

Chairman's Chat

Issue 11

December 2021

Yet more alterations to the programme, Mike must be really tearing his hair out by now.

It's getting to the stage whereby the information, from the "experts", on covid is becoming more and more confusing. On the one hand there are rumours of tighter restrictions and then you hear that the new strain isn't as bad as first thought. Who do you believe?

One thing most seem to agree on is that it's something we're going to have to live with for some time to come, therefore I think we need to try and run our meetings accordingly and be too hasty with the rethinks. Let's try and run our programme, as it stands, to the end of the season in May.

The Annual Competition is fast approaching. I'm pleased to say that our judges for the competition this time will be Sheila and David Andrew, late of Cheadle & Gatley.

David is well known to most of us, having been to the club as a guest speaker, his talks were always informative and helpful; he has also been our judge in previous years.

So better get busy editing to make sure your films are ready on time.

Our Secretary, Mike (B), is organising the competition this year, so he will be giving you the dates and handing out the entry forms before we break for the Christmas festivities.

Dates to be aware of are the new date for showing the Newsreel which will now be on Wednesday 16th February. As was originally planned tickets for this will be limited, so don't leave it to the last minute get your ticket, a value for money £5.00 inc. supper.

The "Annual Prize Winners Show" will now be held on Wednesday 23rd March, more details later.

When we return on the 5th January 2022 Mike (S) will be giving out details and ideas for the 9th February, "Poetry and Motion". Poetry put to your own films, something you could actually be sorting out now.

The AKM + YouTube, 5min. competition and animation has been put back to the 13th April, so you've all plenty of time to prepare for that now.

Finally, as this is the last Newsletter before Christmas, I'd like to wish you all a merry Christmas and a happy and healthy New Year.

See you all on the 5th January

Keith

Frank Swift

Another great night at our magic club on Wednesday (all safety measures implemented) on arrival I was met with “Help we have no power” my old electrical skills kicked in and problem solved in less than a m/second!

A very good turnout ensured all mince pies / excellent sausage rolls were later scoffed at the mini Christmas meet up in fact I think one or two of us had second helpings! this helped compensate for some of us paying a weekly sub that “wasn’t required” Carl was on top form as usual & complete with Santa Hat, plenty of Ho Ho Ho’s from the Audio/Visual control centre under his command. Ron’s night was a great success providing..

a full evening of members films covering a variety of subjects. Voting proved to be rather difficult I thought due to so many (Christmas Crackers) however Joe took the first prize with a smashing 3 film selection accompanied by excellent narration to each one,

So many entries by club members shows just how serious we take our hobby, without our bfm how could we possibly show them off. Keep em coming it keeps our club alive.. next up I believe is a “Film to a Poem” Mike will enlarge on this in the new year so get your thinking caps on as you slurp a Sherry or two over the Festive Period it’s bound to give added inspiration to what could be yet another fun filled evening at bfm..

Thanks Mike for thinking of this subject, challenging but not unsumountable .. I think 😊 One other mention, Mike Breeze always manages to slip in some really funny one liners at most meetings. I’m not sure he’s aware he does but there’s always a chuckle from most of us. Keep it up old chum we love it..

Once again thanks to all who put together this great Club. see you all soon..

Happy Christmas everyone & a Happier New Year,, F.S.

Making Space in the Cupboard

By Mike Breeze (originally written December 2020)

I have just collected a cine projector from a Burnley resident who was a member of the local photographic club but not our organisation. The projector is no longer wanted but the gentleman would like three 8mm films converted to DVD. All ready for a challenge I will have a go but if any members have experience of copying cine please let me know. The projector is a Eumig Mark 8 and, although silent, will show both standard and super 8 films. I imagine that those of you who still have 8mm films have kept your own projectors but, if anyone wants to borrow or keep this Eumig, please get in touch.



I have been occupying myself during recent weeks by copying mini-dv tapes onto hard drives so I can dispose of redundant cassettes. Fortunately, I have not disposed of my cameras as I need them connected to the computer. Premiere Pro has the necessary option to capture and divide into clips. My earliest video camera is a Canon 550. Whilst it still works perfectly, the standard of picture is poor compared with that produced by other cameras. It only did SD but did do widescreen.



Some members may know that I started filming movies in connection with training teachers. The school paid for a Sony PDX10 camcorder which I still have and it works. I think this was the most pleasant camera to use. It had enough buttons and knobs to make life easy and the menu system sufficiently simple. I filmed several hundred lessons but also took the camera to Kenya when I spent ten days working in a school in Mombasa. I have been copying the ten mini-dvs and the quality is so much better than that produced by the Canon. Strangely, after several years work the camera packed up just as I finally retired. Of no use to the school, I took it with me and a year or so later got an estimate for repair. The charge was quite reasonable so I got the repair done. The camera had the advantage of professional sound XLR inputs and this is the gadget you can see on top of the camera. I removed the mic to use on a later camera to save buying a new one.



In the meantime, I had been hooked with the idea of film-making and had joined Mercury Movie Makers. I knew the Canon was not very good and so bought my own Sony – an A1E. This was not as easy to use as the PSX10 but did have HD capability. The quality produced was really excellent and when it eventually packed up, I sent it for repair. This time, it was not worth the cost and I did not even ask for the remains to be returned. Fortunately I had already removed the microphone and so had two to use on the replacement camera. However, this was not my last tape camera as the school no longer had any use for this type, having changed to SD card system and I was offered another HD Sony. This was going to be a second machine when I needed one but was unfortunately no longer perfect. Whilst it did not record too well, I have pressed it back into service to play back the tapes for digital conversion.



It was clear that the days of mini-dv tape cameras were numbered. I had fortunately avoided other formats like integral hard drives and so purchased a Panasonic camcorder with professional sound facility, high definition and two SD card slots. This is now my main camera for project work and one that you will have seen me use at the club.

When the ex-school Sony started showing its age I bought an ex-demo smaller Panasonic from Wilkinsons. Although not as easy to use as its big brother, the camera is much lighter to carry around. Suitably synchronised the Panasonics produce excellent quality when I need two cameras.

Whilst all this had been going on I had switched my Canon still cameras for new digital one by Olympus. At that time no-one made one machine that would cope with both stills and movie. Today, things are very different with Panasonic leading the market in video technology. Olympus had benefited from the co-operation with Panasonic on various features and now Olympus cameras are capable of quite reasonable video as can be seen from my recent movie creations.

Whilst all this has been going on I have disposed of a number of audio cassettes, the LPs and 45 Eps went some time ago. If I still have any spare room in my cupboard I really must try and do something with the audio reel-to-reel tapes.

Frank Swift

With the run up to Christmas now in full swing it's all systems go in more ways than one.

Quite a bit of editing is now the norm again in what seems a very narrow window between December and January in order to meet club deadlines.

Apart from a massive edit on a recent family birthday video involving lots of old super8 film I'm still trying to catch up on B F M projects for future club events, some are finished and some are not !

My 14 minute birthday film was shown at the party venue (Worsley Old Hall) a privately booked upstairs dining room.

Set the scene, the film was shown on a 17" laptop with a "Bose Sound Link" mini speaker creating further quality to my master production,.. !

Well I thought it was and so did everyone else,.. when the Burnley Boys Choir sprang into action with their rousing rendition of "Happy Birthday Debby", the place was in uproar, one or two fell off their chairs just managing to hold onto drinks then lobbed birthday cake at the screen. ! .. Quite an unruly lot,, No not my family, the gate crashers..

I won't be showing my face in there again I can tell you.

Anyway just to complete the festive scene it started to snow quite heavy and looked lovely as I cast my gaze through the upstairs window to take in the winter scene, star shaped flakes were drifting down onto the nearby canal !

Time to beat a hasty retreat for all of us,.. no I wasn't drunk..

So what other news do I have, I did managed to capture a little Snow Scene with my ever faithful GoPro, now I can attach my Rode Wireless Mic to it using a special Housing that cost an arm and a leg, but who cares, the shots will be in our 5minute film comp this year.

[IMG 1028.MOV](#)

[IMG 1036.MOV](#)

Happy Christmas, Everyone

Frank



Hallmark
www.hallmark.com



Created just for you, by me.

Card Studio

Copyright © 2019, Creative Home. All rights reserved.



*With
Best Wishes For*



*Christmas and the
New Year*

*Meaningful, memorable,
merry, and bright...*

*Wishing you a holiday season
that's everything you could hope for
and more.*

*With Best Wishes
to you Keith
and all the BFM
From Colin*

BURNLEY FILM MAKERS PROGRAMME 2021-22 (UPDATED)

DATE	CONTENT	SPEAKER
2021		
15 September	Welcome back to our members and to those joining us this year. Summer Film screenings.	All Members
22 September	Planning for 30 th April 2022 event	All Members
29 September	CLUB CLOSED THROUGH PETROL SHORTAGE	
6 October	Adding audio to old cine films. Practical session using YouTube's Audio Library.	Mike Smith
13 October	An evening looking at Sam Hanna's films, his technique and his life in film making.	MIKE SMITH
20 October	TWO SPLICE MEDIA Ltd.	SIMON SHARPE
27 October	Filming Interviews with members. (1)	All Members
3 November	Filming Interviews with members. (2)	All Members
10 November	TWO MEMBERS NIGHT	KEITH WIDDUP & DAVID HALL
17 November	3D Virtual Reality with VR PIXEL Ltd	TOMAS GARL
24 November	CENTRE-LINE FILMS Ltd.	JIM COOKE
1 December	Club Event	Members
8 December	Volunteers Night – Bring a Film	Members
15 December	Ron's 5 min film competition.	ALL MEMBERS
22,29 December	CLUB CLOSED FOR CHRISTMAS.	
2022		
5 January	North West Film Archive films of Burnley in the 1960s and 70s. / POETRY and MOTION Resources.	MIKE SMITH
12 January	Basic Adobe Photoshop and After Effects.	MIKE SMITH
19 January	HUCKLEBERRY FILMS Ltd.	CAROLINE ECCLES
26 January	Editing the Newsreel and films with Final Cut.	CARL STREDDER
2 February	Livestreaming	STEVEN BROWN
9 February	POETRY and MOTION – Poetry put to	ALL MEMBERS

	members films. Film show	
16 February	Annual Newsreel 2021	All Members and Public
23 February	Guest Speaker.	RICHARD SCARSBROOK
2 March	Two Members Night 2.	MARK GRICE & DAVID CROSSLEY
9 March	Non – Winners Evening.	All members
16 March	Guest Speaker.	PAULINE HARRISON
23 March	Annual Awards Winners show and Supper	Members and Guests
30 March	Secretary's Night.	MIKE BREEZE
6 April	Anniversary Meal	Members and Guests
13 April	Club Competitions, AKM+ YouTube, 5 Minute film and Animation etc	All Members
20 April	Club Closed for Easter.	
27 April	Preparation for 90 th Anniversary event on Saturday 30 th April.	All Members
30 April (Sat.)	BFM Public Event 10:30 – 4. Venue TBA.	Members, Guests and Public
4 May	Annual General Meeting.	AGM
11 May	Chairman's Night.	

www.burnleyfilmmakers.org

<RELEASE VERSION 13>. UPDATED 2 DECEMBER 2021

