

ENJOYING VISUAL TECHNOLOGY

**SYDNEY VIDEO
MAKERS CLUB**



ELECTRONIC EYE

N E W S L E T T E R

2015

SEPTEMBER, 2015

2- 3	President's Message
4- 5	Annual General Meeting.
5- 6	Useful App.
7	Your Club Needs you.
8	Voice Over Success.
9	Voty.
10	Thank you Ernest.
11	Simple Interaction Shot.
12	Videos on the Website.
13	Tip of the Month.
13	ABC Report.
14	Tip of the Month Paul Szilard.
16	Committee.

Next Meeting

Wednesday

23rd September, 2015

www.sydneyvideomakers.org.au

Presidents Message

Ernest Cheung's Continued Generosity to the Club

As you will see from the article later in this EE, Ernest Cheung has been incredibly generous in donating a Dedo light to the Club. This is both an excellent and extremely useful piece of equipment but also something the Club has been actively considering purchasing so this is both a very generous, very useful and very timely donation.

On behalf of the whole Club I would like to once again sincerely thank Ernest and hopefully promise that our films will be [even] better lit from now on!

Ian Cooke on Documentary Making

Thanks again to Paul for organising Ian Cooke to come and speak at our last Club Night. It was a very interesting talk packed with useful insights and guidance and a few things really struck a chord with me, particularly his emphasis on the importance of story. Quote of the night for me was, 'I don't make films for me, I make them for my audience'!

To make the point even further Ian consistently drove home that every documentary, irrespective of it's sub-genre, is a work of 'factual entertainment' with a very heavy emphasis on the word entertainment.

It was interesting to hear that he always writes a script before starting to film. He said this was true for both interview pieces where he doesn't know exactly what people will say and, to an extent, but with more focus on the overall story structure, for 'as it happens' pieces. A good lesson here for sure.

Ian did say that the original plan almost always changes but, even knowing that, he still dedicates the time and effort to doing it, clearly feeling the final product is consistently better for it. Ian's presentation is available on the Club's website in the downloads section under 'presentations'.

ABC Visit

Last week 14 of us visited the ABC and took a tour of their radio and TV studios. Amongst other things we visited the set of Gruen, watched as they rolled in a huge jib and also saw them starting to calibrate the 7 cameras they had set up to film it.

We went through the make up department where our very own Neville Waller's daughter was preparing to receive her next celebrity client!

We also went on the set of the 7.30 report and had a brief tour of the control room. It was a tranquil and deserted place at 1pm but will be anything but when the program's in full swing.

All in all an interesting hour, good value at \$9 and I suspect everybody got something from it such was the mix of things we saw.

Auction of Club Microphone

Recently we decided to add a second wireless microphone to the Club's audio kit and have decided that the best way to do this is to purchase two new, very easy to use wireless microphones from Rode and to sell the current Sony one.

So, at the next Club Night we will offer the current Sony wireless microphone to members. If you are interested in adding a wireless microphone to your equipment then this is a good opportunity to get one. If there is no interest at a reasonable price we will of course look at other options to sell it.

AGM

This week is the Club's AGM and again I would like to **thank the entire committee** for their hard work in making the club run and hopefully providing an interesting and engaging program.

This year we have tried a few new things and some have worked better than others but you don't know until you try and it's often the things you least expect to be successful that are!

As ever we will need more new ideas for next year as well as fresh energy to help on the committee to ensure the Club continues and thrives. This year the club really does need your help, without it next years committee will be undermanned.

Shared Script Competition Update

This week we'll also be screening the entries to the shared script competition and comparing and contrasting the different approaches to an otherwise identical script. Whichever the judges finally prefer, well done to both teams, both productions are very good.

Hope to see you Wednesday.

Cheers
Ruskin



AGENDA FOR SYDNEY VIDEOMAKERS CLUB

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

To be held during September SVM club night meeting

23rd of September 2015

1. Call to Order

The President to establish that there is a quorum of members present. Current membership is 58. Our constitution requires a 25% quorum of members to be present. For this meeting 14 or more members require to be present.

Apologies to be noted

2. Previous minutes

2.1 Corrections: A copy of the previous minutes is posted on the notice board prior to the meeting commencement. Corrections or amendments if any, are to be noted for the record prior to acceptance.

2.2 Acceptance: Of previous minutes as tabled with any amendments noted.

2.3 Business arising from the previous mins.

3. President's report Highlights.

The president's AGM report was published in the September issue of EE the Club journal.

4. Treasurer's report.

Report for financial year ending 30 June 2015. Copies of the report were posted on the notice board prior to this meeting so that interested members can study the report prior to the meeting.

4.1 Acceptance: Treasurers 2015 report.

5. Election of Officers and Management Committee for 2016

President will hand over the meeting to a meeting chairman, usually a Past President.

The meeting chairman will declare all Committee positions vacant from 31st December 2015, and will call for nominations to the following positions:

President

Vice President

Secretary

Treasurer

Publicity Officer

Editor, Electronic Eye

Membership Secretary

Librarian

Competitions Manager

Media presentation team(2)

Other Ordinary members (up to a further three)

7 Other business

Any other business or proposal to be discussed at this AGM must have been lodged with the Secretary in writing by 9th September 2015 to allow fourteen (14) days for final notice of meeting agenda to the Members as required by our constitution.

No items were received by the due date.

8 Close meeting.

The meeting will close when all business is completed.

This is the final agenda for the 2015 AGM.

I Scott

Secretary SVMC

Tuesday, 15 September 2015

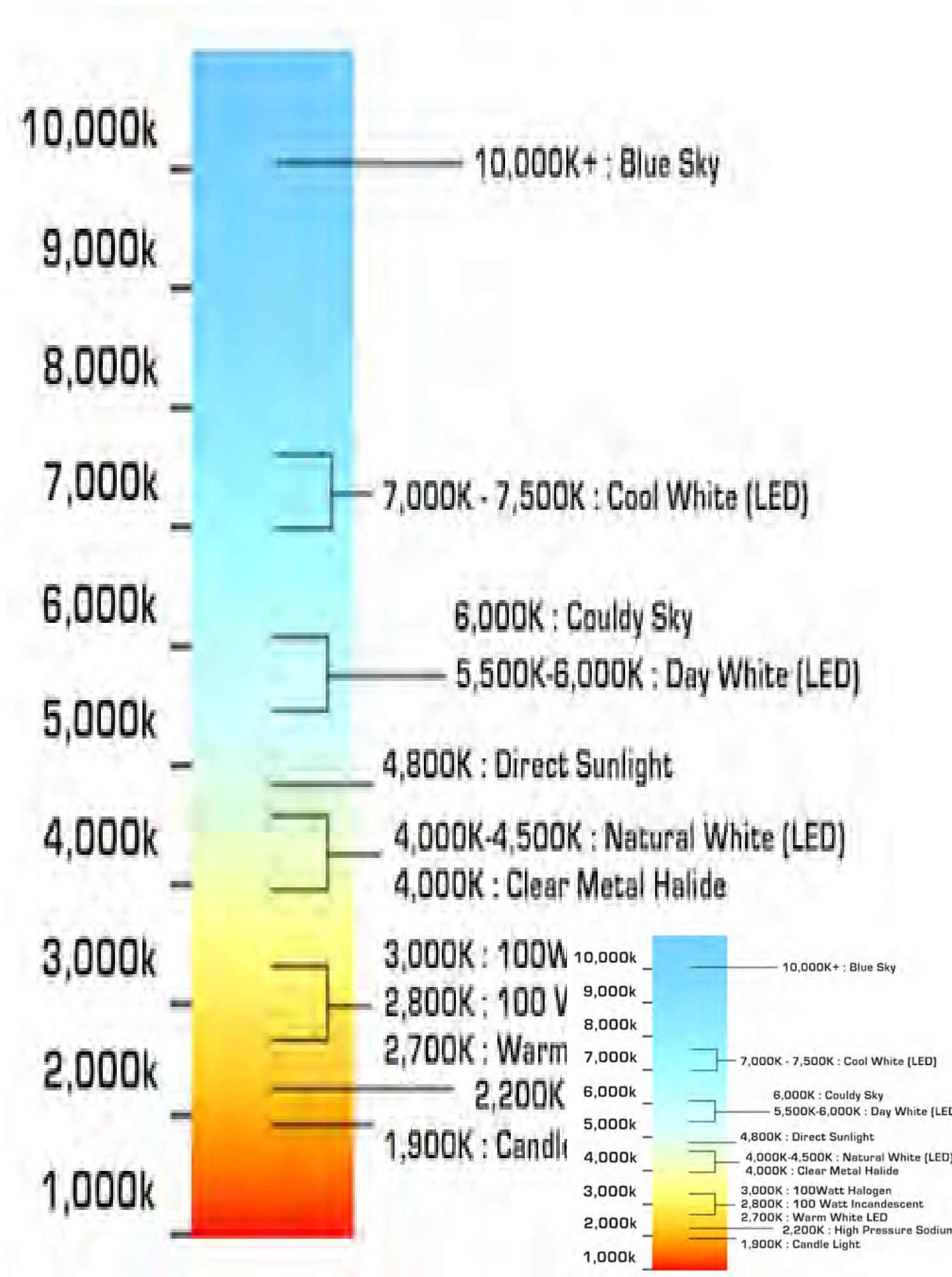
USEFUL APP

We all know our eyes are very good at “Making Corrections” so that our brain is led to believe that what we are looking at is “Normal” As photographers we are very much aware of this as it applies to colour balance.

Most modern digital cameras provide a means to set an actual value of Kelvin to adjust the captured image white balance. How do you know the value to set? You could go and buy an expensive Sekonic Light Meter, or like me use your Tablet or smart phone to do the job with an App!

I use an Android device and via the app store I purchased a \$1 app, yes just one dollar. Just look for “Colour Temperature Meter”. Simple to use just use your smart device to photograph the scene and hit the analyse button to get a recommended Kelvin setting value.

I Scott.





ALFRED
LEE

really
Your Club Committee Needs

^
YOU!

Please think about helping.

FROM THE CLUB LIBRARY

Voice-Over Success DVD



Image copyright The Word Factory on Flickr. Creative Commons 2.0

What you must know about voice overs

This is another great and recent addition to the Club Library courtesy of the generosity of Ernest Cheung.

Veteran voice actor Harlan Hogan teams up with audio guru Jeffrey P. Fisher to share their insight into the world of voice-over. This 93-minute DVD includes the four "Ts" of VO and a step-by-step course in home recording specifically for the voice-actor.

Topics include:

- Knowing what it takes
- Voice techniques
- Setting up a studio
- Assembling the room/building an environment
- Microphone choices
- Software choices
- Recording techniques
- Editing Techniques
- Noise cleanup
- Plugins
- Output



Borrow me!



VOTY 2015

INCLUDING THE NSW INTER-CLUB DRAMA COMPETITION

CLOSING DATE FOR ENTRIES: 28 OCT. 2015

RUNNING TIME: 2 HOURS TICKETS INCLUDE: DRINKS & NIBBLES TICKETS: \$25

MORE INFO: www.SYDNEYVIDEOMAKERS.ORG.AU/VOTY2015

CHATSWOOD DOUGHERTY CENTRE - 4TH DECEMBER 2015

 SYDNEY VIDEO
MAKERS CLUB 

A big thank you to Ernest Cheung.

As many of you will know from reading previous EE's, this year Ernest Cheung has already been extremely generous to the Club with donations of a number of excellent books and DVD's to the Club library. The Club has again been the benefactor of his generosity with the donation of a wonderful Dedo light similar to that pictured here.

Ernest is no slouch when it comes to creating interesting lighting and a while ago he even produced a video with more than a few useful tips and pointers which is very much worth watching. It's called 'Shoot Like a Pro' and can be found on the club website, (search either for Ernest or just for the word 'Pro' and you will find it).



This light may be small and is certainly extremely portable, but its power, capability and utility are anything but small. Where the existing club lights provide a lot of overall lighting capability, this light enables us to be far more focused with our application of lighting, helping us create much more interesting moods,



Amongst Ernest's videos you will also find his 'My Son' video which has very interesting lighting and uses just a single light. It is a great example of what could be achieved just with this new light.

Once again, on behalf of the whole club a very big, heartfelt thank you to Ernest.



Ernest Cheung Request for Help

SIMPLE INTERACTION SHOTS



Shoot no more than 10 second clips of interaction and help Ernest Cheung!

Ernest is making a music video and would like some very short clips of absolutely no more than 10 seconds each of people interacting in some way.

There is no audio required so the focus is on the visual interaction between two people. It could be as simple as a pat on the back, as involved as a kiss or as mundane as handing some a drink. It's interactions of some sort - the more more emotive and expressive may be more interesting but simple is good too.

Ernest needs a lot of clips so whether you do one or 10 they will all be appreciated. Ideally he would like them to be shot at 50fps.

In summary

- Clips of no more than 10 seconds
- Showing interaction between two people - happy, sad, angry, caring, mundane, etc.
- Shot in 50fps if you can but not required
- No audio required
- Once you have any pass them to Ruskin who will collate and send to Ernest

In fact, as well as helping Ernest this could be a very interesting and useful exercise as it makes us think about '**showing not telling**', i.e. having actions which replace dialogue in films.

Videos on the Website now include *'Behind the Scenes'* pictures

We recently added the **Behind the Scenes photo albums** to the Club Website which has been very popular and has pictures from 6 or 7 different productions already.

We've now linked the photo's to the final videos. This means whenever a video's page is visited a selection of **any behind the scenes pictures will be displayed next to it**. This makes it much more interesting for visitors and also provides a great record of what was done, all in one place.

You can of course click on a picture and see all the behind the scenes pictures from that production and, from each picture you can link back to the video to watch it at any time.

If you have any behind the scenes pictures from any video which is on the club website send them to Paul or Ruskin - along with details of which video they apply to - and we'll add them.

The screenshot shows the Sydney Video Makers Club website. At the top is a navigation bar with links: Home, Our Videos, Get Involved, Calendar, Competitions, Newsletter, History, Resources, and Contact Us. Below the navigation bar is a search section with 'Select Search Criteria' and dropdown menus for Producer, Competition, and Categories. A 'search video library' button is also present. The main content area features a large video player for 'Travelling Free' by The Packers Team. To the right of the video player is a column titled 'Go behind the scenes...' which displays a random selection of up to 3 pictures. Below the video player, there are sections for 'Some other videos from the Sydney Travel Documentary competition' and 'Some other videos by The Packers Team'. The footer contains copyright information for Sydney Video Makers Club, 2015.

Behind the Scenes

If there are any behind the scenes pictures for a video this column will appear and show a random selection of up to 3 pictures.

Same Competition

Up to 5, randomly chosen, other videos (if any) from the same competition will continue to be shown here.

Same Producer

A random selection of up to 5 videos by the same producer(s) will continue to be shown here.

Tip of the Month

Use the Zoom Recorder to Normalise recorded audio tracks, prior to transferring to the computer for editing.

If you are using a Zoom Recorder for recording audio, you are advised to set the level to -12dB. However before transferring the WAV files to your computer, you can use the Zoom Edit/Normalise function to reset the recorded file so that the loudest peaks are at 0dB. This will give the best volume without clipping/distortion.

Refer to your Zoom device's manual, which can be downloaded as a PDF file from the manufacturer.

Paul Szilard



On Tuesday eighth September a group of Club Members visited the ABC Ultimo studios. Just see how the "Other half do things".

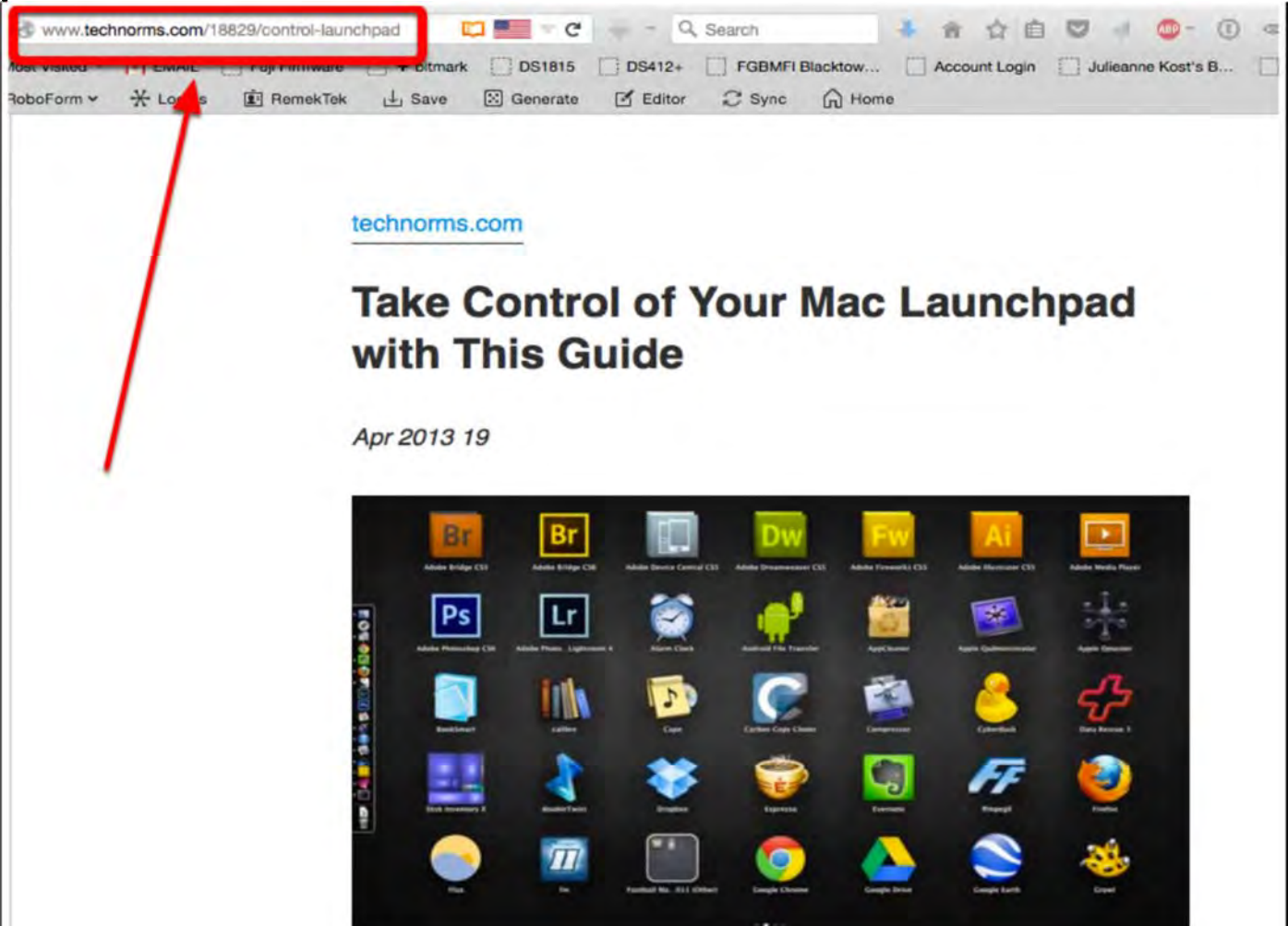
A very informative and interesting visit indeed. We have not seen so much Hi tech equipment in one place, unfortunately it was all bolted down and no free samples were offered. At the conclusion of our tour Paul took a few photographs when we called in to visit Dr Who in his Time travel phone box, unfortunately the Dr was not at home.

A most enjoyable visit and tour. Thanks to Ruskin for setting it up.

Tip of the Month 2015-09 #01

Apple Mac: How to manage your Launchpad

Go to <http://www.technorms.com/18829/control-launchpad> and read great article on how to better manage large number of applications on your Mac.



Launchpad for OSX is an application browser and management utility that aims to emulate the iOS experience. It was introduced primarily to help new Mac users who were already used to using iOS devices such as iPhones and iPads. Most people fall into the 'love it' or 'hate it' camp when it comes to using Launchpad.

If you have a lot of applications installed Launchpad isn't very helpful. You have to scroll through pages of apps to find the one you're looking for. And although you can move applications around, and group them in folders like you can in iOS, doing so is time consuming. You can also delete apps from Launchpad, but only apps you've downloaded from the App Store and they'll be completely deleted from your Mac.

President:

Ruskin Spiers

Vice President:

Ami Levartovsky

Secretary:

Ian Scott

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 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 \$70, Couple/Family\$ 95, Overseas and Country members \$35

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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Secretary	Ian Scott	0419 239 953
Treasurer	Elvio Favalessa	0438 980 060
Membership Secretary	Elvio Favalessa	0438 980 060
Library Manager	Graham Sainty	0412 764 771
Social Secretary	Mike Elton	0401 928 994
Committee	Graham Sainty	0412 784 771
Committee	Paul Szilard	9925 0812
Committee	Stuart Plant	9909 2509
Competition Manager	shared - Paul Szilard & Michael O'Shea	

OTHER ROLES

Presentation team	Phil Brighton, Ian Howard, Stuart Plant,	
Editor Electronic Eye	Margaret Tulloh	9451 9718
Web Master	Ruskin Spiers & Paul Szilard	
Publicity Officer	Stuart Plant	
Team Coordinator	Ruskin Spiers	

Please address all correspondence for Committee Action to:

The Secretary,

Sydney Video Makers Club,

P.O. Box 1185,

CHATSWOOD NSW 2057