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The Journal of Surrey Border Movie Makers

www.surreyborder.org.uk

## Message from your Chairman - *John Mills*



Another hectic month so far, with planning the film in an evening and then carrying out the first rehearsal. Great fun was had.

Interesting to have an audience of 40 or so, all keen as mustard to make films on their mobiles.

This talk and the research required has got me looking in more detail at how I could make a complete film just on my iPhone and iPad.

More research and books from amazon!!

I must read some books on motivation,

after a hard days work, drive home and then dive into video production sometimes has me burning the candle at both ends. I have finally acquired some 3/4 unc threaded rod to complete my 3 Meter extendable Microphone Boom for a total cost £7.50 which I will bring to the next full club evening.

### Onwards and upwards.

A trip up to Orpington video club with Alan Butcher was a success with us delivering a talk on using mobiles for Video production.

## GOSFEST 2015

**Peter Frost has sent this message to any members who may wish to get involved:**

Last year Brian and I were at Gosfest (Gosford 4 day Music Festival) at the request of Vince Barnes to record his performance.

Vince has asked us again this year in conjunction with the organiser of the event and we are deliberating over it as we have a lot on in the spring/early summer and would like some time off (!).

I have received some answers to questions I posed to Vince as a starter and on this basis wonder if any other members would be interested in this event as well.

Details as follows:

**Venue:** Gosford, Southsea, Hants

**Festival:** In total four days of music and family fun with rides and side shows. Food and drink stalls on site.

**Date:** Friday 31 July

**Time:** 14.00 – 20.00

**Journey:** About 1h 15 min from Guildford by car

**Access:** Videography in all areas and in front of and on the stage (loud volume)

**Parking:** On site, very local to the stage for easy access to and storage of equipment

**Wet weather:** We would not shoot due to the potential for equipment damage, and there would be a lack of fans. Light showers might be OK for filming.

**Expenses:** Fuel/media/food/drink and any other reasonable expenses would be covered for a limited number of videographers.

## Press Release - *Kathy Butcher*

### 3 Second Edit Challenge and Film Professionals at Movie Club

The April meeting of Surrey Border Movie Makers presented club members films which had been entered into a competition under the category of '3 Second Edit'. Films could be submitted on any subject but all shots were to be no more than 3 seconds long, quite a challenge! The club audience had the difficult task of voting for the best film.

Club Chairman John Mills produced a film taken in the New Forest which previewed a new lapel microphone. Another entry was from John Hunt who had filmed the huge and opulent liners which enter Southampton Docks. Sir Paul Holden the club President produced a very good selection of interesting films.

Colin Lewis entered three films, two of which came first and second, winning him the coveted Edit Trophy. His winning film was 'Chico', about an amazing three legged dog, and 'Up, Up and Away', a

colourful film taken aboard a hot air balloon secured him second place.



*Colin Lewis accepting his Trophy from John Mills*

The evening continued with a talk from professional television cameraman John Collins who now works freelance making films and documentaries. He was accompanied by David Fairhead a very successful film and television editor. Together John and David presented the club members with a programme packed with professional advice on 'How to make a documentary'; this included examples of short clips they have produced in

preparation for their new documentary film 'Spitfire' which shows interviews with the pilots who flew these legendary planes.



*John Collins and David Fairhead*

## Stop Press (Reminder)

Members who are not involved in making a film this Friday 1st May i.e. "Film in an Evening" should take special note that the Club doors will **NOT** be open until 9.00 p.m. when the groups involved will start arriving for the showing and judging of films.

## Competition News

The 42nd Staines Video Makers Inter-Club competition 2015 for the Silver Salver Award took place on Friday 27th February. Our club entered the film 'Timing' filmed by the Pioneers group.

Bourne End Video Makers won the Silver Salver with their club film 'The Big One'. Epsom Movie Makers were runners up with 'The First of a Few' and Potters Bar Film Makers, with 'The Sound of Movement' and Orpington Video and Film Makers with 'More than Steam and Smoke' shared third place.

## Fun with Words

As part of a Visit Britain project to attract more Chinese tourists to Britain, places of interest have been given literal descriptions in Mandarin by the Chinese public.

### **Llanfairpwllgwyngyllgogerychwyrndrobwilllantysiliogogoch**

was given the Mandarin name of 'Healthy Lung Village' because it can only be pronounced by those with sufficient breath.

**Scotland's Highland Games** became 'Strongman Skirt Party'.

**The Shard**, in London, 'The Tower Allowing Us to Pluck Stars from the Sky'.

**The Cerne Abbas Giant** in Dorset is 'The Big White Streaker or Stylish Man with Strength'.

**Sherwood Forest**, 'Forest of Chivalrous Thieves'.

Northern Ireland's **Giant's Causeway** is 'Musical Scale Lava.'

## Future Learn - Rita Wheeler

In case you missed it first time around, 'Explore Filmmaking from Script to Screen' will be running again from 29th June.

This course is one not to be missed. Presented by the NFTS (National Film & Television School) and the BFI (British Film Institute) Film Academy the content is excellent. Even better, it is FREE.

Visit: [www.futurelearn.com](http://www.futurelearn.com)

If you don't fancy this one, there are 100's of other courses as diverse as 'Heart Health: a beginner's guide to Cardiovascular Disease', to 'Creative Coding' using computer programming as a creative discipline, to generate sounds, images, animations and much more. Go on, have a go, or at least take time out to have a look to see if anything interests you.

## Sarah's War Goes on the Stage - Brian O'Connell

I have written a play called **Sarah's War**. It was inspired by a visit to Peter Matthews' boat and conversations with Peter and his wife Janet.

It will be performed in: East Clendon Village Hall on Saturday July 18th GU4 7RY.

Booking is through WEGOTTICKETS. They cost £10 + £1 booking fee = £11. As of Wednesday 29th April there are 29 tickets left. So hurry.

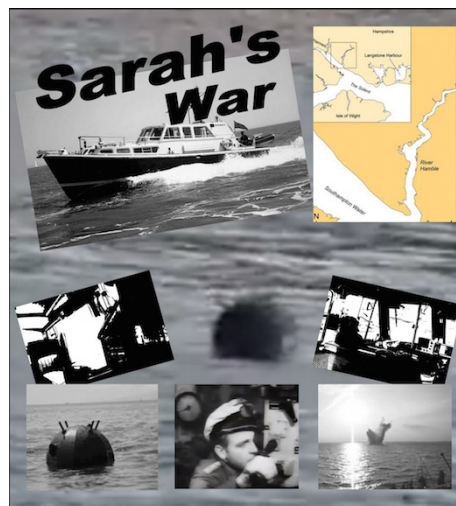
The direct link for this event is

<http://www.wegottickets.com/event/314872>

Sarah's War (314872) will be performed on Sat 18th July, 2015 at East Clendon Village Hall. Doors: 7.30 pm

It will also be performed in The Star pub in Guildford on Sunday July 19th as part of the Guildford Fringe. (2 Quarry Street, Guildford, Surrey GU1 3TY). Tickets £10.

Visit <http://www.guildfordfringefestival.com/sessions/sarabs-war/>



## North v South Filming

This is a reminder that the next meeting for the North versus South Film will be held on Wednesday 6th May. This meeting will be discuss the Script, filming location, props, dates of the film shoot and film crew.

Those members who are not involved and would like to be so, please contact [secretary@surreyborder.org.uk](mailto:secretary@surreyborder.org.uk)

## Documentary Competition

Can you let Rita know if you intend to enter a film into the new documentary competition on Friday 3rd July, and if so the approximate length.

Thanks.

I am also involved in a production at The National Theatre, London SE1 which is called '**Light Shining in Buckinghamshire**'. I'm just a dot in the background but if you are interested the production started on 16th April and runs until Saturday 20th June. I shall be in the performances listed below.

Under are the performances. I will personally be in the performances from May. Some of the performances are twice daily.



Thur 7th May  
Sat 9th May (2 performances)  
Mon 11th May  
Thur 21st May  
Fri 22nd May  
Sat 23rd May (2 performances)  
Wed 27th May  
Thur 28th May  
Fri 29th May  
Mon 1st June (I may switch this so not definite)  
Tues 2nd June (2 performances)  
Wed 3rd June  
Fri 19th June  
Sat 20th June (2 performances)

Link to buy tickets, £15:

<http://www.nationaltheatre.org.uk/shows/light-shining-in-buckinghamshire>

## Spring has Sprung

Now is the time of year that many of us start to venture out more, when the sun shines, the flowers and grass start to grow again, wild animals (and humans) come out of hibernation, and birds start to reappear from their winter havens. It is also a great time to get photos and videos. If you manage to take any "spring" photos of note, the editor would be happy to include them in Border Post.





# Video and Cartoons

## (Filming Bug Moving On)

Written, illustrated and photographed by Peter Frost

30 years ago, my enjoyment of film making as a hobby, then designing packaging and promotions for feature film releases for a living, moved on again to include video production when we joined with other creatives as a unit of individual businesses with differing specialisations who would club together on large projects.

We were now designing studio sets, creating props and assisting on camera for corporate projects and a series of ballroom dance training videos featuring world champions, a little slice of show biz!

We were on location with Selina Scott and Frank Bough (remember them?) for a promotion. There was excitement when Noel Edmonds was to present a video and would fly his own helicopter to our studio, landing in an adjacent field. Cameras were ready but he got lost and landed at Fair Oaks, Weybridge arriving by taxi!

We had a huge repackaging and promotion campaign when Robinsons Baby Juice (I always thought of it as squeezed babies) transferred from glass jars to Tetrapaks. This involved packaging design, publicity and a video presentation. For the video we were designing, building and dressing a studio set based on the TV-AM studio but for Robinsons it was called **Baby-am**.

The video featured Anneka Rice, whose famous bum was gracing TV screens for the programme **Treasure Hunt**. She was heli-hopping around Norfolk strawberry farms while presenter Nick Owen was in the studio discussing the product.

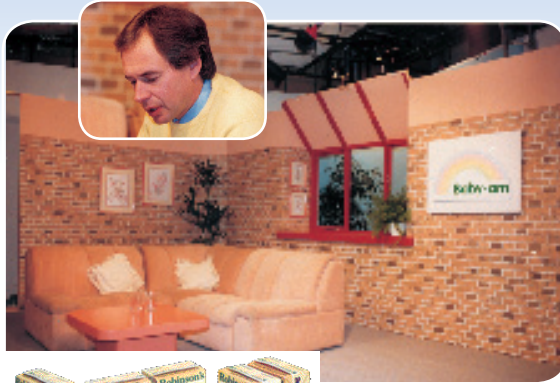
My love of animation was always there but it transferred to business in the form of promotional cartoon character creation. It kept my hand in and was an enjoyable extension to our normal work.

When Robinsons Drinks wanted to do a huge countrywide promotion aimed at children, I had to create a ton of cartoon illustrations and a sticker booklet, **Robinsons Book of Amazing Facts**.

This led to an even larger free gift promotion for which I devised a gift book with a story running through it - **'Mega Treasure'**. I designed a couple of key characters - **Jolly Robinson**, a Pirate, and his Parrot. This was so successful that my characters were professionally animated for a 20 second TV commercial. An exciting, if somewhat fleeting, brush with animation fame. Then there was Jif

Lemon, Cadburys, Waterford Dairies, Rothmans and a host of other clients - all cartoon work.

Film making as a hobby now reverted to recording our daughter growing up and holidays, the real pressure came from the professional side; a tiny sample of the projects are shown here.



Our Baby-am TV studio set - simple enough but surprisingly complicated to deliver. Inset: Nick Owen in the **Baby-am** studio discussing the range of Baby Juices (shown above)



Selina Scott on location to promote a new high quality, commercial property development



Anneka Rice in a Norfolk strawberry field for Robinsons Baby Juices and Baby-am



Heli-hopping the strawberry farms



Noel Edmonds poised for the video. We were interested to see that his manager was even smaller than he was.



Our set build for Jaguar's new Pension Plan, presented by Chris Goffy for TV's Wheelbase. Sets had to be clean styled for clear presentation of the product.



Location shoot for the Tea Council - we sourced, arranged and dressed the location and prepared props and I remember it being a rather hilarious shoot - it wasn't supposed to be!

## Cartoon Projects

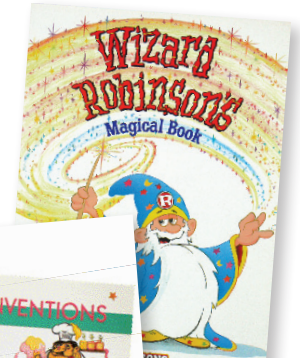
Some of our many projects that featured my cartoon creations



Robinsons Mega Treasure was a mega project, with a TV commercial and back up publicity.



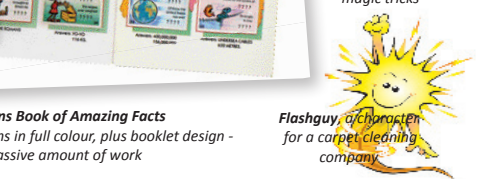
Robinsons Book of Amazing Facts involved 65 cartoons in full colour, plus booklet design - a massive amount of work



Wizard Robinson's Magical Book A book of puzzles and magic tricks



Jif Character Promotion: I designed a little lemon character for Pancake Day on-pack promotions and prize gifts for winners of pancake races held around the country. Above, a fridge magnet design promoting 'Jif for Fish'.



Prime Stain Gang: A big project for a furniture insurance company with a range of publicity featuring my stain making characters

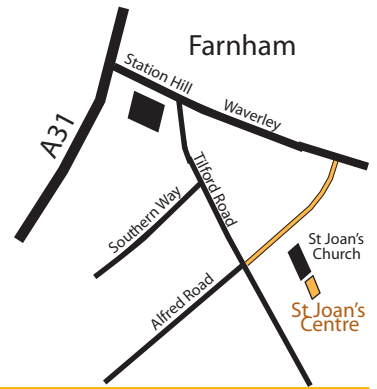
## Video Projects

A few of the video productions on which we have worked



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



## Dates for your Diary

**Friday 1st May 2015:** Film in an Evening (Please remember that the evening at the Club will not start until 9.00 p.m.)

**Friday 12th June 2015:** (NOT the 5th June) A selection of films from the Australian 2014 Wide Screen Film Festival and Discussion. See what they have been doing down under!

**Friday 3rd July:** New documentary film competition, max 20 minutes

**Saturday 4th July:** Summer Social - BBQ in the sun!

## Planning a Holiday?

If you haven't already decided on your next holiday destination and filming opportunity, how about Umm al Qaiwain! 'Where', I hear you say?

Well, as most of us are probably aware Dubai and Abu Dhabi have become well known holiday destinations. Yet they are only two of the seven Sheikdoms that make up the United Arab Emirates. So what about the other five? If you are curious about them and how they make up the geography of the Sheikdoms, (test at the next club meeting) then you will embark on a very interesting journey. Happy surfing.

## What's On - Rita Wheeler

### Summer Social

Please put Saturday 4th July in your diary as this is when we shall be holding our Summer Social.

Invitations will be sent out within the next few weeks.

### BAFTA Shorts

BAFTA SHORTS will be shown on Monday 11th May at The Maltings, Bridge Lane, Farnham GU9 7QR.

Visit [www.farnhammaltings.com](http://www.farnhammaltings.com) Booking Office, tel: 01252 745444 – open from 9.00 am to 9.00 pm.

To see some of the trailers, visit [www.bafta.org/film/awards/british-short-film-british-short-animation](http://www.bafta.org/film/awards/british-short-film-british-short-animation)

### June Meeting Reminder

As previously advised we have had to change the June meeting to Friday 12th June 2015, not the first Friday of the month, when we will be showing a selection of films from the Australian 2014 Wide Screen Film Festival. This should be a lively evening and we look forward to seeing as many members as possible.



### Sony Monitor

John Collins has a 6 inch Sony monitor, unboxed, he would like to give away. If anyone wants this please email [secretary@surreyborder.org.uk](mailto:secretary@surreyborder.org.uk)

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)

## Your Club Contacts

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Social Events	Committee	<a href="mailto:socialevents@surreyborder.org.uk">socialevents@surreyborder.org.uk</a>

# Border Post

Your contributions for inclusion will be appreciated together with photographs if possible. Please send them to the Editor, Alan Wheeler, for the June 2015 issue at this email: [editor@surreyborder.org.uk](mailto:editor@surreyborder.org.uk)