

Download your Border Post direct from www.surreyborder.org.uk

CHAIRMAN'S CHAT

"For every expert there is an equal and opposite expert." Arther C Clarke.

You don't have to be an expert to be on the Surrey Borders Committee but at the end of your term of office you may well have become one, but whether an expert or not, it is very worthwhile and rewarding.

There will be three vacancies to be filled at the AGM. The club Secretary, Jo Jones is stepping down. Jo bravely took on the job not really believing she could do it but along the way has become proficient at taking minutes, answering queries, and has learnt to use programmes on her computer she did not even know she had. She has been an excellent Secretary.

Our Training Officer, Fred Hawkins is also stepping down. Fred has done a fantastic job of listening to what members want, organizing training sessions and co-ordinating people into groups. For personal reasons Penny Johnson is giving up the position of Competition Secretary. Penny took on this role as a support to Mike Sanders, the Competition Officer. She has worked quietly and efficiently organizing the Inter Club Competition as well as the Club Competition. These are the three interesting and challenging positions that will become vacant in February.

The annual North v South is a fun competition for movie making clubs nation wide. The line dividing north and south is drawn east to west through Stoke on Trent in Staffordshire. Newcastle ACA organize the entries for the north. Orpington Film & Video Makers organize the southern entries. We used the theme for the North v South Competition, which was "Trapped" for our July club night challenge, Film in an Evening, and had a record seven groups compete. Since then the Write Angle group took the raw footage from their Film in an Evening entry and developed it further. Their film "Zapped" has been chosen as our club entry this year. The Southern Heat of the annual North v South Competition is due to take place on Sunday 29th November.

Disappointingly the film "Mind Games" which was entered in the 2 Days Later film challenge did not make the short list, however it was played on a monitor in the auditorium of the Theatre Royal, Margate on Saturday 31st October on the evening when the short listed films were shown.

With regard to those future vacancies on the committee, remember, don't just think what the club can do for you, think also what you can do for your club.

Rita Wheeler

WHAT'S BEEN HAPPENING ...

Last month's WriteAngle production meeting and lunch was held at Elvetham Hall, (halfway between Hartley Wintney and Fleet.) Great location, and great food.



Dick Hibberd

On 20th October, Paddy Haines and Paul Holden presented the very popular, and now annual, show of Club Films to the Residents Association at Home Park House, with a very appreciative audience of about 20 residents. (A similar show is scheduled to the Rowledge Good Companions for 3rd November.)

During the month, Paul finalised a 1-minute promotional Video to go on the Clare Park Website, which can now be viewed on www.clarepark.co.uk (It MAY be possible to show a short film about the making of this video if time permits, at the end of the November Club Night.)

Work is proceeding on the scripting of the Albany Competition entry film, and the search for locations continues. A meeting of members interested in taking part was held on the morning of the 29th October at the Maltings.

Paul Holden

THANK YOU

Hi Rita,

I am very grateful to the Club committee for allowing me the use of the club's video projector, portable sound system and new club screen at a charity presentation on the History of Bisley to help raise funds for an extension to St John The Baptist Church in Bisley.

The presentation was held in two parts on two successive Fridays and I'm delighted to say that it raised in excess of £1,600 to an audience of ~100 on both occasions.

We are now over half way to our overall target of £80,000. Readers may be interested to know that overall we successfully used PowerPoint to present 240 slides with the seamless integration of 4 movies on a Macintosh laptop.

Many thanks,
Gordon.

THE WATTIES ARE COMING!

After the 2008 SB competition we needed a rigorous training schedule to prepare for 2009.

In February we judged the North East Cine Association's interclub competition with Phil Martin. Later we were part of the first-stage BIAFF judging team over a long-weekend near Gateshead. In March we judged the Burnley Festival "live" - missing their extraordinarily huge raffle as we argued backstage about the winners. At those events we saw every level of work.

Late March, Dave gave a talk at the NERAC (IAC's North East Region) Spring Festival in Collingham and in April we were guests of honour at Reading Club's annual "oscar night" where we saw their best work of the year. We went straight from there to BIAFF in Chesterfield and enjoyed some outstanding films.



In May, Jan started the marathon task of pre-selection for the Guernsey Lily Festival. She, Peter Rouillard and Rob Willerton passed round parcels of MiniDVDs and DVDs. They assessed around 150 entries before the final jury met in July and she was still writing notes for the film-makers at the end of September.

In June, after our regular week at the wonderful Festival of Nations in Austria, we flew to Ruse in Bulgaria, where Dave was on the jury for the 4-day "Danube, River of Europe" film festival. Between ourselves, some of the entries were the kind you might see at a club beginners night. But consider that camcorder and computer prices are similar everywhere, yet wages in Bulgaria and much of Slavic Europe are around a tenth of ours. Their film-makers have not been able to afford kit until recently and so lack experience. At the top end were some great movies.

In July we popped up to Dundee to help plan an event later in the year and enjoyed

meeting SB "country member" and last year's SB winner, Bruce Frazer, on a club outing to film a falconry display at Falkland Palace. In September we were off for the UNICA week-long festival, which this year was in Poland. We saw a complete range: most excellent, but some naïve and rather basic videos too.

As I write at the start of October, we are both judging the CEMRIAC (IAC's Central Region) Annual Festival. Dave is going through nine DVDs full of entries in the Polish "Grand Off" competition which concentrates on student and indie work. We plan to take it easy in November with a trip to Stirling, where Dave is on stage leading part of the celebration for 60 years of the Scottish Association of Moviemakers. That way we hope to conserve our strength for watching your movies!

We love amateur movies and the people who make them. For us, it is just as much fun to see people taking their first steps in our hobby as it is to enjoy expert productions. We try to comment positively and encouragingly, so we look forward to seeing your work and being with you all soon.

Dave & Jan Watterson

BREAKING AND NOT ENTERING!!!

It's some time past now, but the annual Club event of a 'Film in an Evening', always seems to bring out the best in our members.

This year the chosen theme was 'Trapped', and the usual two hours to produce a short story of about 5 or so minutes.

Early in 2009 a very dear friend, Beryl

Cross, told Jean and I how her friend had been roughly pushed to one side in Lewes, as jewellery thieves rushed to their 'get away' car parked nearby. Some passer-by had earlier seen the car with its engine running, at the curbside, and removed the ignition keys! The 4 thieves

jumped into their car and were unable to drive away. The Police were summoned and three of the thieves were apprehended very quickly.

WriteAngle decided, that with some slight alterations to the original story, this would be suitable for FIAE, and so we set about planning and rehearsing.



On the evening we were well rehearsed. As usual we prefer to record in camera, rather than transfer to a computer for editing, so our shooting order has to be the same as the story, which does necessitate some to-ing and fro-ing, but we think



that sharpens ones approach, and is a better discipline.

Marjorie was on camera, Eleanor was on boom, and the cast of Steve Bissett, chief robber, and his old lags henchmen, David Tate and I.

All went exactly to plan, that is until I leant against the jewellery shop door and it opened, and the alarm went off!!!!!! And so did we. Well I mean, how could

we explain our innocence to 'those in authority' and still be back at the club within the two hours set for the event? Anyway, we probably did the

jewellers a favour in letting them know that their premises were not secure.

So a repeat performance was necessary for the Club's entry to the North versus South. A slight change of crew and cast, and this time no leaning against the shop door! A few additional cutaway

shots to link the various bits together, the addition of some sound effects, Titles, some heavy editing, and there we were, done.

So that is the true and complete story of 'Zapped', and I would like to take this opportunity of thanking the cast and crew for making it all work 'on the night'. Trying to get everyone together at the same location, and at the same time is no easy matter, so thank you all for your great co-operation once again.

Dick Hibberd

GUERNSEY FILM FESTIVAL

So there it was gone

Just imagine sitting front of your television for two days, and watching everything and anything. Of course you would have a break for coffee, lunch, tea, and perhaps turn it off about six o'clock.

I don't know about you, but it would drive me potty. But the 4 of us SBFVM Club members who went to the 'Guernsey Lily Film Festival' this year did more or less continuously watch films for 2 days, and we were enthralled by what we saw.

The quality, variety, and mix of films was just fantastic. To attend the Festival is an experience, which I can commend to all of our Club members. We should all try to attend at least once in our life times, as it is so uplifting and educational. It can't help but inspire.

The differentiation between 'amateur' and 'professional' becomes a little obscure at times. One film is made by just one person, another by a full film crew. Presumably the latter was not a commercial venture, and no profit was made from the production, so it will qualify as an 'amateur' production. I am not too put off by this, and perhaps although the playing field is far from level, you do get to see all types of production, and this is inspiring, especially

Guernsey the tourist attraction

Apart from the very high standard of films in the Guernsey Lily competition including the club's film 'Last Prayer', directed by Dick Hibberd, there are other island attractions.

Guernsey is a charming island where you feel that time has slowed right down! It could be because the top driving limit is 35 mph, with many places down to 20 mph. Then there is the interesting filter system at junctions which works well. It is difficult to get lost; all roads end up on the coast so you turn left or right and end up in St Peter Port! And, of course, petrol is on 86p per litre. The bus service is excellent, anywhere is only 60p and if you get a 'bulk' ticket it can come down to 30p a trip – even the bus which goes right round the island.

The coastline varies a lot from the North to South. We had personal experience of the walk from Jerbourg to St Peter Port, it was a lot longer than we expected but we were rewarded by some spectacular bays and scenery.

Our hotel was on the Jerbourg headland and most rooms had great sea views. It was a very comfortable and friendly base – good food too. That's another big attraction in October, the 'Tennerfest'. The chefs at the hotels, restaurants and cafes compete to produce menus to a budget of originally a



when your own little 'no budget' production produces just as much audience response as the major full crew production.

One production centered on the huge variety of shrimps that live in our oceans, some of them most exotic, and captivating. This film only lacked the voice of David Attenborough for it to be considered for a world TV audience. Another film which was short and beautifully edited, was centred around the comic dangers of DIY, and obviously the inspired work of just a small group of people. Another film used a large number of white coated dentists, probably close to 100 people, to chase after a terror stricken dental patient. This last one was more than a little beyond the resources of our club, but they also had a full film crew! I don't quite understand that. But it was, as with so many other films, a fantastic production, and I feel privileged to have seen this and all the other productions - so thank you Peter and Mary Rouillard for making this another highly successful Guernsey Lily Film Festival, with ever improving production standards, on all levels.

I'm looking forward to the next Guernsey Film Festival, and I hope that I will see you there.

Dick Hibberd

'tenner'. The prices now go from £10, to £12.50, £15 and £20. The standard of cuisine is excellent and you can dine like a king.

The Film Festival was held at the 'La Valetta' hotel, which has an indoor swimming pool and a beauty salon. The Festival dinner was a 'Tennerfest' meal at the lovely "Fleur du Jardin" hotel, which is situated in the centre of the island. It was a good opportunity to talk to other film makers. One hotel, "Le Barberie" made a huge effort, without fuss, to accommodate us for a snack lunch, when all other tables were full. Other eating places were equally good.

One evening we went to the Guernsey Amateur Dramatic Society production of 'The Shell Seekers'. If you have read that lovely book you will appreciate how difficult it could be to stage. We were totally absorbed by the production and would love to have access to the acting skills of the cast for our films.

We hope that we will have the company of some SBFVM club members the next time we go to the Guernsey Lily. Condor Ferries have some very good offers which included car, passengers and hotel accommodation – so make a note in your 2010 diary!

Pauline Tate

P.S. We have no connection with the Guernsey Island Tourist Board.

OCTOBER CLUB NIGHT

A full house attended the October meeting as five clubs came together for the Surrey Border Inter Club Competition.

Mid Sussex opened the evening with their film "The African Adventure". While some of the audience had followed in their footsteps others were treated to the highlights of a tour of South Africa, from Table Mountain to Safari, from botanical gardens to a train journey across the Mountains. Then followed "Sat Nav Ad" from Basingstoke,



who excelled themselves with the confusion of lefts and rights as directions were given to the Sat Nav shop, even confusing the audience, the problem was finally solved in the simplest way.

Portsmouth's film "Boom Boom" told us of the story of Portsmouth's trams and trollies and the old town with original footage. I had long since forgotten the confusion of overhead wires as I travelled to school, and the wait for a "derailed" trolley. An important archive here for the history of Portsmouth.

Then "Punch" livened us all up with Staines history of a Punch showman in "That's The Way to do It". This one is an important film for the archives of puppetry. Lively parts of the show made everyone laugh and there were interesting shots of the making of the puppets.

Surrey Border judges, **David and Vicky Jackson**, gave excellent advice and tips as they reported on each film before announcing Basingstoke's "Sat Nav Ad" as the trophy winner.

To finish the evening Surrey Border's Peter Matthews demonstrated an HD still and video camera small enough to sit unnoticed in a pocket.

Pennyj



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.

A DATE FOR YOUR DIARY

The 2010 Albany competition will be hosted by South Downs Video & Film Makers on Sunday April 25th 2010. The venue will be the Ferring village hall, Ferring, West Sussex. Just to remind you that the theme for 2010 is "In the Hot Seat".

IMPORTANT NOTICE

JANUARY CLUB NIGHT WILL BE HELD ON FRIDAY 8TH JANUARY

GOOD NEWS - you will not have to make any major decision on New Year's Day (whilst maybe nursing a sore head.....??) about whether you can make the January Club Night or not.

The January 2010 meeting has been changed to the 2nd Friday in the month.

THIS IS FOR JANUARY CLUB NIGHT ONLY!!

CLUB DATES

- 6 Nov** Tribute to John Woolmer
- 4 Dec** Club competition
- 8 Jan** Festival winners' films or club competition films not shown in December 09
- 6 Feb** AGM and 'Gone Fishing'
- 5 Mar** 'Finding Esther' 45 min film with discussion

DIARY DATES

- 6 Dec** Christmas Lunch at Farnham House Hotel

ONE-2-ONE TUITION

Don't forget, One-2-One tuition is always available at the club, and currently Gordon and Val are helping folk with the basics of Final Cut Express.

We have quite a few mac owners now - yay! - and some are struggling to make the transition from iMovie to Final Cut. So make your needs known to Gordon or Val so that help can be arranged for you.

IMPORTANT CONTACTS

Name:

Telephone:

Email: