



WIMBORNE

MovieMakers

Newsletter

February 2017

With this edition you can remind yourself about W.A.L.L.D.O. and see why John needs to know a week before how many competition entries there will be on the night. We had an evening about

small cameras, Ray's "making a movie," the holiday competition and two evenings of videos from Leicester Video Club

27th January.



Small Camera Night. This was a fun night. We had several films shot on very small cameras. The first was from me. On Boxing day I unexpectedly found myself, on a trailer, being pulled around the West Midlands by a tractor. I had my small sports camera in my pocket so was able to capture all the fun, bumps and mud on the day. "The Vintage Tractor Drive", with 81 Tractors, was to raise money for prostate cancer.

Guy took us on Holiday next with footage from Greece and Turkey. This was also filmed on a small sports camera.

Up in the air next with a Drone. Terry gave us a birds eye view of his garden, we had some very close up shots of his hedges as the drone landed in

them. Terry did say he was still learning how to control it, He managed okay when he sneaked up to the window to film his unsuspecting wife inside. He had his drone with him and he flew it very briefly around the club house. He showed us how it can be controlled by a tablet. A very good film.

Then from John S. Using an iPhone, he filmed himself in the scenic countryside of Dorset. This footage was extremely clear and showed well what can be done with a phone.

It's lovely to have Gary back contributing to the evenings. Being Gary, it was an amusing film, shot several years ago on a Rolex camera. A young lad having fun with a hose pipe and you can guess, the grown ups were the ones who got wet.

We went on a car trip next with John D. We travelled along country roads watching the view from a Dash Cam.

Gordon was last to show any footage. His was a small sports camera on a stick, very ingenious. Using a tripod, a fishing

pole and a small sports camera he was able to film from a height, this giving a different view to the footage. First he showed a car museum filmed with the pole, without a gimbal to steady the camera, probably not easy with such a length to handle. After adding the gimbal, his footage of a canal and the boats on it was as steady as can be and the picture very clear. His last item of footage was from the Wimborne History Festival that we filmed last year.

Another very ingenious item came next, from Malcolm who showed us a device he has put together from defunct printers allowing a camera to slide about as it films. He explained a gismo he is making to transfer old film and digitalise it. I'm sure the more tech minded understood it more than I did but it looked very clever to me.

All the footage shown was of a high quality, it showed what can be done now without all the extra equipment we have needed in the past.

3rd February.



Ray Joyce

The second of Ray's nights. Tonight it was about making your movie. He briefly refreshed us on his first talk "Scripting a Project" and then moved on to "Making A Movie". Ray emphasised the things you need to take with you for filming: your camera of course, spare batteries and cards, a microphone and most important a tripod. He also stressed

the need to have with you a soft cloth to clean your lens as even a speck of dust on it may ruin your shot. Ray then talked about "Shooting Styles" with long shots that set the scene and angles to direct your audience to where you want them to look. A medium shot will capture the emotion of the set and a close up will give you full impact. For really dramatic effect a big close up is needed. For example just the eyes of a persons will show the terror they are feeling.

We were then told the importance of the position of the camera. At eye level, the normal position, it's important that you have the subject at the correct height and position in the shot. A higher angle will put your subject into an intim-

idating stance, a lower will make them appear more important.

Ray then went on to the camera's movements. The message seemed to be don't move it unless needed. A skilfully used pan and tilt may add impact to your film but a zoom is rarely needed. We had a warning about crossing the line, continuity and a strong word about the need for cut-aways.

Ray ended with a run through of our friend WALLDO. For anyone not familiar with this I have included Ray's print out.

A very informative evening and I'm sure his next on "Editing your film" will be even more helpful.

WALLDO

WIDE: Shooting from a distance provides context, and perspective. It shows the viewer the big picture. It establishes location.

ANGLED: When you shoot everything from directly in front, it takes away depth and also seems safe, and sometimes pretty bland. Shooting things like buildings, and especially signs from an angle makes for a more interesting visual.

LOW: Shooting from ground level, or even knee-level, gives viewers a different perspective. Put the camera on the ground to get the feet passing by during the parade.

The same approach in your school's hallways can make for an interesting shot as kids walk by on their way to class
LINKING: Maybe the most difficult of the WALLDO shots to

do well, this requires movement of the camera. It is a shot that links two related objects or subjects by panning from one to the other.

This shot is used when it is hard to get the two objects in the frame at the same time. Maybe you follow a jogger running to your left, and as he passes by the "Relay for Life" sign, you stop on the sign. You have now "linked" the participant with the cause he is running for.

DEPTH: One of the easiest, but most important WALLDO techniques. Find foreground objects to put in your frame when you shoot. They allow you to add depth to the visuals. For example, a burning building is easy to shoot. But think of the drama you add when you shoot that building with the owner in

the foreground, watching his property burn. On a less dramatic level, shooting the outside of your school with branches in the foreground adds depth and makes the shot more interesting.

OPPOSITE: This is the reverse angle in video, or the "reaction" shot. The opposite of the running back scoring a touchdown is the shot you get when you turn around and show the cheering crowd. Shooting a guest speaker from in front is the standard shot, but you add a great and unique perspective by shooting from behind her as she speaks, providing her point of view as she looks at her audience.

10th February,

This evening we were the judges for Leicester Video Club's films. All the entries were of a high standard. The first three we put into winning order, I guess for one of their competitions.

The first took us to Walvis Bay in Namibia. It was well filmed and took me back to my visit there. This we placed third.

Next a very well made film about a graffiti artist, who painted all the Leicester Football Club's players on a wall. The pictures were much more than life size, this artist is very talented. We placed this first.

The third film was about the Cape Verde Islands. Put in second place, we thought this was a very informative and interesting film, with excellent

photography. The rest of the evening we just watched and commented on their films.

The first took us to "Abbotsbury" a place we all know. Then we had a tour around the landscape of Leicester with more swans and picturesque countryside. "It All Depends On The Weather", which is very true when you are cruising on the River Rhine, as we did next. This film compared a previous cruise which the camera man had taken, when the river was in full flood and then rather too low the next time.

Two films that followed were from One Minute Competitions. A Ferris wheel at night and a peaceful walk in an bluebell wood. Off to Norway next on

another cruise, this time through the scenic fjords. We came back nearer home then with a trip to "Quanta Quaila" a sculpture park in Dorchester.

The love of steam trains reaches far and wide so it was no surprise to have a film on this subject. This one in unison with the playing of Ashover Brass Band.

Only time for one more: back to Norway to visit a Fish Museum, a very important industry to the Norwegians.

We have five more films to see from Leicester which we will show later in the season.

The cheque from the Christmas card collection has been given to Julia's House by Trevor G. The sum of £72.50 was raised.

Julia's House gets a small contribution from government, but next year has to raise just over £5M from donations etc, just to keep going. They have a

permanent staff of 59 nursing carers plus about a dozen administration staff, so they are always grateful for any contributions however large or small. Trevor met with Carol Kumaila, the Senior Team Nurse for clinical development. Arranged by Amy Tatum Community Fund Raiser for Julia's House.

Thanks to all who contributed.



Trevor Guess Carol Kumaila.

16th February.

It's a long time since we've had a whole evening of competition but the holiday comp did this with eight entries. The photography on all was excellent. We are all becoming very skilled in this part of our hobby.

First shown was **Christmas Reflections** from **John Simpson**. On a Christmas day we were taken around the Cotswolds, with picturesque views of villages, churches, and panoramas of the countryside. Comments on this were: Good commentary but sound too low, an enjoyable film. Too much

camera movement and repeated shots.

Next we had a trip to Russia. **Moscow to St Petersburg** from **Terry Hopwood**. We were shown some of the grandeur of these cities. A nicely put together film with a good commentary and music, although it was thought this was a bit to fast. Short and sweet.

From **John Simpson** next, back in England, **St Ives Cornwall**. This was a mix of holiday and documentary with a good story that was followed

through. An interest in St Ives, inspired by a picture in his childhood, John went in search of its origin. This was thought to be a charming film but again with John the sound needed some improvement.

A Tour of **Burma** then from **Dave Smith**. Very colourful shots of a pagoda, its people and a food market captured the atmosphere well in this interesting film. Thought to be too long, with most shots needing cutting in the editing and perhaps a bit more information.

A Day In Spain for us next from **Trevor Guess**. Andalusia with lots of lovely scenery and churches. Informative, interesting, an enjoyable film with a well paced commentary.

South East Asia was our next destination from **Terry Hopwood**. This another very colourful film about Laos with its people and culture. Well put together, well edited, an enjoyable film.

Italy was our next stop over, with **John Davies, Malcasine**. A village on the eastern shore of Lake Garda was the base for John and Mel to visit other places in the area, with a canal trip in Venice and walks around several villages. Entertaining

with good editing, perfect music for the film, and a very good use of our friend walldo. A little too long and some were concerned about Mells interest in the wine.

Adventures on An Island by **Marion Westcott**. I took you to Capri, a beautiful place to visit with a trip to the Blue Grotto and a cable car ride to the top of the island. A relaxing film, informative, interesting, good commentary and excellent graphics. The chair lift footage was too long.

1st Malcasine by **John Davies**.

2nd South East Asia by **Terry Hopwood**

3rd Moscow To St Petersburg from **Terry Hopwood**.

A very enjoyable evening. Well done all who entered, keep it up!

I am concerned that our club is becoming obsessed with films being "short". If you sat down to watch a television show, say a documentary or a holiday programme you would not expect to have only two or three minutes. The adds in between are the ones that should be short. If a film is interesting and informative the length is immaterial. So often the comment is made that a film is too long when it's a tighter edit that is needed.

Competition Entries

About the importance of the competition entry paperwork. This should be presented on time along with the DVD / Flash memory **if possible**. This is so that the spread sheet record of all the data is logged. So the status of the entry is established. (ie. can it be up loaded to the club's web site).

The media is previewed to make sure it works, and the judging sheet is made available for printing. Also the running time for all the entries is

established, so the evening can be planned. If the running time is short, what will be needed to fill the evening?

Make sure the entry paper work is in on time....! even without the film.

Media arriving on the competition night will only be accepted if the entry was made on the due date. If the production is not finished and cannot be handed in don't worry- the line on the judging sheet will simply be crossed though by the judges

24th February.

Unfortunately our expected speaker was unable to attend but now we all know "who done it" as we watched the showing of our skit **A Priceles Jewel** Devised from a script by Barbara, edited by Terry, with several members in the cast and on the crew.

Chris and his glamorous companion stole a priceless brooch from Lady Mary and escaped to their island in the

Caribbean. The out takes were hilarious. Well done Barbara a good production. It was fun to film so I hope another will be in the offering soon.

As this took up a small part of the evening for the rest we watched the remaining show-reel from Leicester Video Club. The films shown previously from Leicester we all enjoyed and the rest were just as entertaining.

The first showed us some of

Herriot's Yorkshire. Next a very interesting film about the re-internment of King Richard III. The Percy Family then, this about the owners of Alnwick Castle with a look at the castle and the gardens.

Off to China with the next. Again a very interesting film about silk making. The last video shown from Leicester was about the red squirrels in Cumbria and Yorkshire. An interest-