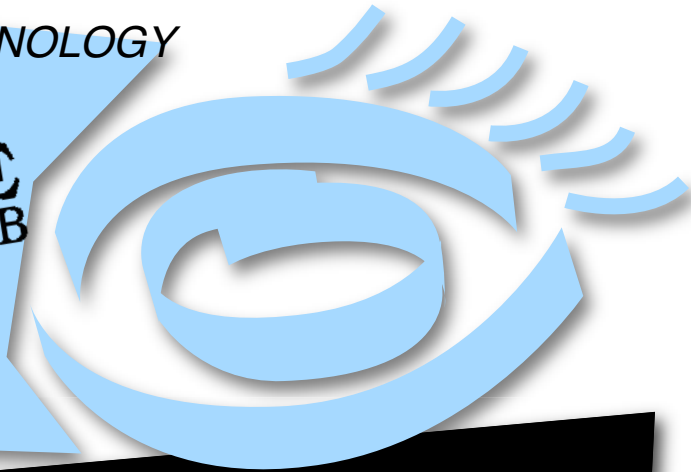


ENJOYING VISUAL TECHNOLOGY

**NORTHSIDE
CAMCORDER CLUB**
SYDNEY



ELECTRONIC EYE

N E W S L E T T E R

2008

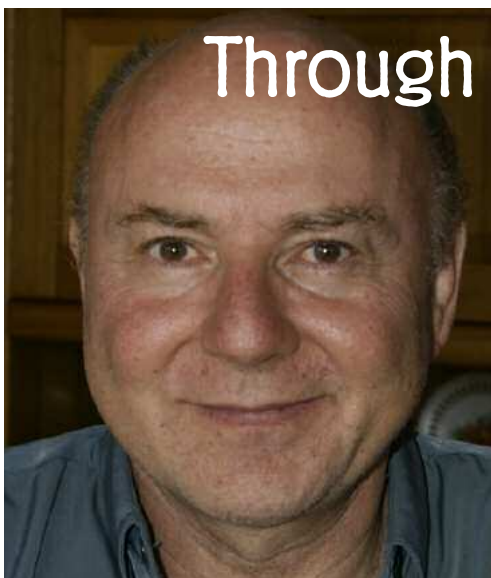
March 2008

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**Next Meeting
WEDNESDAY
26th March**

www.ncc.asn.au



Through the President's Lens

We used our new High Definition projector at the last Focus Night and Kent outlined its capability to connect to a variety of sources. The travel clips screened well and we should all enjoy future viewings.

The fast emergence of new HD cameras with their various saving media has created a complex environment which can be confusing at best and frustrating at worst. Which camera, which recording medium, which editing software?

Of course I may be a little controversial and say "the HD picture we see on our screen doesn't look that much better than SD". Let's open up the discussion!!

In the forthcoming meeting we will try to give you some more insight into the complex picture so you are more informed when making your decisions as well as continue in our program of progressing your information of the video production process.

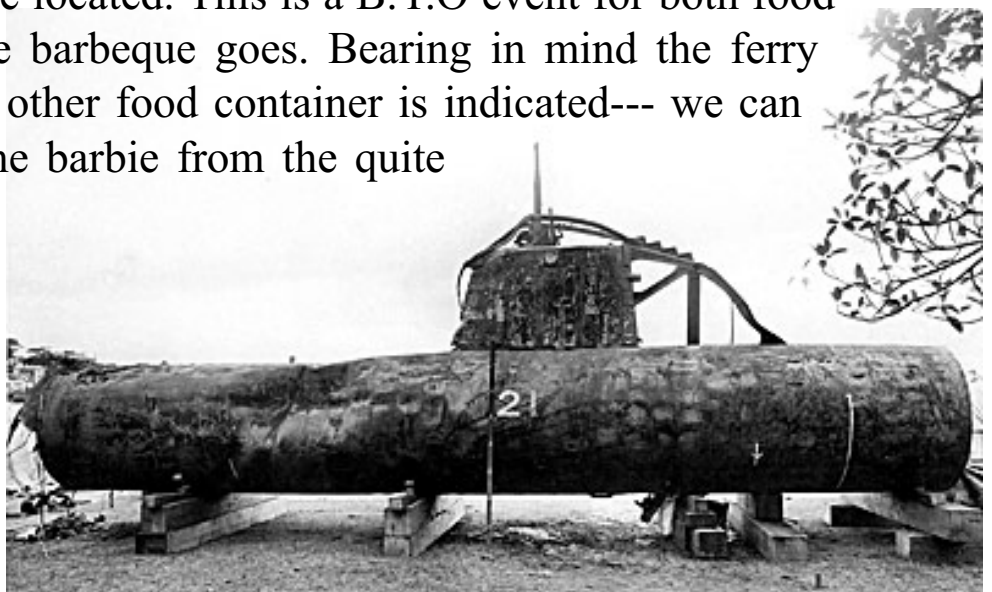
***Peter Frybort,**
Club President*



There is a Club visit to Garden Island on Sunday 20 April. This is a picnic day and naval museum visit, with the chance to shoot video inside and outside, bring and barbeque steaks, sip coffee in the cafe overlooking the Harbour and view First Fleet graffiti.

The site can only be reached by ferry. A 10.15 AM ferry leaves Circular Quay (Wharf 4) for Watson's Bay and Garden Island is the first stop. Aim to be on that ferry. For latecomers, there are ferries at 45 min. intervals The last return ferry is at 4.15 PM. Entry to the museum is by \$5 'donation'. There is lift access to the upper levels of the public area, including the spot where the barbeques are located. This is a B.Y.O event for both food and drink as far as the barbeque goes. Bearing in mind the ferry travel, a small esky or other food container is indicated--- we can always 'top up' after the barbie from the quite adequate cafe menu

The Public Access Area of Garden island contains 150 years old heritage gardens and scenic





picnic areas. There are views to the Opera House (framed by the gardens), to Rose Bay and to Watsons Bay. From this vantage point, all traffic on Sydney Harbour was controlled and the controllers building remains. The Royal Australian Navy Heritage Centre on the site houses artifacts dating back to 1788. Within the building that houses the cafe there are historic whaling boats and the core (control centre) of one of the Japanese midget submarines that raided Sydney Harbour in 1942. This is appropriate because the Garden Island naval complex is named H.M.A.S Kuttabul after the ferry on which naval ratings died when it was stuck by a midget submarine torpedo – a torpedo intended for the U.S battlecruiser Chicago.



Within the Public Access Area, we will be guided by volunteers (who meet the Ferries) and will be rubbing shoulders with serving naval personnel who frequent the café or play on the oldest lawn tennis court in Australia. It is okay to talk to the natives, provided we don't follow them through the electronic and other gates that divide the secure areas of the naval base from the Public Access Area.

We can shoot video in the Naval Heritage Centre and the Public Access Area generally. The Heritage Centre includes a full ship's Bridge and a working submarine telescope that lets viewers locate 'targets' on the Harbour (bring your submariner's beanie or

Another reason for Joining our club...



Thank you guys for warning us about the “life is beautiful” virus. Our member’s email network is very good at alerting the rest of the membership of such impending news, be it good or bad.

But apparently there is no such virus! This one is a hoax, a well travelled spam, it's been going around the world in 8 languages since 2002!

This shows that we do use anti virus programs but not the anti spam detector, otherwise you would not have received this hoax.

Spam is a daily time waster, it even forces people to change email address and ISP, the rest of us have to amend our address books!

Changing ISP will not help anyway as spam will restart as soon as you get your new email address, spam is prolific, it has to be stopped some other way.

Complaining to your ISP will not help either, they simply can't cope with the million daily spams. Optus spam filter only take out 1% so a community solution is required.

A couple of our members have downloaded “Spam Fighter”, highly recommended as it takes out 99%, I downloaded it after I checked that it is an official Microsoft gold partner certified.

Ahh, it feels so good not to see spam ! This download is light and does not slow your system. I have reduced my spam from 10 a day to just one a month, the more people use it the less spam I get. You should install such a spam detector in conjunction with your anti virus to eliminate the pain, you will thank me ;-)

Just click once: Users “tag” a spam which then goes into a data base that stops it from spreading to the rest of us that are on the system, clever!

Mostly, the spam has already been tagged by some unknown participant so you don't get it.

Keep your current email address and ISP by fighting the spam rather than running away from it.

It is free, however I maintain that we should encourage such clever and essential product by purchasing their "pro" version as theoretically they do save us time and money. and we would like to see them keep up the development as things change.

If you get infected via spam you could spend a hundred dollars to have it removed by an expert. Trojans and spyware can write a script on your machine which can change your passwords, take over your screen and address book, or direct you to other dangerous sites.

So try it out and if you like it, pass it on to your non Video mates as it is accredited by Microsoft.

* Highly recommended - get it at www.spamfighter.com

Robert Necessian

(Editors note: A simple rule regarding hoax emails - NEVER forward any email that contains the words "mail this to everyone you know" - it is almost certainly a hoax)



February Focus Night “Know your camera” covered new first time users and experienced members. We had presentations on Middle to high end “Prosumer” cameras through to the “Happy Snapper” for recording the Grand Children and overseas travels.

Each camera chosen by the members presenting on the night was to fill a niche in their requirements whether it was for professional video production or just recording a family event. It seems obvious but anyone upgrading their camera or a first time user has to address the basic question: What do I want to do with this camera. It was within this framework the discussions and presentations took place.

Peter and Stev Henne discussed and demonstrated some of the Pros and Cons of the Sony and Cannon professional level camera’s the emphasis was on how much and how easy it was for manual control of such functions as aperture, shutter speed, focus, white balance, etc. The two cameras were in a similar price range. The Cannon could be programmed via a SD memory chip that enabled the operator to emulate the controls of other camera’s this made it easy for the operator in multi camera shoots as all the controls operated in similar manner.

Jim Whitehead presented the “Happy Snapper” camera, which was chosen for easy of use relying on the automatic functions to give a reasonable picture under normal lighting conditions both inside and outside. The Sony camera had a reasonable optical zoom it can be argued anything over 8 times requires a tripod which is cumbersome to carry on the overseas trip. The camera is small enough to carry without attracting attention in some of those locations where you do not want to attract attention and the low light shooting was reasonable for shooting inside buildings.

Eddie Hanham discussed the HD camera that was released when standards were being developed and all manufactures were trying to grab market share to force the acceptance of their formats for compression. some of the problems being slow start up times when shooting action sequences or wild life scenes.



The backend processing (editing software) was lagging the camera market and he experienced problems with the editing. Sometimes this aspect is overlooked when looking at upgrading your camera.

Rob Nercessian talked on some of the newer technologies that manufactures are offering, such as DVD, hard disc, memory cards etc. Some of the Pro's and Con's for these technologies are cost, fragility, compression quality trade off, etc. It was generally agreed that tape will still be around for the near future due to low cost factor and provides an excellent archive medium. He also explained that manufacturers were "Dumming Down" the camera's at the low end to attract the point and shoot user.

The night was well attended and it was an informative forum that provided some thought provoking ideas from people who had experienced the some pitfalls when selecting their camera.

Our thanks to Joy Saunders for an excellent night.

young at heart FILM FESTIVAL

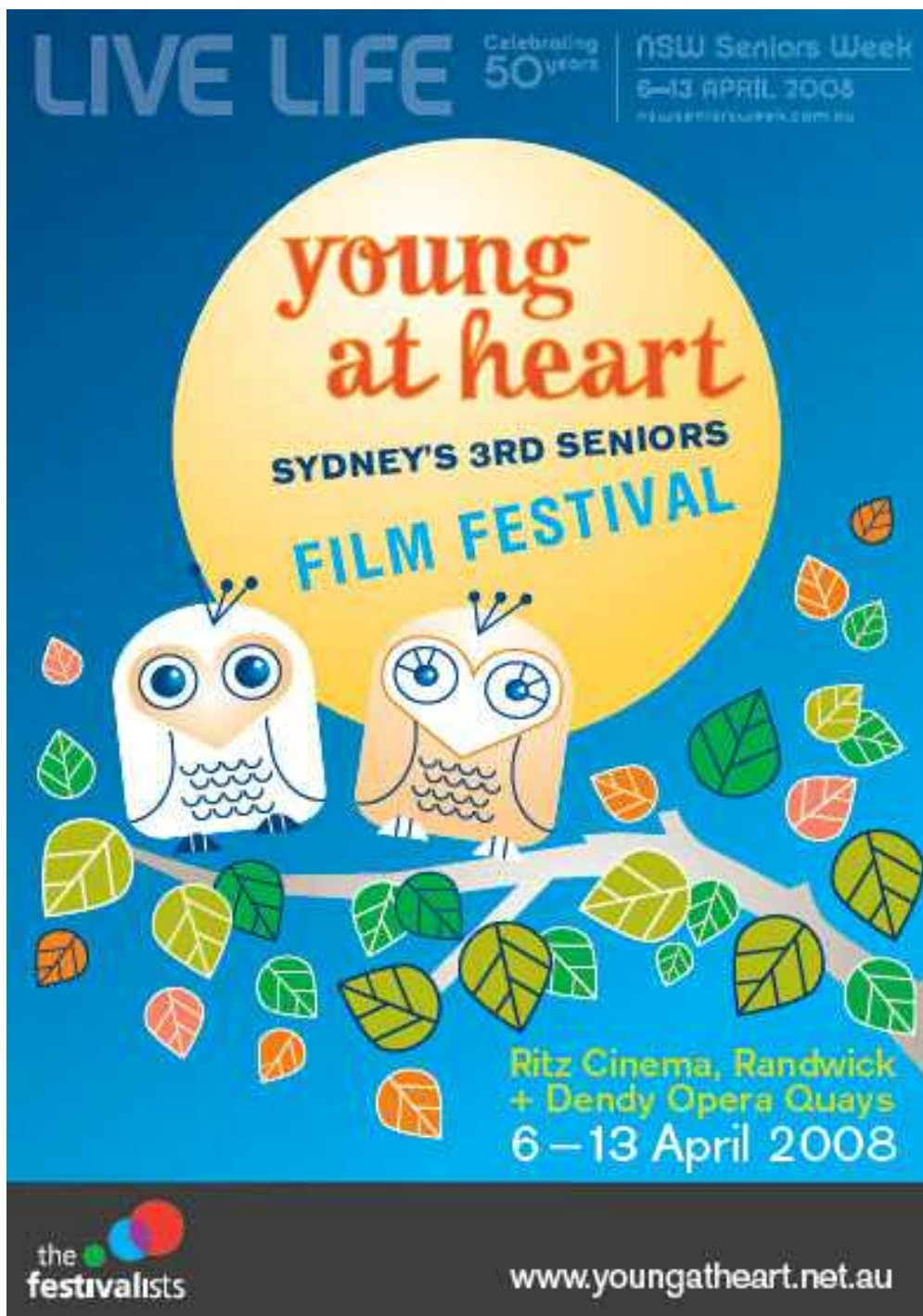
The 3rd Annual Young at Heart Film Festival is just a few weeks away, and we thought the members of your film community would be particularly interested in some of the exciting events and screenings taking place during the festival!

Young at Heart, Sydney's 3rd Seniors Film Festival, will run from April 6 - 13 as a flagship event of NSW Seniors Week. The Festival features film premieres, beloved classics, free workshops, parties and exclusive Q&A's at Dendy Opera Quays and the Ritz Cinema in Randwick.

There is also a National Short Film Competition for new Australian shorts that showcase the vitality, skills and talent of seniors in the community. The films will be screened at the festival and compete for a chance to win two incredible prizes! The Movie Network Channels Talent Award is decided by a panel of experts – including actress Lorraine Bayly and writer and journalist Bruce Elder. It will be awarded for the best artistic contribution by a senior and comes with a cash prize of \$1,000, courtesy of the Movie Network.

The Production Book Audience Award will go to the best film as voted for by the audience. The winner will go home with the indispensable Production Book 2008 and a subscription to Australia's most comprehensive online film and tv industry directory.

In addition to this exciting competition there is also a full week of fantastic film screenings, including a hilarious new film about the ups and downs of first time film making. *Even Emus Need to Dance* uncovers what happens when a small Queensland country town decides it wants to make its own feature film. Discover the results of this incredible community experiment, the meeting of a generous passing filmmaker and some very determined amateurs. *Even Emus Need to Dance* makes it out of town at last, hoping to inspire other small communities to give the process a go. Join the cast and crew following the screening for an informal panel discussion on empowering communities to tell their own stories.



Short Film Awards - Tuesday April 8th 5:15 PM – Dendy Opera Quays

Even Emus Need to Dance - Sunday April 13th 12 PM – Ritz Cinema, Randwick

All Best,
Liz Malinowski

9281 5608
liz@thefestivalists.com
www.youngatheart.net.au

The New NCC Club Projector - Mitsubishi HC4900



DISPLAY TECHNOLOGY	0.74" 3-LCD (with Micro Lens), Inorganic C ² Fine™		
RESOLUTION	1920 x 1080 (Total 2,073,600 pixels)		
BRIGHTNESS	1000 ANSI Lumens		
CONTRAST RATIO	7500:1 over with IRIS Operation		
ZOOM/FOCUS	Powered Focus & Zoom (Zoom Ratio 1.6:1)		
PROJECTION LENS	f=23.5-37.6mm, F1.8-2.3 (3.1-5.0m@100")		
THROW RATIO	1.41 – 2.26		
OFF SET AXIS	(V) 4 : -1 - -4 : 1 (+/-75%) , (H) Screen Width +/-5% (with Variable H+V Powered Lens Shift)		
PICTURE SIZE	50-300 (inch)		
SOURCE LAMP	160W (Shut Off Time 2000Hrs) with Low Mode (128W:Shut Off Time 5000Hrs)		
PC COMPATIBILITY	Resolution; 640 x 480 (Expand) - 1920 x 1080 (Real) Sync on Green available		
VIDEO COMPATIBILITY	NTSC / NTSC 4.43 / PAL (including PAL-M, N) / SECAM / PAL-60 Video; 480i/p(525i/p), 576i/p(625i/p), 720p(750p 50/60Hz), 1080i(1125i 50/60Hz), 1080p(1125p 50/60Hz), SCART (RGB + 1V sync)		
INPUT TERMINALS	PC: Mini D-Sub 15pin x 1, DVI-D(with HDCP) x 1 Video: HDMI™ x 1, RCA x 1, S-VIDEO x 1, RCA (Y,P _B ,P _R) x 1 PC audio input not available. Video audio input not available.		
OUTPUT TERMINAL	12V trigger Out (stereo mini jack ø3.5 mm x1)		
COMMUNICATION TERMINAL	RS-232C; D-Sub 9pin x 1 (Direct command is available)		
SCANNING RATE	[H] 15 - 100 kHz, [V] 50 - 120 Hz, [Dot Clock] max 150 MHz		
AUDIO SPEAKER	N/A		
HEIGHT ADJUSTER	Two Push Front leg (-1 to 7 degree variable)		
HAND REMOTE UNIT	Full Projector Control, Back light key, Direct functions with AV memory		
POWER CONSUMPTION	250W / 2.5 A		
DIMENSION	13.1" x 4.9" x 13.8" inches (W x H x D) (exclude height adjuster)		
WEIGHT	12.3 lbs.		
POWER REQUIREMENTS	AC 100 - 240 V, 50/60Hz		
FAN NOISE	24dBA (Low Mode 19dBA)		
SUPPLIED ACCESSORIES	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • AC Power cable • Remote Unit (incl. battery) • Safety Manual • User Manual CD • RGB cable • RS-232C cable • User Manual • Lens Cap 		
OPTIONAL ACCESSORIES	Replacement Lamp (VLT-HC5000LP), PROJ-UCM, or PROJ-UCM-PRO		
WARRANTY	2-Years Parts and Labor		
OUTSTANDING FEATURES	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Inorganic C² Fine™ LCD panels • Side loading lamp design • Auto Iris design • Horizontal and Vertical Lens Shift • 3D Color Uniformity correction • 3D Y/C digital comb filter and 3D noise reduction • AV memory function • User adjustable gamma correction • Password Menu Lock 		

For Sale

Sony HDR-SR1 -RRP when new \$2,200, selling for \$1,000.00



Purchase in January 2007, this camera is in pristine condition and comes with original box, software and cables.

Editing software is now readily available for the AVCHD format, such as Pinnacle Studio 11+, Ulead Videostudio 11+, Vegas Platinum and Pro.

Canon EOS 30D

Pro quality. Body only \$800.00 Price when new \$2,400.00. Purchased mid 2006

Zoom lens 70-300mm can be included for an additional \$100.00



Condition of camera as new, complete with all manuals, software and accessories.

Interested parties, please contact Chris Kembessos on 0419 461 374 or imschris@hotmail.com for more details.

2008 CLUB DIARY

<i>Wednesday 23th January</i>	Club Meeting	"Red" competition entries close.
<i>Tuesday 12th February</i>	Focus Night	Know your camera.
<i>Wednesday 27th February</i>	Club Meeting	Developing ideas into concepts.
<i>Tuesday 11th March</i>	Focus Night	Travel night.
<i>Wednesday 26th March</i>	Club Meeting	Producton planning. "Autobiography" competition entries close. "Red" screening.
<i>Tuesday 8th April</i>	Focus Night	Creating music tracks.
<i>Wednesday 30rd April</i>	Club Meeting	Location and capture lighting.
<i>Tuesday 13th May</i>	Focus Night	Audio capture.
<i>Wednesday 28th May</i>	Club Meeting	Audio capture. Action control. "Autobiography" screening.
<i>Tuesday 10th June</i>	Focus Night	Using graphics and other media.
<i>Wednesday 25th June</i>	Club Meeting	Frame the shot. "The Chase" competition entries close.
<i>Tuesday 8th July</i>	Focus Night	Post fix problems.
<i>Wednesday 23rd July</i>	Club Meeting	Evaluation.
<i>Tuesday 12th August</i>	Focus Night	Travel night.
<i>Wednesday 27th August</i>	Club Meeting	Editing and pacing. "The Chase" screening. "Flashback" competition entries close. "Music" competition entries close.
<i>Tuesday 9th September</i>	Focus Night	SFX video.
<i>Wednesday 24th September</i>	Club Meeting	Technology upate.
<i>Tuesday 14th October</i>	Focus Night	Video for the web.
<i>Wednesday 22nd October</i>	Club Meeting	"Flashback" screening. "Music" screening. VOTY competition entries close.
<i>Tuesday 11th November</i>	Focus Night	Social night.
<i>Friday 28th November</i>	VOTY 2008	

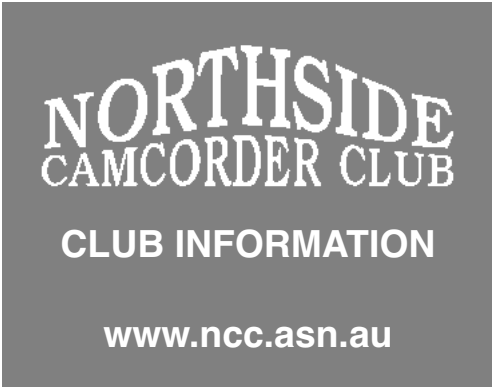
To include your club event in the Club Diary then send an email to:
Glenn Booth at membership@ncc.asn.au

CLUB CONTACT DETAILS

President	<i>Peter Frybort</i>	9960 4456
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Membership Secretary	<i>Glenn Booth</i>	9401 6677
Training Officer	<i>Joy Saunders</i>	
VOTY Organiser	<i>Ian Scott</i>	9484 4439
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Librarian	<i>John Maher</i>	
Visitors Host	<i>Ron Cooper</i>	9982 1147
Competition Manger	<i>Mike Elton</i>	
Copyright Registrar	<i>Jim Whitehead</i>	9416 7162
Video Director	<i>Terry Brett</i>	9451 1851
Audio Director	<i>Garry Murdoch</i>	9807 3706
Catering	<i>Bob & Margo Hallett</i>	9587 6925

Please address all correspondence for Committee Action to:

The Secretary,
 Northside Camcorder Club,
 P. O. Box 1185
 CHATSWOOD NSW 2057



President:
 Peter Frybort

Vice President:
 Ian Scott

Secretary:
 Kent Fry

Treasurer:
 Elvio Favalessa

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 TUESDAY** 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 \$56, self and spouse \$76, country member \$28 - with an initial joining fee of \$10.

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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Disclaimer: In regard to any products, services or procedures which are either advertised or mentioned in this newsletter, members should determine for themselves the reliability and/or suitability for their own requirements. The Northside Camcorder Club cannot accept responsibility for any product or service statements made herein, and the opinions and comments of any contributors are not necessarily those of the club or the Committee.