



HARROW CINE & VIDEO SOCIETY

www.harrowcinevideo.org.uk

NEWS AND VIEWS

President	Ken Mills OBE	01923 821 370
Chairman	Thomas Kovacs	020 8904 1391
Treasurer	Nicholas Gale	020 8907 8599
Vice Chairman	Wallace Jacobs	020 8954 8365
Secretary	Geoffrey Foord	020 8868 4021
Editor	Maurice Twelvetrees	020 8866 9122
E-mail (Editor)	twelvetrees4@aol.com	

JULY 2014

IAC NORTH THAMES REGION 4 X 4 COMPETITION

By Jeff Jessop

On Monday third of March HCVS Hosted Round D of the 4X4 Competition run by the North Thames Region of the I.A.C. The Judge was Ben Simon and the Referee was Ron Jones FACI. And we were up against South Essex Film Makers and Ealing Video & Film Makers. Altogether we saw Thirteen Films with a Running time of just over one Hour and at the end Ben made his comments on all the Films. He especially liked Ealing's Film "The Bike", a Club made Film about a Bike stolen from outside a Library and it is stolen several times more before ending up back at the Library. He also commented on HCVS.'s Show-reel. Richard's Film "Fast Cats" filmed in San

Francisco was about the American Challenge Cup Yacht Race and was well Constructed but a little to long. Alan's film "After the Party" he said was well made with excellent sound. "Antarctic Journey" by Geoff Foord had some very good shots but he felt it needed more Editing. After Ben had given his comment's he gave his verdict deciding that South Essex came First and Ealing Second. Ben also commented to the Referee That he would have preferred more then one Judge. I agree - why should Ben take all the blame for getting it wrong! (oops sour grapes again)

IMPORTANT NOTICE FROM THE EDITOR

As reported by the Treasurer at the Annual General Meeting , the finances of the Society are currently running at a deficit. Various measures have been decided upon by the Committee to try to reduce this deficit and one of them is that the Newsletter will no longer be distributed to members as a printed publication. As all but a very few members have e-mail addresses, the Newsletter will in future be sent to all members by e-mail as a pdf file which can then be viewed on their computers or printed off on their home printer if desired. All the recent Newsletter can also be viewed on the website.

Those very few members without an e-mail address will be sent a copy printed on an ink jet printer. This new arrangement will save the Society about £180 per annum in printing costs.

CHAIRMAN'S SHIELD COMPETITION
FOR MOVIE TO A RECORD, THREE MINUTE & ONE MINUTE MOVIES
- 17 MARCH 2014

by Richard Lawrence

The programme for this evening consisted of eleven films submitted by two silver category members, Jeff Jessop and Richard Lawrence and two gold category members, Ken Mills and Dave Smith.

The first film to a record was Jeff's '**Sun Sea and Ruins**' which was a musical journey around Lanzarote. This was followed with three films by our gold category members:

China, 30 years ago, by Ken Mills, depicted street scenes from Beijing set to music. It was a real trip down memory lane with very few cars, plenty of bicycles and a few agricultural tractors. They were being skilfully directed by a white gloved policeman. The film captured the period well.

Not the America's Cup, by Dave Smith, was another gentle film depicting the complexities of radio controlled model yacht racing. In true Dave Smith tradition there were some good facial close-up shots showing the level of concentration required to prevent collisions or capsizes.

Roger, also by Dave Smith, was a film of a guitar jam session. Of particular note was the guitarist who had very poor eyesight and who successfully played his guitar whilst sitting on the floor in front of the microphone.

Next to be shown were the 3 min movies in the silver category followed by those in the gold category.

For SILVER, the films were:

Splish-Splash, by Richard Lawrence, was a light-hearted look at how professionals film a TV advert. The

words splish-splash in the title referring to the pink slime being used to splish and splash the actress and others to supposedly bring them luck. The theory was that the bookmakers, Paddy Power, can bring you even more luck.

Salzburg, Hallstatt & Fuschl, by Jeff Jessop, was an AV film with animated shots taken in three Austrian towns and set to music.

For GOLD, the films were:

"On a very hot day in Chaingmai...."

This film by Ken Mills took us around a Thai beauty spot. Clearly the climate was very hot and humid but the filming still managed to illustrate the beauty of the landscape.

The IAC 4X4 Competition, by Dave Smith, was a short film of the comments made by the judge, Ben Simon, about the films submitted for the previous week's 4X4 competition. Just a pity the brass band practice intruded. A nice punchline 'it was curtains for Harrow' produced a laugh at our expense.

There were just two films in the One Minute Movie section

Barnstorming This film by Richard Lawrence was a snap-shot of wing-walking filmed at Duxford. The Barnstorming title referring to the practice, after the Second World War, of daredevil aerobatic events being taken to venues around the country.

The lions of Woburn by Jeff Jessop depicted a close and personal look at the Woburn lions in their natural habitat.

The last film of the evening was the **Smoke Alarm Advert** by Dave Smith. Here we saw Dave in an acting role as he attempted to bypass his electricity meter. Not to be recommended, however, it did produce the most laughter of the evening.

Whilst Richard and Derek Lucas worked out who the winners were, Alan Colegrave treated us to his resume of the films and their overall entertainment value. Richard thanked Alan for his comments, and then asked Derek to give out the results which were as follows:

Movie to a Record (gold)

- 1st** "China, 30 years ago" by Ken Mills
- 2nd** "Not the America's Cup" by Dave Smith
- 3rd** "Roger" by Dave Smith

Three Minute Movie (silver)

- 1st** "Splish-Splash" by Richard Lawrence
- 2nd** "Salzburg, Hallstatt & Fuschl" by Jeff Jessop

Three Minute Movie (gold)

- 1st** "On a very hot day in Chaingmai.." by Ken Mills
- 2nd** "IAC 4X4 Competition" by Dave Smith

One Minute Movie (silver)

- 1st** "Barnstorming" by Richard Lawrence
- 2nd** "The Lions of Woburn" by Jeff Jessop

Richard brought the evening to a close saying that this was the last session of the Chairman's Shield competition but that there were two more competitions this season, namely the President's Cup and the Annual Challenge Cup.

BARGAINS GALORE!

By Aivar Kaulins

I feel sure that most of our members are aware of the Society's website, giving information of our activities, including our public shows, showing examples of our videos and generally promoting the Society. On these pages, we also advertise items of equipment kindly and regularly donated to us. With steady sales throughout the year, this is a much appreciated boost to our club finances - any old iron indeed!!!

Whilst most of the items listed on these pages are cine related, there are also several categories of interest to the video producer, such as sound mixers, screens, tripods and lamps, to name but a few. I

wonder how many of you regularly peruse these pages?

The asking price for these items has been set well below market value (if indeed there is such a thing!?) in order to attract potential buyers, with paid up club members benefiting further still with a 50% reduction and obviously with no postal delivery charges.

Do take a look when you next trawl the web. For those without computer facilities, a printed list of items for sale has been posted on our club notice board, and will be regularly updated.

THE PROJECTION TEAM AT WORK

- THE SOCIETY'S UNSUNG HEROES!

By Judy Long

As a charity, one of our key functions is to offer help in video making and projection.

A little-noticed part of this work is done by the projection team, led by the unflappable and indefatigable Jim Gatt. Not only are they an indispensable part of our Monday evenings, but they also undertake work outside the club nights, doing projection for such events as the North Thames Region IAC event on November 20th and our own public shows. Another of their charitable activities is live projection onto big screens and monitors for such events as the Cleo Laine concert at Pinner Parish Church last November, and the Woburn Sands Big Band concert.

The team, comprising Jim, and his helpers, Ken Gale and Geoff Foord, spend a lot of time preparing and setting up for such events, making



sure everything runs smoothly during the event, and then taking down, packing away, loading the car, and unloading again afterwards.

When events are held in venues such as churches, the audience's lines of sight are often blocked by pillars and columns, and for the Cleo Laine concert, some of the audience were seated in the chancel behind the performers.

To make sure everyone had a good view of the performance the team

arrived at the church at 1.30pm to set up three large screens: at the front of one side aisle, halfway down another, and in a side chapel, each with an associated projector. Two television monitors were set up in the chancel, and a lot of cabling was run and taped around the sides of the church to those without wireless connection. Jim set up his camera at the back of the church to project the concert onto the screens, and all the equipment was checked to ensure smooth running for the evening performance.

At the same time Dame Cleo's sound team were setting up all their equipment. Our team left at around



3.30pm to allow the rehearsal to take place.

The team returned at around 6pm and Jim spent the entire concert standing on his platform projecting wide shots and close-ups of Dame Cleo and her accompanying band so that the audience could enjoy



optimum views of the entire show.

The packing up and loading of equipment takes quite some time, and the team arrived home at around midnight,

when Jim still had to unload his car of a lot of heavy equipment.

Outside the club our team is well known for its projection skills, and events such as these make a contribution to club funds. We are lucky indeed to have a dedicated person

such as Jim who is happy and willing to lead the team. It is his quiet enthusiasm and professionalism that helps to raise the club's charitable profile and make all this possible.

FOR SALE

Our club has been donated a Hewlett Packard video projector, model HP-VP 6110 by one of its members. It is a digital multimedia DLP model with SVGA resolution, a quoted brightness of 1500 ANSI lumens and a contrast of 2000:1.

Unfortunately, the lamp in this projector has blown, it is lacking a mains lead (easily replaced) and there is neither a remote handset nor a user guide.

Consequently, this projector is now being offered for a £30 contribution to club funds. Lamps for this projector are readily available from several suppliers on Google, priced between £90 and £175, also from www.justprojectorlamps.co.uk, as are remote handsets and user guides.

This could be your opportunity to acquire a home video projector at a bargain price, although a certain amount of computer research would need to be done, and the Society can give no guarantees of any kind.

The projector can be inspected at my address, 19 The Ridgeway, Stanmore, Middlesex, HA7 4BE but ONLY by prior appointment - 020-8954 2607.

If you are interested, do not delay, as it is also being advertised elsewhere.

Aivar Kaulins.

ANNUAL CHALLENGE CUP COMPETITION

by Dave Smith

There were eight entries for this end of season competition, three members having two entries each. Penny Love from Potters Bar Movie Makers came to do the judging. First to be shown was THE RATTLER by Jeff Jessop, a History of the Harrow and Stanmore Branch Line Railway filmed in 4:3 format and lasted 5:40 sec. Jeff gave us a look into the past when the steam railway used to run from Harrow through Stanmore and the surrounding districts. The footage was a mixture of black and white stills and old steam train film from yesteryear. Penny's comments was she liked it in black and white and when it turned to color when Dr Beechem was referred to.

A BOOKING was the second entry a drama about a husband who suspects his wife of cheating on him and it ran for 11:25 sec in 4:3 format. As the story unfolds the husband suspect his wife is meeting another man at a restaurant so he follows his wife so when he gets to the restaurant he discovers it was a ruse to get him there because he always forgets their

anniversary, Penny's had seen this one before and liked some of the scenes.

Ken Mills PAPERING OVER THE CRACKS was about the tarmac of the road where he lives. The new material that they are using is supposed to last about eight years, but only time will tell. The film was shot in 16:9 and ran for 5mins. Penny found it informative, liked the interviews with the workmen the music and Ken's voice over.

BOURNEMOUTH was Jeff Jessop's second entry, a 3 min video of a short break at this coastal resort on the south coast, plenty of sunshine, balloon trips and people enjoying themselves. The film was shot in 16:9.

SPLISH-SPLASH was a 2:57 sec video in BlueRay by Richard Lawrence of a film crew's setup in Pinner doing footage for a TV advert for paint. The amount of time, gear and props they used for just a short clip on the TV made our club filming seem quite tame. Penny liked the commentary and guessed that the all day filming plus all

the people taking part would only be on the screen for about twenty seconds.

St George's Day in Pinner was Alan Colegrave's entry of what was happening on the 23rd of April 2013, it covered plenty of action. eg. the wheel barrow race plus plenty of ale being consumed by the participants. Alan's film was in BlueRay and had a running time of 4:32 secs. Penny enjoyed the race and wondered how the footage turned out for the man who was filming while he was pushed in the wheel barrow! she would have liked to have seen some shots of St George and the green dragon.

FAST CATS got Penny really excited with the title as she is a cat lover but she wasn't disappointed by Richard Lawrence 10:10sec BlueRay of the America's cup race in San Francisco. Richard recorded this event on a still camera set in video mode and the quality was quite outstanding.

He managed to capture the excitement of the race seeing the two magnificent yachts reaching speeds of up to forty MPH. Penny commented on the nice clear shots and the clear commentary.

Last to be shown was Dave Smith's FUNDRAISING, a 5:10 sec video filmed in 4:3 aspect, of a charity event to raise money for the Watford Hospice, the competitors taking part really suffered, as it turned out to be more like an assault course than an obstacle course. Penny thought the pain and suffering of those taking part really came across, but she would rather drop coins in a bucket than suffer the pain that they all went through. In her summing up she highly recommended Ken Mill's PAPERING OVER THE CRACKS and the winner of the Annual Challenge Cup turned out to be FUNDRAISING by

Meeeeeee.

PROGRAMME REMINDER

Meetings of the Society are held in the Canons Room at the Harrow Arts Centre

SEPTEMBER 2014

8th A Series of Alan Atkinson's Diamond, Gold, Silver and other medal winning films.

15th "Where There's a Will" by Brian Heard and "Another Day" by Alan Colegrave.

22nd An evening with Tom Hardwick

29th How to Interview People with David Smith.

THE CLOCK OF LIFE

The clock of life is wound but once,
And no man has the power
To know just when the hands will stop,
At late or early hour.

Now is the only time you have.
Live, love and toil with a will.
Put no faith in tomorrow,
For the clock may then be still.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

12th May 2014

The Chairman opened the meeting and welcomed those present but said he was disappointed that not all the members were present for such an important meeting.

The minutes of the previous AGM on 29th April 2013 were approved by the meeting and signed by the Chairman.

Chairman's Report

The Chairman commented that it had been a good year with a slightly increased membership. He particularly thanked Lilian for her constant work in providing us with refreshments and he presented her with a plant in appreciation of her work. We had two excellent public Movie Shows this year and won the Enfield Challenge Shield. Unfortunately we lost our place in the new 4 x 4 competition. Monday evenings were enjoyable even if some were not to everyone's taste. Some evenings worked and some did not. Two Club story film projects are on the go and we might try to make a video next year in the clubroom. Our website, Facebook page and other publicity seems to be attracting some new members. He finally wished us all a happy Summer Holiday with good video making.

Treasurer's Report

The Treasurer pointed out that his report covered 13 months instead of one year in order to bring it into line with the Meetings programme. Although we would appear to have a good balance at the bank we are actually running at a deficit. As a result the Committee have decided to increase subscription next year by £5 to £40 and to £27 each for couples living at the same address.

Competition Secretary's Report

After a brief introduction listing organisational changes, he went on to

list details of the Chairman's Shield Competition. There had been a total of 43 entries with 18 from 6 of our Gold Class members and 25 from 5 of our Silver members.

The Presidents Cup was awarded to Richard Lawrence for his film "Fast Cats".

The Annual Challenge Cup was judged by Penny Love and was awarded to Dave Smith for "Fundraising".

Externally we won the Enfield Challenge Shield with "Fascinating Land of Extremes" by Geoff Foord which was also awarded 3 stars at BIAFF. Ken Mills also won 3 stars at BIAFF with "A Year in my Greenhouse".

The results of the Chairman's Shield were:

Chairman's Shield (Gold) -
Ken Mills



George Hawkins Shield (Silver) -
Jeff Jessop



Derek Austin Rose bowl (Gold Nature) -
Ken Mills



Richard Lawrence detailing the winners

Heather Lee shield (Silver Nature)
Geoff Foord



Dave Smith receives replica as last year's Chairman's shield Winner



Alan Colegrave receives replica as last year's Annual Challenge Cup Winner

Programme Secretary's Report

Norman Lewis thanked the various members who had given us a evening of their time to learn more about editing and other technical matters. He hoped that next season we could have more practical evenings in the Clubroom. He then thanked all the members for their support and help throughout the year.

Election of President

In nominating Ken Mills for this Office, the Chairman said how much we all appreciated the work he does in keeping the Society running.

His nomination was proposed by Tommy Kovacs, seconded by Aivar Kaulins and carried by acclamation.

Election of Officers

Ken Mills then took the chair and the following were elected:

Hon. Chairman	Thomas Kovacs
Vice Chairman	Wallace Jacobs
Hon. Secretary	Geoff Foord
Hon. Treasurer	Nicolas Gale

Election of five Committee Members

The members elected to serve as Committee Members were:

Aivar Kaulins, Norman Lewis, Dave Smith, Jeff Jessop and Ted Cogger

Appointment of Independent Examiner

Derek Lucas was elected to audit the Annual Accounts.

Any Other Business

The Chairman thanked all retiring members of the Committee for their past services.

Aivar Kaulins referred to the video projector which had been donated to the Club by Alan Colegrave. Although needing a new projector bulb it would still be a bargain for anyone needing a projector. He also gave special thanks to David Hughes who had given invaluable support at various sales venues of cine gear.

The Chairman then suggested that it might be a suitable time to consider changing the name of the Society as the words 'cine' and 'video' tended to be rather old fashioned. A lively debate ensued with various suggestion made for an alternative name. The alternatives were: Harrow [Video: Film: Movie] Makers: Society.

Eventually it was proposed by Wallace Jacobs that a new name should be: **Harrow Film Makers (Formally the "Harrow Cine & Video Society")**.

This was seconded by Jim Gatt and put to the vote. The proposal was agreed by a significant majority.

Brian Heard raised the matter of the "Film to a Record" category in the Chairman's Shield which he thought was very confusing and a bit old fashioned. After discussion it was unanimously agreed that it should in future be called **"Film to Music"** category.

Following earlier comments on the hire cost of the rooms at the Arts Centre, Alan Colegrave said he thought that a smaller room would be more suitable for tutorial evenings and discussions. Ken Mills said he was waiting for a call from the Business Manager of HAC to discuss alternative room possibilities. There was the question of storage of equipment which is currently in cupboards in the Canon Room. Also the future of our screen which permanently hangs there from the ceiling.

As there was no other business, the Chairman thanked the members for their attendance and closed the meeting.

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