

# North Thames Region



The Film & Video Institute

[www.theiac.org.uk](http://www.theiac.org.uk)

## NEWSLETTER

### March — April 2013

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#### In this Issue:

##### Regulars:

Chairman's Chat	p2
Club Directory	p11
Club Matters	p.12
100 Club Winners	p9
New Members	p9
Spotlight on the Future	p10
Video Reviews	pp6>7

##### And Also:

Equipment For Sale	p5
Penny on Membership	p3
Remembering Alan Morgan	pp4>5
Slimline Newsletter	p3
Tom Hardwick FACI	p10
Triangle Draw	pp8>9

#### THE JANUARY SNOWS

Snow & Ice can be a nuisance, but for videographers they offer opportunities:

**Did you** stay indoors, and do a thorough editing job on all that material you thought you'd never have time to edit?

**Or did you** go outdoors on a sunny day, and capture the stunning vistas created by sun, blue sky & snow? **Let us Know!**



**And did you make a New Year Resolution to start Slimming?  
This Newsletter did! (See p.3)**

# Chairman's Chat

*Brenda has been a member of Wanstead & Woodford Cine & Video Society for 19 years, was its Chairman from 2007 > 2010, and has been Chairman of the North Thames IAC Region since November 2007. She was made an FACI in October 2012.*



**Brenda Granshaw FACI**

I am sorry to have to report the death of Alan Morgan, of Harrow Cine and Video Society just before Christmas. Although there will be a formal tribute to him later in the magazine, I personally was shocked by the news and will miss the quiet confidence which Alan brought to that black hole of HD projection. He spent an inordinate amount of time studying and solving the problems and allowed the rest of us to benefit from his knowledge.

On a happier note, I attended a talk given by Andrew Marr about his fascinating television series the "History of the World". Although we have all seen programmes showing clips of what goes wrong, it was interesting to hear Andrew detail the number of times that facts and figures were checked and rechecked and that even then mistakes nearly happened. Only late in the day was it noted that Philip of Macedonia was appearing with two eyes although he had lost one in battle. Photoshop to the rescue.- just like us.

The first rounds of the Triangle competition are now nearly complete. The standard remains high and I am sure we are in for another exciting final at Wyburns School on Sunday 12 May. In some ways I am disappointed that so many clubs in the North Thames Region have felt unable to find three films and enter the competition. Is it that these clubs are now lacking film makers and are unable to enter or is it that they just can't be bothered? Either way, it is a shame that some now hold their hobby in such low regard. However, SERIAC has come to the rescue. Two of their clubs, Eastbourne and Orpington, have entered our competition which means that we shall have been able to have 9 first rounds although each match will be between 2 rather than our preferred 3 clubs. Hopefully next year more of our own clubs will enter and with the support of SERIAC clubs we shall be back to full strength.

Hot off the press is the announcement that BIAFF 2014 is coming to the North Thames Region and will again be hosted in the Park Inn Hotel in Bedford. I should add that the hotel has changed hands and is now run by Radisson. I mention this because this has resulted in a major refurbishment of the hotel and everything will be brand new by the time of our event -11 >13 April 2014. Make a note in your diaries, even if only to come for one day. In the meantime I hope that you are booked in to Chesterfield for this year's BIAFF (18-21 April 2013).

**Brenda**

## Slimline Newsletter

### **Your editor writes:**

With the rising costs of printing plus the wish to keep about half the pages as colour pages, I have decided to slim the Newsletter down to 12 pages when appropriate. "When appropriate" means when there are insufficient contributions to stretch it to 16 sides.

Although no one has contributed a "moan" for the "Moaner Geezer" feature this time—I'm glad everyone is so content!— I shall endeavour to keep all the features going, and will happily revert to 16 pages if there is enough material.

You will notice that the Club Directory has been reduced to one page, but each Club has at least one Contact printed. The two-page Directory can, of course, be found both in previous printed Newsletters and on the IAC website.

**So, please, keep your contributions coming in.**

**And we might get more contributions with more members!**

### **Membership Secretary Penny Love FACI sets a challenge:**

"You are an IAC member yourself, but do you know any fellow club member who is **not** a member of the IAC ?

I am sure you know several, but have you asked them **why** they aren't members ?

Mostly folk join the **IAC** so that they can get the **Music Copyright Licences**, but there are lots of other things too.

How about **BIAFF** (The British International Amateur Film Festival)? You can enter as many films/videos as you like and get really helpful comments from the judges, plus the accolade of being given an award for all the hours you sat editing the perishing thing. You could also be in line for the Daily Mail Trophy, the absolute top award of the Festival, and don't say that you will never get that one: it only takes one film to win it and why shouldn't it be yours?

In the North Thames Region we have the **Triangle** Competition each year, where clubs are in competition with each other, usually three to start with. Your film could help your club to win the trophy.

We also have the **Annual Film Festival** in November where you can enter even more films, receive comments from judges from another IAC Region, and collect even more awards. What's more, lots of people see your films and can talk face to face to you about them. as you can about theirs, of course.

Now and again we have an **NTRIAC Outing** to somewhere interesting and filmic like the Canal Cruise last year where there were so many cameras whizzing about that I am sure we will be inundated with brilliant epics in competitions this year.

These are only a few of the things the IAC provides, and is involved in.

Please **spread the news** to all these non-members—I know I am the Membership Officer but I can't get new members all on my own!! How about you giving me a hand,? Don't forget that for every full member you get to join, you can claim a bonus of £10 for your club funds.

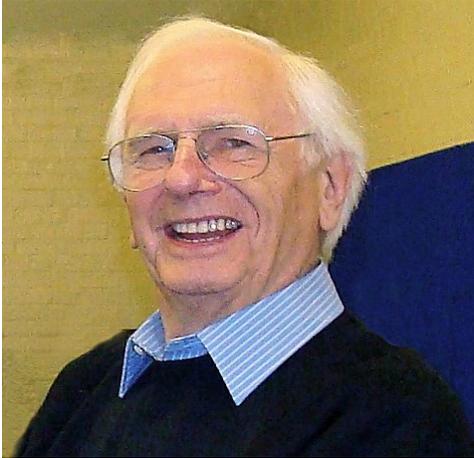
If anyone would like further information, please contact our Chairman Brenda Granshaw, FACI. (*Contact details on the front cover*).

Good luck and I look forward to having loads of names on my new membership list."

# Alan Morgan 1926—2012

Just before Christmas 2012, our North Thames Region lost one of its most well-known and respected stalwarts.

**Ken Mills LACI writes:**



Alan Morgan died on Dec 21<sup>st</sup> from a severe heart attack while in Central Middlesex Hospital.

He was born in Liverpool where his father worked on several local newspapers and in 1942, becoming Chief Sub-Editor of the Daily Express, he moved the family to London.

Alan registered for National Service in April 1944, enlisted in the Royal Engineers, and left the Army as a Lieutenant in 1948. He then went to the

School of Architecture at Regent St. Polytechnic, gaining a Diploma in 1949 and becoming a member of the RIBA in 1951. In 1953 he joined the Architect's Department of Associated British Cinemas, owned by Warner Bros. He travelled the length and breadth of the country designing bowling alleys, theatre auditoriums and cinemas, concentrating on high quality projection and acoustics.

In 1970 he became a Chartered Architect, and worked on the Wembley Conference Centre for EMI, and under Lord Delfont, re-designed the London Experience in Coventry St., which had seven ten-foot screens and a mixture of 43 cine and still projectors.

When the EMI Architect's Department closed in 1979, Alan started his own private practice, continuing in cinema design and domestic buildings.

Having bought his first video camera in 2000 he wanted to learn how to edit his family footage, and decided to join Harrow Cine & Video Society.

He used an Apple computer for all his architectural design work and bought an editing programme for his videos and very soon became thoroughly immersed in the complexities of Final Cut Pro.

He became involved with the running of the Society and took over the mantle of Treasurer in 2001 and became Chairman as well in 2005.

With his professional background, he was passionate about perfect video picture and sound quality and together with Jim Gatt, our technical guru, they spent hours searching for the best possible projection equipment within the Society's financial capabilities.

Throughout the North Thames Region he was noted for his attempts to improve the presentation of videos, and campaigned for a standard layout at the beginning of amateur DVD disc production, which he felt was crucial for a smooth professional public show.

Following the 2010 BIAFF weekend he wrote to F&V magazine about the problems the projectionist faced with MiniDV, DVD, various aspect ratios, odd letterboxed formats and mixtures of standard and high definition, pointing out the necessity to create some more standardised system.

His presentations at HCVS public shows and NTR functions were always of the highest standard, which he continually tried to improve as the years went on and his legacy will be for us to continue to strive for perfect projection.

He will be greatly missed, but remembered for his patience, his technical skills and the immense help and kindness he showed to everyone with whom he came into contact.

We extend our condolences to his widow Sheila (SAM) and her son Andrew.

*Donations if desired in memory of Alan can be made payable to "R.N.L.I (Salcombe Branch)" and sent to Bradley and Jones, 7 Love Lane Pinner HA5 3EE*

*Donations  
and*

## **ITEM FOR SALE** - *Donated to the North Thames IAC Region.*

### **VIDEONICS Digital Sound Effects Mixer**

As well as a three channel mixer, the unit provides a selection of 59 digitised natural sound effects and a collection of electronic tunes. Connections at the rear of the unit are by 3.5mm sockets for microphone and headphones, and phono sockets for the other inputs - connecting leads NOT SUPPLIED.

The unit is as new, in its original box and complete with a mains power supply and instruction manual. It has been tested and is in good working order.

Whilst from the 1990's, this unit is a very rare and unusual item, which at this price, could be useful for video editing and dubbing!

**PRICE £ 10 - postage £ 5.30** or view / collect from Stanmore.

AIVAR KAULINS, FACI, 19 The Ridgeway, Stanmore, Middlesex, HA7 4BE .  
E-Mail: aivarkaulins@onetel.com

# Video



# Reviews

*Tell us about some piece of equipment you really rate — or not!*



John Parkes, Potters Bar FM's indefatigable projectionist, offers an ingenious solution to one of the irritants of the digital DVD age.

## PROJECTIONISTS EVERYWHERE!

DO YOU & YOUR AUDIENCES SUFFER FROM THE DREADED

"DIGITAL ICON SYNDROME" ?

IF SO, HELP IS AT HAND: ALL YOU NEED IS THE

"JBP/HEATH ROBINSON SHUTTER"

### HERE'S HOW TO MAKE ONE: YOU NEED:

- A piece of cardboard, at least 12" square & 4mm thick
- A half-inch square profile piece of wood 12" long
- Glue
- A Roll of black Gaffer Tape
- A piece of string
- A craft knife
- A counter-balance weight
- A piece of black paper the size of the flap



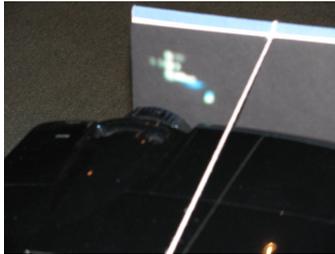
**JP ready to start projecting**

## **METHOD:**

1. Measure the width, depth & height of your projector.
2. Cut the cardboard to the width of the projector, then cut the length to half the body depth + the height to above the lens.
3. Score the cardboard 2mm deep at the length of half the body depth and bend it back on itself. While it is bent back, stick a strip of Gaffer Tape the width of the card.
4. Fold the card flat and gaffer tape the uncut side – this provides the hinge.
5. Cut the piece of wood to the width of the cardboard, and stick it to the top of the flap – this acts as the counter-balance.
6. Cover the side of the cardboard facing the projector lens with black paper – this reduces reflections to the projectionist & audience.
7. Attach the string to the top of the flap with the counter-weight on the opposite end – this will hold the flap over the lens until it is time to project.



The flap in position while projecting



The flap up, waiting to start projection, with the blurred image visible on the flap



The counter-balance weight tied to the end of the string

## **OPERATION:**

After the projectionist has lined up the projector, the focus, aspect ratio etc., the flap should then be raised to obscure the screen. The DVD can then be placed in the player, and paused, with the image visible out of focus on the flap. Showing can commence when ready, and the flap lowered. When the film ends, the flap can be raised.

# NTRIAC 2013 TRIANGLE COMPETITION

## Triangle "E" (Held Feb. 19th)

Enfield Video Makers  
Potters Bar FM (Grp A)

## Triangle "G" (Held Feb. 15th)

Wanstead & Woodford C&VC  
Bourne End Video Makers

## Triangle "C" (Held Feb. 17th)

Walthamstow ACC  
Ealing F&VM

## Semi-Final Triangle "J"

Winners of  
"E", "G" & "C"

## Triangle "B" (Held Feb. 20th)

Hemel Hempstead MM  
Colchester FM Club

## Triangle "A" (Held Feb. 10th)

Lowestoft Cine&Camcorder  
Club  
Norwich MM

## Triangle "H" (Held Feb. 24th)

Staines C&VC  
Luton MM

## Semi-Final Triangle "K"

Winners of  
"B", "A" & "H"

## Triangle "D" (Held Feb.25th)

Harrow C&VS  
St Albans MM

## Triangle "I" (Held Feb. 1st)

Orpington V&F Makers  
Eastbourne MM

## Triangle "F" (Held Feb. 11th)

South Essex FM  
Potters Bar FM (Grp B)

## Semi-Final Triangle "L"

Winners of  
"D", "I" & "F"

## FINAL Triangle "M"

Winners of  
"J", "K" & "L"

Hosted by  
South Essex  
FilmMakers  
At  
Wyburns School,  
Nevern Road,  
RAYLEIGH,  
Essex, SS6 7PE  
On  
Sunday May 12th  
At  
2.30pm

### Judges:

Tania Mathias  
Mike Lloyd  
John Luton

**You may be surprised to see two SERIAC Clubs (Eastbourne & Orpington) involved in the Triangle Competition for the first time.**

**The Triangle Organiser Ron Jones FACI explains why:**

The take up of clubs entering the Triangle Competition this year was very poor. In all, only 13 NTR Clubs—with one of these, Potter Bar FilmMakers, putting in two entries— plus 2 Clubs from the EARIAC Region, entered this year. This made a total number of sixteen entries.

This was not enough to form a First Round, as it really needs a minimum of eighteen entries to form the required nine rounds in the First Round.

To enable the Triangle to continue this year, it was decided to invite the SERIAC Region to take part. However, because of the short notice and the fact that the Triangle takes place in a very crowded part of the year in the SERIAC competition schedule, only Orpington Video & Film Makers and Eastbourne Moviemakers were able to join us this year.

Due to the distances to be travelled by these Clubs, they opted to have NTR run the first round for them. This was arranged, and the SERIAC round was hosted by Wanstead & Woodford C & VC.

NTR are very grateful to SERIAC for their willingness to help us in this situation as without their help it is very doubtful as to whether the Triangle Competition could have run successfully this year.



## **NTR 100 CLUB**

**Contact: JOHN FARRER**

**Tel.: 01462 434948 E-Mail: [jffarrer@madasafish.com](mailto:jffarrer@madasafish.com)**

**Each of the following wins £12**



### **January**

**Share 17: Vera Duffin  
Share 45: Tony Loader  
Share 87: Shirley Fulcher  
Share 108: Frits Cohen  
Share 36: Peter Barnes**

### **February**

**Share 57: Aylesbury CE  
Share 72: Vicki Green  
Share 56: Michael Slowe**



**To our new members:**  
**Ivan Durup Essex  
Peter Noakes Essex  
Kim Harrold Herts.**



**To join the IAC , contact:**  
**IAC, The Film and Video Institute,  
Dorset House,  
Regent Park,  
Kingston Road,**

**LEATHERHEAD, Surrey, KT22 7PL.**

**Tel.: 01372 824350 E-Mail: [admin@theiac.org.uk](mailto:admin@theiac.org.uk)**

# SPOTLIGHT ON THE FUTURE



APRIL 18th—21st

**BIAFF 2013** hosted by CEMRIAC  
in the Chesterfield Hotel, Chesterfield.  
Full details & Booking Form were  
in the December "Film & Video Maker", or  
can be obtained from the IAC Website.

SUNDAY MAY 12th

**THE NTR TRIANGLE FINAL** hosted by South Essex FilmMakers at  
Wyburns School, NeVERN Road, Rayleigh, SS6 7PE. *(see p. 8)*

SATURDAY OCTOBER 5th

**POTTERS BAR FM PUBLIC SHOW** at 2.30 & 8pm.  
Further details from Penny Love *(Contact details on front cover)*

OCTOBER 25th — 27th

**The IAC NATIONAL AGM WEEKEND** hosted by NERIAC at  
the Holiday Inn, Seaton Burn, Newcastle. *(Further  
details to follow)*

APRIL 13th—15th 2014

**The NTRIAC host BIAFF 2014** at the  
Park Inn, Bedford *(Details to follow)*

- In the previous Newsletter, Enfield Film Makers Chairman **Eric Jukes** reported that in
- their End of Year Competition, they had "made two extra awards: Best Standard
- Definition Video and Best HD."
- **This provoked this response from Tom Hardwick FACI:**
- How strange it was to read that Eric Jukes feels the need to have two separate
- awards in the End of Year Competition
- Very odd. All my films are shot in HD but invariably they're shown on DVD, which
- is of course SD by definition. As I make Blu-Ray versions as well, would I be
- eligible to enter both competitions with the same film? ***Over to you, Eric...***

# Club Directory

## **ACORN FILMS, CHINGFORD**

*Contact:* David Piggott 020 8524 9642

## **AYLESBURY CAMCORDER ENTHUSIASTS**

[www.the-ace.org](http://www.the-ace.org) *Contact:* Alan Bowles, 50 Queens Mead, Bedgrove, Aylesbury, Bucks., HP21 7AP

## **BOURNE END VIDEOCAMERA CLUB**

[www.bevcc.co.uk](http://www.bevcc.co.uk) *Contact:* John Zammitt, Secretary, 4 Woodside Ave., Flackwell Heath, High Wycombe, Bucks, HP10 9LG.

## **BRENTWOOD VIDEO CLUB**

Sec. Julian Ryley, Tel.: 01277 21 6147

## **CHANNEL 7 PRODUCTIONS**

[Darren@channel7.org.uk](mailto:Darren@channel7.org.uk)

*Contact:* Darren Lalonde 01480 405615 or 07887 932498

## **COLCHESTER FILM MAKERS CLUB**

[www.Cfmclub.org.uk](http://www.Cfmclub.org.uk)

*Contact:* Lionel Bloomfield, Secretary, Tel.: 01206 211788

## **EALING VIDEO & FILM MAKERS**

*Contact:* Karen Cherrington, Tel.: 020 8429 8497.

## **ENFIELD FILM MAKERS**

[www.enfieldvideomakers.co.uk](http://www.enfieldvideomakers.co.uk)

*Contact:* Eric Jukes. Tel.: 0208 366 6162

## **THE ESSEX AUDIO-VISUAL GROUP**

[www.essexavgrouop.org.uk](http://www.essexavgrouop.org.uk)

*Contact:* Mr. R. Williams, Tel.: 01708 748580

## **FINCHLEY FILM MAKERS**

[www.finchleycinevideo.co.uk](http://www.finchleycinevideo.co.uk)

*Contact:* Brian Clayfield, 4 Waterlow Court, Heath Close, London NW11 7DT.

## **HARROW CINE & VIDEO SOCIETY**

[www.harrowcinevideo.org.uk](http://www.harrowcinevideo.org.uk)

*Contact:* Ken Gale Tel.: 020 8424 0235

## **HEMEL HEMPSTEAD MOVIE MAKERS**

[www.hemelmoviemakers.org.uk](http://www.hemelmoviemakers.org.uk)

*Contact:* Audrey Bachelor Tel.: 01442 25 6853

## **LUTON MOVIE MAKERS**

[www.moviemakers.freeuk.com](http://www.moviemakers.freeuk.com)

*Contact:* Paul Clarke Tel.: 01582 508616

## **MILTON KEYNES CAMCORDER CLUB**

[www.mkcamcorderclub.co.uk](http://www.mkcamcorderclub.co.uk)

*Contact:* Tel.: 01908 236419

## **OXFORD VIDEO SOCIETY**

[Oxfordvideosoc.mysite.wanadoo-members.co.uk](http://Oxfordvideosoc.mysite.wanadoo-members.co.uk) *Contact:* Michael Batts, Tel.: 01865 88 1393

## **POTTERS BAR FILMMAKERS**

[www.pottersbarfilmmakers.com](http://www.pottersbarfilmmakers.com)

*Contact:* Penny Love Tel.: 01707 65 6446

## **RADLEY VIDEO**

[www.radleyvideo.co.uk](http://www.radleyvideo.co.uk)

*Contact:* Radley College, Abingdon, Oxon., OX14 2HR

## **SOUTH ESSEX FILM MAKERS**

[www.sefm.org.uk](http://www.sefm.org.uk)

*Contact:* Geoff Woolfson. Tel.: 07964445356

## **ST. ALBANS MOVIE MAKERS**

[www.stalbansmm.weebly.com](http://www.stalbansmm.weebly.com). *Contact:* Nigel Longman. Tel.: 01923 779571

## **STAINES VIDEO MAKERS**

[www.stainesvideo.co.uk](http://www.stainesvideo.co.uk) *Contact:*

Mrs. Cathy Clarke, Tel.: 01784 433580

## **SVGA – THE SELECT VIDEO GROUP OF AMERSHAM** [www.svga.weebly.com](http://www.svga.weebly.com)

*Contact:* Ron Haddock, thro' the web

## **THREE COUNTIES MOVIE MAKERS**

*Contact:* Tel.: 01442 214990

## **WALTHAMSTOW AMATEUR CINE**

**VIDEO CLUB** [www.wacvc.org.uk](http://www.wacvc.org.uk)

*Contact:* Venner Gilbert, Tel.: 01708 746586

## **WANSTEAD AND WOODFORD CINE AND VIDEO CLUB**

[www.wansteadcinevideo.org.uk](http://www.wansteadcinevideo.org.uk)

*Contact:* Martin Page, Tel.: 020 8504 9430



# Club Matters



The Colchester Film Makers Club has been in the news recently, with members John Howden & Paul Desmond winning the 2012 NT Festival with "An Edwardian Priest", and John Howden taking 3rd place with "The Great Dorset Steam Fair".

They are a thriving club—five different members entered films in their Holiday Competition in January.

They also upload their entries on to Vimeo. *(How widespread is this amongst clubs, I wonder? Let us know! Ed.)*

Currently, they are involved in chronicling on video the upgrading & refurbishment of Colchester Castle.

## Publicity Officer **David Gibson** reports:

"Colchester Castle has closed to the public while the historic building undergoes a £4 million redevelopment.



Having been viewed by more than 1.5 million visitors, the current collections – designated nationally and internationally important – will be given a major facelift.

Castle museum archaeologists and other experts from diverse disciplines are being drafted in to upgrade many of the fine exhibits, whilst new "historic discoveries" will be introduced.

And keenly recording the major milestones in the 15 month programme will be members of Colchester Film Makers Club. Peter Noakes, as producer, is leading a team of local videographers making a series of progress news films. The first, made by film maker Paul Desmond, sets the scene with an interview with Tom Hodgson, Colchester Development Manager.

Commented Peter: "It is a once in a lifetime opportunity to film such an ambitious enterprise. Besides making short news items for our website and the museum's, we hope to make a comprehensive documentary, and also offer our footage to the East Anglian Film Archive."

In March, the Norman castle will re-open to the public for four weeks, providing a rare opportunity for the public to view the castle as an empty shell for the first time since 1935, when its current roof was erected.

It is proposed to re-open Colchester Castle at Easter 2014."

**IS YOUR CLUB INVOLVED IN MAKING A COMMUNITY FILM? TELL US ABOUT IT.**

**Deadline for the next issue is Sunday April 7th**

All contributions by e-mail (preferred) to:

**john.astin1@ntlworld.com**