



WIMBORNE

MovieMakers

Newsletter

March/April 2017

We have watched a lot of DVDs since the last news letter. Two nights from SO CO Regional Awards, and one from Doncaster Video Club, then the Chairman's Challenge and the

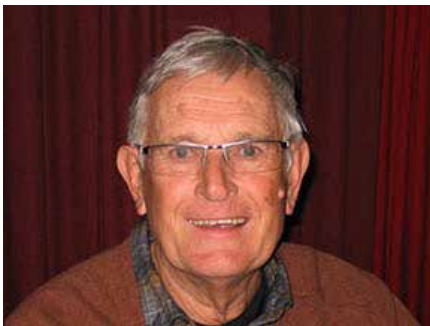
Open Competition.

We've had two Talks. An evening with Ray Joyce, the last of his talks on "Making A Film" and one with Peter Hale who gave lots of information on

Titling. The green screen night was a mixed success.

The club outing has been discussed it will be to the Weald and Downland Museum on Sunday June 4th.

3rd March.



Ray Joyce

Ray's last talk about making your movie was possibly the most informative. He did a quick recap on the two previous talks. We now have our footage to put on to the computer. The first thing to do is to log your shots, dump the bad ones and you are ready to make a film. With the clips on the time line you make them into a sequence to tell the story. Here you can rearrange them to add more impact. You don't need to have them in the same order you filmed them. Clips filmed on different days can be put

together to add interest to the subject.

He demonstrated this by showing the Pilot in his Pool Harbour film talking about his work while we watched pictures of the harbour shot on several different days. If we just watched the Pilot talking we would have lost interest very quickly.

Then Ray talked about transitions. Although you have several in your editing programme only a few are really needed in most films. A fade is useful to pass on to another subject in your film, a dissolve will go smoothly from one clip to the next without a jump and a wipe will convey a shift in time. The right use of transitions will improve the flow of your story.

He talked about the most common mistake we make in our film; making is our clips

too long. Ray said we must only use the best part of the clip; cut out the wobbly bits, usually the start and end, only have it long enough for the audience to see what is happening and don't be tempted to use a shot even if it's fantastic unless its relevant to the story.

Ray mentioned that sometimes stills are needed in your film. When this is so give them some slight movement such as a small zoom or pan. After all this it's time to add your sound and this needs just as much attention as the pictures. Maybe an evening of editing sound could be his next talk.

Using the film Helen had entered in the Amberley competition, Ray showed the original and then demonstrated, how using all he had just told us made it shorter more interesting to watch.

10th march.

"The Chairman's Challenge" was to make an advert of less than sixty seconds. Well! Tonight we had eleven entries, I think this is a record number for any competition. All were well presented and well thought out. The first from **Peter Hale** was **1685**. Re-enactment footage of the battle. Comments were: A little confusing as to what it was advertising and at the end the reveal (insurance) was not on screen long enough.

Next **A Strange World**. from **Guy**. This was an add for you to take a holiday in Iceland. We had beautiful scenery with good photography and edit but a commentary would have added to the film. Then came **The Advert 2017** from **Malcolm Haynes**. With Malcolm, as we expect it was an amusing film, about Bog Roll. An enjoyable film, entertaining with a good commentary.

My contribution was next, with an animation on a **Go Compare** theme. Comments: well put together, bright, a good animation, a real add.

We then had some footage

filmed in 1964 by **Bill Andrews**. **Forever Is Never**. This a spoof on the James Bond films. Entertaining, put together well, a punchy cinema advert.

A Car add next from **John Simpson**. **Take A Little Adventure**. Fast moving, a good edit. John's shot of the car running over the camera was liked by all. Off to Spain then with **The Call Of Algar Falls** from **Barry Glynn**. Picturesque footage but again it was not clear what it was advertising. Nice photos with a good edit.

Another film from **John Simpson** was **Control Your Heating From The Phone Box**. This was a twist on adds about controlling the temperature remotely with your smart phone. An interesting, funny film that made its point.

Can We next from **Guy**. A slide show of stills that led us to the question of Brexit. Punchy with appropriate music.

As there were no rules except the length for this competition, this film was okay, but we have rules about stills in others so ***please read them*** before entering a competition.

The last film shown was an add for our own club. **The Shed**, from **John Davies**. A really good idea with excellent photography, well made and enjoyable but it was felt that the punch line was not punchy enough.

Unfortunately one entry would not play on our equipment. Maybe we need some reminders of basics that us old hands take for granted but new comers have yet to learn.

1st Go Compare, Marion Westcott.

2nd Can We, Guy

3rd The Advert 2017, Malcolm Haynes.

After the break we watched a few winning film from the So-Co Awards 2016 show real. First "A Day To Remember", a really lovely love story. Then "Are We Alone" a Sci Fi film. Only time for one more and that was, "Building Valiant". A group of "Help The Heros" building a boat that they then rowed across from Senen Cove in Cornwall to Tresco in the Isles of Scilly.

31st March.



Angels

Green screen night. We had a very enjoyable evening tonight with filming in front of our green screen.

First was a skit written espe-

cially for green screen, by me, about a Plumber who was amazed when arriving in heaven, he found a tremendous reception but this was a misunderstanding. I won't give the plot away for those of you who were not there - not many as our little club house was bursting at the seams.

After my effort Barbara produced two short "funnies," that made us all laugh. We were highly amused then from Dave and Barrie, acting out a skit on

Henry the V111.

This sort of evening is true to our name - Moveimakers. We are lucky to have such a lovely large green screen, so get thinking for the next time we use it. Write a script that we can film and then use our skills of editing green screen footage.

A big thank you to all who participated in any way to the evening, especial Terry and Malcolm who put up the screen for us.

We have had two nights of the films from the SO CO Regional Awards Winners. Eric Montague was due to talk us through them but was unable to attend. The films on the first evening were very good, entertaining and well made, with a varied program of ideas. These were all the first

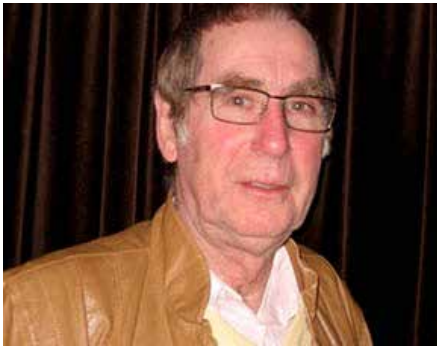
and second placings in the competition. With so many films to watch we had to finish watching the disc the next week.

These were not so watchable with one, a very very long drawn out story. The sound and photography on most of the films

needing some attention. The exception to this was the film made by Eric his wife Sue and club members in front of the green screen, Mr Bigs Mistake.

Although it's lovely, sometimes, to watch other peoples films we are called MovieMakers not movie watchers.

7th April.



An evening with Peter Hale. Peter showed us some of the top ten film titles of all time. This included Bond and star Wars films. We were also shown footage from the top ten most beautiful films but the fast pace and American accent made them hard to follow: however there were some lovely shots of blockbuster films of the past.

Making a title can be great

fun if you like a challenge, you can let your mind run wild. We were shown how to do this with a tutorial in After Effects. The title must reflect the film to come.

We saw how using one second clips, in a fast pacing sequence from the film gave us an idea as to what the film was about. For example a brief shot of a gun and a scantily clad lady suggested that the film would be of an adult nature with sex and violence. This would have a somber background. A brighter background with a fluffy chick and bunny would make you expect it to be suitable for a younger audience.

This tutorial used several shots downloaded from the

Web promoting a very good site to use "Video Blocks." A charge is imposed with this site and if you do a lot of film making it is well worth it. If you just need a clip now and again a site I use that lets you download free is "XStockvideo.com."

As so often in our club house, a discussion ensued and this time the subject was how much footage not filmed by you can be used in a competition. We have no rule on this but using it as the main theme of your film would make it unacceptable because our competitions are judged on *your* work as a film maker.

Thanks to Peter who, gave us something to think about.

21st April.

The Open Competition. There were six entries for this. The first from **Terry Hopwood**, **The Lion Hunt** was a film about a lion kill in Namibia. Terry was lucky to capture this. He told us he waited several hours to do so. Comments on this were: Enjoyable, Interesting, length of shot just right, put together well. Titles good and appropriate music.

Next **A Visit To Wells**, by **Marion Westcott**, this about the majestic cathedral at Wells in

Somerset. Interesting, photography good, a nice documentary, the length was right with a mix of mid and close up shots. The guide's commentary from the cathedral was not so good.

The next viewing was again from **Terry**, this time about **The Cheetahs**. Lovely photography of cheetahs being fed at a Cheetah Conservation. Excellent close ups but the reserve's presenter could not be understood by anyone.

Trevor Guess then with **The**

Advert. This showed us the wonders of a spray vinegar. Very amusing, good pace and edit, entertaining, excellent. Some shots a bit out of focus.

Because we were running out of time (too much talk, between each film, of things not about the film being commented on) Terry withdrew the next film. So we went to the **Piddle Valley**, a film from **John Simpson**. We were taken on a walk with John to be shown the Springtime landscape of the Valley.

Appropriate peaceful music, Interesting and enjoyable. Sound not so good and a map of where it was would have added to the film.

Once again all entries were of

a high standard and pleasant to watch.

1st The Lion Hunt by Terry Hopwood.

2nd The Advert by Trevor Guess.

3rd The Cheetahs by Terry Hopwood.

The rest of the evening was taken up with another very interesting film from Terry of his visit to Russia.

28th April.

Doncaster Show Reel. As we watched this we were asked to comment on the films and at our club we don't hold back. With most of the films we didn't have to as they were of excellent quality, with the exception of one that made me and some others want to leave the club house.

The first film gave us an insight into what was to come. It was a documentary on the works of Edward Elgar. This was thought to be one of the best amateur film we had seen from

any club. The rest didn't come up to this high standard but we had a very enjoyable evening.

The next week, again saw us starting off watching DVDs from another club show reel. This left little time for viewing films from our own members but we did manage to watch three.

The first was from David Smith who showed us the result of filming on green screen night. David made a good job with this and his sketch spoofing the song "I'm Henry The

Eight" very amusing. John D then took us on holiday to the Austrian Tyrol with a film made in 1995. Scenic shots of the mountains, a white water boat ride and several trips on chair lifts. The last shown was again from David S this time an amusing skit about customs control.

I'm sure more members had films to show so maybe next year's programme will include an evening of work from members only.

Does Anything Change?

I was browsing through some old files this morning and came across a folder containing some past club Newsletters dated from when Gary was the editor in chief.

Of course when this happens I can't but help having a browse through some of them and came across issue number 48. Dennis Sanders had two entries

in the "Letters to the Editor" columns; the first was of a technical nature but it was the second that grabbed my attention.

He complained of a problem still prevalent in the club, and still continues to irritate members. It's the loud private discussions that go on whilst someone at the front is trying to

address the club as a whole. It does get tedious trying to block out one conversation to give full attention to the speaker at the front.

I've attached a copy of the letter written by Dennis for reprint in the hope that the perpetrators will get the message.

Sid

From Dennis Sanders:

Some of our members are under the delusion that their discussion with their neighbour whilst the programme/speaker is underway, cannot be heard by anyone else. This is definitely not so and the level of irritation is almost tangible at times, although the culprits seem completely unaware of this. I am not talking about the odd word or two in the ear of your neighbour, but those earnest and detailed exchanges which are seemingly essential to those involved.

Grumpy old man- maybe, but I happen to think that such behaviour is both discourteous and irritating to everyone else in the audience, let alone the programme presentation and/or presenter.

So can we please use our pre start and tea break periods when the volume of social discourse ensures a high level of verbal isolation.

Thank you

Please send your letters of praise, complaint, problems, suggestions for changes to our meetings, or any encounters that you would like to share with the members.

Please send them, with photos if any . To

m.westcott1@sky.com.

www.wimbornemoviemakers.org