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CHAIRMAN'S CHAT

If you go down to the woods today you'll see the artisans building the film set for Ridley Scott's latest epic, 'Nottingham'. The Bourne Woods, which featured in the first ten minutes of *Gladiator*, appear to be a favourite of Ridley Scott, also the director of 'Nottingham'. A certain amount of controversy appears to surround this film. Reputedly starring Russell Crowe as both Robin Hood and the Sheriff of Nottingham, rumour has it that Sienna Miller left the film because she was too slim compared to the overweight Crowe who she is meant to be involved with in a love triangle between Robin and the Sheriff. Rumour also has it that the story was meant to be filmed from the Sheriff's point of view but that Crowe demanded massive re-writes to give him, as Robin, a larger part, which doesn't quite ring true if he is meant to be playing both parts. Perhaps all this rumour-mongering is created to make more interest in the

film when it does come out? Filming was apparently meant to begin in August last year but there were worries about the proposed Actors strike, (which means that

most of them must be American) oh, and the leaves weren't quite right.

Check out the photos on: <http://fordoing.co.uk> and to see some soldiers gearing up for their parts: www.dailymail.co.uk/tvshowbiz/article-1186570/

Sneak-peek-The-Sheriff-Notthamsmen-ravage-village-Ridley-Scotts-new-Robin-H Apparently part of the next Harry Potter film is also due to be filmed in the woods.

Luckily we don't have problems with divas or the male equivalent, which is divus (so I'm told) and we have to accept the leaves on the trees just the way they are because as a club we are all gearing up for Film-in-an-Evening with, I believe, a record six

groups taking part this year. Anyone not involved who wants to be, contact Fred Hawkins who will allocate you to a team.

Summer is traditionally the time when films are made due to long evenings and the light outside being generally good. It is also the time for going on holiday to various destinations, some exotic, others not quite so. Whatever you are doing this year, it is never too early to think about the film you want to enter into the Club Competition which takes place this December. The only rule is that it should not be more than 6 minutes. It can be a drama, documentary, travelogue, animation even.

If you've never entered a film before, make this the year you do. If you always enter films, don't miss out. We are extremely lucky to have Dave and Jan Watterson as judges again this year but this may be the last time they come for a couple of years. With these two you are sure of a good, fair and constructive critique of your film, often with recommendations on how you can improve it.

Well worth the effort.

Rita Wheeler

MORE STARS..!

Success continues this year as Gillian from Heron Productions was awarded **3 Stars at BIAFF**, and June Evans received the **SERIAC Acting Award** at the Electric Theatre in March for the same movie.

David Longley

FILM IN AN EVENING

The July meeting at Surrey Border hosts 'A Film in an Evening'. This means that any time now, groups should be formed amongst club members to brainstorm and make shooting scripts and storyboards in order to create a film to be made and shown at the July meeting.

your idea, enlarging on it with others' brilliant ideas to add to it (brainstorming),

produce a script, a storyboard to see how it comes together, then a shooting script for the actors and cameramen.

Then rehearse and rehearse again, then everything can be done on the

night in the 2 hours allotted filming time. What an exercise! Your film can be made

at home, in the middle of Nowhere, or maybe at the hall? But remember, you will have to get to the hall with your finished film by 9.00pm for the show. Good Luck.

If you want to be involved in this great fun activity, and don't have a group, please put your name down on the noticeboard for a placement in your area.

Remember each group will need actors, gofers, boom operator, sound operator, clapper board operator, as well as an editor, cameraman, director, producer, runner, continuity, make up and more. There is a job for everyone!

Pennyj

SOFTWARE TIPS

For FREE online tutorials, go to lynda.com or VTC.com Search through 100s of titles and once found, you can watch the first 15 or 20 of the tutorial modules FOR NOTHING. If you need more, then you have the option of buying the whole tutorial for around £85, or subscribing £15 a month to be able to view EVERY tutorial indefinitely!

So. Thinking caps on everyone, get your idea, get a group, get started by voicing

MAY CLUB NIGHT

An Evening of Editing on Steroids with Ray Puleston

During the May meeting, members of Surrey Border were entertained by Ray Puleston, currently Chairman of South Downs Film & Video Makers, who presented an evening entitled "Editing on Steroids".

Ray began his career with New Zealand Broadcasting then on returning to England joined Merton Park Studios before starting his own business and working for many large advertising agencies. He showed a selection of film clips to demonstrate

his talk then after the coffee break these were followed by several unusual and amusing television ads.

Tana Fletcher, the creator of the award winning puppet animation series "Willoughby Drive" is coming to give a talk to the film club on Friday 4th September. If you are organized enough to be thinking Christmas presents at that time, there will be some DVD's for sale.

For more information go online at: www.dolphinpuppetfilms.co.uk

Rita Wheeler

A STAR IS BORN

The presentation of the certificate for 'excellent acting by the little girl' in "Last Prayer", could be the turning point in this 'star's' career. The fact that she has now lost 3 or 4 of her front teeth since her role in the film as a prophetsess of doom, will not deter her from the rocky road to stardom !



And here is the Comedy Award which was presented to the team



Comedy Award trophy awarded for Last Prayer

STEP BY STEP

Before Easter we were told to be on standby and to be ready to film the High Sheriff of Surrey immediately after the break and before her term in office ended on 23rd April. At 6.30pm on 14th April we got the go ahead for filming during the following afternoon. The interview is planned to be part of the DVD Power Point presentation for the charity Step by Step.

Neil Cryer, Gordon Sutton, Alan Hussey and myself made our way to Holmbury St Mary to the private residence of Sally Varah who was just finishing her year as High Sheriff of Surrey.

The position of High Sheriff was created over 1,000 years ago, in Saxon times. We all know of the reputation of the Sheriff of Nottingham and his thorn in the side, Robin Hood. At that time Sheriffs were a law unto themselves and often had their own private armies. When Henry VIII came to the throne he considerably reduced the powers of the office of Sheriff by creating



Sally Varah, High Sheriff of Surrey 2008/9 as she talks about Step-by-Step during the first of a series of club shoots planned to enhance an existing PowerPoint presentation by the inclusion of video clips both from supporters and beneficiaries of an Aldershot based charity for helping homeless young people.

the office of Lord Lieutenant. Today the office of High Sheriff is held for one year and the duties are mainly ceremonial.

For the film interview, Sally wore her official regalia which included a long velvet jacket, a hat with an ostrich feather and her official chain of office. She was filmed as she spoke about the High Sheriff Youth Award which was granted to Step in order to give financial support to projects which help young people reduce crime

and bad behaviour within the community. Sally was an excellent subject who spoke with very clear diction and who had the ability to repeat her words on the few occasions when a second take was needed. The next phase of filming will be on 5th and 6th May. A production team is in place for this event.

YouTube

The club would like to feature a variety of films on the SBFVM website which would be linked through YouTube. If you would be happy for your film to appear through this medium, please let Neil know. REMEMBER, this will enable us to advertise the club to a wider audience and hopefully and entice more people to the club.

NOTICEBOARD

Please can members remember to read the noticeboard on club nights. Fred spends a lot of time putting important information on the board, only to have members ringing or emailing him to ask questions. Reading the noticeboard will save you the time and effort trying to contact Fred.

This will also free up Fred to concentrate on organising training to those who require it. Don't forget, contact Fred if you have any queries or questions and he will put you in touch the best person to help you.

NATIONAL THEATRE BECKONS

Rita Wheeler recently received an email from the Discover Programme at the National Theatre, London as they were looking for people of a 'certain mature age' to apply for a workshop to do with a project they were putting on this summer - a musical of 'Feather Boy'.

Rita forwarded it on to Josephine Jones who had previously been a member of a local amateur dramatic group and thought she might be interested. She was very interested and hastily applied as the deadline was a few days ahead. However within a few days she was called to attend the workshop!

There were only three ladies and four men participating and Josephine said it was

good fun. As it is a musical and singing is not her forte, she was very surprised two weeks later to be chosen to join the Discover Programme to take part in the project.

'Feather Boy' is a moving story about the relationship between an elderly lady in a nursing home and a young boy.

Josephine says it will be very exciting to be working with professionals and anticipates a busy schedule of rehearsals in London at the end of July.

We all wish Jo the best of luck in what promises to be a wonderful opportunity and experience.

Val Hitchman

FARNHAM CREATES

Saturday 23 May saw the annual Farnham Creates event in the library. Many of SBFVM members worked a rota throughout the day to make the club's presence felt.

This was the inaugural unveiling of the new club banner and 'penguin' and this event has seen them prove to be very worthwhile. At least two passers-by came in to chat about film making as a direct result of seeing the banner. Hopefully SBFVM members at the event were able to whet their appetite so that we might see them come along to a club night.

If you see some unfamiliar faces at the club tonight, please go out of your way to introduce yourself and make them feel welcome.



LEARNING ZONE

The motivated edit

Many of the types of editing grammar we talk about, the motivated edit is one of our most common. This is in place of transitions. The motivated edit, though having a single definition, comes in many flavours. In its most basic form, a motivated edit is one that alludes to something not in the frame and then cuts to that item or event. You see it all the time in horror films: a woman standing in a spooky place all along and then hears a startling sound. She spins her head around and sees nothing. The sound then comes from another area, and the soon-to-be-victim jerks her head in that direction.

Eventually the viewing audience gets to see the object of terror, usually along with a loud, startling sound.

If you accept that any edit breaks the illusion of continuity, then we put forth that the motivated edit is one of the least jarring forms of transition.

The general rule is professional filming is that the viewer should not notice a single edit during a ninety-minute film. If there is an edit every seven seconds on average, that's close to 800 edits in an hour and half film. Quite a feat to have all of these breaks in continuity go unnoticed.

I WANNA TELL YOU A STORY

When we create a video we are telling stories and this is what our hobby is all about. With all the technicalities of video production it's easy for the emphasis to move away from the storytelling. We often pay too much attention to our equipment, technique or crew members and neglect the story. Perhaps we can better attention to the storytelling if we have a better understanding of why people like stories.

From the beginning time man has been telling and listening to stories. Stories divert our attention from the daily routine and can temporarily transport us out of

our lives and into another. A good story can show us concepts that we didn't know about others, and even ourselves. By watching a video or listening to a story, we may see new perspectives to help us to better understand those around us.

From the moment we begin to get a seed of an idea for a video we must consider how stories and humans are related. As we understand more about how humans need stories, we will become better creators of video.

We can make videos that will entertain and amuse people with lightweight stories. With more

ambition film makers can make their viewers think and consider. We can make films to make viewers feel better about themselves.

In our real lives there are no beginnings and endings, just an infinite succession of events. The limited duration of a video story compared to the seemingly endless experience of real life proves some structure and closure.

So when we find ourselves getting unnecessarily bogged down with lighting, sound, pace and depth of field, remember - **the story and the message we are trying to get across is what matters.**



MEETINGS are held at St Joan's Centre, 19 Tilford Road, Farnham on the 1st Friday of each month at 7.30pm for 7.45pm. Meetings close around 10.15pm

New members are very welcome, either phone 01252 717877 or turn up at the door!

St Joan's Centre is 200 yards south of Farnham station and is in the grounds of St Joan's Church. The entrance to the church is by a narrow road opposite the junction with Alfred Road, and St Joan's Centre is to the right of the church. There is ample parking.



COMPETITIONS

You don't have to be a member to look on the IAC website:

www.theiac.org.uk

Here you will find an events diary and all the competitions being held, entry forms, news and competition results.

It will keep you busy for hours. You can even watch many of the winning videos from BIAFF and other IAC competitions and the write-ups on how they were made.

DECEMBER COMPETITION

It isn't too early to start thinking about your club entry for the December meeting, our club competition. Any subject at all as long as it is not more than 6 minutes.

If you haven't entered before, there is a trophy for the best 'first time winner', also for the best holiday movie and the best documentary.

Technical trophies are offered for the best sound, editing, photography and creativity. Then there's the big one for

October 16-18th Guernsey Lily Festival. Oct entries close for Southern Heat TBA
November North V South Southern Heat TBA

EVENTS

October 30th SOCO Region weekend at Bournemouth

the overall winner.

The judges will pre-judge the entries, scrutinizing them at home and writing helpful comments for you to be able to improve your masterpiece the next time round. This is a good learning exercise.

So get busy now as the entries will have to be in no later than the November meeting. It always goes to the last minute!!

Pennyj

CLUB DATES

- 3 Jul** Film in an Evening - the theme this year is 'Trapped'
- 7 Aug** David Longley 'The Surrey'
- 4 Sep** Tana Fletcher and 'The Dolphin Puppeteers'
- 2 Oct** Inter Club Competition

DIARY DATES

6 Jun 11.00-3.00 Farnham Garden Party in Gostrey Meadow. We are Stall 7. If you want to help talk to Rita.

13-28 Jun Sat/Sun 10-4 Bucks Open Studio, Exhibition of Miniatures used in sets. **Wed 4-7** for the puppet animation series 'Willoughby Drive'. Email: tana.fletcher@dolphinpuppetfilms.co.uk or Website: www.dolphinpuppetfilms.co.uk

5 Jul Summer Social

DONT FORGET

- If anyone has any camera or editing questions, don't forget to ask Fred - he will put you in touch with the right person to help you out.

IMPORTANT CONTACTS

Name:

Telephone:

Email: