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The Journal of Surrey Border Movie Makers

[www.surreyborder.org.uk](http://www.surreyborder.org.uk)

## Message from your Chairman - *John Mills*



Hello everyone.

The summer barbecue was a great success at Rita and Al's house, great food and excellent conversation. Everybody had a great time, thanks to Rita and Al for the organisation and hosting.

To help boost club funds we will be adding a number of new affiliates to the website. These are the business logos that you can click on to be taken to the relevant supplier i.e. AMAZON, WEX photographic. Using these links generates a small amount of income for the club but does not cost you anything, so its a great way to support the club if you are purchasing online.

As film makers its is easy to become intimidated by some of the equipment we might own or are thinking about buying. Don't let this put you off making that film. Come and ask at a club night or email a committee member who will be delighted to help you to find out the answers to problems or challenges you are facing. The club is here to support you to make your film.

If you have an idea for a film and are stuck, talk to a committee member and lets get that film underway, large or small.

The Club Survey is about to close so if you haven't completed it yet here is the last chance to do so. follow the link. <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/BD22M3B> Your comments do count.

Happy filming.

## Press Release - *Kathy Butcher*

### **Exciting New Competition For Film Enthusiasts**

Entries for the Documentary Competition came flooding in for the July Film Club meeting. This new competition for documentaries of no more than 20 minutes was an outstanding success with some of our new members producing some amazing films.

Just a few of the subjects covered were The Day of The Mast – the journey of a sail boat to have a new mast fitted, Capetown Table Mountain – a trip in a cable car to the summit of this amazing landmark, Coffee at Pinnocks - an interview with a very innovative new coffee shop owner, Life Before The School Run – a nostalgic and comical look back at life before luxury cars, Guildford Armed Forces Day – coverage of the recent event in Stoke Park, Haslemere – an insight into this interesting and picturesque Surrey village and Vinyl Revival – why vinyl records are still popular. The winning documentary will be announced shortly.

If you would like to know how to make a professional looking video on your mobile phone you may be interested in coming along to our presentation 'Using your Mobile for Video' which will take place on Friday 4th September at the St Joan's Centre in Farnham. The evening will include an informative talk, demonstrations and a selection of films taken using mobiles. Entry is £5 on the door for non-members. Refreshments will be provided. Please contact [secretary@surreyborder.org.uk](mailto:secretary@surreyborder.org.uk).

If you are interested in film making we always welcome new members. You can find out more about us by visiting our website [www.surreyborder.org.uk](http://www.surreyborder.org.uk) or email [secretary@surreyborder.org.uk](mailto:secretary@surreyborder.org.uk). We meet on the first Friday of the month at St Joan's Centre, 19 Tilford Road, Farnham GU9 8DJ there is plenty of parking and your first visit is free.



*Making a Film using Mobile Phones*

## Free Music for Making Independent Films

One of the questions we occasionally hear at the club is "where can I get some good royalty free music for my films".

There seem to be many sources on the internet, some of which are genuinely free, providing they are not for commercial use, where the types of music are varied enough to suit most tastes and to create the amateur films that we make in the club. You can start a search using "Free Music for Making Independent Films" and go from there, but beware those sites which lure you in saying they are royalty or licence free, but then proceed to try and charge for downloading the music. It really is a jungle out there.

## Screenplay Scripts

by Rita Wheeler

For those wishing to write a script for a film, the following is a very brief description on writing a Screenplay...

Simply this is a script for a screenplay. Unlike a novel a screenplay has to have as few words as possible which conveys the meaning and shows the character without long descriptions. Less is more. The writer should write what the camera can see, not what is in your mind. New writers often make the mistake of instructing the actors how to act, i.e.

MARMADUKE

(with a shudder of distaste)

How very like you, Bryony.

(with a deep frown)

Of all the people to upset, why choose her?

The writing should be clear enough for the actors to understand the character without being told how to do it.

You, as the writer, decides whether the scene should take place in the NIGHT or the DAY, although sometimes the director may decide otherwise. This instruction you place at the end of your scene heading. i.e.

INT. COUNTRY HOUSE – DAY

Then should follow a brief line of instruction before any dialogue.

INT. COUNTRY HOUSE – DAY  
BRYONY enters, hair dripping wet, removes her coat and shakes off the rain.

BRYONY

She does it on purpose. I'm sure of it. It always rains when we're here.

There is a standard format for screenplays. The font should be Courier in 12 point.

Unless you are going to direct your film yourself, the writer presents the story as simply as possible and leaves the director to flesh out the characters, choose the

## Summer Social Blessed with Good Weather

Saturday 4th July (coincidentally American Independence Day) saw 24 members of SBMM enjoying a warm and sunny day for this year's Summer Social.



## Missed Film Opportunity in Calais!

The following can perhaps be associated a Topical bit of news...

From time to time we have all been reminded to have a camera handy, as you never know when a photo or film opportunity might arise.

With the problems currently being experienced with the storming of the Eurotunnel Terminal and invasions of the Channel Tunnel one such experience was sadly missed just prior to publishing of this edition of Border Post.

Following delays to departures at Calais, cars and passengers seemed apparently calmly awaiting the word to "proceed", when in reality they were poised to strike. Suddenly the word was given and all hell broke loose and several hundred cars started, and simultaneously started to drive for the access road from the terminal, with several near collisions, irate motorists being "cut up", some unable to reverse out of their parking spots, and cars driving off with passenger doors still open and their passengers jumping into moving cars!

The last time I experienced this type of "start" was watching the old car-race meetings (before the grid start was introduced), when drivers were lined up at the opposite side of the track from their cars, and on the word to "go" would run across the track to their cars, jump in, start it, and race off. I never really understood this, perhaps it was to show that the driver could run as well as drive.

Oh, gone are those heady days; but where was my "Quick to Use" HD camera when I needed it, sadly buried in the boot of the car under all the other baggage. Now, let that be a lesson to me and a warning to the rest of you!

locations and develop the storyline in an artistic way.

That also includes choosing the music and letting the actors develop the characters in a way that the writer has hinted at in subtle writing. Of course, that is in an ideal world. In our world, the world of amateur filmmaking we tend to decide things by 'committee' and we all share the responsibility of finding locations, actors etc.

## New Documentary Competition

The films entered into the competition which took place on 3rd July were:

Brian O'Connell: A Coffee at Pinnocks  
Vic Stroud: Greenwich in Rain  
Steve Michell: The Vinyl Revival  
Colin Lewis: Guildford Armed Forces Day  
Peter Frost: Watercress to Millennium Trail  
Alan Brown: Haslemere  
Sir Paul Holden: Spitfire Restoration  
Vic Stroud: Cape Town – Table Mountain  
Alan Hussey: The Day of the Mast  
Dave Skertchly: Life BEFORE the School Run

On this occasion, the audience were the judges, assisted by a score sheet which commented on such aspects as:

- engagement in the film;
- entertainment value which included opening captions,
- acting and presentation;
- camerawork,
- photography and lighting;
- sound and music; and
- editing.

All judging was anonymous, and following are some of the collated comments made. These are in no particular order but may be applicable to some, but not all of the films. In theory, each individual film-maker should be able to review their own films using these (constructive) comments to see if they could be applicable or not.

- Film was a bit too long.
- More close-ups needed.
- Good Photography.
- Too many jump cuts.
- Too long but interesting.
- Sound not good.
- Interviewer almost too enthusiastic.
- Needed a few more camera positions at start.
- Camera wobble distracting.
- Sounded like it was being read from a script.
- Maybe could have left some material out.
- Difficult subject well done.
- Let down by jump cuts.
- Let down by sound.
- Let down by being too long...

### **And the winner is...**

The winner will be announced at the August club night on Friday 7th August. If you can't be there, an eNoticeboard will be sent out on Monday 10th August.

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## Film Trivia or Not?

**For the Foley Enthusiasts :** The sounds made by the Brachiosaurus in Jurassic Park were a combination of whale and donkey sounds.

**Always take more footage than you need:** The total footage shot for 2001: A Space Odyssey was some 200 times the final length of the film.

**Special Effects:** The pile of "poo" that the young Jamal jumps into in Slumdog Millionaire was made from a combination of peanut butter and chocolate. Yuk, unless you like peanut butter!

**Intriguing:** The Soviets made a version of The Hobbit movie in 1985. If you have time on your hands go to <http://www.openculture.com/2014/08/the-1985-soviet-tv-adaptation-of-the-hobbit.html>. It does have subtitles, but you will probably enjoy the latest blockbuster version better! A number of other versions with modified titles have gone onto YouTube, but these are very rude.

## BFI Archive

### **"Britain on Film"**

In recent months we have featured the Imperial War Museum Film Festival, in which they invited the public to make films using material from their archives. Now, in case you haven't already picked it up in the media, the British Film Institute (BFI), as part of a £15 million project, is in the process of digitizing and uploading as part of "Britain on Film" something in the order of 10,000 films from its archive of more than a million titles. At the time of writing, something in excess of 2,500 clips are presently available to be viewed by the public. Some of this footage dates back to the Edwardian era; dare it be suggested that some of our members might well be starring in some of them! Films can be searched for by Location, Decade, or Subject.

The following link will take you to the archive

<http://player.bfi.org.uk/britain-on-film>

If you are one that uses Facebook, watch and share selected regional clips on the BFI Facebook page – a new one each day for 60 days!

It would be greatly appreciated if members find anything of particular interest to the club, that it be brought to the attention of the Editor, so that this can be included in future editions of Border Post for the enjoyment of other members.

As with other items of this nature which draws readers attention to interesting sites, Happy Surfing and we hope you find yourselves, friends or family somewhere in this interesting archive of film.

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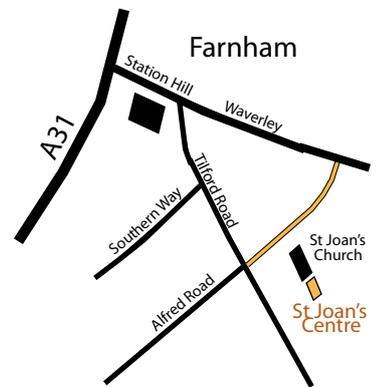
## Did You Know?

Go Pro are now allowing amateur film makers to make money off their Go Pro videos. Anyone can apply but logically the idea is that only premium-quality GoPro videos will be made available through the system - and brands and companies will be able to purchase them for commercial purposes rather than making them themselves.

So, if you own a GoPro and subscribe to their content licensing portal one day you could be watching TV and suddenly see that your GoPro footage is being used in a Commercial, and you will of course be paid for it.

Meetings are held at St Joan's Centre, 19 Tilford Road, Farnham GU9 8DJ on the 1st Friday of each month at 7.30pm for 7.45pm. Meetings close around 10.15pm. New members are very welcome, please email [secretary@surreyborder.org.uk](mailto:secretary@surreyborder.org.uk) or turn up at the door!

St Joan's Centre is 200 yards south of Farnham station and is in the grounds of St Joan's Church. The entrance to the church is by a narrow road opposite the junction with Alfred Road, and St Joan's Centre is to the right of the church. There is ample parking.



## Dates for your Diary

**7th August 2015:** A selection of films to discuss

**4th September 2015:** How to make a film on your Smart Phone.

**2nd October 2015:** Inter-Club Competition

**6th November 2015:** Programme TBA  
Deadline for December Club Competition.

**4th December 2015:** Club Competition

## Good Home Wanted

A Club Member, who is in the process of down-sizing, is having to dispose of the following equipment, in mint condition and full working order:

*Sankyo Dualux 1000 dual gauge Standard/ Super-8 mm silent projector, with many advanced and excellent features (single lever gauge change, auto threading, still picture, variable speed and reverse projection).*

No payment required, but a suitable contribution to Club Funds is welcomed. Can be viewed at the August Club night.

## Editor Continues Research



During the summer, the Editor has again been continuing his selfless research into the wines of France, and helping to promote the French economy. Realisation has finally struck home, that calculations based on the number of vineyards in France, the number of different vintages and years from each, plus discounting the ones he doesn't like without any further considerations, this now seems to have turned into more of an impossible quest. So allowing for liver and kidney failure, current estimates would have taken us well into the 22nd century! C'est la vie, and Santé. However the film of the quest continues to go into the can, and perhaps will now make it onto the screen in 2016.



**Border Post-Its**  
This is the forum for members to post your needs for production, equipment or advice.  
Any submissions for the September 2015 issue should be sent in by 20th August.

If you would like to Post anything on this page please either contact the editor directly or via email to: [editor@surreyborder.org.uk](mailto:editor@surreyborder.org.uk)