

ENJOYING VISUAL TECHNOLOGY

**SYDNEY VIDEO
MAKERS CLUB**



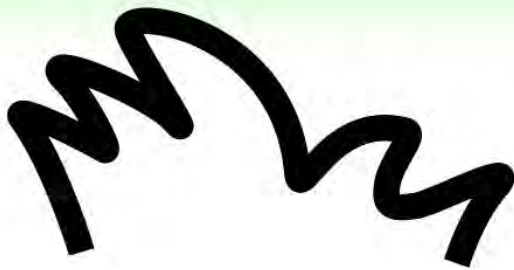
ELECTRONIC EYE

N E W S L E T T E R

September, 2011

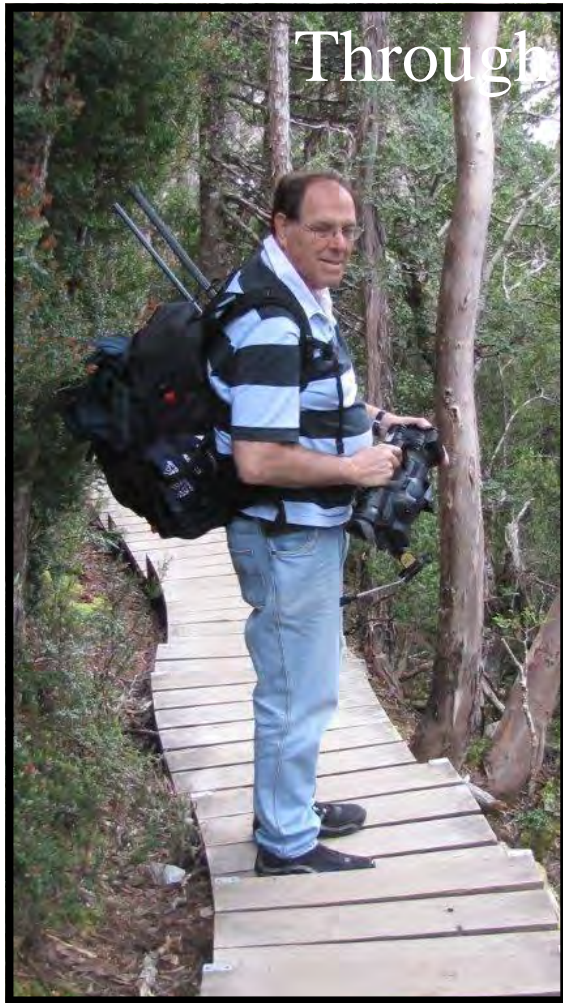
2011

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Next Meeting
Wednesday
28th September

www.sydneyvideomakers.org.au



Through the President's Lens

Last Club Night Scotty gave a presentation on the judging criteria and judging process used by the club with a practical workshop of being the judges, judging other people's videos.

Being on the judging side gave us a better idea of what the judges look at. The variety in the score showed us why the scores we get are sometimes so different – simply because people are different and they have different likes and dislikes.

We are indeed grateful for the judges for putting in the time and effort for our benefit.

* * *

Last Focus night was a Travel Video night. A lot of us are avid travellers and love to share our travels' sights and sounds with our family and friends. The difference between Video Club members and the rest of the population that owns a camcorder (or an iPhone) is that experienced videographers (like our club

members) put thought and planning into the final product. Still, there are many ways to describe travels and it's good to learn from each other's video how to describe our travels better.

So we had a variety of travel locations and styles, from Lane Cove to Namibia and Kissing Point to Yosemite National Park. While all videos had their own charm, special mention will go to Phil Brighton's 47 year old African Safari video which was originally taken with an 8mm camera, and Claire's video that always capture beautifully the colours and vibrancy of her subjects.

* * *

Some great news: We purchased a license from APRA to use commercial music in our videos – under strict conditions, one of which is NOT FOR INTERNET and not for commercial purposes. More on the terms and conditions elsewhere in this newsletter.

* * *

I'd like to remind you that **VOTY** is coming up. It's the 20th year anniversary for the club which is without compare – the best in Sydney!

The videos at VOTY are always excellent and this is the time you should bring your family and friends to show off what the club does and hopefully – your work. The event is always very impressive and very entertaining – you won't find better value for the money even in Hollywood...

* * *

Talking about parting – November 9 is a party night. For all of you who complain that they want longer breaks so they can chat longer – this is the time to catch up and socialise!

* * *

Next Club Night we'll have a presentation on the latest camera technology which is always fascinating and I look forward to it. It will be followed up by the AGM.

End of year is coming up so we need to appoint another committee to ensure we provide a good program for the next year. Some committee members will stay on but we need more to comply with regulations and carry on the tasks.

I'd like to call on you to help run the club. It involves meeting on the first Wednesday of the month in a pleasant venue – the Chatswood RSL – and making a difference to the club's quality.

If that sounds like something you can do – let me know.

* * *

I was a beginner when I joined the Club 2 years ago and I'm still a beginner (Spielberg still runs rings around me....) but I've learnt a lot. I've learnt a bit about camera equipment, I've learnt a bit about lighting, I've learnt about a bit about sound, last month Dion gave a workshop on managing the film crew and that was great. I've also learnt a lot about editing – cut, transition, colour correction, green screen.

I am also learning how to get most of my DSLR – that's a long road (last week I found the shutter speed button...).

I needed these basic skills to operate the camera, light the subject, get the audio for the scenes and then edit it all to produce a video. I needed to learn so my subject doesn't move out of focus, the sound levels are good and the light is adequate. Without the basics – the video doesn't get a Pass grade.

However, these are just technical skills. There are also the Cinematographic skills that I'd like to learn. I'd like to learn how to light the scene for the mood of the story, where should the camera be with relation to the scene in order to immerse the viewers in the story, what background music or sound should go into the scene...

So, next year, we'll be drilling the Cinematographic skills in the club. We'll endeavour to explore all the aspects of translating the story into a video to create an artistic product. With these skills, we'll encourage and organise club members' entries into Film Festivals. The participation experience will be valuable.

Of course, any other suggestions will be appreciated. If you know people who can teach us these skills – let me know as well.

Ami Levartovsky

President.

NOTICE ALL MEMBERS.

“On Club night 28th Sept. information will be posted on the notice board relevant to the AGM.

Members will be able to view the previous AGM mins, 2012 draft calendar, 2011 financial report.

Some other useful information about 2012 competitions will be posted as well.

Comment sheets will be on the board so that you can input information as appropriate.

The club's 2011 AGM will be held as part of the September Club Night. The agenda for the meeting is:

AGENDA FOR SYDNEY VIDEOMAKERS CLUB ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

To be held during September SVM club night meeting on 28th of September 2011

Call to Order

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

Apologies to be noted

Previous minutes

2.1 Corrections: A copy of the previous minutes has been posted on the notice board, and corrections if any are to be noted.

2.2 Acceptance:

2.3 Business arising

President's report.

Treasurer's report

For financial year ending 30 June 2011.

Grant purchases

(Refer to tabled document posted on the notice board prior to AGM commencement.)

Mr R Nercessian a financial member of the Sydney Video maker Club tables a list of items and having given due notice makes the following proposal.

I move that the committee comply with our latest grant as follows.

Comply with the conditions of the Government grant and expend the total \$3500 grant monies on new Equipment as per tabled list by 30 Sept 2011.

The items purchased to be available for loan to financial members in accordance with a straightforward control process which guarantees equitable access by all members and reasonable tracking and security for the equipment loaned.

A loans officer to be appointed to manage the loans process.

A member may be nominated as equipment caretaker to store the items at other than club locations if the club's normal storage facility provides inadequate space, security or member access.

General Business

Life membership. It is proposed to offer life membership to John Sirett. John is a consistent contributor to club activity acting as a competition judge. Recent serious health problems have precluded John's attendance participation and he can no longer drive at night. As a life member he will remain active in the club and will continue to undertake judging as required.

Election of Officers and Management Committee for 2011

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

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

Media presentation team(2)

Other Ordinary members (up to a further three)

7 Other business

Additional agenda items or proposals can only be included and dealt with at the AGM if written details are lodged with the secretary 21 days prior to the meeting. No items were submitted for discussion by the due date.

8 Close meeting.

The meeting will close when all business is completed.

I Scott

Secretary SVMC 18th September 2011

Competition Corner

VOTY

Tickets will be on sale for Voty on Wednesday the 28th September, so please see Peter Frohlich (Treasurer).

Also remember that the entries for Voty are to be in at the next Club Meeting 26th October.

There are to be 6 Discs (5 for the Judges and one for the Club) clearly marked with Title and a filled in Voty Competition Entry Form. I shall have plenty with me on Wednesday 28th September so come and see me.

Margaret Tulloh
Competition Manager.

CLUB MEETING NIGHT 24TH AUGUST 2011

Refer to "Through the President's Lens".



Ian Scott



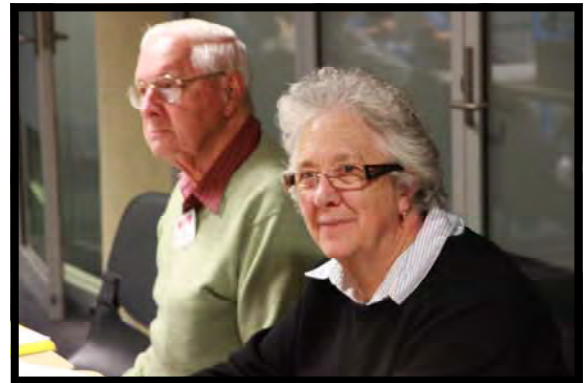
Joy, Ami, Gwen, Leigh and Barry



George Karadonian and Merv Blanch



Neville Waller and Phil Brighton



Merv Blanch and Margaret Tulloh



Don Reade, Ron Cooper and Chris Kembessos



George Karadonian David Rodgers, Gerry Benjamin



Chris Callaghan, Ian Howard, Graham Sainty & Ruskin Spiers



Peter Edwards, Barry & Leigh Crispe , Gwen Roberts & Ami Levartovsky



Clare Waterworth and Beryl Stephens



Mike Elton, Kerry Gibson & Ian Scott



Eddie Hanham Andy Doldissen, John Maher, Merv Blanch & Margaret Tulloh (Judging Panel)



Chris Callaghan & Ian Howard

A story in pictures

Photos by Neville Waller & Margaret Tulloh Canon 7D

FOCUS NIGHT—14TH SEPTEMBER

Please refer to “Through the Presidents Lens”. Photos by M Tulloh Canon 7D



Clare Waterworth & Ian Howard watching travel Video of New Zealand.



Members watching Travel



Intermission



Intermission (time to discuss Videos).



Ami Levartovsky, Ian Howard, Peter Frohlich & Phil Brighton



George Karadonian & Neville Waller



Neville Waller using his skills



Gwen Roberts & Leonard Lim

NOTICE

Dear club members,

I am writing this to ensure you are all aware of a grant the club has received from the Government. In August 2010 our club received \$3,500 for the purpose of purchasing quality professional audio gear and lighting equipment for the use of members to raise the standard of our video productions.

As an ordinary club member I was not aware of this grant, as I'm sure many of us were not. Only recently, in the last month I became aware when asked for comment on the suitability to club members of certain audio equipment.

From an ordinary members perspective it would appear that nothing has happened in the last year and we have been denied the use of this equipment because it has not been purchased.

Surely something is wrong with our club processes if it takes us a year to purchase equipment for the use by members?

Why haven't all club members been informed of this grant?

What equipment will the club purchase for the \$3,500?

When will the equipment be available to use?

Government grants are not easily obtained and we as a club need to act diligently and in a timely manner otherwise future grants will be jeopardised.

Unfortunately I will not be able to attend the next club meeting. I request the questions above be answered at this meeting and new processes put in place to ensure this delay and lack of information to members doesn't happen in the future.

Andy Doldissen

Wish list comes true

By Rob Nercessian

I am pleased to announce that our club is about to purchase some important film making equipment for you to use to help you make better films.

I am sure you agree that for a successful club celebrating 20 years of happy and productive association we do deserve some seriously good equipment to work with.

The instigators of this idea did not for a moment consider buying cheap, amateur gear for the club as you made it obvious that you are keen on pushing yourselves hard to constantly improve your skills.

Hundreds of NCC and SVM members have enjoyed the camaraderie over the two decades so we look forward for continued enjoyment as we remember fondly the previous members who were just as passionate about NCC/SVM as you.

These new items were carefully selected by club members and some outsiders (who know best) and it has been on our wish list since we started the teams throughout 2009, 2010.

The current committee is ready to purchase those items as we have the funds for it.

Here is the original list for your information.

List of items about to be purchased:

2x Shot gun Microphones Rode NTG-2

Works with any Camera, XLR or 3.5mm input (the later with adapter).

Works straight to camera, without a Field mixer (one AA battery in Mic. required)

Also works with field mixer for better sound control (no internal battery needed in this case)

This would be the traditional, industry method.

2x XLR Cables

2x XLR to 3.5mm adapter

2x Rode Dead Wombat wind cage and fluffy, Stops wind noise

2x Rode poles: two meter long, and the other 3 meters.

1x Field Mixer: “Sound devices” MIX-pre D, 2 Ch. This allows sound man to control volume the traditional way, easy to use. Large LED Meter, a set of headphones is not supplied but recommended. A second unit can be purchased later if there is a demand for it.

1x Large lighting kit: unlike the \$300 soft boxes (which are suitable for sit-down interviews) this transportable, bigger kit has higher output, adjustable output wider dispersion and barn doors for (dramatic effects) and is much more suited to bigger team shoots that have larger cast. Two unit kit retails \$1500 at Dragon, unlike the smaller soft boxes it does not require assembly at every use.

1x Jib, This crane was not on the original purchase list but it has become popular since. It allows your camera to be lifted high above the actors on an articulating arm to give a bird's eye view of the action. Adds dramatic effect when used properly.

This list will also be displayed on the AGM notice board.

Psssst!

Wanna use some commercial / copyright music in your video ???

OK. So you have your video camera trained on your wife, and she slowly starts to undress, blowing kisses at the lens with one hand while the other reaches for the strap of her black brassiere ...

So much for the visuals. But when it comes time to edit, what are you going to use for audio? A naturalist style commentary of your own creation a la David Attenborough, describing her routine in precise clipped tones, or are you going to troll the web looking for royalty free music that sets the oh so seductive mood?

We all know that what you *really* want is the haunting sound of Shirley Bassey singing “Hey Big Spender” but you *can't* because it's hands off copyright music that will get your competition entry disqualified and you hung drawn sued and quartered (if you're lucky) or a stern lecture from our Hon. Secretary and Chief of Club discipline Ian Scott (if you're not).

Did I say *can't*? Sorry, the prohibition on using copyright music – that was last month. **Starting 1 September members of the Club will be able to use commercial and copyright music in their productions, subject to a number of important conditions discussed below.**

That is because the Club has purchased a AMCOS-ARIA Domestic Use Video Licence and this licence entitles YOU as a current and financial member of Sydney Video Makers' Club to make use of copyright and commercial music in your productions.

There are a number of important restrictions. Let's call them the Eight Commandments (note that the Ten Commandments are subject to copyright...). They appear on the page overleaf. Print it out and refer to it when you plan to include copyright or commercial music in your production.

We will conduct a session on the use of copyright music and explain the Eight Commandments at a forthcoming Club meeting.

Be aware that if you do not adhere to the restrictions the Club's licence will not help if the copyright holder asserts that the use of the music was outside the parameters permitted.

**Peter Frohlich
Treasurer**

The Eight Commandments re use of Copyright Music.

1. Only recorded musical performances and works covered by AMCOS-ARIA can be used. This covers most contemporary charted and classical music but not every single piece of music ever written played or sung. If you are unsure if a particular song or sound recording is covered you can call ARIA at (02) 8569-1144.
2. The licence covers **music only**. Photos, graphics, clips and other copyright material **are not covered** and may not be included in competition entries.
3. You may make up to **20** disk copies of the video containing the copyright music. You may not make additional copies.
4. Your video containing copyright music may be shown privately and at the Club without limitation but you may not charge to screen it.
5. You may not upload any video containing copyright music onto the web including on the club website. Let me repeat. If you make use of copyright music in your video **you must not upload or exhibit it on the web**.
7. It is recommended that in the opening credits you include the following warning:

This video is for private viewing only. No further reproductions may be made without the permission of AMCOS and ARIA.
8. It is also recommended that in the closing credits you note that the video was produced under the banner of the Sydney Video Makers' Club and that note the name of the song, the artist etc and that use of the recording was in accordance with the AMCOS-ARIA licence held by the Club.

FROM HONG KONG

I have uploaded a video on You Tube. May be you can forward the link for our video club members to watch.

Many thanks

Regards

Ernest Cheung

Subject: The lioness and the baby impala

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=559fJFACtN0>

President:

Ami Levartovsky

Vice President:

John Maher

Secretary:

Ian Scott

Treasurer:

Peter Frohlich

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 \$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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Membership Secretary	Peter Frohlich	0414 414 441
Competition Manager	Margaret Tulloh	9451 9718
Actor Liaison	Phil Brighton	9427 3614
Library Manager	John Maher	9634 7229
Voty Organiser		
Audio Director	Phil Brighton	9427 3614
Publicity Officer		
Editor Electronic Eye	Margaret Tulloh	9451 9718
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Help Desk Coordinator	Eddie Hanham	9327 4118
Meetings Coordinator	John Maher	9634 7229
Visitors Coordinator	Joy Saunders	9498 8003
Copyright Registrar		
Video Director		
Team Coordinator	Ami Levartovsky	0419 041 901
Catering	Elmaz Kavaz	9402 5797

**Please address all correspondence for Committee Action
to:
The Secretary,
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