

May/June 2015

FAST FORWARD

The magazine of **CHICHESTER FILM & VIDEO MAKERS**

Registered Charity No 1110816

www.cfvm.org.uk



CHAIRMAN'S CHAT by Chairman Mike Morris	2
FROM THE EDITOR by Clive Hand	3
CFVM AGM by Michael Rice	3
ALBANY COMPETITION by Alan Hepburn/Clive Hand	4
JAMES & KEVIN'S 'POWER OF SOUND' by Anderina Morris	5
LEARNING FROM THE MASTER by Roberta Grieve	6



CHAIRMAN'S CHAT

publication of our Fast Forward magazine which has involved him in a tremendous amount of work, for which we are all most grateful. All this while finalising the editing of our Albany entry "The Reunion", for which we were awarded the Best Editing trophy.

This is my first message as your new chairman and if you were at the AGM much of it will sound familiar.

Some of you will have heard, and probably used, the phrase "I didn't actually volunteer, I just didn't step back as smartly as the others."

When I agreed to accept the nomination for the position of chairman following Clive's decision to stand down I did so in the knowledge that the other committee members would be there to guide me when I strayed. I was particularly depending on Keith to keep me on the straight and narrow.

Since the sad news just before Christmas Clive and I have become very much aware how much the running of CFVM depended on Keith. We had not always appreciated just how much he took upon himself.

The last three months have proved to be a steep learning curve and my natural apprehension at taking on the chairmanship has been increased by the loss of what I had hoped would be one of my main props.

Thankfully Clive and the rest of the committee have rallied round as we tried to sort out some of the problems, Clive taking over the club records and data from Keith's hard drive, with Pam's help, and maintaining the regularity of

Two voluntary contributions have also been very much appreciated. Kevin offered to take on Keith's work of competition secretary and has also revamped our website. He has done a tremendous job which, together with our Facebook page, gives us improved exposure to the public and will, we hope, attract more members.

Also we gratefully accepted Paula's offer to look after our catering needs, both on club nights and when we host visiting clubs for competitions. It is offers like this that make the committee's job much easier. Now if only someone would take on the job of scribe permanently!

Finally my thanks to you all for your loyalty and forbearance during the upheaval to our programme for the last three months. We managed to keep things going, thanks to the co-operation of those members who agreed to change dates and even produce an evening's entertainment and instruction at short notice. Thank you Richard, for your insight into the work of the ICI Film Unit and Kevin and James for providing an evening about "The Power of Sound" which is commented upon at length elsewhere in this issue.

Although there were no formal propositions tabled at the AGM there were several valuable

suggestions made during AOB and your committee will be considering them over the next few weeks.

My final three months as programme secretary have not exactly been seamless or stress free and I am sorry for the disruption but I hope we'll now be able to enjoy a period of calm and continuity. The return of Pam and Judith to our meetings after their sad losses is particularly encouraging and holds hope for the future.

YOUR NEW COMMITTEE

CHAIRMAN
Mike Morris

VICE CHAIRMAN
Jacquie Clarke

TREASURER
John Harvey

GENERAL SECRETARY
Rupert Marks

PROGRAMME SECRETARY
Clive Hand

COMPETITION SECRETARY
Kevin Pritchard

SOCIAL SECRETARY
Jacquie Clarke

Non-committee posts:

WEBMASTER & SOCIAL MEDIA
Kevin Pritchard

FAST FORWARD MAGAZINE
Editor: Clive Hand
Proof Reader: Robbie Grieve

CATERING
Paula Puleston

FROM THE EDITOR

by Clive Hand



Welcome to the new look Fast Forward magazine. Following on from the AGM the magazine has now been produced in an A4 single page format.

Although, the magazine still has a familiar look with only minor changes to the front and last page, the A4 format has provide more scope inside the magazine for larger and more photos plus additional graphics. It also removes the restrictions of the more traditional booklet format.

Where we can we will hyperlink to useful resources and websites on the internet, so be sure to check these out.

I would also like to thank Robbie for offering her services as part of the editorial team and becoming our proof reader. This is certainly needed with yours truly taking on the role of Editor!!

For future issues I would like to introduce a regular technical section that could offer tips and perhaps even a tutorial on all aspects of filmmaking. If there is anyone who would like to join the editorial team and take on that role please let me know.

Lastly, any suggestion or ideas for the magazine please let me know and keep those articles coming.

CFVM Annual General Meeting

18TH March 2015 by Michael Rice

The forty fifth A.G.M was attended by twenty three members and opened with the Chairman's report from Clive Hand.

Looking back, Clive mentioned that he had been involved with the role of Chairman since 2010, and with retirement coming up in April, and the wish to spend more time in Florida, he would not be standing again as Chairman. He will still be making films and serving as Programme Secretary.

The recent loss of Keith Baker and Chris Kelly, was mentioned, and their contribution to the club was appreciated, and remembered.

Progress over the past year has included setting up a Google account to store the Club's records, and the Social Media involvement, with a Facebook page and eight films being entered on YouTube.

The Chairman thanked Kevin Pritchard for his help with the web site, and if any member would like to help with the web site, please contact Kevin. Thanks were given to Pam Baker for organising the catering over the years, and we are grateful to Paula Puleston for now taking on that role.

The Treasurer's report, from John Harvey, followed and this first provided a historic record back to 1990, when an Arts Council lottery grant of £15,000 was obtained.

This enabled the Club to buy equipment and to accept some nineteen commissions for films, from local organisations. This source of

income has now ceased, due to the economic climate. However, the Club is still solvent, and the accounts showing this were circulated to members. The annual subscription, due on the 1st April, will remain at £26 per annum. If the payer is a tax payer the payment can be Gift Aided, which gives the Club additional income. The form for Gift Aid is available from John Harvey.

You Who?

YouTube is a great resource for filmmaking. Simply enter into the search what you are looking to do and usually you will find a tutorial.

If you already have a Gmail account you can log into Youtube using those account details. Once you are logged in try searching for tutorial for the editing software you use. You will find there are Youtube Channels you can subscribe to.

If you are interested in learning general aspect of filmmaking a great channel to subscribe to is Light Film School. They have some fantastic tutorials from basic rules through to lighting and audio. It is certainly well worth a visit.

If you are interested in checking out YouTube try some of these links below:

[Light Film School](#)
[Best Pro Action \(Adobe\)](#)
[Alex Software Tutorials](#)
[Hitfilm](#)
[Sound Effects Factory](#)
[Techy Tutorials \(Sony Vegas\)](#)

BEST EDITING AWARD AT ALBANY

A small contingent of 5 members travelled to Plumpton Green Village Hall for the 2015 Albany Competition. In the printed programme it looked as though our film 'The Reunion' would be first of only 6 films to be shown, but when the running order was announced by Paul Bailey (Chairman HHMM) we found that that we would be fourth.

involved five people of whom only four were alive. In a complicated plot there were card games, zumba classes and flirtations by two women towards one man.

'Rufus is Dead' was the third film to be shown. This had been made by Epsom Movie Makers and centred around a wake for 'Rufus' The male

which ran for less than two minutes. Two men make a pact that the first of them to die would come back and let the other know what it was like on the other side. Imagine the surprise when the surviving man finds out they have a filmmaking club and that he is to play the lead in the next production!



The first film that the 35 (ish) strong audience saw was 'Framed' by Surrey Border Movie Makers. This consisted mainly of two 'brothers' who were petty thieves confessing to the police and at the same time each trying to stitch up the other brother for a murder that neither of them had committed. The twist at the end revealed the 'perfect murder'.

The second film was 'Tea For Two' by South Downs Film Makers which ran for the full allowable time of 15 minutes. It



mourners thought that Rufus had been an OK bloke, but their wives thought exactly the opposite.

It was then time for our very own 'The Reunion' with Coral Botteley and Tracy Gibbons who meet up before an old girls school reunion and confess they have been envious of each other's lifestyle. But as they reminisce it becomes clear that one of them is going through a particularly bad time.

Fifth was 'The Player' by Haywards Heath Movie Makers, which was an animated film about the perils of internet dating. When the couple meet up it goes horribly wrong for the male character.

Finally we saw 'Two Old Men' from Portsdown Video Makers

After a break for a very nice cream tea, the raffle was drawn and the holder of the first ticket 'out of the hat' was Pam who picked a nice bottle of wine.

Then came what we had all been waiting for - the competition results.

Best Film: Framed
Runner Up: Rufus is Dead
Best Editing: The Reunion
Best Sound: Framed
Comedy Award: Not awarded
Certificate of Merit: The Player

We still had something to win though as our suggestion 'Drama Queen' was drawn out of the hat as the theme for the 2017 competition.



Overall, it was a well arranged afternoon of entertainment by Haywards Heath Movie Makers.

Next year, will be hosted by Surrey Borders Movie Makers at a location to be arranged within West/East Sussex.

By Alan Hepburn & Clive Hand

JAMES & KEVIN'S 'POWER OF SOUND'

The meeting began with a welcome back to Pam, a report on Ray's successful gall bladder operation, our success in the Albany and an announcement that Clive was filming part of the evening for a promo for our new website.

Mike then introduced Kevin and James to begin what he hoped would be the last of the programme changes we had been forced to make this year.

Kevin began by asking if we thought audio or video was more important in filming and got a mixed reception. He said he hoped to show the importance of sound. Poor sound, frequent with amateur films, irritates the audience, even if the visuals are good whereas good sound is likely to make a film acceptable, even if the visuals are mediocre.

Unfortunately with modern digital camcorders the imaging quality is high but the sound

capturing technology does not match it, if the built-in microphones are relied upon. We were shown some external microphones and a pop filter, used to prevent plosive consonants spoiling our narrations.

There followed a brief discussion on the way members added narration tracks to their films.

We learned about the three types of sound, the actors' dialogue which is the most important, the ambient sound which gives atmosphere but may have to be controlled, and sounds from the effects library which are usually added afterwards.

There then followed an experiment to see if we could imagine a scene by only hearing the audio track. It was run through three times and we were able to gradually fill in the mind picture.

James then introduced the concept of the Foley Artist, one of the arcane job descriptions which flash by in the credits along with gaffer and best boy after professional films. Jack Foley achieved lasting fame by saving the studio an immense amount of money re-shooting a scene of Roman soldiers marching in "Spartacus" by adding the sound of their armour by dubbing the rattling of a bunch of keys in post production.



Kevin and James then demonstrated how twisting a bunch of celery sounded like breaking bones, a piece of damp string threaded through a paper cup could sound like a quacking duck or sawing a piece of wood, depending on how you pulled the string, or a hot water bottle rubbed across a table could imitate the squeal of car tyres. The Foley Artist often uses everyday objects to achieve the sounds needed to enhance a film.

We then saw professionals at work in a 7-minute film of a break-in and fight. By using a split screen we were able to see how punches, slaps, kicks, falls and crashes were given realistic sounds by two men





LEARNING FROM THE MASTER

By Roberta Grieve

using a variety of objects. Very skilful and fast moving. Kevin promised that after the break we could all have a go.

In the second half we were shown a 1-minute film specially made by Kevin and James with the sound muted. James drove up in his car, pulled on the handbrake, slammed the car door, opened and closed the gate, dropped his keys, found them in the gravel and opened the house door.

Several groups of three then attempted to add the sounds to the various actions, using the props kindly provided by the speakers. Although we were getting better each time it was clear being a Foley artist requires a good deal of training but it would be fun learning. If I were 50 years younger..... James and Kevin then showed



us how, after practice, it could be done almost perfectly... almost.

This was a most entertaining and informative evening and thanks are due to Kevin and James for putting it all together at relatively short notice and making it so enjoyable. Learning *can* be fun after all and none of us is too old to learn something new. We should do more of it.

I recently watched an old interview with David Lean on television. He was speaking about 'cutting' saying that it could make or mar a film. All you experienced film-makers will know that he wasn't talking about cutting things out.

He used as an example the murder scene in 'Oliver Twist' where there is no dialogue at all. The camera keeps cutting from Nancy to Bill Sikes, to the dog, and back again. Very dramatic. When they showed the clip I could see what he meant. Although I have seen the film many times it had never dawned on me that this was why this scene was so effective.



The committee is currently reviewing the way we store and maintain the club's archive films.

Quite a few of the films are still on Mini-DV and we would like to get them transferred to DVD.

If there are any members who have the facilities to transfer Mini-DV to DVD and would like to assist please contact Rupert Marks who currently holds the archives. Thank you.

BIAFF 2015 Results

The results are in and it's great to see that our club entries have been awarded the following stars.



CFVM Club Production "An Outside Chance"
Written and Directed by Jacqueline De La Cour



"The Confession"
Written and Directed by Pam Baker



CFVM Club Production "Joey"
Written and Directed by Pam Baker

Congratulations to all those involved in both productions.
Well done!

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 information is lost for ever. Copy should be forwarded to the editor as soon as possible after the event.

Plain text, no indents, no Formatting, Arial font 12 points please.

May 27th Nicholas Light
Jun 10th TBC on the night
July 8th TBC on the night
Aug 12th TBC on the night

TEA ROTA

Please note the tea rota has dropped to one person per meeting to assist Paula who is happy to organise for each meeting.

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!

May 27th Not required
Jun 10th TBC on the night
July 8th TBC on the night
Aug 12th TBC on the night

EVENT DATES

10th July 2015

Closing date for

THE GOLDEN DIANA FESTIVAL - Klopeiner See, Austria.

Screenings 23rd - 28th August.

Maximum length 25 minutes.

Entry Fee: 15 Euros.

Website: www.golden-diana.com

30th September 2015

Closing date for

THE 53rd GOLDEN KNIGHT FESTIVAL -

Malta. This is a long-running and very famous international film festival for amateurs.

Screenings 3rd-4th December.

Maximum length 30 minutes.

No fee, though they welcome donations.

Website: www.goldenknightmalta.org

15th November 2015

Closing date for

THE SENIORFORUM - in Kromeriz, Czech Republic. The festival for film makers over 58 years old!

Screenings 27th-29th November.

Maximum length 15 minutes.

Entry fee per film is 15 Euros.

[Download rules/forms in English here.](#)

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Chichester Film & Video Makers

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Copy date for the next issue is

8th July 2015

Copy to Clive Hand

Email: clivehand113@googlemail.com