essex, Orpington and Hemel Hempstead we had entries from Ealing, Potters Bar, Harrow, Surrey Border, Shooters Hill, Bourne End and Reading. Thanks to Tim for getting it organised, and to Roy and his projection team for a very smooth presentation.

We had 30 entries into our competitions this season which I reckon is a record. The numbers have been boosted with the introduction of the One-Minute Competition which attracted five entries. You may be interested in learning how we got 30! Well there were four in the 10 to 4, nine in the 4-Minute, three in the Travelogue, three in the Documentary, six in the Unclassified and those five in the One-Minute. All the award winners will be presented with their trophies by the Mayor and Mayoress of Spelthorne at our annual Movie Awards Show here at the Hall on Friday 17 April. It's a big night for the Society so please make every effort to attend. You don't know all the winners of our awards!

Another big night for us will be our AGM on Friday 8 May when I will be standing down and you will be electing a new Chairman. With our Secretary Colin also standing down we will have a new team at the helm. They will be named on the night. May I wish them every success in their new posts.

All that's left for me to write this month is
HAVE A HAPPY EASTER!

Ken Ferguson

NOTICE OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Members are informed that an Annual General Meeting of Staines Ciné & Video Society will be held on Friday 8 May 2009 at Laleham Village Hall at 8pm.

Any items to be included in the Agenda must be handed to the Secretary not later than Friday 17 April 2008.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Friday	3 Apr	Open Night/Discuss Summer Project
Friday	10 Apr	NO MEETING (GOOD FRIDAY)
Tuesday	14 Apr	Management Committee Meeting
Friday	17 Apr	Our annual MOVIE AWARDS SHOW
Friday	24 Apr	Laurie's Night
Friday	1 May	Guest Speaker Ray Liffen on HD

The next issue of STORYBOARD will be out on Friday 1 or 8 May.

NORTH THAMES REGION IAC TRIANGLE

On Sunday 29 March we won the second round/semi final of the North Thames Region IAC Triangle competition at Colchester against Colchester Film Makers Club and South Essex Film Makers (who, interestingly, entered the winning film in our own Inter Club competition, "Little Chef"). Our entries, "Keeping the Flame Alive", "Passing the Time" and "Eye in the Sky" will go on to compete in the final, to be held at Potters Bar CVS on Sunday 17 May at 2.30pm. Make a note in your diary and come along and support your club.

Whilst I don't have the individual scores as yet, Paul Desmond from Colchester was kind enough to send me notes he made from the judges critiques:

Keeping the Flame Alive

Stuart: Excellent use of stills, crammed full of old fashioned movie making skills.

Desmond: Good opening, created an air of mystery, a very professional production, concerned that the controversial aspects might offend some people (not a view shared by the audience).

Clive: Good use of animation.

Eye in the Sky

Desmond: The audience's reaction (laughter and enthusiastic applause) says it all about this film, started off appearing to be serious but then you realise it's a spoof, everyone was rocking in the aisles, a little contrived but that was the joke. Well done, excellent.

Clive: A challenge to deal with amateur actors but very well done, the joke seemed to be carried on a little bit too long but overall amusing, interesting, a good production.

Stuart: Disappointed with the start, within a couple of seconds of the start someone started speaking instead of allowing breathing space. Generally a very good film, the link between the sketches was creative, good use of close ups, and not half bad acting. The echoes of Big Brother were very good, good thought in concept and in the execution.

Passing the Time

Clive: The concept was very close to home, well done, nicely shot and well acted, good use of music, a well constructed film, humorous

Stuart: A great deal of creativity went into this film, extremely clever, didn't like the use of the dissolves, continuous use of music was a problem for me, would have liked different pieces of music, editing very good. There was a huge amount of headroom in the pieces to camera which was distracting, the character should have been looking to someone off camera for maximum effect.

Desmond: Very good use of music, camerawork and editing, also concerned about the headroom.

APRIL 2009

TEA ROTA



3	Apr	Jill Carr & Jeremy Holder
17	Apr	Ken and Sheila Harding
24	Apr	Richard Ensor & Dorothy Robertson
1	May	David Peters &
8	May	Derek and Dorothy Knights

Invitation

Laurance Miller requests all members, and their consorts, to attend 'his night' which has been re-arranged to take place on Friday evening 24th April 2009.

FROM THE WEBSITE

John Clarke 07.03.09: There's an interesting discussion of the latest raft of HD projectors and their use by various clubs in showing videos for competitions, etc. in the IAC discussion forums. You can view the forum thread at <http://dialog.theiac.org.uk/dialog/viewtopic.php?f=3&t=2240>. Also of interest is a thread about editing video in HD format <http://dialog.theiac.org.uk/dialog/viewtopic.php?f=3&t=2148>.

Roy Bowley 10.03.09: Thanks for that info John, it makes very interesting reading and it looks like some clubs are now starting to surge ahead with upgrading their gear. I see they're going the full hog and running HDMI cables which will have restricted length. Thinking about it for our setup I've always thought that with the distance we run cables we would probably do better to run Component cables as we already run separate sound leads and we would be more likely to get less losses. So perhaps this will be one of the things that next year's committee can look into. Ah well there's progress for you.

Tim Stannard 11.03.09: How refreshing it was to hear comments from independent and "qualified" judges. I'm referring, of course, to Jeremy taking the trouble to précis some of the comments he received from four judges in the Surrey Film-Video Festival about his deservedly award winning Russian travelogue. It was very brave of Jeremy only to read out their criticisms – and it was clear to see that he had accepted them with an open mind. Sharing it with us meant we could ALL learn something and that's exactly how I think it should be in this club (the only exception being the Studio groups where we share NOTHING). Thanks Jeremy and well done.

Tim Stannard 11.03.09: Margaret, I don't think Laurie thought the viewer was confused as such, but it is a courtesy to let the viewer know who "we" are. Look at any TV holiday show - they go to great lengths to get either the reporter or the "Jones family from Cardiff" introduced on camera. Of course I didn't realise I'd done this until Laurie pointed it out. I thought I was just having a bit of fun!

Margaret Stedman 20.03.09: My Comment is: We are not amused (that's the royal We, Tim)!

Jeremy Holder 26.03.09: I'm pleased to let you know that my film 'St Petersburg to Moscow' has been awarded a 2 Star Certificate for this year's IAC British International Amateur Film Competition (BIAFF). The judges comments were similar to those I read out from the SERIAC competition, but they also thought the cannon fire beginning effect distracting. Another comment was a suggestion that it would have been improved if I had done some of the voice over pieces to camera. I think I would have found this very difficult given that it was only a holiday!

John Clarke 26.03.09: Congratulations on your British International Amateur Film Competition (BIAFF) award. I sympathise with your quandy over the voice-over piece to camera. The need for this was one thing I wanted to explore in the New Inn movie. I came to the conclusion that 4-5mins was about as long as it was possible to sustain a video with off-screen voice-over only. Longer movies would require the presence of a link man/woman on screen. Unfortunately, this means that when I do the St Cadoc's Church video I'm going to have to have a presenter - quite a different ball game - much more complicated to do!

John Clarke 27.03.09: Problems with the website: In the last few days there have been problems accessing the stainesvideo.co.uk site. I have raised the matter with namesco and have just received the following reply:- On Tuesday 24th March, we[Namesco] quickly identified a website hosted on our Linux Shared Hosting Cluster that had been compromised - this was due to insecure permissions set on a number of scripts and directories within the webspace account in question.

This website was then used as a platform to insert a line of Javascript into a handful of other customer's websites. We are completing the process of removing the code in question from any affected websites - we are constantly reviewing and improving our security policy - however situations like this are unfortunately difficult to prevent on any shared hosting platform. If you are still experiencing any issues with your site, please clear your web browser's cache to ensure that you are viewing the updated page.

To do this using Internet Explorer do the following. Open the Tools menu and select the first menu item 'Delete Browsing History'. In the window that pops up make sure the 'Temporary Internet files' checkbox is selected. Select the Preserve Favorites website data check box if you do not want to delete the cookies and files associated with websites in your Favorites list. Then click the delete button to remove all temporary files.

STAINES CINÉ & VIDEO SOCIETY

Founded in 1955

President : Dennis Vaulkhard

Vice President : Ken Ferguson

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to the



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Deputy Chairman
Secretary
Treasurer
Technical Secretary
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Ken Ferguson
Colin Hignett MBE
Colin Hignett MBE
Tony Valvona
Roy Bowley
Richard Enser