

WIMBORNE MINSTER Cine & Video Club

Newsletter No. 14

March 2012

From the editor

I must start this months news letter with an apology to Barbara and Gordon Lambert for naming their film, from the mini competition at the awards dinner as, Broom Broom. I was in fact Vroom Vroom. I think my spell checker changed that.

We have had a good number of entries in the competitions this month. Jane has informed us about YouTube. Ray informed us about future

technology. Our skit night was great fun for those participating.

Bournemouth club gave us an enjoyable evening, and Chris has told us all about Lynda.com

Trevor Williams presented the club with a donation of £100 from Ringwood Music and Drama Society for the filming, by club members at Ringwood Church.

The committee has decided



Marion Westcott editor

to sell cold drink in our tea break so you now have an extra choice as the nights get warmer.

24th February

The documentary Competition.

At last we had a full evening of competitions with six excellent entries. The first a film from Eric Montague about the historical crossing of the channel by Bleriot in his small plane. A very professional entry. Next we saw The Magic Crystal by Trevor Guess. This was about an early form of radio, informative for those who know of these things, well put together and a good commentary.

Keep Corfe Mullen Green, from Ray Joyce. A High Quality film from Ray about the threat to the green belt around the

village of Corfe Mullen. The photography was excellent, a very good production. Bob The Printer. Brian Cope entered this. The photography for this film was also excellent, with nice close ups and angled shots. The sound was not good, the speaker needed to have been wearing a microphone. An interesting film to watch as a cabinet took shape.

Next Castle Howard. By Marion Westcott. This was a tour of the house and gardens of the stately home. It was thought that the used plan of the house did not work. Narration and close ups good, and the music

went well with the subject.

Finch Foundry by Doug Redpath. A fascinating insight into the old ways of working with a water wheel. With all the background machinery a voice over would have improved the film. Well filmed and an amusing ending.

1st Blerio by **Eric Montague.**
2nd Keep Corfe Mullen Green by **Ray Joyce.**
3rd Bob The printer by **Brian Cope.**

Well done the winners and all those who made an effort to enter.

Please send your letters of praise, complaint, problems, suggestions for changes to our meetings, or any encounters

that you would like to share with the members.

Please send them, with photos if any. To

m.westcott1@sky.com.

2nd March.



Jane Adams

Tonight Jane got her chance to give us her talk about YouTube. On her last attempt all the lights went out at the club house before she had started and we all had to go home. Her talk was well worth waiting for.

Jane is one of our members and is our web site secretary,

responsible for keeping our web site up to date and posting the news letter. Jane described herself as a On Line Internet Consultant, working for charities. We were told how YouTube came into being, set up by two ex pay pal employees, and not long after the site was sold to Gogle for \$1.65 billion.

Jane explained that YouTube is not just for youngsters to share their, sometimes poor, quality videos but such eminent film makers as Huge Miles and Collin Froude have films on there.

Video can be used to adver-

tise, to get a charities message to millions of people, to raise funds, even teach you how to do things. We were shown some examples of such films.

After our tea break we were told how to access the site and to post our own video. Jane ended her talk showing the most watched video on YouTube. "Charlie Bit My Finger." A charming short film that has had over 470 million hits, (viewings.)

The evening was enjoyable and informative. Jane is an excellent presenter, I hope we can look forward to more

9th March



Ray Joyce

Ray started off his evening telling us about thing that are coming along in the movie

making world. "Tablets" (not for headaches) seems to be the way that computers are heading and our filming, already on hard drives or cards, will transfer on to them, where editing will be possible in a much simpler way.

This was followed by a question and answer. The subjects discussed ranged over lost files, editing programs, networking, video files and more. Upgrading was discussed extensively; this is something we seem to

need to do all the time as technology romps away ahead of us.

Ray's evening was as always, a learning curve, so we look forward to the next. In the meantime if you have any problems that you need help with just ask a member of the committee who will be glad to help. If they can't they will know the person to help with your subject.

16th March



There were sinister things happenings in the club house on the 16th of March. Gary was innocently reading his paper when Janet came up behind him with a frying pan and whacked poor Gary over the



head. Not surprisingly he wanted to know why. I will not divulge the outcome as, of course, it was another of our skit nights.

Terry Hopwood was in charge, with George Beasley



and myself on camera. Gary and his wife Janet were our actors, and I'm assured that she is not in the habit of wielding frying pans.





Janet & Gary Court

A Cracking Performance.

Errant Husband receives just punishment from irate Wife wielding a heavy frying pan! This was my fate in the skit produced and directed by Terry Hopwood on Friday, 16th March. The setting, script and action were simple but the effect was scheduled to be dramatic.

Miscreant Husband gets whacked not once, but twice, with the frying pan. Terry had written the script, selected his technical team and his actors (Janet and me). Upon reflection I felt that the wayward Husband

character would have been better played by a younger, more virile man rather than a crusty, grey-bearded Oldie like me, but who am I to judge? I was, in the scheme of things, just an Actor!

Unusually for a Skit night there was only one project being filmed. Normally, two skits constrained with a one-hour time span would be produced. However, on this occasion, one was sufficient, taking up most of the evening. The final twenty minutes or so of the evening consisted of some edifying audience feedback.

Attendance on skit nights tends to be smaller than usual owing to what some consider as 'boredom' levels. In the past there has, in some cases, been little audience involvement. This, no doubt, is due to the concentration called for on the part of the film makers. Together with the little time available. On

this occasion, however, I felt that the audience, given the opportunity of commenting had, certainly in one or two instances, benefited from the experience (even the hiatus created when trying and failing to connect one of the cameras to the monitor).

For Terry it was a first experience at producing and directing. He claimed to be terrified at the prospect but, in fact, handled the project most efficiently. Another learning curve successfully surmounted! From this event I would suggest that future skit nights contain a single project with no specific time limitation. This will allow time for a good interaction (both during and after filming) between audience and the team. I look forward to the final cut and the audience response.

Gary Court

30th March

We had six entries for the open competition. This is what we need, the more films to show, makes a more enjoyable evening. The clubhouse was full, so we must like competition nights.

Monster trucks was shown first, a film by Keith Smith. This was a film about vehicles, some not so large but with gigantic wheels, crushing others. It was felt that a voice over would have improved this effort, an interesting film. Next was a film from Ray Joyce. **Impressions of Kerala**, a travel log from India. As usual, from Ray, an excellent film, with good commentary but

the use of so many stills, although well done, was questioned.

Third to be shown was from Trevor Williams. **O Fortuna**, a concert filmed in the church at Ringwood. Several members of the club were involved with this. Good edit on this, colour balance not so good but the lighting at the church was not the best. We then had my entry of the three days I spent in **Cairo**. Comments on this: interesting, good edit, commentary not so good.

The First Crossing was about the opening of the new swing bridge in Poole, by Carl Appleby.

Well filmed but a commentary was needed to tell who the dignitaries were. To end a tour around **The Hermitage** in St Petersburg from Sid Falla. A good film but again needed more information to tell us about the exhibits we were seeing. A evening of excellent films.

1st. Impressions Of Kerala. By Ray Joyce.

2nd Three Days In Cairo. By Marion Westcott.

Unusually there was two **3rd places.**

O Fortuna. By Trevor Williams.

The Hermitage. By Sid Falla.

Well done to all who entered.

Note From The Chair.



I'm aware that I bang on a lot about competition entries but when, a week before the night, there aren't enough entries to run one, I can breath again when we end up with a reasonable selection.

I've been thinking about this situation recently; perhaps I'm getting a bit paranoiac about competitions! After all, our club remit is far wider-ranging than that.

One thing I am concerned about, however, is how we fill a competition night when there are too few entries. Well, Com-

petition Secretary Peter Hale always has a back-up DVD scheduled to promote discussion, and Programme Secretary Trevor Guess usually manages an alternative of interest. Also, when a competition is completed within the first half, each committee member has pledged a second half back-up.

Some entries are last-minute efforts put together to make up the quota (much to everyone's relief). As such, these perhaps aren't given enough time to produce a more polished project. Nevertheless, these offerings are a boon to the success of the evening. The question is, do the comments uttered by the Assessors provide help and encouragement? I sincerely hope so.

Our remit as a club is, of course, far wider ranging than just preparing competition

entries. I'm sure that many of us have captured material but have doubts about the quality of the final cut. My suggestion is, "Go For It". Don't just chuck clips together on the Timeline and hope for the best; have another look at it and see if it can be improved in sound as well as continuity. Bring your piece along to the club, view it on the Big Screen and take note of members' comments - it won't hurt, I promise! Who knows, you may even have a Film Of The Year up your sleeve.

To wind up this diatribe let me quote a comment made by an American businessman in 1988; "Success comes from failure and acting upon this brings knowledge". Read that bit again and take courage.

Gary Court

MBE Day Windsor Castle



Friday 2nd March dawned grey and misty. With much difficulty I and my family met with Eric Blyth, Chairman of New Forest & District Sailability and drove into Engine Court. Here Eric, who uses a wheelchair, was taken to the lift while the rest of us walked up the magnificent staircase. At the

top we separated, me to join the recipients and the others to find Eric in the Waterloo Chamber.

Members of the Queen's Household explained what to do, and then we walked through all the magnificent State Apartments to a side door. Here we waited our turn beside a Gentleman Usher, me trembling with fright. 20 yards forward to stand beside another Usher until our surname was called. Another few yards, turn towards the Queen, curtsy, walk forward to the small dais on which she stood to attach our Honour to a pre-prepared hook. She then

asked how long I had been working with the disabled. I have no idea what I said, but my family said it made her laugh.

A few steps backwards, another curtsy, and out of the hall. We were directed round the back to join the audience and watch the others receive their honours before being given a short tour of the State Apartments.

Outside the sun was shining! We met the rest of the family and some friends for an excellent luncheon at the Harte & Garter Hotel.

Rory Morrison

Web site <http://wimbornevideoclub.com>