



SERIAC



NEWS



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Please note that all submissions must include the sender's name and full address otherwise they will be ignored. Only the name and town will be published.

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@seriacnews

@seriacfestivals

CLUB MAGAZINES

We love to see your club magazines / newsletters and will publish articles from them as appropriate. Please send them to Brenda Troughton FACI, SERIAC Secretary
29a Hartfield Crescent, West Wickham, Kent, BR4 9DW

iac-seriac@hotmail.com

I am also happy to receive them:
Keith Sayers, SERIAC News Editor,
92 Loder Road, Brighton,
East Sussex BN1 6PH
seriacnews@gmail.com



I hope you all had a marvellous Christmas and are looking forward to a great new year

Unfortunately there is a sad tinge to this magazine with the sudden departure of our old friend and my predecessor as editor of SERIAC News, Mike Coad. Mike was the Competition Officer for the Sussex Film Festival and the organiser of the North v South, both of which will miss his contribution greatly. I am sure you will all join me in sending our sincere condolences to his wife Jo and all his family. Page 12 has an obituary from Reg Lancaster.

On a lighter note congratulations go to Ron Prosser for winning the Sussex Film Festival against stiff competition. The quality of our films gets better and better and we hope to see some of the entries in the SERIAC Competition in April, and maybe BIAFF.

Nice to see Tim Jones has received a civic award for his contributions to the community in Canterbury. Tim is well known in the SERIAC region and throughout the IAC and the Jones family for their many award winning films.

Rita has already mentioned that you have until the end of January to enter your films in the SERIAC Film Festival but we would also like to see you there on the day whether you have entered a film or not, the atmosphere is so much better with a full house and, if the county festivals are anything to go by it is going to be the best quality entertainment so far. See you there.

Keith

Your News

Did you know that links to club news letters are now available on our website?

You can also find out what's happening around the other Regions.

Just go to www.seriacy.org.uk and click on the IAC page.



If your club has its own news page, please email a copy to iac-seriac@hotmail.com

Thank you



Welcome to the first edition of SERIAC News for 2016.

Firstly, may I wish you all a Happy and Healthy New Year. Due to the long lead time on printing SERIAC News, I am writing this introduction in late November, so Christmas and New Year is still some way off for me! This also means that I am not in a position to report on the North Versus South event, held on 6th December. Hopefully, the South will have been successful in the John Wright Trophy this year, not least because a win would be a fitting tribute to Mike Coad FACI, who sadly passed away suddenly on 22nd September – a great and sad loss to all who knew him. As you may know, Mike was involved with the North

A win for the south would be a fitting tribute to Mike Coad FACI

Video and Film Makers that they managed to finalise the arrangements for the event so that it could go ahead as he had planned. You can find an obituary feature dedicated to Mike elsewhere within this issue.

Since our last chat, SOCO hosted the IAC AGM weekend at the Celebrity Hotel in Bournemouth, which proved to be a most enjoyable get-together. It's always good to meet up with friends from other regions, and the Celebrity was a really unusual hotel with friendly staff and tasty food. Believe it or not, the SOCO team consisted of just 3 people to run the whole event: Alan Creamer FACI, Darren Cummings FACI and Phil Marshman FACI – and what a good job they made of it! How lucky we are at SERIAC

Believe it or not, the SOCO team consisted of just 3 people to run the whole event

Hopefully you have seen our Christmas edition of SERIAC News on the website.

to have a willing team of 13 on our committee to help out at such events. In fact, Harold Trill FACI from our SERIAC region was roped into bringing his Super 8 equipment to Bournemouth to project on the Sunday afternoon as we celebrated the 50th Anniversary of Super 8 with films from the IAC Library Archives. Thanks Harold, for taking on this task for another region.

Hopefully you have seen our Christmas edition of SERIAC News on the website. This is nice new idea, for which we have to thank Keith Sayers.

I hope that you will receive this hard copy in time to put those last minute films into the SERIAC Festival, the closing date for which is 31st January 2016. There are entry forms on the website and of course copies were included inside the November-December edition of SERIAC News.

Farewell until the March issue.

SUPER 8 FILM

50 Years and counting



Home film making becomes a reality

1923

This is when the story of practical “home movies” really began. 35mm film was the standard for theatrical releases but it was cumbersome, expensive, and dangerous due to its flammable nature. The 16mm “Cine Kodak” Camera, used by advanced amateurs, weighed about 7 pounds, had to be hand cranked at two turns per second during filming, and was cost prohibitive.

1932

The “Cine Kodak Eight” format was introduced. Utilizing a special 16mm film 25 feet in length, which had double the number of perforations on both sides, the filmmaker had to run the film through the camera in one direction then reload and expose the other side of the film. After processing, the lab slit the film lengthwise down the centre and spliced one end to the other yielding 50 feet of finished 8mm movie film. Most of the cameras had a spring driven motor which needed to be wound up with a key several times during a reel.

1965

Kodak introduced the Super 8 format. Cheaper and more convenient than previous formats, this is what really brought movie making to the masses. Cartridge loading eliminated threading the film and was virtually foolproof (??? Ed). Made out of plastic, it meant no more jamming (??? Again Ed.), which was a common issue with the 16mm Cine Kodak magazine, and the entire 50 foot cartridge could be shot without interruption. The frame size was also around 50% larger than standard 8 due to the smaller sprocket holes so giving an improvement in picture quality and a brighter image on the screen.

The cartridge itself provided information to the camera about the speed (ASA) of the film as well as filter information. Most stock in the early days was balanced for tungsten lighting and needed a daylight conversion filter built into the camera. Precision notches were set at specific points on the edge of the cartridge activating mechanical or electronic switches in most Super 8 cameras which were mainly built with battery powered motors.

1973

Super 8 film was made with a magnetic full coat stripe running down the side making it possible to record sound along with the image. A balance stripe was applied to the other side of the film to ensure that it laid flat in the more common front pressure plate projector gates and to avoid focus errors, although slighter narrower than the main stripe it became utilized to provide a second sound channel for stereo or multi lingual films. Some commercial films became available with an optical sound track which could be played by a few projectors such as the Elmo GS1200. This was not practical for home recording but was easy for duplicating by labs as the sound would be optically copied at the same time as the image.

It's fair to say Super 8 film revolutionised amateur film making. With it's unique aesthetic quality it continues to be used in the film community for short films, commercials and music videos.



The Vision 3 colour negative and Tri-X black and white films are still available in Super 8
Thanks to the Eastman Kodak company for the bulk of this information

SUSSEX WINNERS

Film Festival Results



Congratulations to Ron Prosser for winning the Sussex Challenge Cup and the editing award in the latest festival with his drama "Victim". His leading lady, Lucy La Vey, also took the award for the best acting performance for her part as Lauren. Thank you to everyone who entered a film and well done to the rest of the award winners listed on the next page. The awards were presented by Rita Hayes, SERIAC Chairman.



The highest quality selection of films yet



An audience of around forty enjoyed a selection of the twenty films entered and the general conception was that the entertainment was the highest quality yet. Thank you all for coming. Despite not being held in a prestigious venue as some other festivals are, the Sussex goes from strength to strength and many of the films shown will go forward to the SERIAC Film Festival and possibly BIAFF, we will follow their progress keenly and will try to report on their successes in these pages in the future.

The SFF committee send their sincere condolences to Jo Coad, wife of Mike whom she so tragically lost soon after the 2015 festival. Mike was, as most of you know, the Competition Officer and will be sorely missed by a great number of people.

SOUND TROPHY & HIGHLY COMMENDED
The Man Who Walked Too Far
by Peter Bluck



CLUB TROPHY
Tea For Two
by South Downs Film Makers



PHOTOGRAPHY AWARD
Unforgiving Shore
by Jonathan Wilde



DOCUMENTARY TROPHY
Driving the American Dream
by Rod Willerton



DRAMA / STORY TROPHY
Highlights
by Steven Lancefield



ANIMATION TROPHY
The Player
by Haywards Heath M.M.



ONE MINUTE TROPHY
Final Warning
by South Downs Film Makers



HIGHLY COMMENDED
The Young Escapers
Wool Supreme
Seriously Amazing

Howard Johnson
Jonathan Wilde
Rod Willerton

COMMENDED
Chateaux pronounced Chateaus
By Richard Mercer

CELEBRITY WEEKENDER



Hosted by SOCO and including the IAC AGM, this weekend packed it all in with a selection of films presented by Phil Marshman on the Thursday evening, a trip to the Tutankhamoun exhibition at Dorchester on Friday and a ride on the Swanage steam railway on Saturday.



Saturday evening saw the Gala Dinner followed by presentations, the most important by far being our own Brenda Troughton receiving her IAC Fellowship certificate from Linda Gough. Sunday morning started with the Mermaid and Mini Mermaid competitions SERIAC won the Mermaid with "Alphabet" by Graham Ralls of Spring Park Film Makers. This was followed by the IAC AGM with John Gibbs being installed as IAC Chairman. SERIAC's Harold Trill presented an afternoon of super 8 films to celebrate the format's 50th anniversary to wind up the weekend.



Rita Hayes accepts the Mermaid Trophy from Linda Gough



John Gibbs is installed as IAC Chairman



Harold Trill with his trusty Eumig presents the Super 8 show where's the Elmo Harold?



NEWSLETTER ROUNDUP



From the clubs

Brenda Troughton FACI



Freeze Frame South Downs Film Makers tells us that branding is everywhere and member David Allen, after viewing many of the entries at the Sussex Film Festival and impressed by the professional looking logos, thinks it would be a good idea for all SDFM films to feature a standard opening sequence. These he suggests could then be democratically judged – a good project for the long dark days of winter.



Fast Forward Chichester Film and Video Makers are pleased with their new modern website and logo developed by a member – good to read that club members are getting involved in the running of their club.



Second Take In January, Epsom members will be showing off all those exotic and romantic places around the world on their travel film event, just the thing for a wintry evening. Like it or not, winter is almost here, temperatures are dropping, snow is coming so, with a steaming cup of tea, this sounds like a great idea.



Border Post

Surrey Borders submitted three films to the Australian Widescreen Film Festival in 2014, and following an invitation from the organisers to submit films for the 2015 Festival they dispatched another three films. Unfortunately it took 13 days for their films to arrive at their destination, with the net result that their entries arrived one day too late to be included. Better luck next time.



Linking Shot Making their way to a huge tin shed just north-west of Balcombe, Haywards Heath were granted a private visit to the “Wings” Museum. From the smallest to the largest we are told there are fascinating remnants relating to the Home Guard, Battle of Britain, Blitz, Home Front, Royal Air Force, Bomber Command, 8th US Army Air Force, D-Day & beyond and the Russian Front, not forgetting Japanese artefacts as well. And all for a modest fee of only £6 each.



Viewfinder This month Simon Earwicker writes that he has been to an exhibition at the De la Warr Pavilion in Bexhill and was impressed by a short video being screened in one corner of the gallery. 'Modus Operandi' which showed the artists at work. Simon tells us that deceptively simple, the brilliance of the film was the way it gave context to the art, identity to the artists and some hint of how their disabilities shaped their creativity.



Moviepage Graham Evans congratulated member Graham Ralls whose film 'The Alphabet' won the Mermaid Competition at the IAC AGM. Rita Hayes, SERIAC Chairman, presented the trophy at Spring Park's Annual Show.



The IAC is no longer running its website competition but hopefully we have all learnt more about the pros and cons of a good site.

The homepage is one of the most important areas on your site. It receives most of the traffic and is like a virtual front door. So we need to ensure that those looking at our sites see something interesting and hopefully convert browsers into new members. In a very few seconds our sites need to show what is on offer. Not the history of your club but what you are up to. Headlines clear and simple with no fluff.



50 shades of grey work as a book but a poor colour scheme for a website!

Most people are visual so make sure you use an image that clearly shows what you are about. Short videos are great too. Visual design helps to enhance not define. Your visitors need a direct route from the home page into your site so keep a clear path to other pages. Your site should make its purpose clear and visitors should be able to see who you are and what you do.

Some of our clubs do not have websites, so any potential members cannot find out about them or check their websites when information is required. More than 2½ million people use the Internet every day, so you could say you are missing out. By having a website you can show off what you do and take pride in the films you make. Having a website also allows you to have your own email address, so it is more professional and easier to remember.



Flicking through some clubs' websites it is very noticeable that many are not up-to-date. Not only info on the home page but many of the other pages. Some lack anything eye-catching to hold the viewers' attention and keep their interest. A home page full of type with no visuals is rather off putting. Do potential members really want to read about something the club did several years ago or plough through write-ups of club meetings? Remember most people scan rather than read so ensure your Home page grabs their attention.

Links did not work on a number of sites. Make sure you check them regularly and busy backgrounds can make it difficult to read the information you are providing - and some programme pages were out of date.

Our site was more effective when it was under construction!

All in all our club websites are good and a great way of showing off what we do.



But don't forget the Home page is the best way of providing **valuable, timely information** to the user, **not lots of data**. Try to be **interactive** – this engages the user and makes your site memorable – and hopefully the reader will return.

Brenda

MIKE CODE R.I.P.

A quiet man

Reg Lancaster FACI



I was stunned at news of the passing of our dear friend and club-mate Mike Coad. He was one of that rare breed, a quiet man.

CLUB MAN

He was a chairman's dream in that he didn't make a lot of noise, but when Mike agreed to take on a task, you could rest assured you'd get a complete package, everything wrapped up, delivered on time, all potential problems foreseen and dealt with. Job done, efficiently. The real deal.

NOT ONLY AT OVFM

Some years ago IAC Council's office was sinking under a sea of paperwork going back to the early 30's and it was suggested that Mike take a look. All went quiet and soon we had the first half of a new history of the IAC that Mike and Jo had compiled. They completed the whole task in a surprisingly short time.

CLOSER TO HOME

It was the same about ten years ago when the North v South competition ran into difficulties. Mike stepped in and has run it ever since. That's the Coad way. Quiet, solid performance. We are all in his debt.

TRAVELLIN' DUO

I doubt anyone in our hobby has visited more film or video clubs than the Coads. They seem to have been everywhere. When Annabelle and I started to go 'out' to the likes of the Kent Festival and SERIAC events they were often there. When up North, people would ask for news of them. When I discovered they lived at Sevenoaks it was only natural to approach him. He was a lone worker at the time but when he changed his job he came on board and Jo joined not long after.

TRADER MIKE

That was in OCS days when celluloid was king and Mike, in addition to making films, was an avid attendee at film fairs, where fans and collectors got together to watch and trade Super 8 versions of film classics. Mike and Jo gave several Nights at the Flicks, using their collection. There'd be a Cartoon, a Newsreel, Trailers and a main feature. Mike introduced and projected with Jo providing popcorn and/or ice cream at the interval.

THE MONSTER

When video arrived, trust me, the image quality was lousy. Mike and I thought so and while I buckled, the Coad stable was the last active film unit to convert to the new medium. You could say that our 'OVFM' title came about because they were still making crisp quality Super 8 when we needed to get 'video' into our name.

PROLIFIC

Mike and Jo have been among the most prolific filmmakers in the last 30 years, and we teased them about having a secret vault full of fascinating facts about familiar places. Mike even threatened to write a 'Scintillating Sevenoaks' scenario but instead, he whisked Jo off to beautiful Bexhill and made films down there!

IN THE BLOOD

Mike was a commodity trader when younger, gave it up and had a variety of jobs and interests. A born trader he was an eBay expert before most of us even had a computer. He was also, shall we say, a very experienced driver – in that every time you saw them, he seemed to have a different machine! No jalopies, they'd often be spacious if venerable Mercs, which ran and ran, though one did conk out right at the knackers yard gate!

VERSATILE

Full of surprises they dazzled us with their most unlikely exploit, when they sold up and moved to Bexhill to go on a world tour, starting in the Indian sub-continent. We followed their hair-raising adventures on his daily blog, with baited breath. Eventually they made a surprise re-appearance at the club dinner. He even pioneered making a movie using still pictures of the faces he saw there.

LAUNCHING

Of late Mike's passion was genealogy and he and Jo were about to launch a family history research company. They'd had cards printed. He'd become involved with the Sussex Festival. Mike touched so many of our lives and we will miss his quiet but significant presence. Our thoughts and prayers are with Jo his loving companion in life, at this painful time

*Reg Lancaster
Orpington and Video Film Makers*

FROM SOCO

The same weekend we lost Tony Bridger we also lost Mike Coad. Mike, with wife Jo were serial Amateur Film Festival attenders and they regularly attended our Frome Five Minute Festival as well as the Cotswold Festival organised by Lee Prescott and the SoCo Weekender. He was such a regular Frome Five Minute attender that we gave him a long service clock. Much of our success at attracting entries from the Southeast was down to Mike and Jo. He was the last person to enter, and show, a (super 8) film at our Festival so he didn't just come for the feed. He wasn't afraid to criticize our competition to our faces either and suggest ways we might improve it.

So we shall miss him and Jo and although I wasn't that keen on him calling me flower (we don't talk like that down here) I wish he was still here to call me it.

Phil Marshman FACI

CIVIC AWARD FOR TIM JONES

Tim Jones, well known to the film makers who attend the KFF, has in recent years turned his activities to searching out and copying pre-war films from the Canterbury area and giving public lectures/film shows. He has now been awarded the John and Peggy Hayes Canterbury Award for 2015 for his contribution to the people of the city.

Colin Jones



Three generations of the Jones family.
Left to right, Jake, Colin, Tim



CLUB DIARY

Please send your club programme to the Editor Keith Sayers,
and club newsletters / magazines to Brenda Troughton SERIAC
secretary,

Ashford Camcorder Club

Contact: Mrs. Heather Slater - 01233 627093
heather48@talktalk.net
Jan 12th AGM & Award / 2 min ad competition

East Sussex Moviemakers (Formerly Eastbourne)

www.eastsussexmoviemakers.org
Meet 1st & 3rd Wednesdays of each month at -
St Luke's Parish Centre, Stone Cross. 7.45 pm
Contact: Harry Lederman Tel. **01323 301997**
harrylederman@tiscali.co.uk

Canterbury Camcorder Club

www.canterburyvideomakers.weebly.com
E-mail: Robin Helmer, Hon Sec. Tel:01233 750236
robin_helmer@btinternet.com
Meet 2nd Friday of each month 10 am til 12 noon
Chilham Village Hall (CT4 8BD)

Epsom Moviemakers

E-mail: moviemakersepsom@aol.com
Meet at St.Mary's Church Hall, London Road
Jan 8th Holiday & Travelogue Competitions

Chichester Film & Video Makers

www.cvfm.org.uk
Contact: Rupert Marks: 01243 528599
rupertjmarks@gmail.com
Jan 6th Screenplay Evening
Jan 20th Keith Baker one minute competition
Feb 3rd Former Chairman's evening: Clive Hand
Feb 17th Screening of Films in a Night
Mar 2nd Documentary competition

Haywards Heath Movie Makers

www.haywardsheathmoviemakers.org.uk
Liz Willerton - 01444 441479
liz.willerton@icloud.com
Meetings at The Upper Room, Methodist Church,
Perrymount Road, Haywards Heath.
Jan 5th AGM
Jan 19th Editing part 1
Feb 2nd Clubroom becomes a studio for the night
Feb 16th Talk on judging films
Mar 1st Holiday competition

Circle Eight Film Group

www.circle-eight.org.uk

Jersey Camcorder Club

www.jerseycamcorder.org
Annette Lowe (Sec) 01534 721920
annette@lowejersey.co.uk
Alan Michel (Chair) 01534 862567
Meet second Wednesday of every other month at
The Royal Jersey Showground, Trinity.
Upstairs in the Council or Bureau Room. 7.45pm
Next meeting February 10th 2016

Copthorne Camcorder Club

Contact: David Smart 01342 713172
davidsmart47@hotmail.com
Meet 2nd Thursday of month & other times as
arranged

Maidstone Camcorder Club

Frank Bassett, Chairman 01622 745123
frankjb@btinternet.com
www.maidstonecamcorder.co.uk



CLUB DIARY

Please send your club programme to the Editor Keith Sayers,
and club newsletters / magazines to Brenda Troughton SERIAC
secretary,

Medway Film Makers

www.medwayfilmmakers.com

Beryl Hughes 01634 360401

wigmore.films@btinternet.com

Meet at: Medway Campus of Mid Kent College,
Medway Road, Gillingham, Kent. ME7 1FN

Alternate Thursdays

Jan 7th Films from BIAFF

Jan 21st Film commentary advice Alan Whippy

Feb 4th Film discussion, expert advice

Feb 18th TBA

Orpington Video & Film Makers

www.ovfm.org.uk

Freddy Beard – 01689 813616

beardfreddy@gmail.com

Jan 5th Top Ten 2015 Final

Jan 19th Holiday films / Editing Project

Feb 2nd Brian Pfeiffer documentaries

Feb 12th Annual club dinner

Feb 16th Project: Mobile

Mar 1st Guest speaker TBA

South Downs Film Makers

www.Southdownsfilmmakers.org.uk

Robert Summers

bob@robertsummers.co.uk

Meet at: Ferring Village Hall,
Ferring, West Sussex.

1st and 3rd Wednesday of each month at 7.30pm

Jan 6th Night shift

Jan 20th Dr Who and beyond

Feb 3rd Hot shorts & Ferring cup competitions

Feb 17th AV as seen by of two members

Mar 2nd Newcomers' challenge

Shooters Hill Camcorder Club

Rita Hayes 0208 473 6818

rita@shootershillcamclub.co.uk

Meet every Friday except 1st Friday of the month
Shrewsbury House, Bushmoor Crescent,
Shooters Hill, London SE18, 8:00pm to 10:15pm

Sutton Film Makers

www.suttonfilm.co.uk

Sean Phelan 07775 690210

secretary@suttonfilm.co.uk

Meet at the Parochial Halls
Cheam Village, Sutton, Surrey

Spring Park Film Makers

springparkfilmmakers@hotmail.com

Brenda Troughton FACI 020 8462 2822

www.springparkfilms.co.uk

Meet every other Thursday 7.45 pm to 10 pm
in the Griffiths - Jones Hall, Emmanuel Church,
West Wickham BR4 9JS

Jan 7th Movie-go-round, bring your films

Jan 21st Show & tell, aspects of film making

Feb 4th UNICA showreel

Feb 18th Drone on - bring your drones

Mar 3rd Frog Morris on the Magic Lantern

Surrey Border Movie Makers

www.surreyborder.org.uk

Rita Wheeler

secretary@surreyborder.org.uk

Meet on the 1st Friday of each month 7.30pm
St Joan's Centre, St Joan of Arc Catholic Church
Tilford Road, Farnham, Surrey. GU9 8DJ

Jan 8th SERIAC films & discussion

Tonbridge Film Makers

Tony Smith

cherrywood@uwclub.net

Meet in members' homes



EVENTS DIARY

ALBANY COMPETITION

Sunday April 3rd 2016

Hosted by Surrey Border Movie Makers

The Newell Centre, Tozer Way, Chichester, West Sussex PO19 7LG

Doors open 2.00pm for 2.30pm

Entrance £8.00 includes cream tea, cakes and unlimited tea & coffee

SERIAC FILM FESTIVAL 2016

Saturday April 9th 2016

Closing date for entries January 31st 2016

The Oast Theatre, London Road Tonbridge, Kent TN10 3AN

Send your entries to:-

Rita Hayes, 70 Eglinton Hill, Woolwich, SE18 3NR

Or Freddy Beard, 56 Rookesley Road, Orpington, BR54HJ

BIAFF 2016

14th - 17th April 2016

Hosted by NERIANC

The Cairn Hotel, Ripon Road, Harrogate, Yorkshire

Contact Derek Mathieson Tel: 01325 356140

email: dereks07@gmail.com

THE SERIAC FILM FESTIVAL IS BACK 9th APRIL 2016



Entry form available at www.seriac.org.uk or contact the editor
Closing date January 31st 2016