

North Thames Region



NEWSLETTER

July—August 2018

2018 NTR KO Competition Final



Judges (l > r) Dennis Kelly, Geoff Harmer & Ben Simon
(complete with their gifts of wine!) declare Staines Video Makers
the Winners!!! (See pages 10 > 11)

WELL DONE STAINES!

And now YOUR chance to be a WINNER in our
2018 Annual Competition (See pages 2, 5, 6, 7, 8 & 12)

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Chairman's Chat

Brenda Granshaw FCI has been a member of Wanstead and Woodford Movie Makers for over 20 years and became their Chairman again in 2015. She was Chairman of the North Thames Region from 2007 to 2014, and is now serving for the second time.



First of all, let me congratulate Staines Video Makers for winning this year's Knock out Competition. As usual when watching films, the sun shone brightly but because the four programmes of films were so good, we were content to sit in the gloom for the afternoon. The three judges added to the enjoyment of the afternoon, interacting well with each other and each providing useful comments. I was delighted that all the Clubs which had entered the Competition, were represented at the Final and I was also pleased to see members of Enfield Video Makers, who did not enter the Competition, there as well. I must also thank Bourne End Film Makers for hosting the event so successfully.

The North Thames Council has now turned its attention to the Annual Movie Competition and we have decided to revert to having hardcopy entries only. There is no doubt that Alan Colegrave and Tim Stannard ran a very successful On Line Competition in 2016 and added on line entries to the North Thames Competition last year. This also was successful, but added substantially to the work of the Competition Officer. Alan's aim was to make judging easier by enabling judges to view a number of films on line and then submit comments to him. However, he then had the task of finding a large number of judges, up loading movies sent in on disc, sorting out which movie was seen by whom, getting the comments back, collating the markings etc. etc. It is therefore no surprise that Alan has had enough and has stepped down. We appointed a new Competition Officer, Geoff Foord, at the last AGM.

Although we sit as North Thames Council Members and try to keep the Region alive, we do have other activities, including movie making, that we wish to follow. It is for this reason that we have decided to return to putting the onus on you to find a couple of envelopes (one to submit the movie and the other to get it returned), fill in the Entry Form and send the movie to Geoff Foord (*Entry Form and full Competition details on pages 5—8 of this Newsletter*). As an encouragement, there is no charge to enter the Competition this year—so no need to blow the dust off your cheque book!

The Council has also decided to change the timing of the Festival by making it an afternoon rather than a full day event, in the hope that this will encourage more people to come. It is always interesting to see the range of movies being produced and to meet other moviemakers to discuss the merits of the various movies. I do hope that you will come and join us on 17th November (*see pages 5 & 12*).

It's always good to hear that despite falling memberships across the Region, there are clubs who seem determined to keep going.

Roy Garner, Walthamstow Amateur CineVideo Club Secretary, writes:

Just to let you know that our Club is still going, we will be celebrating our 70th year next year.

We have recently cleared our stock room at Stafford Hall by removing the bench and cupboards to make room for sets.

We used to have use of the large hall but are determined to continue making videos.

Our latest video is a comedy featuring Scott of the Antarctic, so the small stock room is filled with a tent set, cramped but still better than clearing the set each week!

I have been the Club Secretary for the last two years although I understand that some correspondence has been sent to our ex Secretary, Venner Gilbert, who is sadly no longer with us.

Roy can be reached by e-mail on:
r.garner854@btinternet.com

Let's hope Walthamstow ACVC make it to their 70th!



Welcome!

New Members:

Paul Desmond Essex
John Dobson Middlesex
Shirley Hollis Beds.



The Film & Video Institute

To join the IAC , contact:
IAC, The Film and Video Institute,
McCracken Park,
Great North Road,
Gosforth,
NEWCASTLE ON TYNE NE3 2DT
Tel.: 0191 303 8960
E-Mail: admin@theiac.org.uk

In the last Newsletter, Martin Page explained the current Aspect Ratio situation.

Tom Hardwick responds:

I enjoyed the May/June 2018 issue of the NTR Newsletter, especially Martin Page's piece on aspect ratios.

For well over 100 years, filmmakers have been pushing to go wider and wider, to the consternation of projectionists everywhere!

I see there were some Ultra-Panavision versions of Ben Hur that used 70mm squeezed prints giving an enormous 2.7:1 aspect ratio, though Dynavision even beat that, using 2.77:1 images derived from 70mm 8 perf pulldown, so sacrificing some vertical image information.

But I suppose the widest aspect ratio has to be the 360° projection used by Circarama in 1958 and Circlevision, who used 9 x 35 mm prints running in sync.

So I guess there's a collective sigh of relief that things have calmed somewhat, and aspect ratios have been standardised.

I mentioned being irked that many commercial films on DVD or BluRay, those with a 2.40:1 aspect ratio, do not fill my 16:9 TV screen. I have, though, since discovered the TV Settings can be adjusted for that, though with some cropping. (Ed.)

Tom continues:

I was surprised to see that films shown letterboxed on your new TV irked you. Of course you could have them masked (left and right) down to 16:9, but wouldn't you rather see all of the image as the director intended? Were you irked when films were shown letterboxed on your 4:3 CRT?

21:9 TVs (2.33:1) were made a few years ago and were aimed at cinephiles since they more closely matched the standard motion pictures aspect ratio. They aren't available anymore, and they were rare even at the time of their release.

I feel that unless you only turn on your TV to watch movies, you're better off with a standard 16:9 TV.

Watching normal TV shows on a cinema-wide screen causes it to show black bars on either side, which isn't great. This reduces the viewing area for 16:9 content considerably.

A 58" 21:9 television corresponds to the same viewing area as a 47" TV for 16:9 content.

TV shows are made and distributed using a standardised 16:9 aspect ratio, and every TV sold today uses the same. Movies are usually found with a 21:9 ratio, however, which causes them to have black bars above and below the pictures on standard TVs. Some PC monitors share that ratio, but it isn't very practical on a TV since normal content would have vertical black bars.

NTRIAC 2018 AGM and Annual Movie Festival

As Chairman Brenda Granshaw explains in her Chairman's Chat (*page 2*), your Council has decided not to go with online entries this year, but just to welcome movies on BluRay, DVD or Memory Stick.

So, it is time to get this year's Movie Festival underway. We have a new Competition Officer, Geoff Foord, and we have made changes with the hope of getting both a bumper number of entries this year and attracting a bumper audience to the Festival Day on Saturday 17th November.

Overleaf (*pages 6 > 7*), you will find the Competition Entry Form. Page 8 will give you the Competition Rules and details of the prizes to be won.

We are going back to the Amersham Community Centre this year, although we are moving from the Drake Hall into the Barn Hall which is just opposite. The full address is:

**The Barn Hall,
Amersham Community Centre,
Chiltern Avenue,
Amersham, HP6 5AH**

Another change is that it will be an afternoon event, starting at 2.00pm. This will give attendees a chance to get things done in the morning and come and join us for the afternoon.

The result of the timing change is that there will only be 3 hours of movies instead of the usual 3.5 hours. We shall of course show all the winners and as many others as we can manage. Long movies may be précised if necessary.

The current plan for the afternoon is as follows:

2.00 pm	Welcome and North Thames AGM
2.15 pm	Movies – first half
3.45 pm	Refreshments
4.15 pm	Movies – second half
5.45 pm	Results and presentations
6.15 pm	Departure

Cost of entry will be £2 including refreshments. Please put a coin in your pocket so that we don't need to hunt for change.

**Now, please, turn the page, fill out the Entry Form and send in your movie. Entries are FREE this year.
And, please put the date in your diary:
2.00 pm, Saturday 17th November**

NTRIAC Annual Movie Festival – Saturday 17th November

COMPETITION ENTRY FORM

Title of movie:

Name of Maker:

Address:

.....

Postcode:.....

Telephone: **Email:**.....

An acknowledgement, preferably email, will be sent on receipt of your entry.

IAC Membership Number (if applicable).....

Details of movie: please tick as appropriate:

BluRay (plus std. DVD)..... Memory Stick (plus std DVD).....DVD.....

Length of movie:

Please supply only one movie per disc/stick

Please ensure a minimum of 5 secs of black to start and preferably no menu.

Start of audio: If before the first frame, please state timing:.....

Brief description of the movie:

.....

.....

.....

Copyright clearance to be strictly observed (Rule 5)

Audio: MCPS/BPI Licence Nos:

External video content used: Permission:

**N.B. Your data is just for the purposes of running this Competition,
and will not be passed to third parties.**

Please sign that you agree: **Date:**

All Entries and Judges Comments will be available for collection at the end of
the Festival.

If you are not attending and wish to have them sent to you, please provide a
stamped addressed envelope. Otherwise your films will not be returned.

Entries to be sent to:

**Geoff Foord,
102 Waxwell Lane,
Pinner,
Middlesex HA5 3ES**

**CLOSING DATE FOR ENTRIES:
12 NOON
SUNDAY 16th SEPTEMBER**

Movies will be returned as soon as practicable. While every care is taken, the Region
cannot be held responsible for any movie, which is lost or damaged.

*Please complete this form, remove the pages from the Newsletter, and enclose it in the
package with your disc or memory stick.*

NTRIAC Annual Movie Festival – Saturday 17th November

RULES

The Competition is open to all amateur movie makers living within the North Thames Region of the IAC.

Entries must be made without professional assistance other than the use of recorded music as they may be included in a compilation record of the Festival on DVD. Movies can be entered on DVD, BluRay or Memory Stick, but if on either of the latter two, please also send a “standard” DVD copy for viewing in case of technical difficulties.

It is a condition of entry that movies which have won a major national or international award (5 Stars or above in BIAFF, for example) are not eligible for the Competition.

Only one movie to each disc will be accepted. The maximum length of any movie is limited to 25 minutes.

All copyright material, both audio and visual, must be cleared by the movie maker. Details of the music copyright clearance can be obtained from the IAC Film and Video Institute, McCracken Park, Great North Road, Gosforth, Newcastle Upon Tyne, NE23 2DT. Tel: 0191 303 8960. Email: admin@theiac.org.uk

The Judges' decisions are final. No correspondence will be entered into with reference to any decision made.

There is no limit on the number of entries per person. However, entries should have been made in the last three years and should not have been entered into the Competition previously.

There is no charge for entry to this Competition, but please enclose a stamp addressed envelope for the return of your entry/entries if it/they will NOT be collected at the Festival.

Awards

Winner – £50 + the NTR Trophy

Second – £30 + the Ganderson Trophy

Third – £20 + the Kodak Trophy

Best Use of Sound

Best Editing

Certificates for: Very Highly Commended, Highly Commended and Commended.

SPOTLIGHT ON THE FUTURE



SUNDAY SEPTEMBER 16th

Last Day for Entry into the NTR Annual Competition

SATURDAY OCTOBER 6th

POTTERS BAR FM PUBLIC SHOW —"A Festival of Films" - at Northaw Village Hall, Northaw Road West, Northaw EN6 4NW at 2.30 pm (only). *Details from Penny Love (see front cover).*

THURSDAY OCTOBER 18th > SUNDAY OCTOBER 21st

IAC AGM Weekend, hosted by CEMRIAC in The Three Swans Hotel, Market Harborough, LE16 7NJ. *(Details in "Film & Video Maker" and on the IAC website).*

SATURDAY NOVEMBER 17th

NTR AGM, ANNUAL COMPETITION & FESTIVAL at the Barn Hall, Amersham Community Centre, Chiltern Avenue, Amersham, HP6 5AH.
Start: 2 pm. *(See p. 5)*

NTR 100 CLUB

Contact: Bob Chester

Tel.: 020 8449 2004

E-Mail: robertalanchester@yahoo.co.uk

Each of the following wins £12

May 2018

53 Kim Harrold
86 Marie Jones
85 Arthur Gatcumb
64 Penny Love

June 2018

1 Ted Bateman
54 Bob Chester
67 Guy Scott
37 Sarah Williams

The 2018 NTR KO Final was hosted by Bourne End Film Makers on Sunday May 20th.

Membership Secretary Penny Love gives her own account of the day.

(Photos by Christine Collins & Bob Chester)

It was a lovely, sunny morning when Bob Chester, Christine Collins and I set out for the wilds of Bourne End, (Bucks not Herts.!), and even though Potters Bar FM were not in the Final this year, we always like to see who, and what, has got that far.



**The Final Venue at Bourne End—
and a lovely, sunny day**

The finalists were Colchester FM, Bourne End FM, Staines VM and South Essex FM. They all had very good programmes and judges Denis Kelly, Geoff Harmer and Ben Simon must have had a hard job deciding who the winners were but when they announced their decision they said it had been unanimous - so no fisticuffs required!

We had a special visitor too, a lovely King Charles Spaniel named Alice who only commented on one film with a couple of barks—whether it was due to her not liking the film or a reminder that she also needed a loo break was never made clear.

Unfortunately, as the sun was so bright, and some halls' curtains are more for decoration than black out, it was a bit difficult to see a 'dark picture' on the screen sometimes but we managed OK.

There were at least 35 people in the audience, not bad for a Sunday afternoon.

The subjects ranged from a lady making Kroost, a sweet pastry cut into strips, slit, cooked in hot oil and sprinkled with icing sugar, (looked delicious), to a river in Cookham which floods, a cataract operation in very big close up, (not as gory as it sounds), a film to a record showing a chap who absolutely adored his car, an animation featuring characters on Christmas cards coming to life, and a documentary about Southend Pier, unfortunately only a short excerpt from a much longer film.



**NTR Chairman, Brenda Granshaw,
with Alice, the King Charles Spaniel**



The judges and audience in wrapt attention!

I made notes about each film but too much for the Newsletter space, and of course you needed to be there to really appreciate the work put in by the makers of all 18 films.

When it came to presenting the trophy, Brenda Granshaw, our esteemed NTR Chairman, said that the Trophy had been left at home by mistake by last year's winners, so an 'empty space' was presented instead!!

Bob announced that a special offer on shares for the 100 Club was available for this day only but no takers, probably due to us all already having some.

However, he said that you only need to contact him to buy some at the regular price.

As we had had our lunch about mid morning, we three stopped at a nearby restaurant for a meal before setting out on the dreaded M25 for home.

Oh, didn't I say, the winners were Staines - so big congratulations to them.

I wonder what we will all come up with for next year's Competition???



The Bourne End Projection Team



The Judges declare Staines the Winners!



CONGRATULATIONS!

The Staines VM Winning Programme:

The Start of a Big Day (Roger Crunden)

Son of Rome (John Anscomb)

The Colour of Alicante (Carolyn Page)

Quick on the Draw (John Anscomb)

Miracle on the Mantlepiece (Tim Stannard)

North Thames Region IAC
Festival Competition
2pm on Saturday November 17th

Breaking News!



Prize Money is back!!!

Winner: £50!

Second: £30!

Third: £20!

And Entry is FREE!!!

Closing Date for Entries:

Sunday September 16th

Good Luck!

Deadline for the next issue is Sunday August 5th 2018

Please send all contributions by e-mail & attachments to:

john.astin1@ntlworld.com