

November/December 2015



# FAST FORWARD



Chairman's Chat

From the Editor

The Quest: Part 2

Film in a Night

Lindeman Competition

Registered Charity No. 1110816

[www.cfvm.org.uk](http://www.cfvm.org.uk)

# COPY DEADLINES

Jan/Feb Issue	6th January 2016
Mar/Apr Issue	2nd March 2016
May/Jun Issue	11th May 2016
Jul/Aug Issue	6th July 2016
Sept/Oct Issue	7th September 2016
Nov/Dec Issue	2nd November 2016

Copy to Clive Hand  
Email: [clivehand113@googlemail.com](mailto:clivehand113@googlemail.com)

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## 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.**

Jan 6th	Stan Harvey-Merritt
Jan 20th	Richard Plowman
Feb 3rd	John Bradshaw
Feb 17th	Rupert Marks

## 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!

Jan 6th	Robbie Grieve
Jan 20th	Tina Keller
Feb 3rd	Coral Botteley
Feb 17th	Pam Baker

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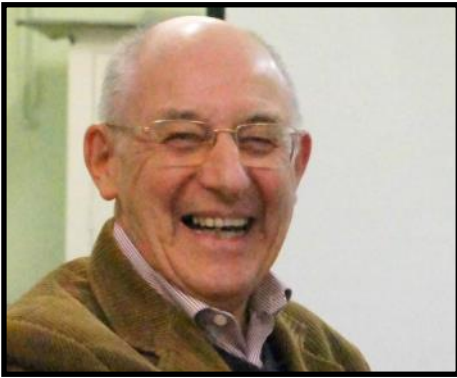
## CFVM CONTACT DETAILS

Editor: [clivehand113@googlemail.com](mailto:clivehand113@googlemail.com)  
Webmaster: [chichesterfvm@gmail.com](mailto:chichesterfvm@gmail.com)  
General Secretary: [rupertjmarks@gmail.com](mailto:rupertjmarks@gmail.com)

## COVER PHOTO

Screenshot of Matthew Hughes-Short as Sir Galahad in John Bradshaw's film 'The Quest'.





## CHAIRMAN'S CHAT by Mike Morris

combine competitions, as some other clubs have done?

A lot of questions for your committee to consider and we would welcome any suggestions for any of the questions above from members. After all it is your club.

On this occasion it was necessary to fill the evening with appropriate films from another club, appropriate because the first half of the evening was filled with films which any of us could have made for the Lindeman (with a little extra editing in one case), and the second half was intended to give ideas for films which we may have entered in our next competition, or Holiday/Travelogue competition.

There is one other thing to consider, and this is a somewhat contentious point but I believe it is something that has to be voiced. We are fortunate in having in CFVM some excellent filmmakers in Clive, John, Kevin, Pam and Ron who usually walk off with the trophies in any club competition entered. This should serve as an inspiration to the rest of us, not as a deterrent, we should strive to emulate and try to beat them because that way progress lies.

What's in a name? In the last Fast Forward I mentioned the fact that we had updated one of our logos from a piece of photo film to a clapperboard and that indicated more accurately that CFVM members were active movie makers.

Unfortunately this claim is not supported by the entries in the Lindeman competition.

Only two films were entered, each around four minutes long. Perhaps the rules for the Lindeman are too wide—any subject, running length 5 minutes maximum.

However much the judging trio try to pad it out we cannot make an evening from two short films. Consequently after the films were shown we had not a judging session but comments and suggestions from members, all of which were very valid for the one filmmaker present—me, and gave me food for thought and ideas for improving further films.

A show of hands at the end put Clive's film first and mine second, in case we decide to award the Lindeman trophy this year.

This situation has prompted several thoughts. Do we still have enough active filmmakers among our current membership? Do we have too many competitions? Do we need to look at the reasons why the Lindeman specifies a running length of 5 minutes maximum? Is the fact that this competition can be on any subject an inhibiting factor rather than a help? Should we let the Lindeman entries have a maximum running length of 15 minutes, like the Holiday/Travelogue and Documentary competition films? Should we recognise that entries are going to be fewer and

## FROM THE EDITOR by Clive Hand



The good thing about being editor is that you get to see all the copy before you write your own.

I am really pleased that Mike has chosen to tackle the issue of competition entries, which has given me the opportunity to pick up on a couple of the points that Mike has made.

Outside of the Annual, the Lindeman competition is the only internal club competition allowing entries of any genre. I personally think this is a good thing as we do have members that prefer drama/story films, that will never enter a documentary of holiday/travelogue film. However, I do think the 5 minute maximum is too restrictive. I know for a fact we would have had a least another entry but for the time restriction and my own view is we should change this to a guideline of 15 minutes as for the other competitions providing scope for more entries.

I would also like to pick up on Mike's final point regarding using the good filmmakers within the club as inspiration and not a deterrent. At my 'Former Chairman's Evening' in February next year members will find out that my films have not always been the standard they see now. I shall be showing some of my earlier films, including the first film I ever made. I think members may be surprised and amused! I was inspired by filmmakers such as Keith, Harry and more recently Kevin. The transition from the films I made in my early days of filmmaking to the documentaries I make now has been achieved by listening, watching and learning from those members, a lot of hard work and making films to compete with them!

## SAD ANNOUNCEMENT



It is with deep sadness and regret that we report that our friend and committee member Jacquie Clarke passed away on Friday 6th November in St Richard's Hospital. Although we all knew that Jacquie was ill and absent from recent meetings, the news has come as a great blow. A full obituary will appear in the next issue of Fast Forward.

# John Bradshaw's **THE QUEST**

Version 44: Work in progress....

Before we heard what John had to say about his film "The Quest" Mike Morris brought us up to date with some general Club business. The old Club logo has been updated - gone is the strip of film (snapshot film at that) and in comes Kevin Pritchard's Clapperboard - more in keeping with making movies.

There were a few hiccups with the equipment but they were soon sorted out, and John Bradshaw updated us on "The Quest". His introduction was extremely comprehensive - giving us a summary of the Grail Legend, and then summarising the various parts that went to making the film i.e. Storyline, Script, Locations etc. and the challenges that had to be overcome. John even brought in a chain mail coif for us to look at and passed around, it was heavy and must have been uncomfortable to wear.

"The Quest" is an incredibly ambitious enterprise and we were all looking forward to seeing Version 44. Before we watched the film John asked for feedback and thoughts on



the film, luckily we were able to see the film twice, once before the Coffee Break, once after.

After the second showing of "The Quest" members were able to voice their thoughts and suggestions and the feedback came thick and fast. All of it constructive and all of it noted by John.

Suggestions on tightening up the dialogue, editing, and the pace of the film were all made. The use of black screens and text to denote the passage of time were discussed, the use of de-saturated colour illustrating the time of the Wasted Land was commented on. However,

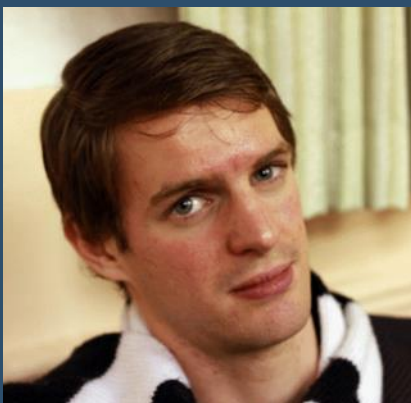
the background music, I think, was liked by all.

The evening illustrated how knowledgeable and dedicated the Club members are in making amateur films and movies. I for one, was extremely impressed by the depth of filming knowledge shown by the comments and suggestions made, and I believe John was grateful and pleased with all the advice given.

The evening ended on a very positive note, and was enjoyed by all.

*by Pennie Reeder*

## The Cast



**Sir Galahad**  
Matthew Hughes-Short



**Peasant Woman/Nun**  
Deborah Addicott



**King Pelles (The Fisher King)**  
Philip Amor



# CREATING THE GRAIL LEGEND

## THE QUEST COSTUMES



## STORYLINE

*England AD 531*

*King Arthur's realm is laid waste by pestilence and disease. Many of Arthur's Knights wander this Wasted Land in search of the Holy Grail in hope that it might restore this once great kingdom.*

## LOCATIONS

### **The Wasted Land**

New Forest, Beaulieu Heath  
Sutherland, Scotland  
Butser Ancient Farm (Trust), Hampshire

### **The Ruined Chapel**

Boxgrove Priory

### **The Nun in the Forest**

Slindon Estate, Bignor Hill

### **Scene by the River with King Pelles**

Beaulieu Heath

### **Carbonek, the Grail Castle**

Racton Tower  
Castell Coch

### **Other Locations**

West Dean  
Houghton Forest, Arundel  
Lud's Chapel, White Peak, Derbyshire  
Ring of Brodgar, Orkney

*The necessary permission was obtained for the above locations prior to filming. This included the Forestry Commission, English Heritage, National Trust and Cardiff City Council.*

# FILM IN A NIGHT

## by Ren Curtis

As the title suggests this was the return of the highly popular 'Film in a Night'. The challenge set for members was to shoot a film in one evening and the footage will be made available to download and edit. The results to be ready for screening on February 17<sup>th</sup> 2016.

The script was written by Alan Hepburn who was also Producer and cameraman. The script was amended a little, to good effect, by the principal actors Pam Baker and Paula Puleston. (The Tea Ladies).

The shooting schedule was by Kevin Prichard who directed, set the lighting and operated a camera. Other camera operators for the evening were Ray Puleston, John Bradshaw and yours truly. With this many cameras rolling there will certainly be plenty of footage. An epic maybe.

A further 8 members were present and although not directly involved in filming at the onset, they would certainly join in the fun as the evening progressed.

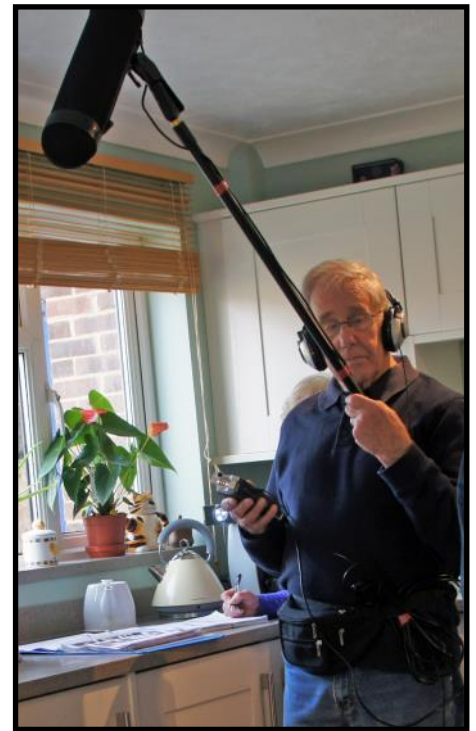
Everyone had been requested to bring a change of upper garments by way of a coat,

shirt or pullover etc. This was to ensure that the taking of refreshments when filmed for the second time would clearly show as at a different meeting.

Mike Morris our Chairman set the evening off to a good start by his welcome, outlining the evening's activity and a declaration of 'Action'.

The main scenes were shot in the kitchen as members were being served with tea and coffee during the evening refreshment break. Behind the closed hatch the tea ladies (Pam and Paula) then speak about how they thought that the meetings were becoming quite dull affairs. They were in fact very boring most of the time. What was needed was an injection of sorts to encourage everyone to become more sociable and certainly much livelier. Between them they hatched a plot to provide the means for that to happen.

When serving the tea and coffee on the second occasion 'Specials' were on offer and proved to be a great success. So much so it raised everyone's spirits in a very short space of time. Spirits being the operative word here of course--- Brandy and Scotch



to be precise. A shot in each cup was most welcomed and several refills were the order of the night. Before too long the volume level of conversation increased dramatically. Much laughter ensued too when a few 'near the knuckle' jokes were aired. However what followed was totally unexpected. A very energetic and rowdy 'Conga' performance by the extras was pure revelry. Control of the group by this time had become impossible as our chairman was at the head of the line. A true leader by example!

Exhaustion seemed to be the only reason which caused this spontaneous behaviour to cease. The opportunity to sit and catch breath was readily taken by all. It has to be said that, from the exhausted look on some faces, they had perhaps overstepped the mark by some margin. Thankfully all was well. Everyone expressed their appreciation that the refreshments provided by the Tea Ladies had been an 'intoxicating' addition to the proceedings to say the very least.

***Continued on page 7.....***







.....continued from page 6.

A proposal was immediately forthcoming to continue these 'specials' and, despite the cost, received a unanimous vote in favour. Surprisingly not a single member complained that the biscuits served with the tea and coffee would no longer be available.

The final scene was that of the Tea Ladies parting company, both displaying a broad smile of real satisfaction. Their intention to improve the atmosphere in the club had been well and truly met. Perhaps if the Specials were advertised on the new club website it could rapidly improve our membership numbers. Now that would be a bonus.

The Chairman, Mike Morris, having made a remarkable and speedy recovery, brought the meeting back to the present day with a few important notices.

Only two entries had been submitted for the Lindeman competition scheduled for the next meeting. The response had indeed been disappointing. As things stood the evening would have to be filled by the showing of films from other clubs. Not a very satisfactory solution but the best available in the circumstances.

Those present were reminded that the meeting scheduled for the 3<sup>rd</sup> November 2015 would be AWAY at the Portsdown Video Makers Club. It was an annual competition and he

hoped that CFVM would be well represented. In the past we have been very successful at this event and the buffet provided is always something splendid. Be sure to leave room for it.

He gave an update on how Jacquie Clarke our Vice Chairman/ Social Secretary was faring health wise at present. He would ensure that our best wishes for a speedy recovery would be again conveyed to her very soon. Phone calls/ Emails would be appreciated if anyone wished to contact her personally.

Finally he thanked everyone for coming and making it a very enjoyable evening. He then bid us all a safe journey home.



# LINDEMAN COMPETITION

Sadly there were only two films entered for the five minute Lindeman competition but what they lacked in quantity they more than made up for in quality.

Instead of the usual judging method the winner was decided by a show of hands and, although it was hard to decide, in the end the verdict was unanimous.

Clive's 'Wet and Wild in Arundel' was a visually stunning tour around the Wetland Centre with some beautiful shots of the resident wildlife – swans, ducks and geese in all colours and varieties. The members' comments were positive and we all felt that the narration by Eileen was clear and the music appropriate. A worthy winner.

interesting place to visit. Members complimented Mike on the aerial shots which he said surprised him by well they had turned out. Some of us felt that the music drowned out some of the narration but all in all it was a very good film.

As there were no other competition entries the rest of the evening consisted of a selection of films from Haywards Heath Film Makers.

'Ideal House comes to Sussex' was an amusing black and white film shot in the style of the 30s and 40s information films and showed various forms of transport and old crafts. Although it did not say so, many of us recognised the Amberley Chalk Pits Museum and their wonderful collection of buses, trams as well as the

on the fact that even if everyone else abandons you, there is one person who won't – the taxman.

We have some crazy customs in this country and worm charming is one of them. It all looked great fun though in 'Charming', Joe King's amusing treatment of the custom. The film was rather spoiled for me, though, by the interview at the end.

The last film before the tea break was 'Polly Gone', a short animated film by Rod Willerton who is coming to the November 4<sup>th</sup> meeting to talk on animation.

After the break we saw two holiday films, 'Transport Venetian Style' and 'Cycle Touring for Pensioners.'

Venice is always visually stunning and interesting and this film showed us the city's various forms of water transport giving it a slightly different feel to the usual holiday film. Mike commented that any of our members could have made this film (not me though!).

'Cycle Touring...' showed a group of four pensioners enjoying a leisurely tour around Brittany. The beautiful shots of the meals they ate during cycling breaks made me feel that this was the sort of holiday I could enjoy.

We ended on a humorous note with 'OMG'. The Pope pays an unofficial visit to Haywards Heath and gets on the wrong side of a traffic warden.

A very enjoyable evening.

**by Robbie Grieve**



The runner-up by default was Mike Morris's film of 'An Afternoon in Sirmione'. This was a place I had never heard of but the aerial shots, downloaded from Google Earth, as Mike informed us, enabled us to pinpoint the location as a peninsular on Lake Garda, Italy. Then it was on to shots of the cobbled streets, castle and Roman ruins. It looked like a really

work of old craftsmen such as printers and wheelwrights.

Using contemporary film and photographs, 'The Unsinkable Titanic' showed the iconic liner from the start of the build to its final sinking, ending with the discovery of the wreck.

What else can go wrong for the sad man? 'Someone Cares' was a short simple film, a spoof



# DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Saturday 9th April 2016

## SERIAC FILM FESTIVAL

**CLOSING DATE FOR ENTRIES 31ST JANUARY 2016**

The Oast Theatre, London Road, Tonbridge, Kent TN10 3AN  
Entry forms available from Clive Hand or Kevin Pritchard

Saturday 2nd April 2016

## FROME FIVE-MINUTE FESTIVAL

**CLOSING DATE FOR ENTRIES 8TH FEBRUARY 2016**

Entry forms available from Phil Marshman at [frome@philmar.demon.co.uk](mailto:frome@philmar.demon.co.uk)  
or contact him on 01225 764752

Sunday 3rd April 2016

## ALBANY COMPETITION

Theme: Behind Closed Doors  
Newell Centre, Tozer Way, Chichester PO19 7LG

14th to 17th April 2016

## BIAFF

## BRITISH INTERNATIONAL AMATEUR FILM FESTIVAL

**CLOSING DATE FOR ENTRIES 31ST JANUARY 2016**

Cairn Hotel, Harrogate HG1 2JD  
Visit the IAC website for full details: [www.theiac.org.uk](http://www.theiac.org.uk)

