

Jan/Feb 2015

FAST FORWARD

The magazine of **CHICHESTER FILM & VIDEO MAKERS**
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OBITUARY
KEITH BAKER, FIAC
 25/07/1933 - 17/12/2014

It is with deep sadness and a real sense of loss that the members of Chichester Film and Video Makers mourn the death of their President, and friend, Keith Baker.

Keith was an active member of the club right to the end, latterly as competition secretary, and his wisdom, experience and sense of humour will be sorely missed.



His interest in movies began in 1960 when he joined Croydon Cine Club where he quickly made his mark as an active club member and compiled their newsletter. In 1985 he joined Epsom Cine Society and again contributed to the running of the club though working fulltime for the Post Office. As a committee member he served as competition officer and contributed to the running of the club in many other novel and inventive ways.

When Keith and Pam moved to Pagham in 1992 they joined the Southern Sound and Cine Club, later

to become Chichester Film and Video Makers. Even in retirement Keith was not ready to just sit back and take it easy; he served the majority of his time on the committee, as secretary, chairman on several occasions, and more recently competition secretary and President. This in addition to editing the club magazine and the website.

Keith's work for CFVM has been invaluable; he has worked tirelessly for the benefit of the club and was instrumental in shaping, directing and guiding the club to the success it is today.

Keith was a prolific filmmaker with many successful films to his credit. He and Pam, separately and together, made a number of comedies, travelogues and documentaries which were so well regarded that the term "Baker Studios" was coined.

Keith was also a key player in most of the club productions either as writer, editor, cameraman or director and was always ready to help new members to develop their filmmaking skills.

But it was in making one-minute films that Keith showed a real skill, particularly comic films and this was recognised internationally when two of his extremely funny films, "Lost for Words" and "Benefits" were selected to represent the UK at the UNICA International Film Festival. "Benefits", in which he starred with his daughter Joanne, beat competition from 26 countries and was awarded the World One-Minute Cup. In this short film Keith satirised one aspect of modern society and, like all good satire, in making you laugh it also made you think.

In 2012 Keith was awarded a

Fellowship of the Institute of Amateur Cinematographers in recognition of his dedication and contribution to amateur filmmaking.



Chichester Film and Video Makers was Keith's passion and he was 100% committed to its success. He leaves a massive gap which will be extremely difficult to fill. He was a great ambassador for CFVM at competitions and festivals in the region and he will be greatly missed by all his friends at the club and elsewhere.

Our thoughts go out to Pam and her family at this sad time but the legacy of Keith's work lives on.

By Mike Morris & Clive Hand

CLIVE'S COMMENTS

By Chairman Clive Hand

As we start a New Year I think many CFVM members will still be struggling to come to terms with the loss of our dear friend Keith. It is extremely difficult to put into words the massive amount of time, effort and commitment Keith put into the club and we will feel the impact of that for some time to come.

When I first joined the club it was Keith that took me under his wing and within a year had persuaded me to take over from him as General Secretary. Keith had done that job amongst all the



other hats he wore for 7 years and he was a tough act to follow.

I worked on many club productions with Keith in various roles. Buried Alive, For King & Country, Arthurs Birthday, The Picture, A Friend in Need to name but a few. The last film was Second Chance. I was Director and Keith did camera and editing for me. As always Keith did an amazing job covering up my mistakes and it was always an absolute pleasure working with him. His enthusiasm and experience always added that something extra to the film and made it stand out above the competitions. Simply, it was just great to have him around.

Moving on to the practicalities, I have temporarily picked up the mantle of editor for this issue of Fast Forward by virtue of having collected the club's external hard drive from Pam. We felt it was important to try and get the next issue of Fast Forward out as scheduled and the easiest way was to use Keith's tried and tested format. Pam has very kindly passed on 'copy' that had been sent to Keith over the last couple of months and that has been included in this issue. It is hoped to have someone take over as editor, possible with the support of a small editorial team, and we have very kindly had an offer of assistance with that.

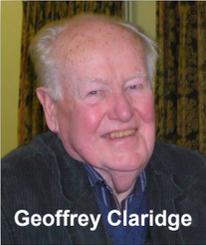
As mentioned at the first meeting of 2015 both the committee and myself have really appreciated the support and very kind offers of assistance at this difficult time. We will certainly be taking you up on some of those offers.

Although, Keith has left a massive gap he has also left CFVM with a legacy of being an extremely successful and well respected filmmaking club. I think it places a responsibility on not only the committee but all our members to ensure that legacy continues as Keith would have wanted.

A MEETING TO REMEMBER

By Geoffrey Claridge

“Murray or nothing” ! but what we got was “Murray and something” and jolly good it was.



Geoffrey Claridge

We all, well, nearly all of us, had seen and enjoyed the film MY DEAR MURRAY but this was something else. Not only that but we were promised a surprise and what a surprise

it turned out to be.

We spent the evening seeing behind the scenes that made up the component parts of the film, and director Clive Hand revealed some of the difficulties of location filming. The Victory was undergoing some repairs at the time of the shoot so not only did the film crew have to be off-site by 10.00 but they had to keep scaffolds and builders equipment out of frame.

Rather than listing all the problems that had been overcome, Clive offered a series of topics and discussed each such as, Location, Effects, Actors, etc. and gave an insight into some. For example it was found that the Ship Hotel once the home of Sir George Murray, an essential location, has undergone a number of cosmetic and other modifications but with the wonders of Photoshop and its clone tool most could, and were, cloned away. Similarly the shot of Murray looking through his telescope over a rain washed sea was created by the combined strengths of Photoshop, YouTube and Clive Hand. He told us it only took about a day working the digital magic to secure a few seconds of screen time. It looked convincing and added to the quality of the final film and so was worthwhile, helping to lift the film up into the upper echelons of amateur film production.

The producer, director, writer and technicians were fortunate in their choice of actor to take the leading role. Philip Robinson, an academic and lecturer took this on and spoke his lines almost completely without the need of re-takes, and that helped with the time restraints on location filming. Not only that he was convincing both in dramatic sequences and narration. Accuracy in costumes was considered important and all actors, including the supporting young actor of the **twelve** year old Murray looked comfortable and convincing when ‘in costume’.

The whole enterprise had been constructed from the book by Barry Aldridge and a comprehensive Story Board had been prepared by Richard Plowman. This described the shots needed, and only squiggle sketches are needed to inform and remind the cameraman and director of the shots needed, their type and sequence.

Making 18th. Century Men of War ships appear to be at sea from still photographs and even being wrecked again needed some Photoshop and other trickery. Options within Photoshop CS6 apps allows lightning flashes to be included and these combined together with-sound effects makes a convincing storm sequence. A single shot could be divided into three to suit the 16x9 frame and with a little motion blur added nervous audience members could almost feel seasick.

Hardly pausing to catch his breath Clive drew the first half of this fascinating presentation to a close by introducing to us the Producer of My Dear Murray.

Richard Plowman, sometime Mayor of Chichester and an enthusiast of the film explained that as part of the research for the film the Portsmouth Dockyard Museum had allowed access into their extensive 18th.C collection of naval artefacts-- mostly in store and

not on show!

But more was to come. A direct descendant of Sir George let Richard have access to his remarkable collection of Murray artefacts. There were letters between the two great friends Nelson and Murray, many pictures of their relations and colleagues and all of this helped to add a little more flesh onto the bones of the filmed story, adding to its eventual appeal.



Then Richard Plowman gave us his real surprise. He held out before us, allowing it to be touched and held a wonderful North African sword in its gold encrusted scabbard presented to Murray in Algeria. Then he delved into a rather battered paper bag to reveal a large elegant oval silver tray with a neatly decorated gallery. It had belonged to Sir George Murray and had graced his dining table at his Chichester home that is now the Ship Hotel. Some of these wonderful "Chichester" things are now in the West Sussex Record Office and it is hoped more will follow. It is worth

reflecting that had the idea of the film not been born (something that the late Keith Baker and Harry Page had a hand in) this historically important collection and the story that goes with it might not have been told.

Not to be outdone Clive showed us two more films, one a You Tube advertising trailer intended for future audiences and the other a 28 minute documentary containing interviews with Producer, Author, Historians and Clive himself all telling the story of the film from its inception through development and into final production-- a process that has taken some three years.

Those of us, members of CFVM who had set aside the sadness of recent days left the meeting in pouring rain, having not only been entertained but hopefully inspired to start planning our own new film. As Clive said "it doesn't matter what you do, simple by all means-- the important thing is to make a film!"

C'on CVFM lets go to it in memory of you know who.

HOLIDAY COMPETITION 19/11/2014 By Chris Kenny

The 2014 CFVM Holiday Competition was held on 19 November but before the competition commenced, the Chairman made several announcements:

1. Nicholas Light was announced as having rejoined as a returning member.

2. We haven't seen Mike Knock for a while, and we were told that he has been suffering a back problem and cannot get out and about. A Get Well card was available for members to sign.

3. The Christmas Dinner now has sufficient attendees and will take place as scheduled. Final payments are now due.

4. Several Club and individual members films were previously entered in the Tallinn Film Festival and awards were announced. Clive presented Diplomas to Keith Baker for 'Bleep'. Pam Baker for 'Confession' and the Club films 'Outside Chance' directed by Jacquie Clarke and 'Joey' directed by Pam Baker.

5. We were reminded that the next meeting on December 3 would be the 'Pub Quiz and Mince Pies' hosted by Keith and assisted by Pam Baker and all members should bring writing materials.

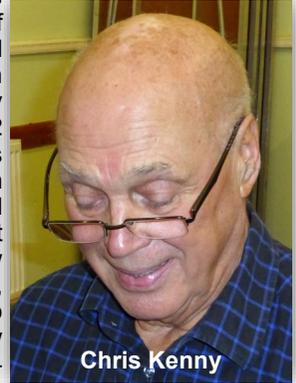
A total of 25 members attended the Holiday Competition evening and Keith Baker let us know that there were eight entries and they had been pre-judged by three club members Kevin Pritchard, Michael Rice and Mike Pepper. The running order had been decided by the judges and the showing would last about one hour. It was announced that each of the eight entries would be introduced by Keith.

The first holiday film to be shown was **Namibian Treasures**, a 13 minute film covering a beautifully photographed journey through the dunes, plains, wooded areas and beaches of Namibia in Southern Africa. To complement the magnificent scenery, a variety of animals were shown, including elephants, giraffe, cheetahs, wildebeest and seals by the ocean. A quad bike rider was seen over the dunes and a four-by-four truck needed for the difficult terrain took us between the centres which included a visit to the Petrified Forest. A very informative commentary kept the audience up to date throughout the journey.

Next came **Littlecote House**, a 4 minute documentary made during a holiday at this Elizabethan country house, now a Warner Leisure Hotel. The modern facilities were well

described and some historical facts were related covering a gruesome event in the early period up to its use by American soldiers during the Second World War.

Sea Cruise. As the title implies, this was an illustration of a holiday based on a cruise on the Celebrity Eclipse. This 2 minute film was treated in a fun way, composed of many short shots of a few seconds each, all set to a piano piece. We saw many of the on-board activities available to the passengers and a variety of the many dishes served at all times. Very entertaining.



Postcards was the next entry and this gave a different outlook on sea cruising. The treatment here was to show how the vast number of visitors arriving at popular destinations, many of them pouring off the Cruise Liners, made it impossible to take serious photos or film in any of the important locations. Many mobile phones were being used by the visitors to take 'snaps', but did these ever get printed for showing back at home and for posterity? Different locations round the Baltic and Mediterranean areas served as a backdrop to illustrate the energetic peak time activity with some early morning/late evening shots proving it can be more peaceful. It was concluded that it may be better to use the old-fashioned postcard after all.

The next holiday film showed **A Visit To Portofino**. The story of this visit was told through the use of visual images of this fishing village and

resort on the Italian Riviera with no commentary. Although we were not put in the picture as to where Portofino is located, we were treated to a series of very nice scenes of the harbour and features of the village.

Damerham Fair in Hampshire is an annual event held in conjunction with the local horticultural show that provides a good family day out. Many trade and craft stands, together with on-going events such as a dog show in the arena keep the interest throughout a visit. These events were all well illustrated in this film with nicely timed clips and the commentary kept the audience well informed

Back to Littlecote House for a report on the **Easter Sunday Duck Race**. Each yellow, plastic duck is numbered and sponsored with the proceeds going to charity. The race is held on a stream in the grounds and the 'competitors' are lined up behind a starting gate before being released to be carried downstream by the flow. An excellent job of filming this event showed many details of the start, progress down the stream with various interruptions to the flow and the finish with a clear winner. A good commentary and a neat end to this 4 minute film made this fun to watch.

Vacanza di Venezia This Holiday in Venice took us through many areas of Venice from the well known to the more obscure. There was no commentary but live sound and music was added where appropriate and an interview with a local introduced us to Rainbow Island where we saw its multi-coloured houses. A gondola ride, a visit to the Opera House and action at the regatta on the Grand Canal added to the shots of many attractive buildings provided an overview of all things Venetian.

After the break, the results of the judging were presented in a

different way. As only one of the Judges could be present on the evening, it was decided to make a video of extracts from the two and a half hour actual judging session with all three judges presenting their comments to camera. Of the eight entries, four were short-listed by the Judges and the video allowed us to share all their opinions on these four films. Finally, three were picked for awards and these were announced by the attending Judge, Mike Pepper as: First place – **Namibian Treasures** by Ron Armes, Second place – **Postcards** by Judith and Chris Kenny and Third place – **Damerham Fair** by Keith Baker.

It was agreed that the whole competition evening was a great success and our Chairman concluded by thanking Mike as well as the absent Judges for all their efforts, Keith Baker for introducing the films and the projectionists for their faultless presentation.

AROUND THE WORLD IN 80 MINUTES (approx)

By Tina Keller

There we were all sat in our seats on a cold December evening. The last meeting before Christmas, but due to unforeseen circumstances beyond our control, there was a change to the programme. We were treated to a show reel from Haywards Heath.

There were many good films of which were travelogues, so I am naming the evening "Around the world in 80 min (approx)".

There was a film taken in Venice, showing the ways you can get about



on the waterways, with the Waterbus the most popular and Gondolas the slower and more romantic way, as you can be serenaded whilst drifting along.

Also an exploration of Petra which is a small place in Jordan, now in Ruins, but it has a well preserved Treasury Temple.

There was "Boom and Bust" which was about two towns called Brighton. One in this country booming and the other in New Zealand. There is not much left of the one in New Zealand now. It used to be a gold mining town which thrived in it's day , but now is not even on the map.

We were shown a nice look round Rocamadour which is a small town on the hillside in France. There is a little train which takes you up the hillside to the centre, where all the shops and restaurants reside.

The evening started with a nice film about a trip to Amberley, where there were rides on open top buses and various exhibitions. Even something for the children which involved them being shown and helping to make a wheel. The film maker decided it was about what the great in Great Britain means.

Later in the evening we were treated t a look at Malcesine which is on Lake Garda in Italy. It is just a small place with a castle and a museum.

After refreshments the second half started with us being taken on a comical cycle tour for pensioners, which seemed very leisurely , with lots of refreshment stops as they rode along.

On a more serious note there was a n interesting film on the Unsinkable Titanic which set off in the spring of 1912 with Captain Edward John Smith at the helm and we all know what

happened on the fateful day when 1500 passengers and crew died and only a mere 706 survived.

There was a film called "On the Brink" which was about the endangered monkeys that were in captivity on Jersey . The zoo was started by Jerald Durrell and it told us that a project was going to collect aluminium cans and for every 50 cans a tree is planted to preserve the habitats for the monkeys.

Also a film was shown called Victorian Lady 2 about the rejuvenation of Brighton Pier to try and preserve our heritage.

On a lighter note there was a short film about "worm charming" where people were given a small patch of field and had to see how many worms they could charm out of the ground. The winner getting a Golden Gnome. A lot of fun for the people taking part.

Also a sweet one minute carton film called "Polly Gone" which made a nice refreshing change with good animation. "Someone cares" was a short Drama asking who cares about us. I will not tell you the end in case I spoil it for the people who haven't seen it yet.

There was also a film comedy about the Pope coming to England, which once again I won't give away the end.

The last film I am going to talk about is one that reminded us of the cold of winter. It was called "White Rabbit" and was of people and families out in the snow enjoying themselves building guess what.

Well that is the synopsis of the evening some of you missed. Congratulations to Haywards Heath on producing us with an evening's entertainment of fifteen films, with a very professional introduction to the show.

CFVM's Annual Christmas Dinner 2014

By Jacquie Clarke



Jacquie Clarke

The Dinner was once again held at Bishop Bell House and we were as delighted as in previous years. Dominated by a huge, decorated Christmas tree, we assembled in the elegant reception hall to

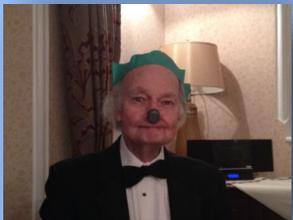
enjoy pre-dinner drinks before finding our places at one of the three beautifully set, round dining tables. Christmas music, crackers and candles added to the ambience and we were all very soon discussing the dinner table challenges set by Jacquie Clarke, Social Secretary, who organised the event.

The meal was served in a relaxed, efficient and unobtrusive way, all pre-orders thankfully matching expectations. The food was delicious.

A film quiz and a sheet of anagrams of Christmas songs and Carols helped generate an air of friendly rivalry between tables and answers were delivered with much laughter, good humour and song! Collective renderings of the Jaws two note theme, Singing in the Rain and The Harry Lime Theme were.....tuneful! And then, with Strauss Viennese waltz music playing, Ray and Paula Puleston took to the floor for a twirl.

There is no doubt that Bishop Bell House is quite our favourite Christmas venue so make a note in your diaries for Wednesday 9 December 2015. Jacquie has already booked it!

CHRISTMAS DINNER GALLERY



BIAFF 2015

The British International Amateur Film Festival
Will take place in Sittingbourne from April 16th—19th.
Hosted by **SERIAC** (SOUTH EAST REGION IAC)
At The Coniston Hotel
70 London Road
Sittingbourne
Kent ME10 1NT

TEA ROTA

Here is a short rota for the
Duty Tea Crew.

If you can't make your due date,

please make your own

arrangements for your substitution with
another member *or the rest of us do not
get any tea!*

Mar 4th	Stan Harvey-Merritt Alan Hepburn
Mar 18th	Mike Morris Anderina Morris
Apr 1st	John Bradshaw Rupert Marks
Apr 15th	Ren Curtis John Harvey
Apr 29th	Mike Pepper Kevin Pritchard

DUTY SCRIBE

Here is a short rota for the Duty Scribe. If
you can't make your due date, **please**

MAKE YOUR OWN

**ARRANGEMENTS FOR YOUR
SUBSTITUTION WITH ANOTHER
MEMBER.**

To just not turn up, means a meeting
does not get recorded and the infor-
mation is lost for ever. Copy should be
forwarded to the editor as soon as pos-
sible after the event.

PLAIN TEXT,

**NO INDENTS OR
FORMATTING PLEASE**

Verdana font 9points would be great.

Mar 4th	James Keller
Mar 18th	Mike Rice
Apr 1st	Anderina Morris
Apr 15th	Ray Puleston
Apr 29th	Judy harvey

CHICHESTER FILM & VIDEO MAKERS

The views expressed in this magazine are those of the contributors with which the Club may or may not agree. Excerpts from the magazine may be published without further permission as long as the source is acknowledged. The editor would appreciate if this could be done accurately, i.e. words not added when they emanated from elsewhere.

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Copy to Clive Hand,

Email: clivehand113@googlemail.com