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# Border Post

Editor: Philip Morley Sub-Editor: Brian O'Connell

becoming virus clear?

January 2022

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

Header Creation: Peter Frost

### Christmas Lunch By Philip Morley

After almost 2 years in the wilderness of Covid, a goodly number of members celebrated the Club Christmas Lunch in a cosy

corner of the Barn at the Hen and Chicken Pub near Alton. This was the first time we have ventured outside Farnham for our Christmas get together and it certainly didn't disappoint.

The food was great and the ambience was very conducive to such a happy event. It was nice to enjoy the welcoming confines of the purpose fitted Barn that was capable of seating up to 30 guests. There was a 2 or 3 course meal option

available and the staff were very efficient in finding the correct recipients of the pre-ordered meals!

Our Chairman, Mike Sanders, provided us with an excellent and amusing rendition of how to have a good Christmas (Stanley Unwin style) which included some good tips on how to get the best sound from your edit suite. For those who were not able to join us click HERE to enjoy Mikes Christmas greeting.















# Congratulations to all involved in the triumph of the December Club evening!!

By Brian O'Connell



In this issue you will read about the club competition entries and award winners, but before this I want to focus on the incredible technological challenges that were overcome in the first SBMM televised event relayed to the judges and others via Zoom.

Masterminded by technology guru and SBMM Chairman Mike Sanders, the plan was to use three live cameras filming the event so that the Zoom audience could not only see the films on show, but also see the presenters, the audience and a view of the 'stage' area. In addition the audience would be able to see and hear any contributions from the Zoom participants.

Since we do not have use of the Church Wifi, the entire internet communications were to be sent via a 'personal hotspot' on a mobile phone. Given that it was a wet evening this was located outside in a plastic waterproof bag a few metres from Mike.



of the laptop.

A green screen was erected behind Mike so that the SBMM background logo image would feature behind Mike. You can see the webcam on top



Mike had an incredibly complex job to not only handle the Zoom meeting but also to manage the three live cameras in the room.







Philip Morley operated one camera on a crane to give professionally smooth stabilised shots.



At the back of the hall we had Dave Kershaw, a relatively new member, who was doing a great job as cameraman two, giving a full view of the hall.



Meanwhile, as our sophisticated team of technicians, camera crew and comms experts grappled with every aspect of the challenge, the presenter of the prizes, Dr Colin Lewis, was preparing to reveal himself to the audience, in the form of a fun and fabulous Santa Claus

jacket especially flown in from the USA for the event.

You will see more of this jacket later on, with Colin adding the usual Lewis joie de vivre to the occasion.



I would like to second the comment, made by Peter Frost, one of the grateful members on Zoom, to say "congratulations and thank you, especially to Mike, Philip and the entire team who were behind the planning and execution of this incredible live production, which may yet become the first of many".

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## Surrey Borders Movie Makers Members Competition

By Paula Webster, Jill Lampert and Debbie Daniels

### The judges general thoughts on all the films

We would like to say "Congratulations" to all the film makers who entered films into this competition. To put your beloved film up to be judged is a daunting task and takes courage. Well done! We enjoyed every one of them!

We were impressed by the general high standard of the films we saw. There was a wide variety, from holiday films to drama and documentaries. Sound was recorded well throughout with effective voiceovers, where appropriate, which we thought was a strength of the Club. None of the documentaries though had a presenter talking to camera, neither were there any interviews featuring an on screen interviewee, both of which can really help to engage your audience and take us on your journey - perhaps you could have a go at these in your next films.

We look forward to seeing more films from this excellent bunch of film makers!

### **Boats with Wheels - Dave Skertchly**

This film had the promise of an interesting story. The voice-over was engaging and the music was well chosen. We felt a bit disappointed by the ending; having invested ourselves in the film we wanted a more satisfactory conclusion. We very much liked it that the filmmaker had found an interesting story at his holiday destination.

### Lion Hunt - Peter Stratford

This was a really exciting film to watch! Great entertainment. We felt though that the longish ending without commentary could be improved. The music and script were excellent in providing tension and atmosphere.

### The Mystery of the Affray - Alan Brown

This was a well-researched documentary which told its story clearly and logically, with a beginning, middle and an end. We liked the unobtrusive background music. We were disappointed that the film consisted solely of archive footage and stills with no original modern day video. However the mystery was built up well and we were drawn in to the story.

### The Case of the

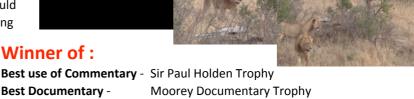
### **Missing Pickle Magnate - Tim Stannard**

This was an excellent well-made film, original, clever and funny an entertaining parody of a crime mystery with a fun Cluedo twist with great use of music to enhance the period feel. The attention to detail in all aspects from photography to script, from choice of music to editing is a credit to everyone involved. Winner of :

Winner of :

**Overall winner** -Photography -Best editing -Creativity -

Jackson Trophy Arthur English Trophy Penny Johnson Trophy **Ron Clements Shield** 











Paula Webster

Lion Hunt

The CASE

of the

MISSING PICKLE MAGNATE

Jill Lampert

The 8 Trophies up for the award









# **Surrey Borders Movie Makers Members Competition**

### Pezenas – Market and Music - Alan Hussey

This was a great record of an interesting place – a good "Holiday" film with general appeal. We particularly liked the opening sequence of the narrow streets. The film would have benefitted from tighter editing and more variety in the camerawork at the market. The voice-over was done in an excellent natural manner and we were drawn in by the personal style.



This was a well-researched historical account of Thorpeness and gave us an insight into an eccentric's vision of an English seaside resort. The script was sometimes a little formal and could have benefitted from a lighter more casual tone. We really enjoyed the section featuring the House in the Clouds.

### The Secrets of Sanibel - Philip Morley

This was a fast paced, bright and cheerful film that gave us a lively overview of holidaying on Sanibel Island. The camerawork was excellent with a great variety of shots. Though we do like a film to be pacy we thought this film might benefit from slowing down in places to match the relaxed pace of life on Sanibel. Filming dolphins is not easy and this was very well done.







Dick Hibberd Trophy

# **Rita's Rib Ticklers**

By Rita Wheeler



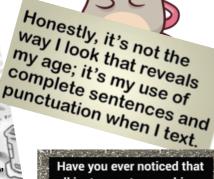
"One day Son, this will be all yours!!"

Best Camerawork -

Can anyone explain this?











# **Surrey Borders Movie Makers Members Competition**

Colin Lewis presents Tim Stannard with four awards, including Best Overall Film, for his film *The Case of the Missing Pickle Magnate*.



Alan Hussey wins the award for Pezenas – Market and Music

Philip Morley wins an award for Secrets of Sanibel



Colin Lewis holds up the trophies won by Peter Stratford, who was unable to attend, for *Lion Hunt* 





# FIND-A-BUDDY ON Slack



In response to a growing number of requests for help from both new and existing members, we have just created a find-a-buddy section in SLACK. So if you need help, click HERE to login to your Slack account.

**Bv Jim Reed** 

The purpose is to try to team up those who want to learn a particular area or skill with someone who can assist them.

Whether it is how to best use a camera, what settings to use, how do I edit, special effects, or just where is the button to turn the power on!

Don't live in the dark - ask for help!

That's what this club is about - helping others.

We are fortunate that SBMM has so many talented people within it.

So, newcomers – or even oldies – if you need to find a buddy to help with an issue, or learn a bit more about a particular topic, this is your answer.

Either leave a message on the SLACK channel 'find-a-buddy' (which can only be seen by other club members) or, if you are bashful, just send a private DM to SBMM and one of the SBMM committee will contact you.

If you're not yet on Slack, or have any problems getting into it, just email me at jimreedsurrey@gmail.com and I'll fix it.



Sign in or sign up If you want a buddy!



Knowing we all have lots of coins that no one wants these days, we have devised a great solution for you. Just bring



them along to the next meeting and drop them in the pot on the tea and coffee counter. It will help our Clubs' refreshment coffers no end. THANK YOU SO MUCH

# Join the Committee

Our Club is a democratic organisation run by a small group of members. The current committee has been doing so for some years, and it would be good to bring new blood in from our midst. This will inject new ideas while carrying on the ethos of our great Club. If you would like to be considered for a post please contact Mike Sanders before the February AGM meeting.

# Don't forget your Xmas movie

'Christmas Film Exercise'. Don't forget to make a 3 minute movie of your Christmas fun, **IT IS NOT A COMPETITION**, more an exercise in creativity.

No rules, anything goes. So don't be shy, grab a camera and capture the moments.







# How to film an interview. A workshop with Sutton filmmakers.

By Brian O'Connell



This workshop led by Peter Leverick caught my eye. Peter has had considerable professional experience doing exactly this sort of thing. I remember being very impressed when one of our members, Alan Brown produced an excellent documentary that involved a number of interviews, and I believe Alan's skills with lighting demonstrated many of these techniques.

Peter set up the room with two cameras, one for the interviewer and one for the interviewee.

In addition he also set up an Atem Mini switching device, so that



we could see the view from each camera, as well as both images at the same time. It is important that the two images match.



### Lighting.

Peter talked about the importance of threepoint lighting - the key light, the fill light and the backlight. He explained the effect of these with diagrams.



By turning off all the lights it was possible to see the effect of

these on their own and also in combination with one of the others.

He had two 150 watt Dedo lights with dimmers for the key and back light, as well as a 500 watt LED type panel to act as the fill. The fill light should be set to be



about half of the power of the other two lights.

Peter was able to show that you could use just three lights to cover both people being filmed. This involved the use of screening material to reduce the illumination from the key and back lights.

The evening concluded with some discussion about making the process efficient and using a minimum setup. Sometimes the

whole process occurs with only one camera. The Director looks out for sound bites from the interviewer and when the interview is finished the interviewer is filmed asking simple questions that generate the sound



bites delivered previously. He also touched on techniques to ensure that the interviewee is relaxed.

It would be fantastic to have Peter down to SBMM to repeat this interesting demonstration. I left feeling that I had learned a great deal. Thank you to Peter for sharing his expertise and providing a very worthwhile and thought provoking experience.



# Editor's Note

"That was the year that wasn't, it's over so let it go". Some apt words from a well known comedy program depicts our feeling about last year. Hopefully the onset of 2022 with, "Multi Vaccination" being the operative words, we will get us back to normality and allow the pent up energy of our film makers loose on the world again. Start with working on your films for our January meeting. Wishing you all a very

### **Happy New Year!**

### Philip and Brian



# Next Meeting

### Friday 7th January -

Another completely virus free, on line meeting. See the instructions from Rita so you can attend from your fireside with a warming glass of something.

# More Dates

4th February - AGM & Xmass Challenge 4th March - The Dewer Mystery \*\* 1st April - Edit Exercise evening 16th May - The BAFTA evening 3rd June. - Film in an evening

\*\*To be confirmed

### **Your Club Contacts** Name:

Chairman Vice Chairman Hon. Secretary Hon. Treasurer Webmaster **Competition Officer Training Officer Public Relations Officer** Editor - Border Post Social Events

# I'M NOT ADDING THIS YEAR TO MY AGE. I DIDN'T USE IT

# NEW YEAR

# Contributors!

Thanks to all members and guests who helped us by contributing to this issue: Peter Frost, Brian O'Connell, Philip Morley, Rita Wheeler, Paula Webster, Jill Lampert, Debbie Daniels and Jim Reed.

COPY DEADLINE! February 2022 issue will be 14th of January so keep it coming. Late copy will be carried over to the next month. Thank you for your co-operation -Eds!

# Come and see what we do!

See what other movie makers are up to and you may get 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:

www.facebook.com/SurreyBorderMovieMakers/timeline Pre-Corona Virus, meetings were held at St Joan's Centre, 19 Tilford Road, Farnham GU9 8DJ, however until further notice meetings will be held on-line on the first Friday of the month, starting at 8.00 pm and finishing at 10.00 pm. If you are interested then email: secretary@surreyborder.org.uk

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

### chairman@surreyborder.org.uk **Mike Sanders** Philip Morley secretary@surreyborder.org.uk **Rita Wheeler** Gillian Gatland **Dave Rayers** Peter lves Vacant Kathy Butcher Philip Morley & Brian O'Connell Committee



Your contributions for inclusion will be appreciated together with photographs if possible. Please send them to The Editor Border Post for the next issue:



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**Email:**