

ENJOYING VISUAL TECHNOLOGY

**SYDNEY VIDEO
MAKERS CLUB**



ELECTRONIC EYE

N E W S L E T T E R

MAY 2013

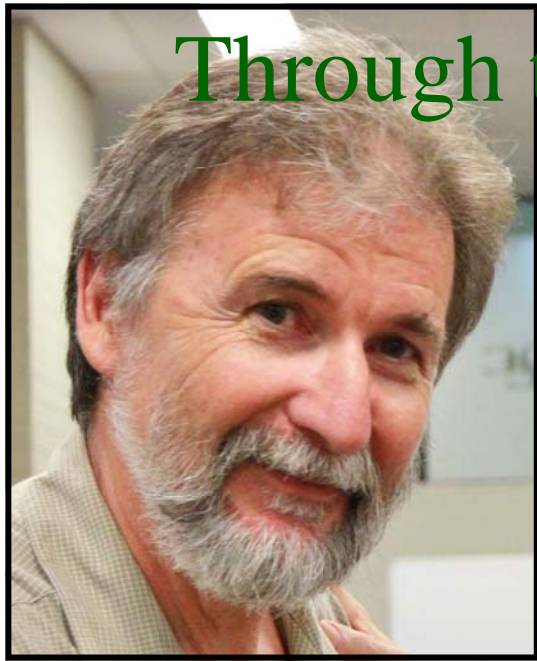
2013

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**Next Meeting
Wednesday
22nd May 2013**

www.sydneyvideomakers.org.au



Through the Presidents Lens

Welcome to the May edition of the Electronic Eye.

Willoughby Council

Gerry Benjamin has been our liaison with Willoughby Council over the last year, initially looking at participation in the annual spring carnival. The committee decided not to pursue this

as it was not successful for our club in previous years. But through Gerry's hard work selling the club the council has agreed to commission us to produce a couple of videos covering local events. The first project is a memory bank project, where local residents recall a short anecdote to camera. This started at Boronia House, the home of the Willoughby Historical society, with more filming to follow. The second one is a sculpture exhibition in June. The result of these projects will be some more funds available for possible equipment purchase. So thanks Gerry and Chris Saville.

Our next competition, club night

Our approach with our next competition, Daylight Robbery, is for all teams to start with the same script, it will be up to each team to then interpret it. To help you get an idea of how this will work Ruskin will screen some videos at our next club night from a Sony worldwide competition that used the same approach. These entries have very high production values and come from different countries including Australia. Those items specified in the script must be included in the video e.g. dialogue and those that are not can be interpreted e.g. location, character background. So everyone starts from a level playing field, it should be a great competition.

Lighting Workshop

Dion Wilton will be presenting a 1 day lighting workshop, planned for the end of May, following his April club night session. Those members who indicated they were interested in attending have requested specific topics be covered and these have been passed on to Dion. We are planning to hold this workshop at Dragon Image where we will be able to sample a range of their lights. This will help members appreciate the different characteristics of the range and type of lights now available. I know LED lights are getting better all the time and their ability to dim and to dial in different colour temperatures makes lighting so much easier. We plan to set up a few different scenarios, typical of a team shoot and then light them, so it will be very hands on day. If you would like to attend and didn't put your name down let me know.

VOTY

The committee reviewed member feedback and had a robust discussion on the options for extending VOTY to other clubs. It was agreed we would proceed cautiously and invite selected video clubs, Newcastle, Wollongong and South West, to participate in a separate open competition for both our and their members. The first step is to gauge the level of interest from these clubs in an open drama (maximum duration 5 minutes) competition. The intention is that a selection of these entries would be screened as part of VOTY. Adopting this approach will allow us to monitor the level of interest, the quality of the videos, the entertainment value and VOTY attendance before we consider any further expansion.

Club Web site

There has been a bit a flack flying around recently over access to videos on our new web site. When the new site was set up the approach was to have some material available only to members, one of the benefits of joining, such as downloadable assets, software used and mentors. Also not all videos were made available to the general public. I am following up with video producers to see if we can have as many club competition entries on our site as possible..

Stay Focused

Andy

MEETING NIGHT APRIL 24TH 2013



Colin Cooper and Dion



Dion giving a lighting demonstration



Andy Doldissen and Dion



Dion showing how it is done



Lee and Barry Crispe acting for Dion



Kent Fry giving a helping hand

SOCIAL TIME



Ami Levartovsky and David Rogers



Time for a break



Ilma Cave



Dion with Chris Saville and Phil Brighton



Kent Fry , Darcy Weir and Andy Doldissen



Ilma Cave and Rob Nercessian



*Lee and Barry Crispe
(it must be time to get up).*



Barbara Fletcher and Jim Whitehead

Focus Night, 8th. May 2013.

Special Effects (SFX) was the subject for the evening and we were treated to a very well prepared presentation by our secretary Ian Scott. This was, in particular, to do with visual Special Effects. Audio SFX being quite another thing. One thing that our presenter stressed was that the SFX that he would talk about and

demonstrate would be of the kind that most, except very basic, non linear editors have in their repertoires. The software that Scotty was using was Avid Composer and he said that as this was an industry standard it could do much more than he was going to demonstrate in this session.

This was illustrated when he spoke about overlay tracks. Avid, being a high end NLE had many more such tracks available than its lesser brothers. Some of the middle rank make do with one or two but even these can be used to

great effect. We had a fascinating demonstration of the SFX of changing the speed or frame rate of the subject and were shown the effect of slowing down some footage of raindrops in a puddle to suggest the lessening of the rate of rainfall.

Chromakey was another subject covered and some illustrations showed how this could be applied. Picture-in-Picture was also discussed as this is closely allied to the greenscreen application.

Another extremely useful tool is the Stabilisation Effect. Most of us profit at some time from the application of stabilisation, especially where the use of a tripod is either banned or impracticable. Scotty showed how stabilisation worked and demonstrated its use. Of course the techniques available to Avid users such as tracking may not be available to lesser NLE's but much can be done with what is there to use.

Sometimes a night shot is required for a project. To this in real-time (i.e. at night) can be challenging and Scotty showed how to produce a fairly convincing

g 'Day-for-Night' effect.

Judicious use of blues and green tints and filters available in most NLE's can assist and he stressed that careful planning of some of the shots can reduce strange effects caused by including too much sky or sunlit objects.

All in all the evening was enjoyed by all attendees and a really appreciative round of applause closed the proceedings.



Ian Scott



Phil Brighton



Ron Cooper, Mike Elton and Beryl Stephens



Jim Whitehead and Ian Scott

Focus Night 8th May, 2013



Glenn Booth, Elvio Favelessa and Stuart Plant



Kent Fry and George Karadonian



Gerry Benjamin, Margaret Tulloh and Ian



Ruskin Spiers and Ilma Cave



Kent Fry and George Karadonian

From the S.V.M. LIBRARY DESK MAY

CD Disk 20: FACE THE MUSIC VOL 2 11 tracks only on this disc

The Music on this CD incorporates traditional instruments such as the mandolin, appalachian dulcimer, fiddle, acoustic guitar, uilleann pipes, low/high whistles, concertina and bodhran.

No1 track: An Auntach (the union) 4min 33sec. **No 2 track:** Village Dance 2min .08sec. **No3 track:** Sweet Molly Set 3 min 16sec. **No4 track:** Eyes of the Queen 3 min 41sec. **No5 track:** (a)Profit and Loss (b) The Tempest 3min 43sec. **No6 Track:** Garrett Barry's Jig Set 3 min 27sec. **No7 track:** Mo Cheol 3min 34sec. **No8 track:** Whelans Frolics 4min 47sec. **No9 track:** Over the Moor to Maggie set 3min 42sec. **No10 track:** The Butterfly set 4min 12sec. **No11 track:** The Rolling Wave set 3min 11sec.

CD Disk 21: ALL FILM SCORES 43 tracks on this disc

Group 1: Starboard Horizon	(medium) tracks 1 to 5	from 6.50sec to 30se
Group 2: Hallowed Ground	(medium) tracks 6 to 11	from 5.45sec to 47sec.
Group 3: Horrors of War	(slow) track s 12 to 15	from 1.16sec to 60sec.
Group 4: Cries in the Darkness	(slow) track 16	1min 24 sec
Group 5: Reconciliation	(slow) tracks 17 to 19	from 25 sec to 22sec.
Group 6: West Face Run	(slow) track 20	3min 48 sec.
Group 7: South East Face Run	(slow) track 21	1 min 53sec.
Group 8: South Face Run	(slow) track 22	1min 53 sec.
Group 9: North Face Run	(medium) track 23 to 26	from 1.29sec to 24sec
Group 10: Far and Away	(medium) tracks 27 to 28	38 & 36secs
Group 11: Scottish Highlands	(slow) tracks 29 to 31	48secs to 36sec.
Group 12: Celtic Lullaby	(slow) tracks 32 to 33	1min16 to 1.13sec.
Group 13: Ancient Headwaters	(no tempo) track 34	44 seconds
Group 14: The Great Beyond	(medium) tracks 35 to 36	37 sec & 33 secs.
Group 15: Tough Love	(very slow) tracks 37 & 38	both 1.28seconds.
Group 16: The transformation	(very slow) tracks 39 & 40	both 55 seconds.
Group 17: A Change of Heart	(medium) tracks 41 to 43	51secs to 48secs.

CD Disk 22: AMBIENT / CHILL 44 Tracks on this disc

Group 1: Dreaming Forever (upbeat) Fluid layers of sound set to chilled beats. Piano synth, and ring tones. A look into the future. Tracks 1 to 4 from 2.50 to 13secs.

Group 2: Moonglow (slow) Ethereal, sexy, ambient theme. Pulsating bass and soothing, swirling tones. Tracks 5 to 8 from 3.19sec to .07secs.

Group 3: Silk (slow) Slow and simple. Tripy, swirling synths and piano. Peaceful and relaxing. Tracks 9 to 12 from 4.08secs to 13 secs.

Group 4: Morning Air (medium) Ambient synthscape with world percussion sprinkled over a laid back chill beat. Tracks 13 to 17 from 3.37sec to 16secs.

Group 5: Sun Spots (medium) Very unobtrusive, thoughtful theme with light shaker. Builds slowly, but stays mild. Tracks 18 to 21 from 3.32secs to 17secs.

Group 6: Heaven & Earth (medium) Drony ambience with a gradually swelling presence. Mild dance beat. Tracks 22 to 26 from 4.02sec to 15secs.

Group 7: Silent Beats (medium) Light bells and high pitched frequencies. Very generic in mood, wide in application. tracks 27 to 31 from 3.32sec to 15secs.

Group 8: Ultramarine (slow) Watery, murky, hazy. Ambient chill with a dramatic sight. Investigate. Tracks 32 to 36 from 3.52sec to 10secs.

Group 9: Mother (medium) Shimmering, mid tempo lush chill. Hints of. Asian influence and an unhurried drum bed. Tracks 37 to 40 from 3.23sec to 13secs.

Group 10: World Online (upbeat) light dance rhythm tracks layered with easy going synths. Tracks 41 to 44 from 3.40 sec to 16secs.

CD DISK 23: ACOUSTIC OVERTONES 42 Tracks on this disc.

Group 1: Prism (upbeat) Upbeat, positive, motivating. A contemporary arrangement of acoustic guitar, bass and drums. Tracks 1 to 5 from 4.05sec to 14secs.

Group 2: Until Forever (medium) Acoustic guitar solo with a very wide application soothing, relaxing, and much more. Tracks 6.to 9 from 4.58sec to 14secs.

Group 3: Fireside (slow) Tender and intimate- A gentle composition with alluring acoustic guitars. A real treasure. Tracks 4.30 sec to 15secs

Group 4: Chronicles (slow) Light and relaxing. An encouraging theme with acoustic guitars, percussion, and fretless bass. Tracks 14 to 17 from 7 minutes to 08second

Group 5: Common Ground (medium) Classical guitar, light percussion, and soprano sax create a sweet, happy ditty. Tracks 18 to 21 from 3.14sec to .08secs.

Group 6: At Any Moment (slow) Honesty and Purity. Contemplative guitar with ethereal highlights. Tracks 22 to 25 from 4.01sec to 13secs.

Group 7: Monarch (medium) Light and cheerful theme. Bright acoustic guitars and an engaging flute lead. Tracks 26 to 29 from 4.14sec to 13secs.

Group 8: Honesty (medium) Feelings of familiarity and comfort come to mind with this light mix of strings and percussion. Tracks 30 to 34 from 5.01secs to 13secs.

Group 9: September Sun (medium) Quiet acoustic guitar with marimbas. Visions of enlightenment and discovery. Tracks 35 to 38 from 4.22secs to 12secs.

Group 10: City Life (slow) Light and Hopeful – A calm and relaxing acoustic guitar solo. Tracks 39 to 42 from 2.04secs to 15secs.

More on the Music and Sound Effect's next month.



You're Librarian
Graham Sainty

DINE OUT SHANGHAI STORIES



Fifteen club members enjoyed a banquet at Shanghai Stories at the Concourse in Chatswood. Everyone loved the tasty meal, comfortable surroundings and pleasant conversation.

Mike Elton

Dear Mike and Agnes,

All who attended and enjoyed last evening's Dinner thank you both very much for discovering 'Shanghai Stories' and for arranging all the detail for the delicious 'Banquet'.

Cheers and Best Wishes,

Don Reade

D O Nut

GET INVOLVED IN A... **DAYLIGHT ROBBERY**

CLUB NIGHT - MAY 22ND

The Fourth Club Night Competition of 2013

is the shared script - 'Daylight Robbery' - in which everyone gets to interpret and make the same script in their own way.

It should be interesting and fun and, to help ensure it is, we've chosen a professionally written script which is quite short and has enough range and latitude to cater to all skill levels.

It's 3 pages long, so probably around 3 mins, can be shot essentially in a single location with 1 main and 2 supporting characters along with a couple of extras.

If you're wondering how closely you need to follow the script the answer is...you can change anything - except the story! As long as you stick to the story you can change location, ages of characters, their gender, wardrobe, some dialogue, scene length, etc. But, the story and character relationships need to stay the same.



See how amateurs & professionals attempted the very same script.

A fascinating example as food for thought...

At the May Club Night we'll be viewing some examples of a global single script competition in which very accomplished amateur filmmakers from around the world competed using a high profile Hollywood script.

You'll be fascinated to see what happened, all the different entries were very different, some were way out there but all tell the same basic story!

Apart from being very interesting, this review will give us a great insight into the creative interpretation of a script. The filmmakers demonstrate a real smorgasbord of creative choices from casting choices to locations as well as imaginative angles and much, much, more.

DON'T MISS THE NEXT CLUB NIGHT MAY 22ND - 8PM

On the Road to Alice Springs

Hi to all the members of the Sydney Video Makers Club.

Ian “Walkabout” Howard and the Commanding Officer will soon be on the road to Alice Springs. The first part of the trip will take us to Mackay to visit our family and see 4 of our grandchildren for a few days before heading west to Longreach, the home of Stockman’s Hall of Fame and the QANTAS museum. The real part of our adventure will start after this point. The road south west of Longreach to Windorah is an old stage coach road. These roads were not formed they just evolved. On these roads there are many great camping area’s as well as photographic and video filming opportunities.



Sunrise over Diamondtina River, Birdsville.

vegetation, when under normal conditions it is bare and only covered in a deep red coloured stone. I always think of the pioneer women who ventured out into the interior and wonder how they coped with the harshness and very little in the way of medical help. The cemeteries have many graves of women , children and stockmen. No person seemed to reach old age.

The sunsets and sunrises can be quite spectacular in this sparsely populated place. Continuing to the south west we’ll arrive at Birdsville. This part of Queensland has an interesting history In the late 1800’s large numbers of cattle grazed these vast plains and well into Sturt’s Stoney desert. Twelves month ago we saw this area covered in grass after the monumental floods and rainfall in QLD. It was quite a dichotomy to see Sturt’s Stoney desert covered in



Sturt's Pea



Near Cooper's Creek, Nucundera

people rise to the challenge of crossing Big Red.

After altering air pressure in tyres and unloading weight from the Uts very few are able to get over it but not from the lack of trying. Most end up driving over the chicken track. I hope to get a lot film of this entertaining action

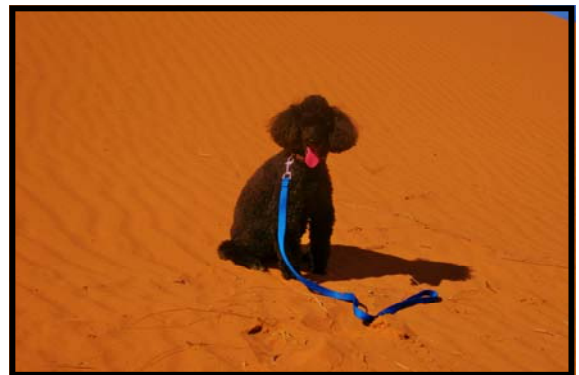
From Birdsville we will travel north to Boulia , on the QLD / NT border. This is the start of the Plenty highway which takes us to the Alice. The Plenty Highway is 800klms of corrugated road particularly if it hasn't been recently graded.

Talk about loosening teeth!

In Alice Springs we intend on visiting the museums and the many tourist attractions The West Macdonald ranges will be out of our itinerary this time as we are taking our dog (Beau) whom you saw blown up in a recent video. After reading the book "Journey to Horseshoe Bend" I am keen to visit the Stedlow Information Centre which is associated with the Hermannsburg Mission . Carl Stedlow was a Lutheran Missionary who spent 30 years at the mission before becoming ill. They tried to get him

We enjoy an interesting event that occurs at Big Red sand hill, the largest sand hill in the Simpson desert, 40 km to the west of Birdsville. Many people go to Alice Springs for the Fink bike and car races and some

people return from there via the Simpson desert road via Dalhousie Springs. The last big sand hill to cross is Big Red. What entertainment watching some of these



Beau

back to Adelaide for medical help but he died at horse shoe bend --- a great story

On the road again we will head south following the Old Ghan railway.

From the Alice we will trip through Fink, Oodnadatta, past Lake Eyre to Maree and onto Port Augusta via the Flinders Range.

After a few days in Port Augusta we will venture off to the Murray river and we will follow it to maybe Swan Hill before branching off to head



Derwent River, Mungerannie on the Birdsville Track.

north to my home town Gilgandra. While in this area I will go back to the Warrumbungle's National Park to film the recovery of the park after the devastating fires in January. We will also take this opportunity to visit my mother, father, sisters and brother, before returning home .

This trip may take us 6 to 8 weeks. I will make sure I take plenty of Video Film as well as photo's to bore you all silly with upon our return.

Our best Wishes to you all

Ian & Lesley Howard

Please stand by for the next instalment of “**ON The Road To Alice Springs**”.

President:
Andy Doldissen

Vice President:
Ruskin Spiers

Secretary:
Ian Scott

Treasurer:
Peter Frohlich

Assist Treasurer
David Rogers

The Club meets on the **FOURTH WEDNESDAY** of each month (except for November & December) at 8PM at the Dougherty Centre, Victor Street, Chatswood. Tea & Coffee are available from 7PM. **FOCUS** nights, which usually cover technical subjects, are held on the **SECOND WEDNESDAY** of each month (except January & December) at 7.30PM at the Dougherty Centre, Victor Street, Chatswood.

The Committee meets on the **FIRST WEDNESDAY** of each month. Members are always welcome to attend, and for meeting time and venue, see any committee member.

Member's guests may be invited to meetings; the first visit is free, subsequent visits are \$5. New members are always welcome. Annual membership is single \$60, self and spouse \$80, Family \$120, country member \$50 .

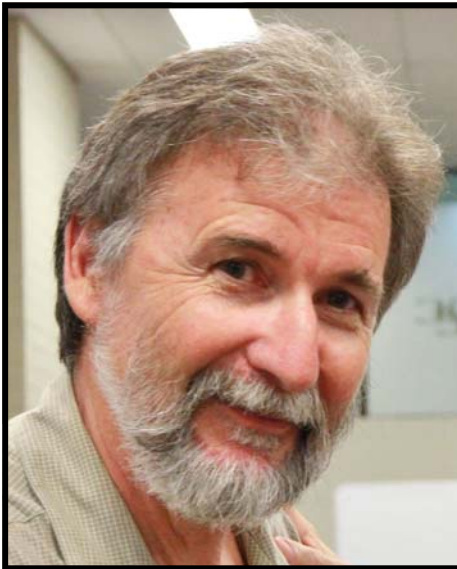
Note: Equipment brought to a Club night is not covered by the Club's insurance. Members should study their household insurance and check whether their video equipment is covered away from their premises and consider whether their cover should be extended.

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Andy Doldissen*



*Vice President
Ruskin Spiers*



*Secretary
Ian Scott*



*Treasurer—Membership Sec.
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*Assist. Treasurer
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Eye Editor Margaret Tulloh*



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*Actor Liaison
Audio Presenter
Phil Brighton*



*Visitors Coordinator
Gwen Roberts*



Ian Howard



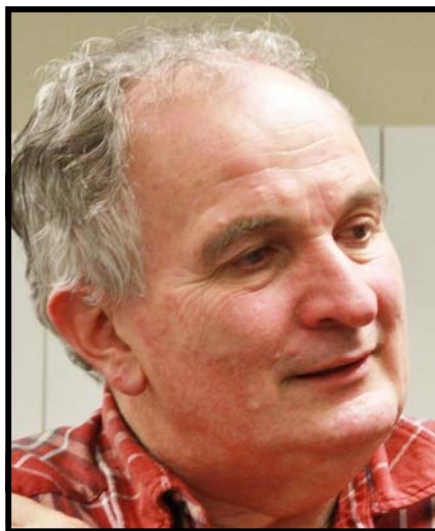
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Graham Sainty*



Stuart Plant



*Social events Organiser
Mike Elton*



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*Help Desk Coordinator
Eddie Hanham*



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Vice President	Ruskin Spiers	0420 834 080
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Social Event Organiser	Mike Elton	0401 928 994
Visitors Coordinator	Gwen Roberts	0422 034 251
Copyright Registrar	-----	-----
Video Director	-----	-----
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**Please address all correspondence for Committee Action
to:
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