

THE CHAIRMAN'S REPORT
FOR SESSION 2018/2019

Dear Members,

This is my last Chairman's Report to you. First, I must sincerely apologise for not presenting this last report to you in person. Unfortunately, I had a long-standing commitment that I was unable to change. Therefore, I asked the Hon. Secretary to read this statement on my behalf.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all present and past Members for the pleasure you have given me in this post. I had this Honorary Office in a period of great changes in available film making technologies. It was a pleasure to observe how our Members embraced the changes and reflected them in considerable improvements in the quality of videos that were presented in various competitions.

I also want to thank all Members for their contribution to running the "club". Without the competition entries we would not have material to enter inter-club competitions, the input of the projecting team and the supplies of teas and biscuits was there to fuel the activities. Without them we would have ceased to operate a long time ago.

Unfortunately, we have lost members and those who came to see what we were up to decided not to stay. I have no answer or offer solution to this problem. As it happens, most societies suffer from similar problems.

Perhaps the Monday evenings were not sufficiently challenging when viewed from the outside or we could not meet the expectations of people checking us out. We are in the times of instant gratification and our type of activities need learning and experience that some might find too hard a learning curve. Even ourselves, we found some evenings insufficiently challenging/interesting to come. The average attendance has shrunk to max. 10 people. For such low numbers, it is embarrassing to invite outside contributors to address us to share their film making experience.

In the light of all this it is imperative to consider fundamental changes in our *modus operandi*.

Under the Agenda item of "Any Other Business" you must seriously consider fundamental changes. First of all, what should be the focus of the HFM? I believe it must be film making! No two ways about it. We must find a mix of short- and long-term projects culminating in making drama type videos. We need semi-professional scripts, link up with amateur acting groups and cooperate with Pinner Art Week as the vehicle to show our efforts. Our small group cannot produce sufficient number of quality stuff to fill up two evenings of film shows per annum. (One is bad enough)

The next issue that needs serious discussion is the frequency of the meetings. Is every second Monday too much to organise in a meaningful way and perhaps meet once a month instead. Or should we use some Mondays for production groups to discuss the project that they are doing and, on some Mondays, we might have some technical presentation. We might have two more Mondays for competition and some Mondays just watching and analysing quality IAC films. You may also consider the feasibility of having group projects that involves full day's work that might involve travelling out of London.

It is well to remember that we have money in the bank. In case you all think that we have reached the end of the road, our assets have to be given away to other similarly constituted charitable organisation. I believe we could use our monies better.

There are lots of opportunities to have a few more years of enjoyable club life. I, unfortunately won't be able to take on the responsibility of Hon. Chairmanship but the way ahead is in your hands.

Whatever decision the AGM reaches I will help to the best of my abilities to support.

I wish the incoming Hon. Chairman my congratulation and a sincere offer of a helping hand to implement whatever decision is reached today.

I hope to see most of you and your better halves at our Summer Lunch on the 26th of July.

Further information about the lunch will follow.

Tommy Kovacs

Hon. Chairman (Emeritus)