



FAST FORWARD

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Although, articles for club nights will be produced by the Editorial Team we would love to receive any film related articles and photos from you, particularly about your filmmaking experiences.

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COVER PHOTO



Mark Jones starring in the Doctor Who fan film 'The Never Was'.

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CHAIRMAN'S CHAT

BY JOHN HARVEY

Well, we have had an eventful end to 2018. We were looking forward to hearing Mark Jones telling us about his adventures with Dr Who when the gremlins caused an electrical power failure and the hall was in darkness. A few phone calls indicated that the power was unlikely to be restored soon, so Pam and Judy made some coffee. Luckily the hall has a gas cooker. We chatted for a while in the dark and then went home. Apparently there was a failure in a local substation and the Centre of Chichester was without power for several hours.

Mark Jones agreed to reschedule his talk for the following month and it was a memorable evening. He told us about his film making exploits and in particular his version of Dr Who. His presentation was very entertaining and very much enjoyed by our members.

We were pleased to entertain members of Portsdown Video Makers to an evening of 50:50 films. It is always entertaining to see films from other clubs and chat with their members about film making.

As the festive season drew near our quiz evening, skilfully orchestrated by Alan Hepburn, exercised our brain cells with wide ranging questions that we ought to know the answer to. We are very grateful to him. Of course, the mulled wine and mince pies helped our concentration.

Again Alan came up with a good

venue for our traditional Christmas Dinner when we enjoyed good food with pleasant company in a separate dining room at the Walnut Tree. The room was full, as most of our members attended.

Many thanks to Clive for his work on the film for our Albany entry. We have procured some props etc. for the film and, as Treasurer, I noted that we have bought some intriguing items and I can't wait to see our finished film.

I wish you successful film making in 2019.



FROM THE EDITOR

BY CLIVE HAND

Happy New Year to all our members and I hope you had an enjoyable Christmas period.

My son, daughter-in-law and two grand children came to stay over the Christmas period. During a quiet period I took the opportunity to pick Matt's brains to sort a couple of issues on the CFVM website. I also showed him an issue of Fast Forward. Matt is never slow in coming forward and was soon offering advice and suggestions to improve the look and give it a more modern and crisp appearance. So in this issue you will notice some subtle changes in the format and layout.

It was straight back to work for those involved in the production of our 2019 Albany film. We have already had two shoots and filmed six scenes. So far, so good although we do need to do a couple of retakes to

make sure everything is the best standard we can achieve.

There is also news on other club productions. The documentary about the South Downs Planetarium, 'Journey to the Stars', is now finished. I am just waiting for a date to screen it for the trustees so they can make sure they are happy with the content from a technical perspective and then it can be shown to the club and go into competitions and general circulation. The production team for this documentary was Ren Curtis, Mike Morris and myself.

'Priory Park 100' is now in post-production and progressing well. The events of the celebration have lent themselves to what I hope will be an interesting treatment, taking the viewers back in time and showing some of the history of the park, that perhaps many people will be unaware of. The production team for this film was Ren Curtis, Mike Pepper, Pam Baker and myself.

We have still got a lot to look forward to in the second half of the season. Hopefully, the filmmakers within the club have produced their one minute film or are in the process of making it. That will be followed by 'A Film in a Night' which should be fun.

We also have another talk scheduled by our good friend Rod Willerton and the South Downs Challenge.

There is also one final presentation, How Did You Do That? On this occasion I am going to focus on some basic visual effects, in particular, masking. During the evening we will look at some of the different ways this very useful tool was used during the post production of 'Cardinal Sin'.

With this in mind I am going to set you some homework to be completed before that evening. For all members who have editing software I would like you to spend 30 minutes or so finding out what masking tools your software has to offer, and using YouTube explore what masking is and how it is used in post production. This will benefit you greatly when it comes to the actual evening.

THE PORTSDOWN 50/50 EVENING

BY PAM BAKER



SCREENSHOT FROM 'THE GREAT LAXEY WHEEL'.

Wednesday 14TH November evening was a 50/50 meeting with Portsdown Video Makers for a sociable get together and showing of films from both clubs. A surprising 14 members came from Portsdown Video Makers which made for a good number of bums on seats for the evening, which always makes it so much more worth while.

Portsdown opened the evening's films with A Perfect Day, a nicely shot film of the countryside and river whilst out on a walking route. Visually very relaxing but unfortunately lacked any commentary as it would have been nice to have known where and what we were looking at.

Chichester's first film was Life is a Karosel by Clive Hand, a documentary which explored the world of British Miniature Horses and told the story of life at Karosel Stud in the heart of Ashdown Forest. The story was told by Rosemary and Kathy Leppard who breed and care for over 80 British Miniature Horse and British Spotted Ponies. We follow them as they qualify their horses at Regional shows and prepare to compete at the Royal International Horse Show at Hickstead. This was a very competent film, well produced and interesting.

Following these films were two short funnies. Beethoven from Portsdown gave us the answer to what happened to Beethoven when he died, he decomposed!

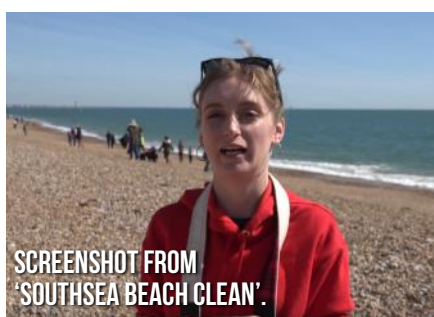
Hallelujah by Alan Hepburn told us why we make the sign of the cross in church and don't wave our arms around our head warding off killer bees, both films were very amusing.

The following film by Portsdown was Lake of Lights, a lovely film around the lake in aid of the Rowans

Hospice where friends and families gather to light their candles in memory of their loved ones. A guest speaker attends along with the brass band to celebrate the evening.

Chichester followed with 'The Great Laxey Wheel' by Ren Curtis. This was a great film telling the story of this amazing feat of Victorian engineering and ingenuity, which is the largest surviving waterwheel of its kind in the world. The Lady Isabella as she is also known, served the mine for 70 years and became the Island's most dramatic tourist attraction. The cinematography was really good with some excellent close ups. There was good use of stills and a clear and informative narration told the story.

On a more sombre note we were taken to the WW1 Tyne Cot cemetery in Belgium, always a very emotive subject. Tyne Cot is the largest commonwealth war grave cemetery in the world, containing the bodies of 12000 allied servicemen. To the rear are panels showing 36000 other men lost whose remains have never been found. The cemetery stands central to beautiful grassland and surrounded by trees where the presence of birds add to the atmosphere. This is a place for everyone to visit once in their life.



SCREENSHOT FROM
'SOUTHSEA BEACH CLEAN'.

Chichester's drama, Cardinal Sin followed taking us back to Christmas time and the birth of Jesus Christ in modern times. The Holy Spirit Father

James, here on Earth for a short while managed to cast his spell on the Cardinal's niece Sister Maria and then disappear. This was a good fantasy story of the Christmas Spirit, well acted and produced. Very enjoyable.

'Southsea Beach Clean Up' filmed by Portsdown showed how a young 21 year old girl, Aliya, organised and set up the project to bring people together, old and young, for one day to clean up Southsea beach. A great many people turned out, including their dogs and babies in pushchairs, to fill any receptacle available, combing the beach all day and it was obvious from the film that they were having fun. Bags and bags of rubbish were collected. We certainly need more youngsters like Aliya.

It was time now for something to make us smile again and Eggs by Clive Hand did this, a story told by the eggs sitting in the eggbox waiting to be boiled and watching their fellow mates end. Funny but also a bit disturbing! Along with this film was an animated film by Portsdown, Prawn Cocktail.

Last film of the evening was a trip on Canal Cruise. This was a holiday trip on the canals on an authentic canal boat. Working the locks, steering the boat, enjoying the stops at interesting places along the way. This film was well shot although lacked enough dialogue to keep your interest and I feel it would have been improved if it had been somewhat shorter. However, a nice scenic film shot from the canal perspective of a holiday.

The evening went off very well and we all enjoyed the buffet provided by Chichester, with good company and our thanks to Portsdown for their support.

ALL THINGS DOCTOR WHO & BEYOND

BY RUPERT MARKS



SCREENSHOT FROM 'THE NEVER WAS'.

Tonight, Mark Jones accompanied by Howard Johnson of South Downs Movie Makers gave a talk on all things Doctor Who.

They started off the evening by each introducing themselves. Mark welcomed 'Howard the Duck' and then Howard, in turn, welcomed Mark to the floor. Howard explained that they worked very much as a double act but were in fact just mates. Tonight, Howard, a current member of the neighbouring film club, acting tonight as the Doctor's assistant, and Mark used to be the 'Commander' of that same Club. They then added that they were due to visit the club on a previous evening but that that night had to be called off due to a power cut in Chichester!

Mark began by explaining that he would be taking us on a journey tonight. To explain his background, Mark outlined how he had been making short feature films for the last 20 years, he has made 2 feature films and there is a 3rd movie in the development stage. He had previously been hired as an actor, e.g. on the production of Dickensian Christmas, on the Isle of Wight. As well as that he had also been a nurse.



SCREENSHOT FROM 'THE NEVER WAS'.

Mark then showed a short film to demonstrate the bits and bobs that he used to do, and to also give a flavour of the sorts of productions he makes.

Jonathan Turner had inspired him to go from amateur to professional;

Mark had filmed with John Pertwee and, as part of the Doctor Who 50th Anniversary celebrations, Mark made a short fan fiction movie.

Mark then asked the members a question – What is a pre-visual? Mark explained that this is a moving storyboard – Instead of drawing cartoons, he uses a camera to choose the shots, which he then edits together in a sequence. With a pre-visual, he is already starting to edit his initial ideas together so by the time he comes to film the actual production he is much more prepared in achieving what he is looking for.

To demonstrate, Mark then



SCREENSHOT FROM 'THE NEVER WAS'.

showed a 'bonkers' 'pre viz', explaining that it may not make any sense at the moment but that it would make sense later in tonight's talk. Mark explained that pre-visuals can be rough, they are used to cut shots together to start to create the final movie.

When it came to organising his actual filming, Mark explained that he needed actual actors, a TARDIS, and Daleks. He only had one day to film his production, and as part of the process, he used mates he had worked with 20 years ago, filmed in a Christian Outreach centre in Hove, and a studio with all the facilities.

Mark then proceeded to show a series of short films of the different stages involved in his production;

The Prep clip – Visiting the set and starting to set up.

Set building – There was a large set which had to be transported from Lancing to Hove, at one point Mark had a TARDIS in his back garden!

Mark then told how he has been very fortunate to come across lovely professionals to work with, and also being in the right place at the right time.

Filming day – Behind the scenes, all very crackers!

Mark then showed 'Superman vs. The Doctor' – this was a practical joke that the crew played on him!

For his filming, Mark borrowed 2 Black Magic cinema cameras, describing how they give a lovely film quality to the picture. Mark used a Black Magic pocket camera to film in the dark.

Mark said that he couldn't stress enough how important audio is to a film – it is 50 % of the experience.

Mark enthused how his favourite films are 'Casablanca' and 'Way Out West' (A Laurel and Hardy comedy film).

And now, for the main feature of tonight – 'The Never Was' – a fan homage to Doctor Who. In it, Mark, himself, regenerates in to the younger Doctor Who. This film is fantastic, featuring everything you would expect and love to see in a typical programme – similar shots and filming techniques and a 'pre-generation' and 're-generation' of the Doctor.

When the film had ended, Mark concluded that 'You might have needed a PhD in Doctor Who to understand what was going on there!'



To start with it is very difficult to take notes and do the quiz at the same time. You forget to write the notes down whilst answering the questions, but here goes.

We were in teams. Three teams with three and one team of four, named A, B, C & D. Team A was James, Tina and Mike Rice. Team B was Mike, Anderina, Rupert and Mike Pepper. Team C was Mathius, Hugo and John. Team D were Judy, Stan and Robbie. Alan and Pam had organized for us to answer two table games and six sets of questions on different subjects, with ten questions on each.

For those of you who couldn't make it I have included some of the questions so you can test your knowledge. The answers are on page ? so no sneaking a peak!

Alan read out the first set of questions which was on rivers which included:

- 1) In which river are there 1000 islands
- 2) In the Roger Whittaker's song "I'm going to leave old Durham town" which river does he name that he is sitting on the banks of.

After swapping papers, Pam read out the answers to that section and we received back our sheet calling out how many of our answers were correct for Alan to put onto the score board.

Pam read out the next questions which were on the subject of True or False. Ten questions again including:

- 3) A rat can survive longer without water than a camel true or false.

- 4) Homer Simpson's mother is called Marie true or false. Swap papers and scores.

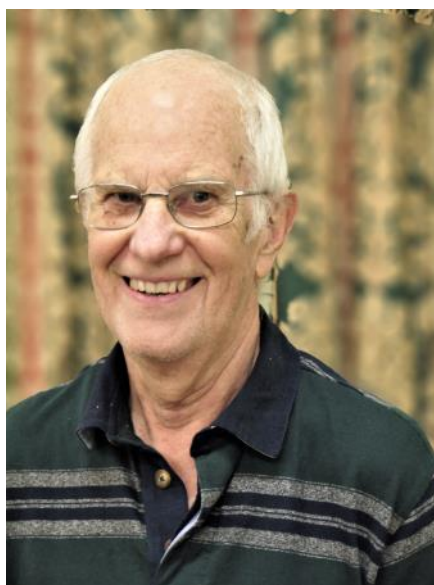
Round 3 was geography read by Alan including:

- 5) In which English county are the towns of Hexham and Alnwick?
- 6) Apart from water, what runs through the mouth of the River Amazon and Lake Victoria?

More swapping and scoring.

We then were given the answers to the first table quiz "Odd one out" of which a few questions are:

- 7) Which is the odd one out:- English knot, reef knot, halibut knot, or waterman's knot.
- 8) Which is the odd one out :- Rosy, brown, pale or golden.



We then stopped for refreshments of wine and mince pies.

Sitting back down we started on the History questions including:

- 9) Whose national parliament from 1906-1917 was known as "The Duma?"
- 10) Who said "I don't know what effect these men have on the enemy, but God they frighten me." More swapping and confessing our results.

Next came my favourite, questions on Film and TV:

- 11) What was the name of the villain in the first Superman Movie

- (1980) played by Gene Hackman?

- 12) Who was I in the "I am a legend"?

Last round of the main sets of questions was on "Who wants to be?" Alan read out the questions and we had to tick the right answers on the sheet. Some being:

- 13) Who played James Bond in the 1967 film "You only live twice?"
a) George Lazenby. b) Timothy Dalton. c) Roger Moore. d) Sean Connery.
- 14) Which creatures ate blue string pudding? a) The Flumps. b) The Clangers. c) The Wombles. d) The Smurfs. Swap etc.

These questions were scored differently. You got a point for every answer you got right until you got one wrong then the scoring stopped and the rest became void.

Finally the answers to the second table quiz "Connections" was given out. Two of these were:

- 15) What word connects beer, wine and ale?
- 16) What word connects button, buying and stations?

After the last swap and marking came the results. Alan had put them up on the screen as we went comparing scores after each round. It had been a very close contest with only one point between teams. The points were totted up and the winning team with 47 points was team D. Second place was team A with 46 points, third was team B with 45 points, and fourth was team C with a slightly lower score of 33.

Well done everyone. Great effort. Then the prizes were given to the winning team. We had a very entertaining and fun evening and many thanks to Alan and Pam for putting it all together for us. They are standing down from doing the quiz now, so if you want a quiz for next year we need someone to take over. John thanked everybody for coming and we all left happy and looking forward to the Christmas meal next week.

THE MAKING OF CARDINAL SIN: POST-PRODUCTION

BY CLIVE HAND

With filming out of the way it was time for post-production. I had already set up the project as production progressed. Raw footage copied to an external hard drive. The project structure set up on an internal SSD Hard Drive with folders for each scene and sub folder for each camera, files renamed with shot and take number etc. Then replicating this structure in the editing software.

For the technically minded I use Vegas Pro for editing, HitFilm Pro for compositing and visual effects, and to a lesser extent Adobe Photoshop. I also used Sound Forge for correcting any sound issues, such as noise reduction.

The biggest challenge was going to be the final scene and the transition from the proceeding scene. The final scene was shot during the day and had to be converted to night. But before that there were a few other common problems to resolve.

In the previous issues I mentioned there were a one or two issues with the footage of the refectory scene. There was a shot with a tripod leg in frame and another with some production paperwork in view. To resolve this I created a 1980 x 1020 HD JPG image in Vegas Pro. I then took that into Photoshop and used the 'clone' tool to take the object out. Then back into Vegas Pro and the masking tool was used to mask out the objects. A little bit of feather on the mask removes any shape edges. The still image is then imported back into Vegas Pro and dropped on the layer under the footage. Hey Presto and the tripod leg, paperwork or anything else has disappeared.

I also used this method in the chapel scene with Sister Sarah and Mother Superior. I had the reflection of the set lights reflecting in two of the

internal windows separating the chapel from the entrance. This was above the head of the actors and so I could create a still image and clone out the lights. Then mask round the offending windows and drop the still image behind.

If some of this is sounding a little complicated to you I will be showing you how easy this is in 'How Did You Do That' later in April.

Now, I have had permission from Tracy to mention this next visual FX. I wanted Sister Sarah to look a little younger and so tried Pro Skin Retouch, which is a plugin included in

Hitfilm Pro. The problem with this is if you apply this to the original footage it will be applied to the skin of every character and everyone will look 10 years younger. To achieve the desired effect I had to duplicate the layer, apply the effect, mask around Tracy's face and have the masked face as the top layer. The problem is that actors move their heads and walk across the screen etc. So, the mask has to be moved with the face using keyframes. This was every shot that Tracy was in and it proved to be extremely time consuming, but it did the trick.

Masking was also used to put Dr John



Masking was also used to put Dr John Mason on the TV in the lounge of the Cardinal. Normally, straight forward but this shot included pulling focus and a slow zoom. So the Planetarium layer had to match the living room footage.

The final and biggest challenge was the last two scenes. The final shot of the penultimate scene was looking down the main high street in Arundel with the South Downs in the background. As this was filmed at night it wasn't possible to use the normal sky replacement technique. Instead, the masking tool was used to mask round the roof top and downs. The starlit sky was a high resolution still and the star of Bethlehem was put on in Photoshop. A quick zoom into a big close up of the star completed the first phase of the transition.

The first shot of the final scene was a long shot of the convent. For this I used a still. First job was to use Photoshop and replace the individual panes of glass in the upstairs leaded window with solid green so that it could be keyed out in Hitfilm. The window was keyed out in Hitfilm and a light effect placed behind the window. I then masked around the rooftops of the building and the trees that had foliage. The trees that had lost their leaves were taken out with the mask. Next the removed trees were replaced using still images silhouettes with transparent backgrounds (PNG files). Lastly, the starlit sky with star of Bethlehem was added. In Vegas Pro the reverse zoom was used from big close up to a long shot of the convent.

The other shots, filmed during the day were converted to night in Hitfilm. The light from the doorway as the Priest left the convent was added using a light effect and masking in Hitfilm. The close up of the window was done slightly differently to the long shot still image. For this, I completely masked out the window and then replaced the leaded light frames in Photoshop. Walls, chandelier and light effects were then placed behind the window to create the effect. That one effect took about 5 hours!

The final shot of the Priest walking into the distance and disappearing was done in a similar way. The shot



converted to night, the sky replaced as before. Many filmmakers will know how to make someone disappear. You just need two shots, one with the Priest and one without. This must be done on a tripod and the camera must not move. The shot with the Priest becomes the top layer, which is faded out revealing the layer without the Priest.

The last thing to mention is that I wanted to give it a cinematic feel and used bars to convert the film to Cinemascope. Various templates can be downloaded for free. The template for Cinemascope is 2-35-1. The thing you have to remember is that during

production and when you frame a shot you have to remember to allow for the bars. My new Sony NEX-EA50 has the facility to put crop lines on the LCD screen. The other cameras used for the film did not, so we had make sure we framed for the bars.

That concludes the making of 'Cardinal Sin', which I hope you all found of interest. After directing and editing this Albany entry I said to myself 'never again'. Well as I finish writing this article we are in the middle of production for this year's Albany. Guess who's directing and editing????

CFVM CHRISTMAS DINNER

BY ROBBIE GRIEVE



Our annual Christmas dinner was a very jolly affair when 22 members gathered at the Walnut Tree in Runcton for a very tasty three course meal. Several opted for the traditional turkey roast but there were alternatives for those who were saving the turkey experience for the day itself. Speaking for myself, the salmon was delicious.

It is not just the food that makes these occasions so enjoyable of course and it was good to get

together and have a good chat and a few laughs.

We exercised our brains too with Alan's fiendishly difficult 'Dingbats' quiz. We fared better with the missing vowels round with both tables getting them all right.

Richard rounded off the evening by telling, as he said, the only joke he knew which provoked a few groans, laughter and applause.

Thank you to everyone who organised such a lovely evening.



QUIZ ANSWERS

RIVERS

- 1) In which river are there 1000 islands. **St. Lawrence**
- 2) In the Roger Whittaker's song "I'm going to leave old Durham town" which river does he name that he is sitting on the banks of. **Tyne**

TRUE or FALSE

- 3) A rat can survive longer without water than a camel. **True**
- 4) Homer Simpson's mother is called Marie **True**

GEOGRAPHY

- 5) In which English county are the towns of Hexham and Alnwick? **Northumberland**
- 6) Apart from water, what runs through the mouth of the River Amazon and Lake Victoria? **Equator**

ODD ONE OUT

- 7) Which is the odd one out:- English knot, reef knot, halibut knot, or waterman's knot. **Reef Knot—the others are fisherman's knots.**
- 8) Which is the odd one out :- Rosy, brown, pale or golden. **Rosy—the other are ales.**

HISTORY

- 9) Whose national parliament from 1906-1917 was known as "The Duma?" **Russia**
- 10) Who said "I don't know what effect these men have on the enemy, but God they frighten me?" **Duke of Wellington**

FILM & TV

- 11) What was the name of the villain in the first Superman Movie (1980) played by Gene Hackman? **Lex Luther**
- 12) Who was I in the "I am a legend"? Will **Smith**

WHO WANTS TO BE?

- 13) Who played James Bond in the 1967 film "You only live twice?" a) George Lazenby. b) Timothy Dalton. c) Roger Moore. d) Sean Connery. **Sean Connery**
- 14) Which creatures ate blue string pudding? A)The Flumps. b)The Clangers. c)The Wombles. d)The Smurfs. Swap etc. **The Clangers**

CONNECTIONS

- 15) What word connects beer, wine and ale? **Ginger**
- 16) What word connects button, buying and stations? **Panic**

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

CFVM CLUB MEETINGS

23RD JANUARY 2019 KEITH BAKER ONE MINUTE COMPETITION

If you never enter any other competition, this one is for you. A one minute film on any subject, as daft as you like, 60 seconds, including titles. The films to be judged by popular ballot on the night by all members in the audience.

6TH FEBRUARY 2019 FILM IN A NIGHT

Clive Hand will be hosting this evening where members will be provided with a storyboard and short script and in groups will follow the storyboard to shoot the film. Members have the opportunity to edit the film and the results shown during later in the evening. *Entries due in for the Documentary Competition.*

20TH FEBRUARY 2019 DOCUMENTARY COMPETITION

With all our previous instruction on preparation and planning of a documentary, this evening we expect to be overrun with excellent films. A factual story which educates and entertains.

6TH MARCH 2019 AN EVENING OF NOSTALGIA

Alan Hepburn will host the evening showing some previous Albany winning films and some of the competition films of the Bill Glue Award films which ran in the 1990's.

OTHER EVENTS

14TH APRIL 2019 ALBANY COMPETITION

Theme: 'Too Close To Call'
The Newell Centre, Tozer Way
Chichester PO19 7LG

www.seriatic.org.uk

25TH TO 28TH APRIL 2019 BRITISH INTERNATIONAL AMATEUR FILM FESTIVAL

Hilton Garden Inn, Brindley Place,
Birmingham B1 2HW.
Hosted by IAC Council.

www.biaff.org.uk

11TH MAY 2019 SERIAC FILM FESTIVAL

Oast Theatre
London Rd Tonbridge Kent TN10 3AN

www.seriatic.org.uk

