

NORTH THAMES REGION *NEWSLETTER*



The Film & Video Institute



Some of the Group who visited Alexandra Palace with Penny Love. Report on the back page.

Helmie Stil is a member of Wanstead and Woodford Video Club. For Helmie's success story - see page 6.

(To join W&W Video Club see page 15.)



All films entered into the North Thames Region Annual Film Competition will be shown at Pinner Village Hall on Sunday 27 November. Doors open at 10.00am. The NTR AGM will take place at 2.15pm followed by the remaining films. Full details of the event were given in the September-October newsletter. Entry is £5 and access and lunch information is repeated on page 11 of this issue.

November-December 2011

CHAIRMAN'S CHAT

Another year as slipped by and I can see the Christmas cards etc in the shops. That must mean that the Annual Competition and North Thames AGM are just around the corner and I hope to see you on Sunday 27th November at Pinner. My report is on pages 8 and 9.



In the meantime I have been on three interesting visits recently. The trip organised by Penny to the Alexandra Palace BBC Television Museum was most interesting. We were shown a video of the history of the BBC at Alexandra Palace and then had time to look at all the old televisions and wirelesses. It was a trip down memory lane to see the very small television screens sitting in beautifully made, floor standing, wooden cases, and it was much the same for the original wireless sets. Then of course in came the smaller radios and the table top televisions. Oh how times have changed!

Eric and I then set off for the Kent Film Festival. Having judged the films with Christine Collins and Bob Chester it was good to go and see them all again on a big screen. We were not disappointed and in general the audience seemed to agree with the decisions we had made. Interestingly there were just under 100 people at the event which started at 11.00 on Saturday morning and lasted until 7.30pm. I had to wonder how they achieved such an impressive turnout not to mention 50 entries for the competition.

The HD event led by Tom Hardwick was a great success with about 40 members coming from all over the Region. Tom is a brilliant speaker and kept us all enthralled for 4 hours. A full report is on page 4.

Now it is that time when a number of clubs put on their annual show. I have been to Potters Bar and their show was as entertaining as ever. Please let me know if you are having a show and I shall try to come along.

2

May I be the first to wish you the compliments of the season.

Brenda

A Useful DVD Copying Service

I recently made a mini DV tape of a conversation between three people who knew an Uncle of mine some 77 years ago. The intended recording was due to last 15 minutes but ended up at 1 hour and 15 minutes! (not being entered in a comp.!) I needed 10 copies to send to various people and didn't fancy running my camera for 12.1/2 hours. On speaking to John Astin he suggested calling BDI who do all his copies but thought that they wouldn't deal in such small numbers.

On calling them I spoke to David Benedict who said he would be delighted to copy from 1 upwards. I posted my DVD copy (not tape) and he copied, printed a title on each disc, put them into an ejector case, called me with the amount and sent them to me, all within 7 working days. What fantastic service. Total bill £27.36p
Their web site is www.bdiduplication.co.uk and telephone 0113 269 0729.

I can recommend them and told David he might get more enquiries from our Members and anyone else who might read this article. Please copy and tell your friends!!

Bob Chester



North Thames Region President: Christine Collins FACI

Chairman: Brenda Granshaw

8 The Green Walk

Chingford E4 7ER

brendagranshaw@padwick.plus.com Tel 020 8579 7365

Secretary:

Roy Claisse FACI

4 Purlieu Way

Theydon Bois Epping

Essex CM16 7ED

Tel 01992 81 2520

Newsletter Editor:

Eric Granshaw CBE FACI

8 The Green Walk, Chingford,

London E4 7ER

ericgranshaw@thekeys.plus.com

Tel 020 8529 6196

Tom Hardwick on High Def

Some 30 members from all parts of the North Thames Region and 11 members from the South East Region came to St Paul's Church Hall to listen to what Tom had to say about High Definition. Many had put a toe in the water but some were Hi-Def sceptics who hoped to be convinced that they were right not to touch HD, on the grounds that what is available now is as good as it needs to be.

Tom's journey started in the dark days of VHS, which was supplanted by S-VHS only to be overtaken by Hi-8 and then by mini-DV and the SDHC card. We have always been in search of high definition and HD is the immediate next step. He explained the difference between full HD and HDV. The former with a pixel count of 1920 by 1080 and the latter with a count of 1440 by 1080.

If these figures were not in themselves convincing, Tom produced examples of the different formats. The same shot in DV, HDV and full HD. For those who were not sure that they could tell the difference between the various formats, Tom also projected a Blu-ray disc that had one half of the picture in full high definition, the other half being in standard (DVD) definition. This so clearly showed the differences that he was accused of blurring the DVD half of the picture to promote Blu-ray, but replaying the original DVD convinced the sceptics

The means of recording video – tape vs card – archiving - the quality of cameras now available and developments in the pipeline were discussed with a rosy look at what we can look forward to in the future, including super HD and all that goes with it.

There was enthusiastic audience participation with Tom gladly taking up all the questions raised. It was an excellent afternoon with an audience well satisfied with the presentation. The overriding conclusion to the afternoon was that high-definition in itself has no direct relevance to filmmaking; it's the unfolding story that holds far more importance.

Brenda, the North Thames Chairman provided the refreshments. She thanked Tom for his carefully considered presentation, and Ian Furlong for bringing Hemel Hempstead's HD projector to the event. .

Eric Granshaw



The audience relaxed in the twenty minute break in Tom's presentation



Gordon Sutton and Ray Lucas took advantage of the refreshment break to tackle Tom



St Paul's Church Hall with its built-in screen provided by Wanstead and Woodford Ciné and Video Club lends itself to this sort of presentation



Sadly, we must announce the death of Muriel Agius who died on the 5 August aged 93 years. Muriel has been a loyal supporter of the IAC for many years. She hosted many meetings at their home when her husband, Edward, sat on the Council and was always there to support him when he was Chairman. Although Edward was the driving force in film making, Muriel was always by his side and continued to attend events after his death. The picture is of her in the audience at the 2008 North Thames AGM

Helmie's Story

Helmie joined Wanstead and Woodford Ciné Club in 2011 and has shown just a few snippets of her work. She entered the Walthamstow International Film Festival this year with her short film ***Shadow and Sun*** which won first prize in the documentary section and second prize overall. This is Helmie's story.

The Walthamstow film festival started as a boutique pop up cinema in a furniture shop. This year, my film will be shown alongside 145 others in five venues in Walthamstow including a pub, a recycling centre, a community space, a museum and the funky retro furniture shop where it all started last year.

My name is Helmie Stil. I am 29 years old and I moved a couple of months ago from The Netherlands to Wanstead. Now I live in the High Street above a shop. I love it here in Wanstead, the people are friendly and it feels a bit like a small village in a world city, which I really like.

In the beginning it was hard for me to adjust to a different life in a different country. Sometimes I felt a bit lonely and I missed my friends and family. I made a short documentary about my feelings of moving to a different country.

I have filmed all kinds of shadows in the High Street of Wanstead and in my house. My partner Lennert Busch made the music for my film. This is the first film we have made with only the two of us. I filmed, edited and wrote the film. It's a really personal film and at the end of the film process I could no longer judge whether it was any good. I had put so much passion, emotion and myself into the film that I couldn't be objective anymore and that is why I am extremely happy with my two awards. From the 145 films that were submitted my film won!! I love to make films and I will continue all my life to do so. Or at least I will try.

The film ***Shadow and Sun*** can be seen online:

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fxhMTG7K8Zw>

6

<http://www.vimeo.com/24042499>

**The North Thames 49th AGM will take place at
2.15pm in Pinner Village Hall on Sunday 27
November 2011**

AGENDA

1. Apologies for absence
2. Minutes of the previous meeting (21 November 2010)
4. To receive the Chairman's Report
5. To receive the Treasurer's Report and Accounts
6. To elect members of the Regional Council
7. To elect the following officers and Special Posts

Chairman
Vice-Chairman
Hon Secretary
Hon Treasurer
Newsletter Editor
Publicity Officer
Membership Officer
Annual Competition Officer
Triangle Competition Officer
Youth Officer
Training Officer
8. To appoint an Hon Auditor (Independent Examiner)
9. Members' Voices - your chance to make suggestions
10. Any other business

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT FOR 2011

As usual the year started with the Annual Film Competition and NTR AGM held at Northaw Village Hall. The Competition was successfully overseen by our Competition Officer, Ken Mills. Only 17 films were entered for the competition and they were all shown. The North Thames Trophy was awarded to Eric Granshaw FAcI for his film "Another Way of Life". In addition to the competition, the North Thames Region celebrated its 60th Birthday with a cake made by Penny Love and DVD cover momentos.

19 clubs entered the Triangle Competition, an increase of one over the previous year. The first rounds brought forth a high standard of films in both quality and content. As usual, Ron Jones tirelessly refereed each of the heats. The Final, hosted by SVGA, took place in May in Amersham. Over 80 people from a number of clubs were present to see South Essex Filmmakers collect the trophy. All three finalists had an exceptional group of films and it was pleasing that so many people gave their time to support the event.

Entry to the BIAFF Competition by North Thames members nearly doubled on the previous year, which would indicate that there are still lots of filmmakers in the Region.

We have continued to provide more targeted training for our members and we have had 2 more "tips and tricks" events, one for Liquid Edition users and a first for those using Media Composer. Both these events were a joint venture with SERIAC and benefited from the expertise of Mike Shaw and John Epton from that Region. In addition, we organised an afternoon on HD led by Tom Hardwick. This also was a cooperative event with SERIAC and very much appreciated by members of both regions who attended..

On the social side, Penny Love organised a successful trip to the Alexandra Palace BBC Television Museum. Although of more specialist interest she filled the 20 places available and everyone learnt a lot from the visit.

Last year my Report spoke of the lack of interest that members seemed to have in IAC and Regional events. Indeed, this year the Gillham and Manassah Competitions for the first round winners of the Triangle Open and Story films were dropped owing to lack of interest by members in the previous few years. With the strength of the entries into the Triangle it seems a pity that many good films no longer get the opportunity of a second airing. Was the event just held at the wrong time of year?

This year we have seen an increase in the North Thames entries to BIAFF Competition, the greatest attendance at a Triangle Final and an increase in the number of clubs competing in the Triangle Competition. I feel there is some way to go before we can say that we are providing what the members want but we are still trying.

My thanks go to all the Members of the North Thames Council for their commitment to the Region and the support they have given me over the year. I am also grateful to those of you who regularly support the North Thames' events which the Council organises.

Brenda Granshaw
Chairman

Current Members of The NTR Council

President	Christine Collins
Chairman	Brenda Granshaw
Secretary	Roy Claisse
Treasurer	Jack Gill
Publicity	Aivar Kaulins
Newsletter	Eric Granshaw
Triangle	Ron Jones
Competition	Ken Mills
Training	Eric Granshaw
Membership	Penny Love
Members	Eileen Kenning
	Laurie Calvert
	John Farrer

NORTH THAMES REGION IAC

This form must either be sent to the Hon. Secretary by Friday 25 November or handed to him before 12.30 pm on Sunday 27 November.

Note . The agreement of the nominee must be obtained before nomination

NOMINATIONS FOR COUNCIL MEMBERS 2011

(For a term of three years)

- | | |
|---------|--------|
| 1. | 2..... |
| 3. | 4..... |

Proposed..... Seconded.....

Membership of the Council is open on an elective basis to all members of the IAC in the Region. The Council consists of an elected group of 10 post holders and up to 8 members, a total of 18. We currently have only 10 people on Council.

The Council meets every other month on the fourth Tuesday . The meeting takes place in Wanstead House and commences at 7.30pm. Usually business is completed by 9.30pm.

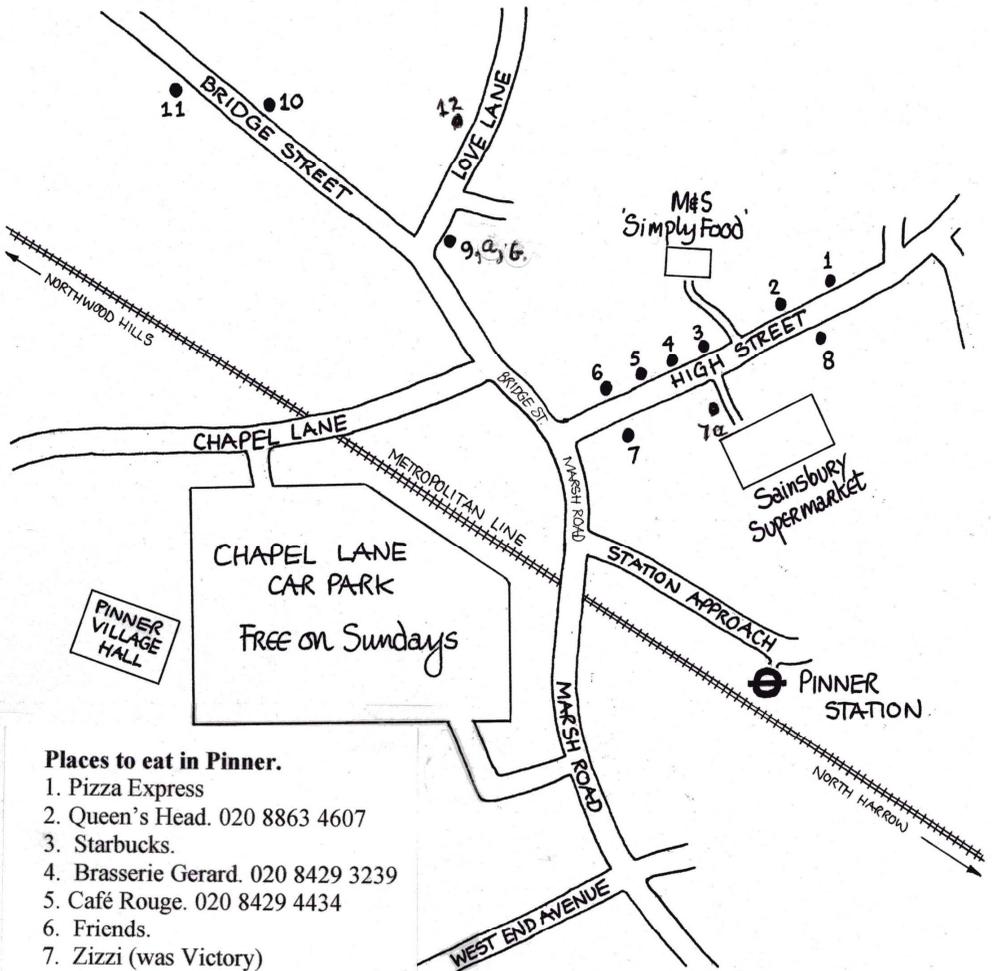
NOMINATIONS FOR OFFICERS OF COUNCIL 2011

(For a term of one year)

- | | |
|-------------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| 1. Chairman..... | 2. Vice Chairman..... |
| 3. Hon. Secretary..... | 4. Hon. Treasurer..... |
| 5. Membership Officer..... | 6. Publicity Officer..... |
| 7. Newsletter Editor..... | 8. Triangle Trophy Officer..... |
| 9. Youth Officer | 10. Training Officer..... |
| 11. Annual Competition Officer..... | |

Proposed..... Seconded.....

Directions to Pinner Village Hall Chapel Lane Car Park, Pinner, Middx HA5 1AB



Places to eat in Pinner.

1. Pizza Express
2. Queen's Head. 020 8863 4607
3. Starbucks.
4. Brasserie Gerard. 020 8429 3239
5. Café Rouge. 020 8429 4434
6. Friends.
7. Zizzi (was Victory)
- 7a. Silver Grill Café.
8. Prezzo. 020 8966 9916
9. Café Nero,
- 9a. Italian Pizza.
- 9b. Paphos Diner
10. Nova Era Café.
11. Bella Café
12. Sazio. 020 8866 3883.

Walking from the Hall to No.1 takes about 4mins.
Best to book as Sunday lunchtime is very popular.
Packed lunch can be eaten in the Hall.

THE ELITE 100 CLUB
(Only 100 members allowed)

Details of the winners for the September and October draws
are as follows:-

September

1 st Prize	Colchester FMC	Share No.58	£20.00p
2 nd , Prize	Hilda Blackburn	Share No.43	£13,20p
3 rd Prize	Bill Hollbrook	Share No.84	£6.80p

October

1 st Prize	Hilda Blackburn	Share No. 93	£20.00p
2 nd . Prize	Les Jeffrey	Share No.63	£13.20p
3 rd , Prize	Penny Love	Share No. 64	£6.80p

Total Earned for NTR this year to date £364.50p



Promoter for NTR: John Farrer,
Mossbury, The Ridgeway, Hitchin,
Herts SG5 2BT
email: jffarrer@madasafish.com

As we are ever mindful of the rise in postal and other charges in the NTR100 Club we hope that members will help by letting us have their email address and club name. This will help us to keep COSTS DOWN and PRIZE MONEY UP !
A quick email to jffarrer@madasafish.com with your name , club name and email address is all that is required ! Your help and cooperation will mean even more prizes in 2012 !

Copy Dates Copy Dates Copy Dates

If you have something that you would like to see published in this newsletter, then send it to me. Email (address on page 4) or post it to:-Eric Granshaw, 8 The Green Walk, Chingford, London E4 7ER.

Diary Dates

Saturday 5 November - The second annual East Anglian Film competition will be hosted by the current title holders, Colchester Film Makers Club, at their premises at the Hythe Community Centre, 1 Ventura Drive, Colchester, CO1 2FG. Light refreshments will be provided for visiting club members from 12:30pm, and the competition will start at 2pm. For further information, please contact paul.desmond1946@gmail.com

Friday 25 November, Wanstead and Woodford Ciné & Video Club Annual Show at St Pauls Church Hall, Chigwell Road, Woodford Bridge, IG8 8BT. Admission £5 including tea and cakes. 7.30 for 8pm

Sunday 27th November - NTR AGM and MOVIE FESTIVAL, all day event. Pinner Village Hall, Chapel Lane Car Park, Pinner, HA5 1AB. Doors open 10 am for 10.30 am start. Tickets at the door £ 5 Includes morning / afternoon refreshments. Children free. Further information Roy Claisse, F.A.C.I. Tele 01992 - 812520.

Sunday 29 January 2012 Grand Final of North v South Competition takes place at the Village Hall Farnborough, Kent. More information from Mike Coad 01424 220391

Items for Sale at the NTR Movie Festival in Pinner on Sunday, November 27th 2011.

Do you need a camera tripod ? How about a larger (or smaller) screen ? Do you still use VHS tapes for off-air recording, and if not, why not ? How about some brand new ones, or some previously recorded ones, all at mega cheap prices ? If you are burning DVDs, you will need brand new storage cases, and there will be a mountain of these available for you on the day, together with other bargains. Just bring a few coins of the realm, and you will go home well satisfied. See you there.

Aivar Kaulins

Secretaries and publicity officers of affiliated clubs are invited to send details of their forthcoming public shows for inclusion in Diary Dates to the newsletter editor.

ACORN FILMS CHINGFORD

Well known for their Chingford Newsreel.
Contact David Piggott 020 8524 9642
for information

BOURNE END VIDEO CAMERA CLUB

meets in the Target Room, The Community
Centre, Wakeman Road, Bourne End, Bucks, SL8
5SX at 8pm first & third Wednesdays of the
month. www.bevcc.co.uk. Contact John Zammit,
Secretary, 4 Woodside Ave, Flackwell Heath, High
Wycombe, Bucks HP10 9LG

BRENTWOOD VIDEO CLUB

meets Thursdays 7.30pm at St Thomas's Church
Centre. St Thomas's Road, Brentwood
Hon Sec Julian Ryley. 8 Robin Hood Road.
Brentwood. Essex CM15 9EN. 01277 21 6147.

AYLESBURY CAMCORDER ENTHUSIASTS

www.the-ace.org
Every third Thursday of the month at Eskdale
Community Centre, Eskdale Road. Stoke
Mandeville, Bucks, from 7.30pm. Contact Alan
Bowles, 50 Queens Mead, Bedgrove, Aylesbury
Bucks HP21 7AP

CHANNEL 7 PRODUCTIONS

darren@channel7.org.uk
Based in St Neots Cambridgeshire
and operating as a production unit which holds
project, rather than Club meetings. For more
information, contact Darren Lalonde on 01480 405
615; mobile 07887 932498.

COLCHESTER FILM MAKERS CLUB

Cfmclub.org.uk
Every Tuesday (September to May) 8pm to 10pm.
in the Hythe Community Centre, 1 Ventura Drive,
Hythe, Colchester, C01 2FG. Chairman: Sue
Howden. Contact Secretary Lionel Bloomfield,
121A London Road, Copford, Colchester CO6
1LH Tel:01206 211788

EALING VIDEO & FILM MAKERS

meet on Fridays at 7.30pm at the Annexe,
Greenford Community Centre. 170 Oldfield Lane
South, Greenford. Secretary Karen Cherrington.
41 Flemming Avenue. Eastcote. Middx HA4 9LE
020 8429 8497.

ENFIELD VIDEO MAKERS

<http://enfieldvideomakers.moonfruit.com>
meet on the first and third Tuesday each month
8pm at St Stephen's Church Hall, Park Avenue,
Bush Hill Park, Enfield EN1 2BA. Contact
James Meehan 0208 251 1829

THE ESSEX AUDIO-VISUAL GROUP

www.essexavgroup.org.uk dickwilliamsav@yahoo.co.uk
First Wednesday of the month, Holy Trinity Church,
Rectory Garth, Rayleigh, Essex.
Contact Mr R. Williams. 34 Heather Way,
Romford, Essex RM1 4TA. 01708 748580

FINCHLEY FILM MAKERS

www.finchleycinevideo.co.uk
Meets at Quakers Meeting House, 58 Alexan-
dra Grove, North Finchley N12 8HG, 7:30pm
on Fridays. Contact Brian Clayfield, 4 Water-
low Court, Heath Close, London NW11 7DT.

HARROW CINE & VIDEO SOCIETY

www.harrowcinevideo.org.uk
Meetings recommence on Monday Sept 5 2011
at 7.45pm in the Canons Room, Harrow Arts
Centre (near Morrison's), Uxbridge Road,
Hatch End. Asst sec Ken Gale 0208 424 0235
Harrowcinevideo@tiscali.co.uk

HEMEL HEMPSTEAD MOVIE MAKERS

www.hemelmoviemakers.org.uk
meet first and third Wednesdays each month at
8pm. The Memorial Hall, (back of) Carey Baptist
Church, The Marlowes, Hemel-Hempstead. Herts.
Contact Audrey Batchelor. 01442 25 6853.

CLUB DIRECTORY

HORNCHURCH CINE & VIDEO CLUB

meets at Cranham Community Hall, Marlborough Gardens. off Avon Road, Cranham. Upminster, on second and fourth Mondays 8 to 10pm. Closed August and December. Secretary Sheila Goodwin, FACI, 4 Athelstan Road. Harold Wood, Romford. Essex RM3 0QB. 01708 34 1445.
Email: sheila@dennisgoodwin.wanadoo.co.uk

LUTON MOVIE MAKERS

moviemakers@freeuk.com
www.moviemakers.freeuk.com
meet Thursdays at Hat Factory Arts Centre 7pm
NTR members welcome for free
Contact Paul Clarke 01582 508616

MILTON KEYNES CAMCORDER CLUB

Www.mkcamcorderclub.co.uk
mkcamcorderclub@googlemail.com
Meets at Centrecom 602 North Row, Secklow Gate West, Central Milton Keynes, third Tuesday of the month at 7.30pm
Tel: 01908 236419

OXFORD VIDEO SOCIETY

oxfordvideosoc.mysite.wanadoo-members.co.uk
meets every Monday (September-June) at Gosford Hill School, Kidlington. at 7.30pm.
Contact Michael Batts Hon Sec 25 Witney Road, Eynsham, Oxon OX29 4PH 01865 88 1393
michaelbatts@btinternet.com

POTTERS BAR CINE & VIDEO SOCIETY

www.pottersbarcineandvideosociety.org
meets alternate Thursdays at 7:45pm in Room 2, Wyllyotts Centre. Darkes Lane. Potters Bar.
Contact Penny Love. 01707 65 6446.

SVGA - The Select Video Group of Amersham.

www.svga.weebly.com Members meet approximately every three weeks. Contact Ron Haddock through the web-site.

RADLEY VIDEO

Radley College, Abingdon, Oxon,
OX14 2HR. www.radleyvideo.co.uk

ST ALBANS MOVIE MAKERS

meet every other Tuesday at the United Reformed Church Hall. Homewood Road off Sandpit Lane. St Albans. Contact Chairman Nigel Longman 01923 779572

SOUTH ESSEX FILM MAKERS

www.sefm.org.uk
meets at Wyburns School, Nevern Road. Rayleigh. Essex SS6 7PE. on Monday evenings 7.45 for 8pm.
Secretary Geoff Woolfson. 07964 445356

STAINES VIDEO MAKERS

Website www.stainesvideo.co.uk
every Friday at 7.30pm in Laleham Village Hall.
Contact Hon Sec Mrs Cathy Clarke 01784 433580
Email: enquiries@stainesvideo.co.uk

WALTHAMSTOW AMATEUR CINE VIDEO CLUB

waccmail@ntlworld.com www.wacvc.org.uk
meets weekly on Thursdays at 8pm at Stafford Hall. St Barnabas Road. Walthamstow Hon Sec Venner Gilbert, 58 Victoria Avenue, Romford, Essex RM5 2QD.
Tel 01708 746586
Email: Vennerandfrances@tiscali.co.uk

WANSTEAD & WOODFORD CINE & VIDEO CLUB

www.wansteadcinevideo.org.uk
meets 1st, 3rd and 5th Fridays each month at 8pm at St Paul's Church Hall. Chigwell Road, Woodford Bridge IG8 8BT. Hon Sec Martin Page, 33 Bush Road. Buckhurst Hill, Essex IG9 6ES 020 8504 9430. Email: martin.page33@ntlworld.com

3 COUNTIES MOVIE MAKERS

meet at the home of John Walker, LACI.
29 Crawley Drive, Hemel Hempstead, Herts.
HP2 6BX. 01442 214990

IAC ONLINE - website of IAC
The Film & Video Institute
for all the latest on amateur film, video and AV
www.theiac.org.uk

Alexandra Palace BBC Television Museum

20 NTR members took up Penny Love's offer to organise a trip to the BBC Television Museum at Alexandra Palace and we all had a very interesting day. On arrival, we were greeted by a plaque on the wall proclaiming the World's first HD productions in 1936.

It was in 1935 that the BBC leased the south east wing of Alexandra Palace (Ally Pally), from where the first public television transmissions were made in 1936. It remained the main transmitting centre for the BBC but after 1956 was used exclusively for the news broadcasts. The first daily television news programme in Britain had been started in 1954.

After the move of the bulk of the television production to Lime Grove and Shepherds Bush studios, the Alexandra Studios were closed and transformed into the Headquarters of BBC Television News. For the next 15 years, until BBC TV News moved to Television Centre in west London Ally Pally produced all the News, including for BBC2 from 1964. It was also re-equipped for the advent of colour in 1967.



With the loss of the News production., Ally Pally became the "University of the air" being used by the Open University for their productions until 1981 when the Open University moved to Milton Keynes.

Since the departure of the Open University the studio has remained empty. The studio as we saw it was the result of many hours of voluntary restoration work by the Alexandra

Palace Television Society together with the Ferguson Group and the Test Card Circle.