



July/August 2016

FAST FORWARD

Chairman's Chat

From the Editor

Screenplay Evening 2

An Evening with John Clegg

The South Downs Challenge

The 8th Annual CFVM Awards

Introduction to Filmmaking Course

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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.

Nov 2nd	John Harvey
Nov 15th	Ren Curtis
Nov 30th	Robbie Grieve
Dec 14th	Anderina Morris

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!

Nov 2nd	Pam Baker
Nov 15th	Judy Harvey
Nov 30th	Tina Keller
Dec 14th	Not Required

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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. FAST FORWARD magazine is sent electronically to all members and other interested parties, dated odd numbered months.

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COVER PHOTO

Guest speaker John Clegg explains to CFVM members the skills required to be a good actor.



CHAIRMAN'S CHAT by Mike Morris

Makers club is far more settled. We have had the first of our three meetings of the Introduction to Filmmaking course and by the time you read this we'll most likely have had the second. Around a dozen members attended and 5 non-members have signed up who may, we hope, become new members.

As I write this the country is contemplating that we have voted ourselves out of the EU, or 52% of the 76% who bothered to vote have.

Having spent most of my working life travelling in Europe and finding much to admire about many of the countries in it, I consider myself a Europhile. But I voted to leave, mainly because I object to Great Britain being regarded as a colony of Brussels whose colonial record is appalling, as anyone familiar with the history of the Congo will know. Plunder the assets and run away, leaving the mess for someone else to clear up.

I thought that a mixture of apathy, inertia and timidity would ensure that the intimidating messages put out by the government and other experts would result in a marginal vote to remain, but with a strong voice to add to those from other countries wishing to curb the excesses of the expensive, inefficient and even corrupt EU administration.

It seems rather more people than was expected by the pollsters and the bookies thought as I did and we end up being praised by Donald Trump for "getting our country back and making Britain Great again". I'm not sure I welcome support from that source.

So now we have a situation of great uncertainty, our main political parties in disarray, and predictions of doom and gloom, how the Brussels Junta must be enjoying it.

Fortunately the situation in the Chichester Film and Video

Clive has produced a very comprehensive course workbook and, together with his team Kevin, James and Rupert, the first evening revealed an impressive array of filming and monitoring equipment. This was no static museum display however, everyone had a chance to get their hands on the equipment and put the theory into practice. It was particularly pleasing to see how the visitors took full advantage of this opportunity.

Even those of us who cut our filmmaking teeth with standard 8 cine film and cement splices, and have progressed through DV tape to mini DV cards with computer editing sometimes need to be reminded of the old basics of composition as well as be brought up to date in the rapidly changing world of digital imaging and editing. This course aims to do just that, covering lighting and the bane of the amateur filmmaker, sound and audio balance. Finally, having got it "in the can", an overview of the elements of post production.

As it says in the workbook this is an introduction to filmmaking but if it encourages newcomers to do more than just shoot some footage and forget it and encourages existing members to advance our knowledge and abilities it will have achieved its objective. And maybe there will be calls for it to continue next summer. Well done Clive & Co.

FROM THE EDITOR by Clive Hand



I hope you are all having a good summer and, hopefully, trying something a little more adventurous with your holiday footage.

With this issue of Fast Forward you will have also received a copy of the 2016/17 programme. It is a very ambitious programme with 2 guest speakers and 6 practical workshops mixed in with the usual competitions and other events.

It is hoped that this very practical and educational approach will encourage members to make more films. I am sure that everyone will appreciate the work that will be going into each of these evenings so please take advantage of this, and let's see some more films.

There will also be a new look to the Lindeman Competition this year. To encourage more entries the 5 minute time restriction has been removed. Additionally, films made as part of the project forming part of the Introduction to Filmmaking Course can also be entered into the Lindeman. So hopefully lots of entries.

By the time you read this 2 of the 3 evenings of the filmmaking course will have taken place. Both evenings seems to have been well received and I think it is encouraging that we attracted 5 non-members on our first attempt. Regardless of whether we convert some of these into members I believe that this type of pro-active approach is the way forward in respect of attracting potential new members.

SCREENPLAY EVENING 2

by Alan Hepburn

27th April 2016—Mike opened the meeting by announcing results from the BIAFF 2016.

'Crossing the T', 'Wet and Wild in Arundel' and 'The Quest' were all awarded 3 Stars. 'The Reunion' was awarded 2 Stars. Certificates were presented to Richard, Clive, John and Alan respectively.



The main theme of the evening was the presentation of screenplays following the Screenplay Workshop back in January.

Clive explained that following each of the readings by the authors, the audience would have the chance to comment on and discuss what they had just heard.

Five screenplays were presented each with a relevance to the 2017 Albany theme 'Drama Queen'.

The first screenplay to be read was 'Drama Queen' by Greg. This related the attempts of a screw salesman (Dave) to become a big film actor. Greg said that his inspiration for Dave was based loosely on the character David Brent of 'The Office'. Comments were that it was a good story but was too wordy and would probably be improved by being shorter. Filming locations and casting should not be a problem. All agreed that it was a good first attempt and a reasonably good first draft.

Second was Alan's 'The Play's the Thing'. An am-dram group meet to cast a new play. Two members vie for the female lead – the casting director's wife and his ex-girlfriend – with expected results. Again this was thought too wordy and the end was too predictable.

'Deep Down' was a detective mystery by Richard. It involved the murder of a pantomime dame, (a 'Queen of Drama'), and, although the identity of the murderer was fairly predictable, the ending gave a nice twist to the story. A suitable theatre setting for some of the scenes may not be too easy to locate, although office scenes would be much easier.

Pam then presented her screenplay entitled 'Setting the Stage'. Two friends get the opportunity to visit a nightclub as a result of winning a 'phone-in programme on the radio. The radio show's host is also the star of the show at the nightclub although his appearance on stage surprises the ladies. Members agreed that this was an interesting story, but they also thought that filming in a nightclub could prove problematic until someone suggested 'green screen'. Casting might also not be too easy.

Finally, Tina, who was also co-

presenter for the evening introduced us to her opus. 'Together Again', was the story of two 'very good' friends Barry and Harry who inherit an old theatre where they had previously performed a double act. Again, theatre locations would be required, however, it was thought that it was an idea that could be developed.

The members present then voted (secretly) for which screenplay they preferred. The result was that 'Deep Down' was the winner, and Richard received the book 'Making Short Films' as his prize.

Clive then concluded by saying that 'Deep Down' would go into production as the club's proposed entry for the Albany 2017 but would require committee approval and other screenplays could still be considered.

He continued by thanking those members who read their screenplays and that he thought that it had been a more successful and entertaining evening than he had expected.

Please note that this page has not been included in copies of Fast Forward sent to non-members in order not to reveal details of the winner screenplay—ED





AN EVENING WITH JOHN CLEGG

by Richard Plowman

John Clegg said if you want to be an actor you really need an audience not a film camera. The club on 11th May were that audience and we were treated to a wonderful evening not only informative, inspirational but also entertaining.

The Chairman commented on the clarity of John's delivery which was simply just himself, no microphone needed. John like the true professional he was had prepared thoroughly for his talk. The first half was John's tips and advice on acting followed by the second half with a request of Gunga Din from his much acclaimed one man show of Kipling's "In the Eye of the Sun". It was a riveting performance thoroughly enjoyed by all. John was born in India and had a special rapport with Kipling's work and possibly why he was also so good in "It Ain't Half Hot Mum" where he confessed he never played the piano but acted on the keyboard to the piano played off stage. The final act for the talk was a question and answer session.

John said he got into acting at a very early stage, his mother producing amateur pays. John was given a small part as an elf in "A Midsummer Night's Dream" only to his delight have the lad playing Puck go sick. This was followed by a 6am visit to his mother's bedroom to give her the news and then recite the whole of Puck's lines (and most of the other cast) to

his barely awake mother who to get rid of him gave him the part of Puck. He never looked back. He said his days at RADA never taught him to act, only how to project his voice, move on stage and take direction. Early days in repertory theatre often meant learning three plays at a time and remembering lines became a way of life to such an extent that when even reading a book for pleasure he would find himself learning the lines. He said some actors would memorise a new poem a day to keep the brain trained although he did admit that as you got older it was a little less easy to remember your lines.



He said that lines were often less important and recounted that Cary Grant would often delete many lines of script saying "I can show that I don't need to say it.". He also mentioned the great late John Gielgud who at 90 said how much he had learnt in the last 20 years saying which other profession could claim that. John also mentioned that it is best not to worry about the words. Say them quickly and throw them away and avoid putting the emphasis in the wrong place such as "AND". In fact most people worry about the lines. They forget to act as the character. The advice was think about the character, then your face, expression, posture and finally deliver the line.

Timing was important particularly in comedy but your best guide was the director and he gave examples of how his wife Mavis Pugh had influenced often resentful actresses how to deliver the lines.

John said the best advice was not to play it safe. He said he had been offered parts very similar as he knew he could do them without much effort, he regretted playing it safe.

During the questions he dealt with many topics particularly the early TV shows such as his part in Crossroads which was then essentially recorded with one take and if you missed your lines they just carried on. Also in the early days there was often a studio audience, always the barometer of a good or funny performance even on the TV.

At the end of the evening we had all learnt a lot, thoroughly enjoyed John's talk and indeed performance. John took his bow to a great round of applause. As the Chairman said, a very good evening indeed.



THE SOUTH DOWNS CHALLENGE

by Tina Keller
18th May 2016

Where did the year go? Once more some of us travelled to Ferring to support our club in the South Downs Challenge. Us against the South Downs Film Makers. There was Kevin, Alan, Mike and Anderina, Ren, Richard and myself.

Richard had been chosen to be our representative judge, The other Judges were Eileen Godfrey from their club and Nelson Ward the independent Judge who was an actor.



We were all welcomed by their chairman Bob Summers and the evening began. In the first half we were shown a selection of three films from each club of roughly thirty minutes duration for each club.

First to be shown was a film called "Impressions of Autumn" one of theirs. It was a selection of stills showing the beauty of autumn with very vibrant colours by Graham.

Then came our Albany winner "Three Little Words" about an elderly woman who suffered from agoraphobia, which she had to overcome to visit her husband who had been taken ill and gone to the hospital. Unfortunately when the film was shown in blue ray their machine wasn't working properly and the film kept jumping everywhere and the sound was out of sync, which

in some parts looked very comical, but that was not the intention of the film which has a serious message. It was re-shown using the DVD that we had as a standby.

Third to be shown was one of theirs called "Gwenda". This was an adorable film of an interview with a 93 years old lady, an inspiring character, who talked about her experience of having a stroke and getting over it. Sadly not long after the film was made she passed away.

Then came Clive's film "Crossing the T" which was about the Portsmouth Model Boat Display Teams re-enactment of the Battle of Trafalgar at Chichester canal basin. It told the story of how the battle was won and of Nelson's fatal injury. The model boats and the skill of the team were amazing.

"Are you sitting comfortably" came next. An informative film about an avid craftsman who took us through the process of making a chair from the tree to the finished article.

Last in the first section was Mike Morris's "An afternoon in Simone" a delightful film taking us around Simone which is on Lake Garda in Italy. Lovely scenery which made you wish you were there.

We then had the interval with time to chat and a lovely spread with sandwiches, sausage rolls, salad sticks and a lot more goodies.

After the interval came the four one minute films two from us and two from them. Our two were Richard's "The Appointment" and James's "Jumpers Again." Southdown's

two films were "Think Big" and "The Great British Bust Up."

With all the films over the judges' sat for a while to discuss the placement of each film, while we talked amongst ourselves. When they had decided Nelson Ward stood up in front and gave the judges opinions on all the films, mentioning the acting abilities and giving a few tips along the way before giving us the results in reverse order.

On the main section the order went like this. In sixth place was "Impressions of Autumn". In fifth place was "An afternoon in Simone" and In fourth place came "Are you sitting comfortably". Third place went to "Gwenda". Second place was "Three Little Words" and **the winner was (drum roll) "Crossing the T".**

Then the results of the one minute competition were announced. In fourth place "The Great British Bust Up". Third place was "Jumpers Again". Second place went to "The Big Think" and **first place for the one minute was (drum roll) Richard's "The Appointment".**

Doing the maths the scores were added up and the winner was Chichester Film and Video Makers with a score of 19 points to South Downs Film Makers score of 12 points. So we retained the cup for another year which was presented to Mike our chairman by Bob

The evening ended with Bob thanking everyone for coming and wished everyone a safe journey.

THE 8TH ANNUAL CHICHESTER FILM & VIDEO MAKERS AWARDS

aka THE CFVM OSCARS EVENING

by Paula Puleston

25th May 2016

Once again, we gathered for a star-studded evening of films from around the club. Unfortunately, we couldn't find the red carpet but that didn't detract from the evening's pleasure. Our local Chippy provided a mouth-watering supper of splendid cod and chips – did anyone see what happened to the champagne???

Mike Morris was our MC and a fine job he made of it. Kevin put together an impressive programme of titles followed by the films. Personally, I think the title sequences should have won an Oscar!!!

The 50th Albany Competition:

Kevin's film *'Three Little Words'* swept the board, being awarded Best in Show, Best Edited Film and Best Soundtrack. Congratulations to Kevin for a great film.

Four of our films were winners in the **British International Amateur Film Festival**:

'Crossing the T' : 'Wet & Wild at Arundel' : 'The Quest' : 'The Reunion'. Congratulations to all those involved in these films.

We also won the **South Downs Challenge** again this year.

Lindeman Competition: Only two films were entered this year and the winner was Clive Hand for *'Wet & Wild at Arundel'*.

Unfortunately, Clive could not be with us – he was slumming it in Florida – but he did record



Rodney Reeder presents the Founders Cup for best film overall to Richard Plowman and Ren Curtis for 'Crossing the T'

an acceptance speech.

Holiday Competition: The winner of the Hammond Tankard was Clive Hand with *'Out of This World'*. Another acceptance speech from Florida. This one had been edited by Kevin to include some of Clive's nubile young lady friends playing in the pool.

The Keith Baker 1-Minute Cup: An impressive 13 entries – stiff competition – and the winner was James Keller for *'Jumpers Again'*. Tina accepted the cup on James's behalf.

The Best Documentary: The winner of the Bill Glue Trophy was *'Crossing the T'* produced by Town Crier Productions, represented by Clive Hand, Richard Plowman and Ren Curtis. Fortunately, both Richard & Ren were with us to make the acceptance speech.

The following cups and trophies are awarded for various features of filmmaking. This year, Epsom Movie makers judged the entries.

Best Edited Entry: The winner of the Gibbons Shield was Town Crier Productions for *'Crossing the T'*.

Best Soundtrack: The winner of the Formby Cup was, once again, Town Crier Productions for *'Crossing the T'*.

Best Commentary: The winner of the John Phillips Medallion was Richard of Town Crier Productions for *'Crossing the T'*.

Most Humorous Film: The winner of the John Wright Award was Richard Plowman for *'The Appointment'*.

Best Natural History Film: The winner of the Louise Bird Trophy was Clive Hand for *'Wet and Wild at Arundel'*.

The Founders Cup: This is the major award for the best film overall and the winner was Town Crier Productions for *'Crossing the T'*.

Swindle Jackpot: Only one member guessed all six features of filmmaking correctly – Nicholas Light who takes the £15 pot.

The Victor Ludorum: This is awarded for the most points in our four club competitions and the winner was Clive Hand.

The Pearman Award: Rodney Reeder, our President, revealed that the winner of this prestigious award for clubmanship was, you've guessed it, Clive Hand.

Congratulations to all those who won and many thanks to all those who took part. It was a lovely evening – enjoyed by one and all.

INTRODUCTION TO FILMMAKING COURSE



Members and guests enjoyed a very informative and entertaining evening at the first Introduction to Filmmaking Course run by CFVM on the 15th June. The course has been sponsored by the IAC.

Welcomed by the organising team of Clive Hand, Kevin Pritchard, James Keller and Rupert Marks we all received a comprehensive, forty two page workbook, which will be a very useful point of reference, even when the course is over.

The subjects being covered on the course include:

Evening 1: Camera craft.

Evening 2: Audio and lighting

Evening 3: Post production.

We are all very grateful to the team for arranging this course, and for sharing their experiences with us.

by Michael Rice

Full report in next issue Ed.



OSCARS GALLERY



Richard Plowman receives the John Wright Award for the most humorous film with 'The Appointment'.



Tina accepts the Keith Baker One Minute Trophy on behalf of James Keller for 'Jumpers Again'.



Another award for 'Crossing the T', this time the Gibbons Shield for best editing.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Sunday 9th October 2016

SUSSEX FILM FESTIVAL

Closing date for entries TBA but probably August 2016

Wivelsfield Village Hall, Eastern Road, Wivelsfield Green RH17 7QH

www.seriatic.org/sussexfilmfestival.html



NEWCASTLE (AUSTRALIA) INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL

Closing date for entries 7th September 2016

Film Festival will take place in 19th October 2016

Entry Fee: \$15 USD

www.nvm.org.au



AMERICAN MOTION PICTURE SOCIETY Film Festival

Closing date for entries 15th September 2016

Film Festival will take place in November 2016

Entry Fee: \$20 for first film \$10 each subsequent entry

www.americanmotionpicturesociety.org

21st to 23rd April 2017

BIAFF BRITISH INTERNATIONAL AMATEUR FILM FESTIVAL

Closing date 31st January 2017

Hosted by CEMRIAC

Visit the IAC website for full details: www.theiac.org.uk

