

**MERRY
CHRISTMAS
2018!**



Border Post

The Journal of Surrey Border Movie Makers
www.surreyborder.org.uk

Affiliated to the  www.theiac.org.uk

Editor/Creative: Peter Frost

December 2018

INSIDE I'M 35

Written by Peter Frost; photos by Philip Morley and Peter Frost

Inside I'm Thirty Five is the title of our 'My Shout' Film Project for Farnham Maltings and We're off!

Philip and Rita went to Brigid's house (she is will be talking to camera about her past life) and on a sunny day took a sequence from the drone.

Brigid used to be a ballet dancer, playing the lead role of The Silver Curlew in the ballet of the same name at the Birmingham Rep.



The film contrasts the elderly as they were with how they are now because young peoples' concept of the elderly tends to be rather dismissive and they overlook



the fact that there's still life in the older generation, even if on the outside they might look a little jaded.

The film has several parts: Two older people talking to camera about their lives and a musical drama which illustrates the misconceptions of youth by comparison between a grandfather and his teenage grand daughter.

Actors will play these roles whereas the talk to camera will be by the subjects themselves.

Always an active person she is now retired but has swapped the ballet shoes for wellies as she is now a sheep farmer. Although she certainly doesn't look it, Brigid is in her eighties and continues with her very active life.



Photos from left - Brigid ballet dancer; Brigid the farmer; her flock; from above.

continues over

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As I am writing this in early November, and the complete shoot of all the elements of the script must be completed for editing before the end of the month, there will be updates, but as I'm very involved in this project, I am careering ahead with this write up or it won't happen.

Mon 5th November - Meeting:

A meeting was held between Rita, Brian and I following many emails to resolve some points in the script and the musical element of the film. On top of this, funding from the approved budget is needed and all in charge at the Maltings are away!

Tue 8th November - Interview Shoot:

The Brigid sequence involves young Celia, a girl who appeared in *Norah's Ark* as one of the school children. There is a little interaction between the girl and Brigid (as her Grandma) and coordinating this with children at school (there's a boy involved as well) is quite complex. Unfortunately, the girl was not available for this shoot but with such limited time we had to move ahead, so Rita stood in.



Philip took a drone shot from the garden, approaching the large window in which Brigid is seated, a little cream on the shoot topping.

Wed 9th November - Interview Shoot:

Luckily Celia was available after school today, so back to Brigid and we shot some more footage with the eight year old playing the grand daughter, and she did it very well.

I directed this and have edited the shots which I'm very pleased with, despite the rather rushed shoot.

Wed 9th November - Audition Meeting 1:

Later that evening, Brian asked for a second opinion on the cast that he had found, particularly the applicants for the role of Jade, a teen/twenties grand daughter to grandpa George, as he had 16 to whittle down.

We reduced it to six for him to arrange auditions.

10 November, Saturday - Audition 1:

Rita booked the Farnham United Reform Church Spire Small Hall and Brian had

arranged audition timings and he, Rita and I were on hand, with Philip Morley arriving later.

Unfortunately, as we arrived the first girl messaged that her car had broken down! We were now down to three grandpas and one grand daughter!

Auditions were filmed with the first grandpa, Mike, having no grand daughter as a result but Brian took the role. Frankly, with a bit of makeup, no, a hell of a lot of makeup, he would make a wonderful Jade!

Then we had *Hannah* and *David* audition separately and together. David has his own one man show which he performs locally, singing amusing songs while accompanying himself on the piano. But he had difficulty with the song as he needed to read music rather than hear it and sing to it.

His Jade, Hannah, struggled with his faltering rendition but she stayed on to perform with grandad 3, *Alistair*. She clearly helped Alistair, as the two of them performed very well together and Hannah had a lovely voice, but Alistair had not had time to learn the script and sung out of time with the music



Photos from left - Shooting Brigid's explanation of how she became a framer in her 70's; Celia Vessey; Mike and camera await at auditions; The rough music track was on the laptop but Brian chipped in for a change of key; Hannah with David (top); Hannah and Alistair hamming it up; Effy struggling with a cough.



Hannah and Alistair performed the end of the song as a duet and she really delivered with superb harmonising.

It makes such a difference when auditioning experienced performers. Two of the grandpas added their own take on the character with some amusing touches.

Sun 11th November - Audition 2

Our second trip to Farnham Spire Church Hall for round two of the auditions. We asked Mike, who had not had a chance to perform with his Jade counterpart, to return and this time he had two Jades.

Effy - she had been suffering from a cold and cough and this seemed to affect her singing, which was a pity because we knew she was a top soprano singer and plays clarinet and guitar. She had not been able to learn the script either which makes assessment far more difficult.

Darcy - had prepared well and had learned much of the script, giving a very nice performance when coupled with the



Effy Harris who lives in Alton, so is a local girl.

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returning Mike. She also gave us a piece from Ruddigore that she had performed and showed her fierce side and great strength of voice.

Mon 12 November - Conference Call

It was decided that we would choose our Jade and George by phone in a four way conference call, which lasted two hours!

Mike was selected for the role of George as a positive, keen, selection with good availability but then it was the choice of Jade.

Hannah and Darcy were clear finalists and we would have gone immediately for Hannah based on her singing, harmonising and acting, but she lives in Bushey, a one and a half hour rail journey from Farnham. Darcy lives in Horsley, about 10 miles away from Farnham. Neither had very clear dates, both with work to accommodate in our shoot schedule, which made it something of a conundrum.

However, after a very close run piece of decision making, we chose Hannah with her great harmonising and her potential to influence Mike's grandpa performance.

The audition process has introduced us to three young ladies who could be an asset to any future film making.

Tue 13 November - Work Experience

Philip Morley had prepared a very thorough Mac Meeting at his house, reported on elsewhere, but it was an opportunity to size up our location, his lounge, our future location.

Brian and I visited Simon Painter's recording studio on the way home, just as an introduction and for Brian to have a preliminary discussion.

Mike Sanders had two young work experience people along, Dan and Robyn, and Robyn is studying pre-production, which entails such things as preparing a



Photos from top - Darcy Keeble Watson working well with the returning Mike; At the end of Darcy's audition, Brian asked if she had any other examples of her performances and she gave us a three minute blast from Ruddigore - very powerful; her pleased reaction to our applause!



storyboard. Now that could be handy!

Wed 14 November - Music

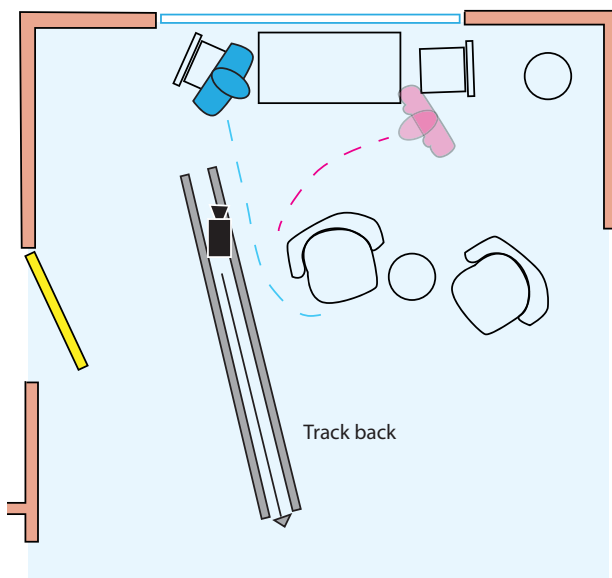
Brian travelled to Uxbridge to meet up with Keith Stevens who had helped him with a CD recording some years ago and came back with a much fuller version of the music track in preparation for final editing in Farnham at **Simon Painter Productions**, a conveniently local recording studio, on Friday, when we also have a rehearsal. Meanwhile, I was working on a Shooting Script for the film.

Wed 14 November - Shooting Script/ Blocking / Storyboard

We needed a Shooting Script giving Shot number; Take; Picture and Action; Camera Positions; Dialogue and Time. I prepared this and from it I was able to produce 30 Blocking Diagrams as a visual reference which is easier to follow during filming. This all took two days.

I didn't know it, but Robyn, Mike's work experience student, was given my blocking to produce a storyboard but

Photos bottom of page - Simon Painter and Brian O'Connell discuss Inside I'm Thirty Five My Shout project and how the music would be supplied; Blocking diagram of a version of the opening shot; An example of Robyn's Storyboarding with Robyn inset; Background - a page of the Shooting Script.



MCU on George, tracks back to include Jade and continues track as they approach arm chair and he sits
 MS George and Jade at chair
 MS on both CU cutaways on both faces for edit
 CU on Jade texting
 MS George and Jade
 U of text message
 MS George to Jade
 JADE:
 You're too weak and feeble
 can't do it
 I've had a full life
 I'm not dead yet, but
 'Cos inside my head I am
 George has stopped song and look paper again
 TEXT: I'm grounded looking after the old
 continues

from page 3

this project has started with so much to do in a very short space of time, the blocking diagrams were evolving, so she had to amend her work.

Music Recording

Brian had set up a recording session with Keith Stevens who had his own recording studio in Uxbridge. Brian had previously worked with him he wrote and recorded a CD of his music.

It took a five and a half hour session with Keith for Brian to prepare and perform a bass guitar backing track; a guitar track and finally a mandolin track, all performed by him. After each recording, adjustments were made followed by a rough mix in Logic Pro, which Keith uses as he is Mac based.

Seven individual tracks were then prepared to be taken into Logic Pro X, which Simon Painter uses at his recording studio in Farnham for the voice recording session booked for Friday, and to write to CD as wav and mp3 files, also transfer to Brian's Macbook.

Fri 16 November 2nd Interview Shoot Recce

I needed to understand the location layout for the second of our two interviews; this one with Dave Skertchly as granddad to twelve year old grandson, played by Fynn Kayes-Thorpe who was too old to appear in *Norah's Ark* but said he'd really enjoyed the experience of being there. So Rita gave him a chance to act in *Inside I'm 35*.

Rehearsal

Having got the lie of the land, I set off to Farnham where a Rehearsal was under way with Mike gramps Collier and his granddaughter, Hannah Harris, and Rita and Brian running through the song with them.

This was primarily for them both to sing together and to become familiar with that aspect of the Drama as next on the day's agenda was a recording session. However, there was just time for a quick try out of the acting to the blocking layout before we set off.

Recording Session

Half an hour later, the five of us arrived and filled Simon Painter's studio, an extremely well converted garage. Brian had already sent over the music track which was up and ready on Simon's computer system and Mike and Hannah were now familiar with the song and could get going promptly. Rita left and the session was under way.

First Mike sang the George solo part followed by Hannah with her Jade solo

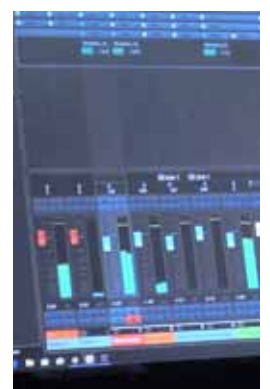
part. They then recorded the duet part and the banter for the ending.

It's always interesting to see another aspect of film making and this was such an event. The speed with which Simon could edit on the fly, cutting and repositioning about six tracks of sound to take what had been decided as the best rendition into the master.

It actually took longer to record some cheeky banter comments between

grandpa and granddaughter to give the ending a touch of lightheartedness. After all, Jade (Hannah) had sung that grandpa should 'get on with dying' while not recognising that he had life in him, although he was old (to her), so something of an upturn at the end (not his) was certainly needed!

The whole performance, music track and singing were played back and on Simon's speakers sounded very impressive.



Photos - Brian directs as Simon's recordings stack up. Mike singing BUT when you sit there you just hear his voice - the music is fed through headphones for them both to sing to. Hannah singing her solo part. I filmed proceedings and managed to pick up a piece of acting emphasis needed - always nice to feel you've made a useful contribution. Simon with tracks building. A shot of levels.



Philip Morley's MAC Presentation

As remembered and photographed by Peter Frost;
additional photography by Alan Brown



As Mac Meetings go, this was a Morley Tour de Force. Philip had put a lot of time and investigative effort into a very well produced presentation on the latest (his latest) Mac Computer and Final Cut X.

Mike Sanders had bought two work experience students with him, Robyn studying preproduction and Dan, post-production, a fortuitous bit of luck as it turned out later.

Philip started in the garden with a demonstration of his DJI Mavic 2 Pro drone. He showed how it would hover, shoot up to a great height very rapidly, hover perfectly, at any set height, follow the operator having set the parameters (something of a hover pet so attached to its master!), land precisely and then fold to fit into a surprisingly small man bag! It's filming and photographing capabilities are of an impressive quality as reported in last month's issue of *Border Post*.

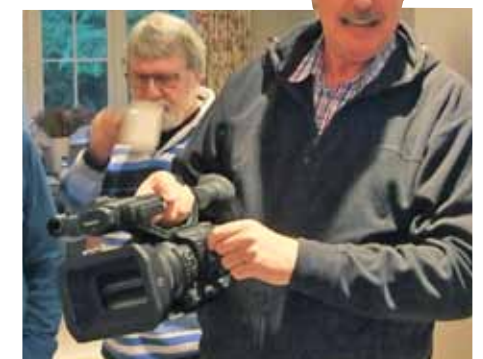
Then it was inside for Philip's presentation to his 14 Mac enthusiasts. He started with his iMac Pro and a comparison with a 5k iMac. This was followed by detailed iMac Pro features and Apple's newest operating system, Mojave, which Philip was very

enthusiastic about. Within, it has *Movie Archiving* and each of the topics was run through in some detail.

Philip then discussed, *iTube Studio*, a piece of software that makes downloading video off the internet for later viewing, a simple affair, likewise changing video from one file format to another.

Making a Voice Over in FCPX rounded up his list of subjects and if you are Mac bound and missed this evening but would like to know what was covered, Philip intends to make a video of the presentation which can go on the club web site.

But to round off the evening, John Mills showed us his new Panasonic which he's rather pleased with and will tell more in a future issue.



Photos - 14 Mac users made Philip's efforts very worth while and justly rewarding. Philip at the computer, running the presentation; The garden drone demo; Controller up close and personal showing a photo of the assembled throng that it has taken; John Mills and his new camera.

Club Comic Strip!

Created by Peter Frost

Look what I invented, the **Patric Hinde Patented Cable Threader Tool**



It takes just one person to thread the cable single handedly

There! But next time, try to make it **look** easy!



It really is incredibly easy, guys.

**K
E
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W!**

CLUB NITE* NOVEMBER

Written and photographed by Peter Frost, additional copy by Kathy Butcher

As Philip Morley had entered a number of films into the Australian Widescreen Festival, including **Baby Shots** which went into the comedy section (but was not a winner), he managed to obtain the Comedy finalists and the overall winning entry and brought them for us to judge!

The overall winner was a parody on film making with green screen, showing the making set up and the result and switching back and forth between the two. It was amusing in some way but perhaps the Aussies have a different sense of humour to us. Well, living upside down must make the blood rush to the head, after all!



After the break, Dave Skertchly had a film to show about his time working at McLaren as part of the team that invented the first carbon fibre bodied car, the McLaren F1, hailed as "the finest sports car the world has ever seen".

The lightness of the body made it very fast indeed and Dave is rightly proud of his work as part of the Shalford team that built it.

His film was created from photographs and historical footage and is an interesting record of this innovative piece of vehicular history.



I put him forward for our **My Shout** project to talk about his McLaren work which I will report on in next month's *Border Post*.

Dave has several film projects on the go, including his animated story of **The Mary Rose with the Hairy Nose**, and perhaps another on his involvement in a project that discovered that Earth's atmosphere was warming years before anyone else.

Solent Movie Makers sent the club a showreel of films they had produced as they were interested in a critique and comments from the audience. The club who are based in Southampton have some exceptionally good filmmakers.

* (Sorry about the American spelling of Night in the title - I avoid US spellings - but this fitted graphically - so that's a done deal! Ed)

EDITOR'S NEW YEAR MESSAGE

YOUR ARTICLES WILL BE NEEDED EVEN MORE NEXT YEAR AS I'M TAKING CHUNKS OF TIME OFF FOR MY FAMILY. YOU CAN HELP BY SENDING IN NEWS ARTICLES, PHOTOS, NOTES, NEW KIT, VIDEO EXPERIENCES TO KEEP THIS JOURNAL VIBRANT.

Border Post Clippings

Compiled by Peter Frost

INSIDE I'M 35 QUIZ

Written by Peter Frost; photos from members

Philip is still busy with the final edit as I write on 2nd December.

When you see the film, you'll notice that there are photos of some members not when they were 35 but when they were much younger. Can you identify these people? No prizes, just for fun.

You know these people - but do you?



A Reminder of the Reminder

HOW TO SEND FILES VIA WE TRANSFER

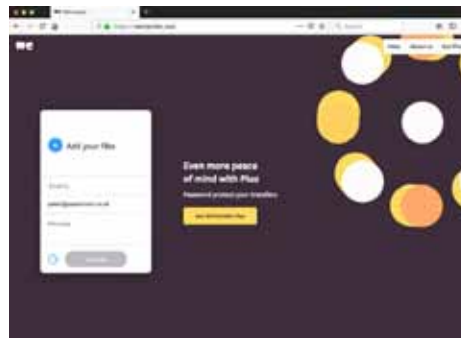
Writ by scribe Frost

Last month Rita reminded you by E-Noticeboard how to send files of up to 2gb via **We Transfer** for freeeeee!

This is a reminder of that reminder but with pictures - lovely!

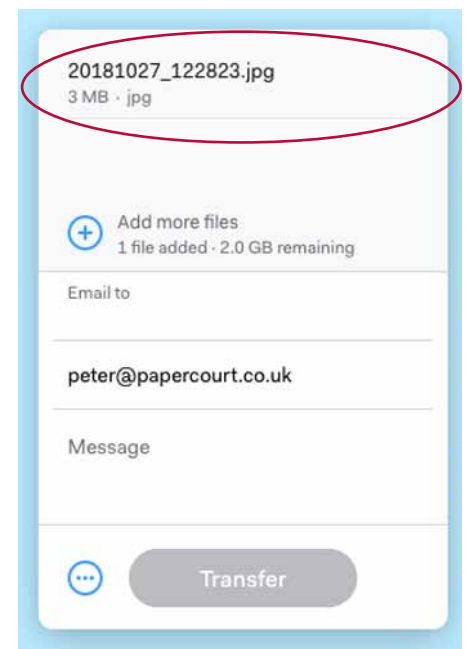
1. Have your file(s) to be sent ready in one place. You can send several files as long as they stay withing the 2gb limit combined. You can send larger files but have to pay for We Transfer Plus to do so.
2. Go on line and Google **We Transfer** which will bring up their site (make sure it's theirs as other try to get on the band wagon! Click on it and this will take you to the upload panel. It will be similar to this but the pictures within it are changed constantly with different adverts

You are just interested in the white form to the left.



3. Now it's just a matter of completing the form.

Drag your files into the site window and they will appear at the top of the form.

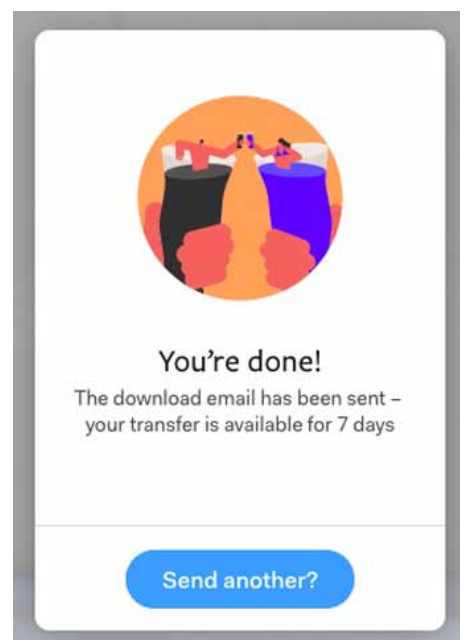
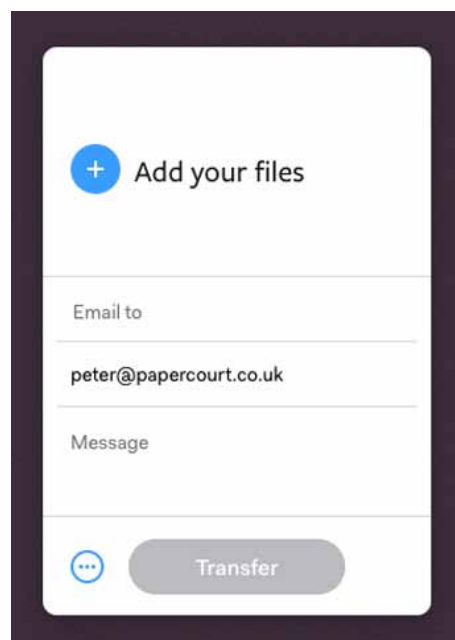


4. Complete the 'E-mail to' section adding up to three recipients if you wish (3 is the limit) and type in your email address in the next section down (Your email).

5. Then add any Message in the area provided at the bottom of the form and click the 'We Transfer grey panel to start the transfer.

6. Your recipients will receive an email to advise them that they have files to download and that these will be deleted in 7 days if not downloaded. You will have an email to confirm that they've been sent.

There, easy!



Border Post Contributors!

These members kindly helped me by contributing to this issue of Border Post:

Philip Morley, Brian O'Connell, Alan Brown, Kathy Butcher

COPY DEADLINE!

January 2019 edition will be 14th of December with

no extensions.

Late copy will be carried over to the next month. Thank you for your co-operation - Ed!



NEXT MEETING

Fri 7th December Club Competition entries shown, judged by Tim and Martine Stannard, impressive and very successful film makers of Staines Video Makers, and trophies awarded.

MORE DATES 2018/ 2019

Sunday 9th December CHRISTMAS LUNCH: Forgotten to book - get in touch with Rita, very quickly!

Friday 4th January A selection of winning films from SERIAC 2018, with discussion about what made them winners.

Friday 4th February 35th AGM, followed by **All About Drones**, a presentation by Philip Morley

Friday 1st March Annual Edit Exercise. Adding Foley Effects. Found footage provided.

Friday 5th April Groups formed for Film in an Evening. Rest of programme TBC.

Friday 10th May (NOT 3RD!!) Programme TBC

Friday 7th June Programme TBC

Friday 5th July Film in an Evening. Groups have 3 hours to film and edit then show the results at the club house.

Spot the 10 Subtle Differences

Created by Peter Frost

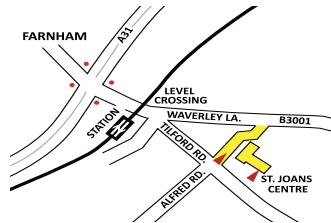
You will need to enlarge this to see the little differences between the two pictures but if you are persistent, there are ten of them to find. Answers next month.

COME AND SEE WHAT WE DO!

See what other movie makers are up to and you may get some inspiration for your own projects. We always welcome new members and you can sound us out for free, too. You can find out more about us by visiting our web site www.surreyborder.org.uk or email the secretary: secretary@surreyborder.org.uk We are also on Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/SurreyBorderMovieMakers/timeline>

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. When coming for the first time, please email: 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.



REMEMBER!
Your first visit is free!

Our members range from beginners to ex professionals, shooting video with DSLR Cameras, Camcorders and Phones, editing on both Mac and PC platforms. But that's not all, we welcome those who want to learn or participate in all aspects of film making, including script writing, storyboarding, producing, directing, lighting, editing, props making, acting, learning about equipment, helping out as crew or simply improving your family and holiday films. Whatever you are interested in, you are welcome to take a look at us as detailed above.

Border Post