



# *BFM News*

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Issue 5

March 2021

## Update on Higham Village Hall

It's an awfully long time since we were able to hold a "live" meeting in our clubroom at Higham. Whilst we have managed to keep in contact via our Zoom club meetings we are missing the social contact of our regular weekly meetings. Unfortunately some members are not comfortable with the technology and, as such, are missing out on the excellent programme put together by Mike.

Whilst this has been going things haven't stood still at Higham, or in our club's administration. So just to put you in the picture here's an update from the past few months.

Our Treasurer, Ron, received some good news from our Insurers last year. They offered us a much reduced annual premium but we were required to produce working "Risk Assessment" and "Health & Safety" documents, both for the clubroom and our outside activities. Ron, Rowenna and I have spent sometime researching this and we are slowly but surely getting there. Likewise the Higham Village Hall committee have had to produce similar documents for the protection of "Hirers". These would be used in conjunction with one another. We have to produce such documents and they have to meet the approval of the VH management committee.

At BFM, we have also been looking at upgrading our sound system in the Hall. This was to try and avoid the embarrassing dropout of sound when our amplifiers decided to shut down for no apparent reason.

Our proposals were submitted to the VH committee and they fully endorsed our plans.

Due to Covid restrictions, the changes have been delayed but I'm pleased to say that on Saturday, 13 March, the new speakers, along with additional power sockets will be installed ready for when we are able to reconvene at Higham.

Basically we are fitting four powered speakers, these will be controlled from the normal position, via a mixer, donated by our Chairman, and will do away with the need for a separate amplifier. The system will be wired so that we can have either just the front pair of speakers or all four if required. A Bluetooth link will also be installed for use by anyone hiring hall who wishes to play music via their smartphone.

As to when we are likely to be able to return to Higham well, that's still a bit of an unknown. At the last meeting I attended, via Zoom, the VH committee had been advised that village hall and community centres would be unlikely to be allowed to open before the middle of May. Effectively this means that the BFM committee are now working on the basis of September as our earliest opening date. We will of course keep you all updated on this and what things will be required of us to access and hold meetings in the Hall.

At our last club committee meeting we discussed continuing to hold future committee meetings via Zoom. We currently hold a licence until October. We think it would be more convenient to renew the licence and to continue in this way, so that meetings can be held without our Secretary having to travel from foreign lands in the middle of winter. No firm decision has yet been taken but this seems the logical way to proceed.

Keith

# Adding soundtracks to Burnley Cine Club Films from the North West Film Archive

Our North West Film Archive evening on the 3<sup>rd</sup> March featured a number of films from the North West Film Archive. Nick Gladden, our contact there sent me a list of all the films they had on file from Burnley Cine Club and Burnley Film Makers. I chose a dozen films from the list of which I thought would have a broad appeal, but there were lots of others. Nick sent me the films via WeTransfer. The Film Archive unit must have had a professional account as the 12 films when downloaded took up 8.7GB whereas the normal free WeTransfer service is limited to 2GB.

I put all the twelve films into a folder on the desktop, and looked at the duration of each film to sort out a programme for the evening that would fill two half-hour slots. Many of the films didn't have a soundtrack, so on two films, (the St Stephens Church Fire and Winter 1963 in Cliviger) I thought I would try adding some sound effects.

## Fire at St. Stephens Church, Padiham September 1972



The St Stephens film itself is six minutes in length, so I wanted to find a similar film with a backing soundtrack that would fit. I searched on YouTube for "Church Fire" and "House fire" which both threw up plenty of options. Some of the films were from mobile phones people had taken of a local fire in their area.



The soundtrack on the film I chose (Burning House Fire – Kent) had the sound of people in the background, fire engines, firemen using hose pipes and fire crackling in the background. Perfect. Using *AIRY* (The YouTube Downloader app) I downloaded the film – as an mp3 file – sound only. (*AIRY* lets you decide – MP4 for full film or MP3 – sound only). (*Airy is free but you have to pay a one off fee to download 1080p films*)



Burning House Fire - Kent  
Fire and Resc...ut Flames.mp3

I imported then placed the St Stephens film on the timeline in Premiere and then imported the Burning House fire MP3 file and dropped it underneath on AUDIO 1. With a bit of cutting and moving I managed to get the audio to match up with the video so that the fireman spraying water on the film could be heard.

It worked well – apart from the sound of the fire engine which was the wrong era apparently – something I had missed until it was pointed out at the screening!

# Adding soundtracks to Burnley Cine Club Films from the North West Film Archive (Continued)

## The Winter of 1963 – Holme in Cliviger

The second film – The Winter of 1963 in Cliviger, was a bigger challenge. I needed to listen to a few YouTube film soundtracks and sound effects first before I found what I wanted.



I made a list: 1. Sheep in a Field, 2. Cows ditto, 3. a tractor shovelling snow, 4. a steam train chugging in the distance far away, 5. a background sound of wind and blizzard conditions for the whole film, ice melting and dripping water etc. After running searches on these in YouTube and in using YouTube's sound effects Library, I eventually found what I wanted.

I imported the Cliviger film into Premiere first. It is 7 minutes and 50 seconds long so I needed to loop the background winter blizzard sound a few times. The sound actually used was of a desert sandstorm.



The other sounds were fairly straightforward. The train needed to be of a steam train pulling a line of coal trucks as you see in the film in the distance, so nothing too obvious. The sound was found on a compilation of a few steam trains again found on YouTube.

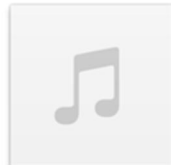
The other sounds of sheep and cows were fairly straightforward and the drip, drip drip of melting icicles you see in the film was from a film of raindrops on YouTube. The tractor was from YouTube's free audio library.



Cow Mooing Sound Effect and video (4k).mp3



raindrop Sound Effect.mp3



Desert Howling Wind.mp3



Sheep sound.mp3



The Sound of Steam Trains (HD).mp3

The whole exercise was quite enjoyable and for anyone wanting to add soundtracks to cine films, YouTube and its free audio library is a must!

The two films with sound can be found on the BFM YouTube channel at;

Part One. <https://youtu.be/fAtLZT0z0s8>

Part Two. [https://youtu.be/eqbxLqMR\\_6A](https://youtu.be/eqbxLqMR_6A)

Enjoy!

Mike S

# DAVID CROSSLEY:- My Way of Filming & Editing

Because of my work as a Toolmaker and later as an Engineering Instructor for a total of 43 years second best was not an option for me. When you've worked to fine tolerances this discipline become engraved in your system and the skills are transferred into every interest you have.

When I make films in controlled conditions I obtain the very last drop of quality that my equipment is capable of. My camera is the Panasonic HC-X920 consumer quality.

Firstly I always film in manual mode so I have control over the Iris, Shutter Speed and Focus which shows a blue outline around the subject when it is in correct focus. I also set the sound level automatic gain control to low so there is now variation in sound levels.

Secondly I film at 50 frames per second in progressive scan rather than 50 frames per second interlaced, this eats away into the filming time of the memory card which is almost halved but the data is nearly doubled so the picture quality is much clearer when viewed on my new Panasonic 55 inch OLED Television.

I edit on Movie Studio Platinum 17 and it's important to set the correct project settings for PAL HD, mine are AVCHD 1920x1080-50 frame per second interlaced scan or 1920x1080-24 frame per second progressive scan if you want the cinema look.

Now for the editing.

I try to keep my shots short so that the film has a good pace, paying special attention to the sound levels of each shot I generally separate the sound from the picture so I can do a quick dissolve of the natural sound so there's no sudden change, it's more acceptable and easier to listen to and if your not aware of the change in background sound then I've done a good job.

After all the shots have been assembled I adjust the contrast, brightness and play around with the colour matching when I feel abutting shots tend to jar the eye. Suitable music and titles are added (I always keep my titles simple) and finally to the commentary which is the only part of the project that I don't enjoy.

I'm now ready to make a test movie to check for any mistakes such as sound levels and black flash frames. To ensure I obtain the best possible copy I go into Properties and make sure the quality setting is set to Best (it sometimes defaults to Good). I also set the Audio quality to Best.

The next stage is to make a Movie and save it to my hard drive. I save my own personal copy in a AVCHD file the quality is superior and for the club the file is MP4 (that's what they ask for).

For my own preference I go into advanced options in Make Movie and choose SONY AVC/MVC format and set the template to either AVCHD 1920x1080-50i or Blu-Ray 1920x1080-24P for the Cinema look.

There is a Customize Template setting which I have set to my original film speed setting of 50 frames per second progressive scan but on rendering it defaults to NTSC 29.970 frames per second which is the American and Japanese system, probably because the 50p setting is not in the software.

So there you have it.

They say the content of the film is the most important, but for me the quality is equally important and I'll always strive to squeeze the very last drop of quality out of my films or I'll never be satisfied, why settle for less?

# A World Menu

The country is still in lock-down, international travel banned and we are told only essential travel is allowed. To be honest the thought of getting on an aircraft any time soon does not fill me with joy. I'll embrace the staycation and hopefully get the motorhome out soon.

That isn't to say though that we can't revisit the places we have been to in other ways. As videographers we all have films and photographs of the places we've been to, so it could be time to revisit those films. Watch your film and re-create that memorable holiday.

Also there are now companies offering virtual tours on the Internet of museums and places of interest in the hope that once restrictions are lifted you might be enticed to visit in person. I have just enrolled for a free virtual tour of South Iceland a place I have never been to and probably won't go to in person as long as the country continues to hunt whales, but it will transport me out of the house for an hour. I'll enjoy the scenery and another culture from the comfort of my armchair.

We can also recreate our experiences through food. I'm taking myself on a food tour of Europe. So settle down and join me. Let's take the train through the channel tunnel. We get on Le Shuttle at Folkestone and travel the 31 miles going under the Straits of Dover and emerge at Coquelles near Calais. Northern France is well known for Crepes and Galette or pancakes to you and me! The traditional ingredients for a Galette Bretonne are eggs ham and gruyere cheese and should you wish you might follow that with a sweet crepe with sugar and lemon or fruit and of course a couple of teaspoons of Cognac. Or you might like a Crepes Suzette - try this recipe at home <https://www.goodto.com/recipes/cr-pes-suzette>

As we move further into France we can discover a Boeuf Bourguignon, Potatoe Dauphinoise and perhaps even a Cherry Clafoutis. Now we've had our fill of French cuisine we'll move on for dinner in a different country - where to next? We could travel further south into Spain or Portugal or possibly East towards Italy. Dust down your holiday films, cook some food and you can be transported anywhere in your world. Bon Appétit.

Nigel Taylor

## Burnley Festival

Our online Festival is fast approaching. As you know, it takes place over the week-end of April 10th and 11th. You can view the entries at any time to suit you from Saturday morning through to 3.00 p.m. on the Sunday. Then join in 'live' for the Zoom session at 3.00 p.m. on the Sunday until about 4.15 p.m. You need to register in advance by April 3rd via [thesecretary.burnleyfilmmakers@gmail.com](mailto:thesecretary.burnleyfilmmakers@gmail.com)

Mike Smith can then send you full information on the programme and how to view.

This is a new online venture for the club, so please give it your support. We hope to have viewers from 14 clubs."

Ron

# Clarification

In my description of recording the London Schools' Concert at the Royal Albert Hall in 1985 I should have been clearer. The sentence "The three tube cameras and vision mixer were electronically set up at home and run for many hours in the evenings and at weekends to check for reliability." was ambiguous so I would like to clarify. The three cameras that I had all used camera tubes. The Sony was a small camera using a single tube and the two Ikegami cameras were the larger studio type with three tubes receiving the red, green and blue parts of the pictures. Early studio colour cameras used by the BBC such as the EMI model 2001 and Marconi Mk.VII used four tubes and the extra tube was for just the brightness information. The adjustments were not stable and needed frequent checking and correction. The scanning on each tube had to precisely match the same part of the image as the other tubes and levels had to be adjusted so that the colours were correct. The same problem does not occur with three CCD cameras as the CCDs are glued onto the dichroic prism, electronically aligned and fixed before they leave the factory.

David Wilson

## Burnley Film Makers Annual Survey 2020-21

The club annual survey for members is out now! All you need to do is click on the link below and answer the questions and finally click on DONE. There are nine questions this year covering the current season from September 2020 to the end of March 2021.

It is a SurveyMonkey online survey that you complete on either your mobile phone, tablet or computer. There is no need to print it out.



It is an anonymous survey and gives you the opportunity to give your thoughts and feedback on the running of the club and the syllabus we put on this year during the pandemic.

To complete the online survey simply click on the link below and you will be taken straight to it.

**If you could complete the survey by Monday the 5<sup>th</sup> of April please**, so I can collate all the responses for the committee that meets in April would be great. It will also help me put next year's syllabus together over the summer.

Many thanks everyone.

Mike (S)

<https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/2DRH6D7>

# Coming Soon at Burnley Film Makers

**31 March:** Secretary's Night – A Joint evening with films from Keith Widdup and Mike Breeze

**10-11 April:** Burnley Film Festival 2020-21 – postponed last season, the Film Festival switches to online this year and features film entries from fourteen film clubs around the region. Film screenings start Saturday 10 April at noon and then the judges' comments, awards and a question and answer session on the Sunday afternoon starting at 3:00pm.

**14 April:** The AKM Music and Five Minute Film challenge – make a film that uses an AKM Music track, or a film that lasts FIVE minutes and no more. (Entries by 7<sup>th</sup> April and please WETRANSFER your films to: [thesecretary.burnleyfilmmakers@gmail.com](mailto:thesecretary.burnleyfilmmakers@gmail.com))



**Burnley Film Makers Present our Annual Amateur Film Festival**

This is our 2020 postponed event and will now be held online on **Saturday & Sunday 10 - 11 April 2021**

The Festival is for Members of Affiliated IAC Clubs

To register please email us at [thesecretary.burnleyfilmmakers@gmail.com](mailto:thesecretary.burnleyfilmmakers@gmail.com)



**Burnley Film Makers**  
present

**Five Minute Film and  
AKM Music Challenge**

**Wednesday 14 April 2021  
at 7:30pm**

**Please send your completed films in by Wednesday 7th April to:  
[thesecretary.burnleyfilmmakers@gmail.com](mailto:thesecretary.burnleyfilmmakers@gmail.com)**

## Burnley Film Makers Programme for Part Two of the 2020-21 season Delivered online through ZOOM Until the Lockdown ends

2021	CONTENT	SPEAKER
6 January	NON WINNERS Night Films (Part 2)	ALL
20 January	Online Link up with Morecambe Bay Movie Makers	Morecambe Bay Movie Makers
3 February	Winners Night Films	ALL
17 February	Two Members Night	Frank Swift and David Hall
3 March	NWFA Films – Burnley Cine Club/ BFM - A selection of films on their catalogue.	Nick Gladden
17 March	Mike Smith's Films	Mike Smith
31 March	Secretary's Night	Mike Breeze and Keith Widdup
10-11 April	Burnley Film Festival – Online	ALL MEMBERS and 14 other clubs.
14 April	AKM and 5 Minute Film Competition	ALL – Entries to Mike Smith by 7 <sup>th</sup> April please.
28 April	Pauline Harrison's films	Pauline Harrison will be joining us next season and we will be seeing some of her films on the 28 <sup>th</sup> plus one other speaker TBA
12 May	AGM and 90 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary Preparations	AGM first followed by a general discussion on ideas for the 90 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary.
<b>End of season</b>		
<i>Over the Summer period discussion and work on BFM Facebook Group</i>	<i>Joint Film making tasks for 2021 Newsreel and possible arranged club filming visits</i>	<i>ALL Interested</i>