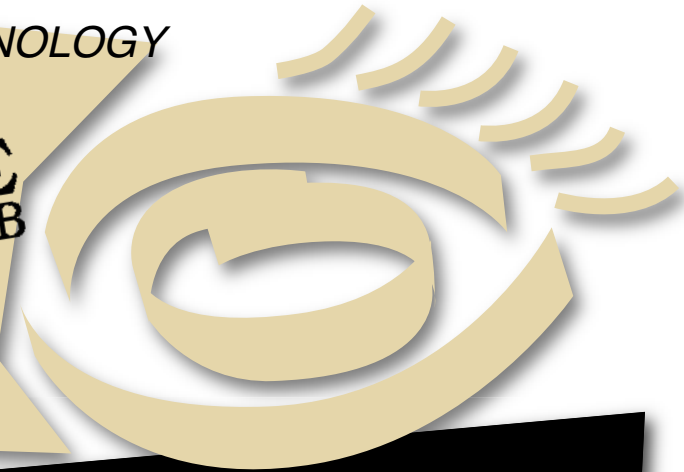


ENJOYING VISUAL TECHNOLOGY

**NORTHSIDE
CAMCORDER CLUB**
S Y D N E Y



ELECTRONIC EYE

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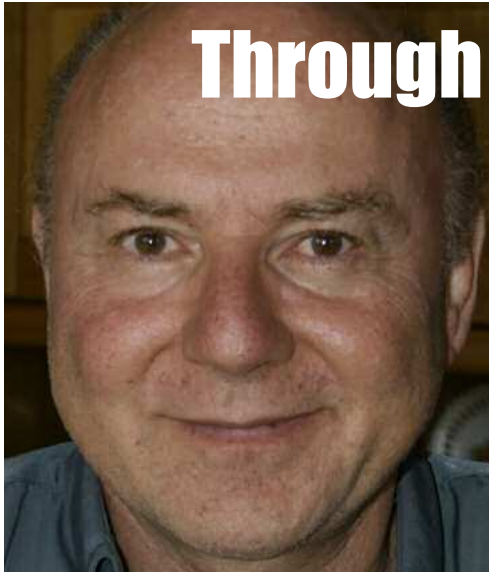
August 2008

- 2-3 Through the President's Lens
- 4-5 Competition Corner
- 6-8 Focus night travel videos
- 10-11 NCC Tropfest Project
- 12 AGM Notice
- 14-15 L Cuts and J Cuts.



Next Meeting
WEDNESDAY
27th August

www.ncc.asn.au



Through the President's Lens

Last meeting we had an interesting session on evaluating competition entries. The debate continues - does an audience vote pick the best video or do you need a select group of experienced video makers to rate a work against certain criteria in order to identify the best video?

If a video is popular - does it mean it is a good video?

If you have thoughts about this why not send the editor a letter.

Don't stop there - give us your thoughts about what constitutes a "Music Video" The debate is not over on that question either.

This coming meeting we will continue the topic of Editing and Pacing. How can you improve a story, make it more interesting to an audience?

We will take some raw video footage and as a group discuss different options of cutting and combining scenes and adding different music tracks.

The various options will be run to compare the final outcomes.

We will also screen the entries to our Competition *The Chase*.

The Annual General Meeting is coming up in September and it is opportune to talk about your Committee and what you can do to contribute to the running of the club.

You don't have to be a long standing member to play a role. All you need is time. The rest you have picked up over a lifetime time of working with others and getting things done. So if you have just joined recently or been a member for a while, please consider joining the Committee and lending a hand or generating ideas for the club night activities. You'll find it enjoyable and worthwhile working with a group of positive people.

On the topic of helping out - our hard working Newsletter Editor Terry Brett is flying away on a well earned holiday to Thailand and needs someone to put together the next "Electronic Eye", our monthly newsletter. All you need to do is layout the articles that will be sent to you, in our established format. So if you have some "Quark" or "PageMaker" experience please let me or Terry know.

Failing that if you are familiar with Microsoft Word, you can assemble the articles using that.

Call me on 9960 4456 or Terry on 9451-1851.

*Peter Frybort,
Club President*

Competition Corner

*With Mike Elton
Competition Manager*



At the next meeting we are going to make more of the presentation of awards in the latest competition "The Chase". We are going to ask entrants to tell us the BACK-STORIES. How and why they filmed their entry and any issues regarding the production. What went wrong and how would they change the way they went about filming what they did. Editing issues and production glitches to be discussed.

Continuing our recent discussions of judging (and with permission of the entrants we will read out some useful crits from our judges). The judges will continue to be and will remain anonymous.

Already we have chosen our competition subjects for 2009. To give you some time to plan your next year entrees.

- #1 Open but will include yellow. This will be due in January.
- #2 My home town/suburb. Due April
- #3 Chroma-Key. Due June
- #4 A Screenplay. Due August
- #5 Transport a 30-second special. Running concurrently with No 4

There might well be changes as it gets nearer to next year.

Before entering competitions read our web sight to make sure your entry is correctly prepared and in the right category. Entries need to be on MiniDV although Digital Hi8 would be accepted. Remember 3 copies are made from each to send to the judges. Don't forget to have a queuing leader or preroll or at least 10 seconds duration to proceed the entry. There should only be one entry on each tape and no other video.

Music Video

Not every video that contains music is a music video! Even if the video is about music or musicians.

We still are having some discussions about Music Videos and what they are. I think people got spooked when they saw an example of a music video shown last month. Despite not everyone one appreciating the skills that went into that example, this was without a doubt a Music Video. Not every music video has to be an assembly of mixed images. A music video can include travel if that matches the music. Even documentary subjects if these match the criteria. That is the music is all-important. The images are there to illustrate or illuminate the music. It should do it in an exciting way allowing us to use many varied effects. Multiple images, colour changes, speed alterations anything that enhances the music.

A basic difference is that a music video lasts only as long as the music. Just images and music.

There is no dialogue unless its part of a song. A music video can but doesn't have to be cut to the beat.

Photography is all-important. And music videos shot correctly are not a lowering of standards but a wonderful opportunity to create.

If you photographed a few scenes and cut the results to the music and the scenes fitted and enhanced the music that can be a music video too. Where a music video is different from other types of videos is that you start with the music and add the pictures. **Whereas with every other style of videoing you add the music last unless it is a Music Documentary where music is involved but if this is shot as a documentary it should be regarded as one.**

Definitions on the web:

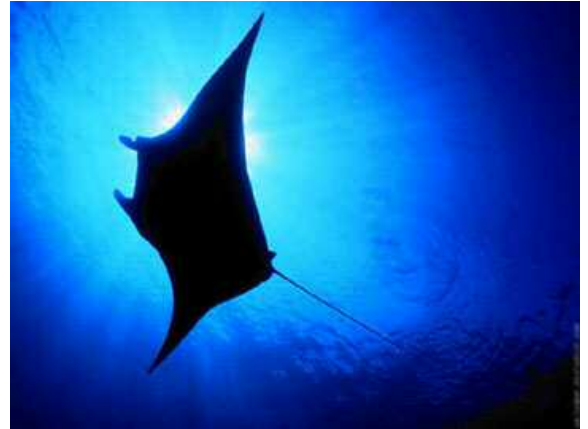
A music video is a short film or video that accompanies a complete piece of music most commonly a song. Originally made and used as a marketing device. Most videos use a range of styles of filmmaking, including animation; live action, documentaries, and non-narrative approaches such as abstract film.

A music video is a filmed or videotaped rendition of a recorded song. The work often portrays musicians performing the song or includes visual images interpreting the lyrics.

FOCUS NIGHT 12 AUGUST - TRAVEL VIDEOS

Well another successful night enjoyed by all attendees.

Kent Fry was kind enough to bring along his HD tape reader to present a bit of footage about Lady Elliot Island, or to be precise what is lurking in the waters around the Island. Kent's other passion for things underwater introduced us to the creatures living amongst the coral reefs at Lady Elliott.



Manta Rays frequent the area swimming around their massive bodies gliding effortlessly through the tropical waters. Quite amazing size, I feel sure that if you tried to put one on the roof rack it would cover the entire roof and then some, not to mention the weight I recall Kent said at least a thousand kilos. Kent tells us these are most gentle and not the Stingray which did in Steve Irwin our crocodile hunter. Thanks Kent a very interesting video.

Mike Elton has a daughter living in Tokyo and Mike showed some footage taken in and around Tokyo at Cherry Blossom time. Mike captured the most beautiful gardens and blossoms being enjoyed by quite a few visitors and locals, in fact thousands of them. In true Japanese style the blossom gardens are illuminated at night and decorated with



Japanese lanterns, well what other style of lantern would you get there. Nicely done Mike.

Jim Whitehead shared some of his adventure to the wilds of South Australia. Quite remote and only reached after quite a long flight in a smallish aeroplane, followed by a bit

of scrub bashing in land Cruisers. Jim managed to capture a bit of the flora and fauna and showed us that the dry and empty desert is not so empty after all. Quite surprising what manages to survive there in spite of the conditions, even tourists in splendid accommodation.

Ernst our Hong Kong country member was visiting and brought along some video of a trip to Bhutan which is a fairly remote country in the Himalayas. Despite the remoteness a local entrepreneur has created a most beautiful hotel built in traditional architectural style, with extremely ornate and rich carvings on almost every surface externally and internally. The result is amazing despite the difficulty of moving people, equipment and people around this very mountainous small country. The difficult road condition became apparent as we travelled with Eric around the small nation. Thanks Eric for such and interesting insight into a country many of us had never even heard of.



John Maher took us on a pilgrimage to a Roman Catholic precinct in Japan of all places. The establishment is the home of a miraculous statue that actually sheds tears. Now we did not see too much of this miraculous statue of the Virgin Mary as photography is not allowed. Despite travelling all that way to visit John was well received and had a great day out and enjoyed the train journey immensely. Well done John.

Phil Brighton has been transferring his old eight mm film onto DV tape and adding a bit 2000's commentary as appropriate. He entertained us with a scenic trip around the Durban area made some 40 years ago. Phil's film making skills obviously go a long way back as not only was the quality of transferred image pretty good the content was jolly interesting too. Thanks Phil just shows what a bit of perseverance on the transfer rig can produce to preserve those irreplaceable memories on film.

We finished off the evening with some video taken by yours truly in the Loire Valley France. Lots of Chateaux and nice scenery in the area, unmarred by the presence of a large atomic power plant right in the heart of the valley. Very interesting visit to a large underground cave to see champagne being produced and bottled. The real interesting part of that visit was the tasting, sorry the video could not really so that bit justice. Those interested will just have to go there.

Well we will have another Travel Night early next year so get your holiday videos edited so that you can take part and show us how its done and also what you did.

Thank you to all those who assisted me and took part on the evening.

Ian Scott.



Dick Collingridge 94409933, has just told me that he has a complete

Avid Express editing system with 2 monitors, a keyboard, and hard drives for sale for around \$1000.00. (I believe these systems sold for around sixty - eighty thousand originally)

He also has a sony HVRM15 hi def miniature recorder, with fire wire in and out, for sale at around \$2000.00. It will take hi def, mini dvd and standard def and it will run continuously for 3 hours.

I have been told that it is worth around \$2700.00 in the shops. He bought 2 and found that he only needed one.

Dick has promised to show the club the advances he is making in his work on 3D television in a few months time



The library is being expanded a little in terms of sound effects and royalty free and performance free music.

We are purchasing a 4 CD collection of recently recorded and high quality sound effects. The library has also received donations of sound effects, music to underlie narration and 'free' background music.

Work on cataloging the new additions is underway. Two sites providing royalty free and performance free music have been located. They are Jamendo.com and Musopen.com. There is some striking music, including contemporary music to be found.

John Maher

CALLING "OLD" 8 MM VIDEOGRAPHERS!

We have embarked on a conversion of our 8mm tapes, going back to 1986, to DVD. Some of these tapes have had music and/or narration added on the PCM track. Unfortunately, we do not now have a camera with PCM capability. A plea therefore - we are looking to beg, borrow or steal an 8mm camera that can play back the recorded PCM track.

Anyone able to assist please phone us - 9449 1682.

Ken & Bev Bisset

NCC TROPFEST PROJECT

Getting involved is often a good thing.

July saw our production crew shoot and edit the "Three mates" story in HD. The team's work and level of dedication is evident in the final cut, good enough for prime time TV this is our "must see" film for 08.

This synergy has pushed us to our Tropfest project where we took Ernest Cheung's powerful concept and through group discussions with Dave, Kent, Beryl and Joy we derived at a couple of serious scripts, we were also guided by inputs from Andy, Bob Hallett and Chris Saville.

This was the club's first major collective writing effort which highlighted the difficulty of interpreting so many varied styles, but we had to do it as part of a learning curve.

An opportunity for some NCC members to try something for the very first time, some found writing for film to be a challenging experience as they discovered a new talent and yet others may never attempt it again.

It is fascinating to observe the two styles of writers; one with proven structure and systematic deduction, the other a more ad-hoc style relying on individual experiences such as the style adopted by our next guest speaker film writer, composer Jan Cornall.

Jan will be at our October 22nd meeting and she will also show us a bit of her \$1.2 million movie.

Have a go: We don't care if we don't win Tropfest, it is just a "focal point" where the members can pour their talents into, just like Andy Doldissen's "Three mates". We do learn and enjoy the hands-on gig. So please consider putting your hand up often no matter how little or much you know, we will benefit from your presence.

August is your time to help us find some actors and locations to pull this off!

NCC TROPFEST PROJECT

NCC TROPFEST PROJECT

May be you are a “closet” actor! Give me a call and we can discuss it confidentially.

The roles are as follows:

- A married couple (mid to late 40's)
- Their son (15~17)
- Two ladies: one good and one evil!
- A specialist Doctor and his secretary (mature)
- A couple of “extras” and a little dog.



Locations required:

- Doctor's clinic + waiting room.
- Well lit indoor house.
- Interesting park.
- Front yard of 3 adjacent houses.

So start helping.

September : Shooting starts (hopefully) so we must find the actors within the next couple of weeks. Act now and reply to robncc@hotmail.com

It's a bit like joining the NCC committee; the more you put in it, the more you get out of it (that's a hint).

Also in September: The Dougherty Centre is having it's 25th birthday celebrations.

They have asked us to get involved in their open day celebrations on the 20th of September and help promote our fantastic club amongst other activities on that Saturday.

The action starts at 9 am till 3 pm, If any member can do a two hour shift to help promote us (give out brochures etc) please contact us.

Robert Nercessian

AGENDA OF NORTHSIDE CAMCORDER CLUB ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

To be held during the September NCC club night meeting on 24 of September 2007

1. Call to Order.

The President to establish that there is a quorum of members present.

2. Previous minute

2.1 Corrections: A copy of the previous minutes will be posted on the notice board, and corrections if any, to be sought.

2.2 Acceptance:

2.3 Business arising

3. President's report

4. Treasurer's report

5. General Business

5.1. Name Change:

"It is proposed that the name of the Northside Camcorder Club be changed to "Sydney Video Makers Club".

5.2. Officers' Term

"It is proposed that the maximum contiguous term of the President and Vice President be increased from two years to three years."

6. Election of Officers and Management Committee for 2008/09

The meeting chairman will declare all Committee positions vacant, and will call for nominations to the following positions.

President	Vice President
Secretary	Treasurer
Training Officer	Publicity Officer
Editor, Electronic Eye	Membership Secretary
Librarian	Competitions Manager
Officer responsible for legal matters	
Other Ordinary members (up to a further three)	

7 Other business

No written proposal or notification of other business for discussion has been received by the secretary within the period prior to the meeting as required by the Club constitution for such notification.

Note that no additional business may be raised from the floor during the meeting.

CHANGES TO COMPETITION RULES

Your committee has made the following changes to the NCC Competition Rules and Procedures. The changes will appear in the document on the website in due course.

Amendments to "Rules and Procedures for Competitions ... "

Item 5.2.2 was amended from:

"A maximum of three individual awards may be granted to the team members identified on the Entry Form."

To:

"Individual awards may be granted to the team members identified on the Entry Form."

A new item under "4.5 Entry Submission" was added:

"4.5.4 Only one entry is to be submitted on the chosen media and a Queuing leader of at least 10 seconds duration is to precede the entry."

Please note these changes.

*Kent Fry,
Secretary*

- L Cuts and J Cuts

An L cut (or J cut), also known as a split edit, is an edit transition from one shot to another in film or video, where the picture transition does not occur coincidentally with the audio transition. This is often done to enhance the aesthetics or flow of the film (for example - a conversation between two people can feel like a tennis match without L cuts. L cuts allow the audience to see the reactionary impulse to speak, or the aftermath of speaking rather than simply the act of speaking.)

The name of the cut refers to the shape of the cut pieces of the film[1] - the audio track is cut somewhat after (or before) the last frame of video, resulting in roughly L-shaped film ends, as the video and audio parts of film are in tracks, one below, one above, on the film itself.

Example: normal cut

A wide shot cuts straight to a cut away of a chirping bird.



Clip1 audio

Clip2 audio - chirping

Example: J cut

The chirping of the bird is heard before the video transitions to the cut away of the bird.



Clip1 audio

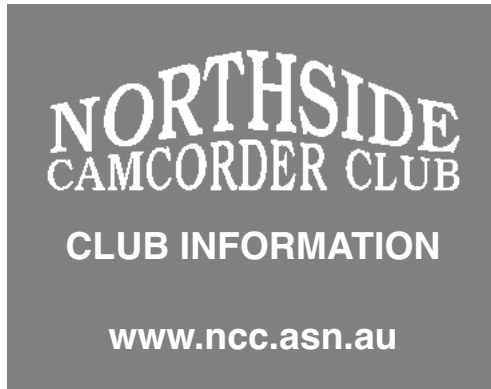
Clip2 audio - chirping

CLUB CONTACT DETAILS

President	<i>Peter Frybort</i>	9960 4456
Vice President	<i>Ian Scott</i>	9484 4439
Secretary	<i>Kent Fry</i>	secretary@ncc.asn.au
Treasurer	<i>Elvio Favalessa</i>	9415 2634
Membership Secretary	<i>Glenn Booth</i>	9401 6677
Training Officer	<i>Joy Saunders</i>	
VOTY Organiser	<i>Ian Scott</i>	9484 4439
Publicity Officer	<i>Rob Nercessian</i>	robncc@hotmail
Editor Electronic Eye	<i>Terry Brett</i>	9451 1851 editor@ncc.asn.au
Web Master	<i>Eric Chung</i>	
Service Desk Manager	<i>Peter Deklerk</i>	8920 0795
Help Desk Coordinator	<i>Eddie Hanham</i>	9327 4118
Librarian	<i>John Maher</i>	
Visitors Host	<i>Ron Cooper</i>	9982 1147
Competition Manger	<i>Mike Elton</i>	9904 6295
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.

All articles in the "Electronic Eye" magazine are copyright. Reproduction is allowed by other video clubs providing both author and The Northside Camcorder Club are acknowledged.

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.