



SERIAC



NEWS



BIAFF at the Cairn
TWO GREAT EVENTS
SERIAC Film Festival at the Oast



COPY DEADLINES

JANUARY issue -	25 th NOVEMBER
MARCH issue -	25 th JANUARY
MAY issue -	25 th MARCH
JULY issue -	25 th MAY
SEPTEMBER issue -	25 th JULY
NOVEMBER issue -	25 th SEPTEMBER

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Please note that all submissions must include the sender's name and full address otherwise they will be ignored. Only the name and town will be published.

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[Scan the code with your smartphone](#)



SERIAC COUNCIL

Rita Hayes FACI, Chair.
Brenda Troughton FACI, Secretary & Webmaster
Freddy Beard FACI, Treasurer.
Keith Sayers FACI, News Editor
Charlie Caseley FACI
Ian Wingate FACI
Pip Hayes
Reg Lancaster FACI
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Ron Prosser FACI
Terence Patrick FACI

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<https://www.facebook.com/seriacnews>

CLUB MAGAZINES & PROGRAMME

We love to see your club magazines/newsletters and will publish articles from them as appropriate. Please send them to:-
Brenda Troughton FACI, SERIAC Secretary
And programme for Club Diary to:
Keith Sayers, SERIAC News Editor.
Please note the contact details and deadlines on the left of this page.



The word “amateur” conjures up images of poor quality workmanship and lack of skill.

The OED affirms this view with its alternative definition but this bears no resemblance to the work I see by film makers enjoying our hobby today. Our article on page 11 takes a look at this perception and it could be one of the reasons why more people are not joining our clubs and the IAC. Young people taking up serious film making don't want to be labelled with the title amateur as they feel it could put off potential viewers from watching their films.

So maybe it's time for us to drop the “A” word from our pastime and reserve it for those who just want to record their holidays and children growing up for family records with no intention of editing their movies, still a perfectly valid reason for using a camera but not to be confused with the highly skilled enthusiasts who use advanced editing techniques, superb photographic compositions, and sometimes special effects to

maybe it's time for us to drop the “A” word

produce a film that is indistinguishable from a professional job, they just do it for the love of the finished article, not to make money from it. Their reward is to see it appreciated by the audience and judges at our county, regional, national and international festivals. You only have to take a look at the films from the Mermaid competitions at the recent IAC AGM which were all produced to a very high standard with the Mermaid winner “May the farce be with you” by Larry Hall and the Mini Mermaid winner “I don't like model yachts” by Alan Tutt both demonstrating special effects that a professional would be proud of.



Special effects of course are often not necessary, just getting the focus and exposure correct and great editing will make a very enjoyable and award winning film

Sites like YouTube and Vimeo are also a good outlet but cannot compare with the adrenalin rush created by a live audience applauding your work.

Of course this leads me on to the mention of two imminent film festivals, the first being BIAFF in Harrogate and then our own SERIAC Film Festival at the Oast Theatre in Tonbridge, Kent, detailed elsewhere in this issue. This event still has an entrance fee of only £5.00 including refreshments thanks to a subsidy from the IAC so I would love to see as many of you there as possible.



RITA'S REVIEW

New date for the SERIAC Festival

Rita Hayes FACI
SERIAC Chairman



It's cold and snowing outside as I sit writing this month's review.

Hopefully, by the time that you read this, the weather will be much improved, the hours of daylight will be longer, and filming opportunities will therefore have presented themselves... and consequently we will have received lots of entries for the SERIAC Film Festival! This year's event will again be held at The Oast Theatre, Tonbridge, on 12th May, so please remember to mark that date in your diaries and come and join us. Even if you haven't entered a film in the competitions, it's an enjoyable day, a great opportunity to meet up with friends from our region and see good quality films projected on the big screen.



Some of you will also have entered BIAFF 2018, hopefully gaining many awards. I look forward to watching the films at the Cairn Hotel Harrogate in April.

On now to some sad news. I was very upset to hear of the death of Valrie Ellis FACI on 3rd January, when she finally lost her battle with cancer after bravely fighting it for so long. Valrie wanted to reach her 80th Birthday, something which she just managed on 31st



BIAFF at the Cairn



Valrie Ellis

December. She supported the IAC in many ways – as President, Chair, IAC Council member and Librarian – and she was also a very good film maker. She attended every BIAFF and AGM weekend also many UNICA's until her health put a stop to her participation. She did manage to attend BIAFF 2017 at Market Harborough, and it was lovely to meet up with her there. She will be missed by all who knew her – her passing is deeply felt; it is a great loss to the IAC. Gone but never forgotten.



Orpington Video & Film Makers presented their Autumn show in November last year. With many visitors from surrounding clubs and members of the public it was a highly successful and enjoyable event. Hopefully it resulted in some new members. Here is a selection of pictures taken by Brenda and Richard Troughton from Spring Park Film Makers.



Join us at the Oast theatre



All welcome



Saturday May 12th 2018

Doors open 1.30 pm

Festival starts at 2.00 pm

London Road, Tonbridge, Kent TN10 3AN

iac-seriac@hotmail.com

www.seriac.org.uk

Rita Hayes 70 Eglinton Hill, Woolwich SE18 3NR

Tel: 0208 4736 818



SERIAC

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

12th May 2018
SERIAC Film Festival
Oast Theatre Tonbridge

South East Region IAC Film & Video Institute

1. Apologies for absence
2. Minutes of last AGM to agree and sign as a true and correct record of meeting
3. Matters arising not covered elsewhere
4. Treasurer's report
5. Chairman and Secretary's reports
6. Confirmation of Council Officers and members to continue for a second year:
Rita Hayes (Chairman)
Freddy Beard (Treasurer)
Pip Hayes
Reg Lancaster
Ian Wingate
Charlie Caseley
Ron Prosser (resigned)
7. Nominations for vacant Council positions received for two year period:
Brenda Troughton (Secretary)
Terence Patrick
Keith Sayers
Richard Troughton
8. Appointment of Honorary Accounts Examiner
9. Any other business
10. Meeting to be declared closed

Minutes of AGM 2017

1. Apologies for absence: *Mike Shaw*
2. Minutes of last AGM to agree and sign as a true and correct record of meeting:
Proposed by Colin Jones, Seconded Reg Lancaster
3. Matters arising not covered elsewhere:
No matters arising
4. Treasurer's report:
Final figures available, no matters arising
5. Chairman and Secretary's reports:
(Distributed before the AGM)
The Chairman, Rita Hayes, welcomed all to the AGM and thanked the committee for their work. Thanks were also given to Joy Prosser for providing the buffet. The Chairman spoke of the forthcoming IAC AGM which is to be held at Sittingbourne this year. The Treasurer advised that the balance at the end of the financial year was lower than 2015 when SERIAC hosted BIAFF. There was a good profit from the sale of our DVDs. The Secretary thanked all for their ongoing support and that we had been able to continue with a hard copy of our SERIAC News.
6. Confirmation of Council Officers and members to continue for a second year:
Brenda Troughton (Secretary)
Terence Patrick
Keith Sayers
Richard Troughton
Alan Whippy Resigned
Gwen Whippy Resigned
Proposed by Reg Lancaster, Seconded Ron Prosser

7. Nominations for vacant Council positions received for two year period:
Rita Hayes (Chairman)
Freddy Beard (Treasurer)
Pip Hayes
Reg Lancaster
Ron Prosser
Ian Wingate
Charlie Caseley
Proposed by Tim Stannard, Seconded Tony Johnson
8. Appointment of Honorary Accounts Examiner:
The Treasurer advised that Mr. David Laker would be Accounts Examiner for 2017
9. Any other business:

There was no further business
10. Meeting to be declared closed at 7pm

Secretary's Report for 2017

As you will know, SERIAC hosted the IAC AGM in October of 2017 and we were pleased to see so many of you there. It was indeed a very enjoyable weekend and we received many kind words from the visitors.

As you know very few of our film festivals actually make money, but in 2017 we were again fortunate to be sponsored by the IAC with a grant which allowed us to cut the ticket price of our Festival by half. We are also pleased that we received IAC sponsorship for the 2018 Film Festival.

We had a very good response to the sale of our DVD sets for the 2017 SERIAC Festival films, copies of which were requested from all over England.

The Council continues to keep its website up-to-date so you will always find information on all regional film festivals and other film gatherings together with booking forms etc.

We also like to keep you updated with regular emails but so often find that they are returned as the wrong address. We would ask, therefore, if you update your address to let us know as we like to keep in touch.

Brenda Troughton FACI

Treasurer's Report

SERIAC ended 2017 with a balance of £2880.51, our no. 2 account balance was £3024.12. You will find details on the Accounts sheets of all the money received, but as is always the way, also all amounts which were paid out. We had to transfer cash to help pay the hotel deposit for the AGM but this was re-paid.

We hope to achieve a profit this year from our Film Festival, the IAC Grant will hopefully have encouraged a large audience to see if their Club or individual entries have gained recognition. The 2017 Film Festival DVDs organised by Brenda and Keith, raised over £300 profit, we are lucky to have them as not everyone has the 'techie' capability (certainly not the treasurer!)

You will have seen the AGM photos in the FVM and SERIAC mags, so already know that it was a lively and busy weekend. Rita and Brenda thought of and organised the outings, coaches and river cruise, they had really good ideas. Many SERIAC members were present but we did have cancellations for health reasons from around the UK.

The Coniston staff were very helpful, fortunately some remained even though the hotel owners had changed. We made a profit of over £2000, 50% to be shared the IAC with a return donation of £50 to help with the cost of the Hall for the AGM.

Many thanks to David Laker, OVFM Treasurer, for Examining our Accounts without cost to SERIAC.

Freddy Beard FACI

Chairman's Report

It is now three years since I was made Chair of SERIAC – and I am sorry to say that you might have to put up with me for yet another year if nobody agrees to take over!

We have enjoyed a busy year with 42 entries received for the 2017 SERIAC Festival, all of which were of a very good quality, with a series of highly worthy winners. Linda and Michael Gough were Judges for the event, and also arranged the pre-judging for us. North Thames Region have taken on the pre- and final judging for us this year, so many thanks to them.

Then, from 19th to 22nd October, we hosted the IAC AGM – our Western Hoedown Weekend. It took two years to organise this event, from booking the hotel in 2015 and arranging the trips, to putting together the programme of SERIAC films for our first evening. We toured Allington Castle on the Friday afternoon, and were wowed by a Western dance group in the evening – something a bit different to usual but we were pleased to see how many people joined in. This was followed by a Western Quiz; Michael Gough emerged the victor! Saturday witnessed a boat trip, followed by a tour of the Shepherd Neame brewery, with the Gala Dinner in the Evening. The Mermaid and Mini Mermaid Competitions were held on the Sunday morning, and were followed by the IAC AGM and Members' Voices. After lunch Tim Jones delivered a fascinating presentation of amateur films from Canterbury.

We would have liked more bookings for the event, but dwindling uptake has been an issue with other regions for a few years now, so we were not surprised. We have received many messages of thanks from those who attended, saying what an enjoyable weekend it had been with a good choice of trips. As you will see from our Treasurer's Report, we even made a profit, so it was definitely worth all the hard work.

Thanks to all fellow Committee members, not just for the AGM weekend, but also for their support over the past year: to Keith Sayers for producing SERIAC News, which gets better with each issue, and for being our official photographer, and much more besides, to Freddy Beard for fulfilling her treasurer and competition officer duties so diligently, and not forgetting Brenda Troughton, our Secretary, for keeping our website up to date on top of all her other tasks.

Also, many thanks to all of you for today's entries and for coming here today to support us. I hope that everybody enjoys today's Festival and my congratulations to all the winners.

Rita Hayes FACI



WHAT IS AMATEUR?

Brenda Troughton FACI



AMATEURS

A person who engages in an activity as a pastime rather than professionally or for gain, or a person inexperienced or unskilled in a particular activity.

France 1784, "one who has a taste for (something)"

What is an 'amateur filmmaker'. Was it your dad shooting home movies with his super 8 camera? But now everybody seems to own a camera or smart phone and shoots video. So is it time to redefine the term 'amateur' - that is, to reclaim our original definition of one who makes *films* purely for the love of it and doesn't get paid.

Steven Mayfield, in the North Thames Region newsletter, wonders whether the word 'amateur' is actually a disadvantage rather than advantage. He says he likes to think of himself as a 'film maker' and not an amateur which seems to conjure up images of people doing something half-heartedly with no skills or proper equipment.

However, editing software and modern equipment now enables 'amateurs' to achieve very good production values which would have been inconceivable in the past. So we can be 'amateurs' without being amateurish.

It would be interesting to hear your views on this subject.

Have you thought about making a silent film?

A different approach which amateur filmmakers might like to take is to produce a film with no spoken dialogue, and this is something that Spring Park Film Makers explored in their programme last year.

A good site to look at some very early silent films of the 1900s is *The Video Cellar collection*. This is a collection of feature films, shorts, animations and TV shows.



The Great Train Robbery
1903

The collection contains all kinds of narrative, educational, documentary, advertising, and instructional and government films and videos from all over the world.

Many of the videos have been preserved digitally and are available for free and unless otherwise noted, the films in this collection are in the public domain and are free to be redistributed, reused or remixed.



Annual AV Day

Sunday 18th March 2018 10am to 4pm (Doors open 9.30am)

Woosehill Community Centre, Wokingham

Tickets £12.00 in advance or £15.00 on the door

Speaker: Keith Leedham FRPS, EFIAP, FIPF

Keith is an experienced judge and producer of award winning Avs. A member of the RPS since 1970, Keith gained his Fellowship in AV in 1987 followed by the FIPF in 1995 and the EFIAP in 1997. Among other successes he was awarded first place in the RPS International AV Festival in 2012 as well as first place in Epinal International de l'Image France the same year. He judges and speaks at AV events across the country and is chairman of the judges for the National AV championships. He served for five years as chairman of the RPS AV group and eight years on the RPS AV Distinctions Panel. He has been a member of the committee of the RPS International AV Festival since 1981.

Programme

During the morning critiques will be provided for the sequences previously sent in.

In the afternoon there will be advice and tips on producing Avs

Further information at www.midthamesavgroup.org.uk

Or from the secretary mtavsec@virginmedia.com



Jean Hoyle
Secretary

CAMERA FREE TO COLLECTOR



Canon XM2 requires some work on the tape door but otherwise OK.

If you would like this contact Ron Prosser on 01403 732725

Or ronprosser51@hotmail.com

STUCK FOR A STORY?

This morning I heard the Local Radio announce that a listener had watched a film being made locally.... "How interesting, has any one else had similar experiences?" the presenter said. I phoned in immediately and told listeners on air about SDFM and its work.

Later I picked up a phone message from the BBC.... "would I ring them?" I did, and heard that someone wanted to contact me. I rang the number they gave and spoke to a Mr Arthur Ayers, a 97 year old ex-Paratroop veteran who had written a lot of short stories, and wondered if any of them could be made into a film. He is not very mobile now so we picked up two small volumes from his daughter in Shoreham. Alan Eyles and I read them, and there were one or two ideas which stood out. One in particular seemed to be worth pursuing.

Arthur was very excited about it and looks forward to seeing the finished product. Alan set about turning the story into a script.

*From Freeze Frame, the magazine of South Downs Film Makers
Article by Jane Bristow*

CLUB DIARY

Please send your programme to the editor
see SERIAC contacts on page 2

Programmes can be subject to late change so please check with the club before visiting.

Ashford Camcorder Club

Contact: Mrs. Heather Slater - 01233 627093

heather48@talktalk.net

www.ashfordcamcorderclubkent.co.uk

Mar 6th Showing of Feb 6th Music
Mar 20th Plan a replica of a TV ad
Apr 3rd Easter Buffet
Apr 17th Easter themed movie / stills
May 1st Showing of advert replica



Canterbury Camcorder Club

Contact: Robin Helmer Tel:01233 750236

robin.helmer@btinternet.com

www.canterburyvideomakers.weebly.com

Meet 2nd Friday of each month 10 am til 12 noon
Chilham Village Hall (CT4 8BD)



Chichester
Film & Video Makers

Contact: Rupert Marks: 01243 528599

rupertmarks@gmail.com www.cvf.org.uk



Circle Eight Film Group

www.circle-eight.org.uk

enquiries@circle-eight.org.uk

Cophorne Camcorder Club

Contact: David Smart 01342 713172

davidsmart47@hotmail.com

Meet 2nd Thursday of month & other times as arranged

Deal Camcorder Club

Contact: Mr H.G. Loane Tel: 01304 - 824953

dealcamclub@btinternet.com

Meet 2nd and 4th Thursday of the month between
September and June at 7.30pm for 8.00pm
43, Victoria Road, Deal, CT14 7AY

Medway Film Makers
Making the most of Making Movies

Contact: Beryl Hughes 01634 360401 for more info.

www.medwayfilmmakers.com

wigmore.films@btinternet.com

Meet alternate Thursdays at various venues



Contact: Norman Bull

020 8337 8118

Epsomcvts@hotmail.co.uk

www.epsommoviemakers.co.uk

Meet at:- St.Mary's Church Hall, London Road KT17 2AZ



Contact: Harry Lederman

01323 301997

harrylederman@tiscali.co.uk

www.eastsussexmoviemakers.org

<https://www.facebook.com/pages/East-Sussex-Moviemakers/625638464235183?ref=hl>

Meet 1st & 3rd Wednesdays of each month at -
St Luke's Parish Centre, Stone Cross. 7.45 pm



Haywards Heath Movie Makers

Contact: Liz Willerton 01444 441479

liz.willerton@icloud.com

www.haywardsheathmoviemakers.org.uk

Meetings at The Upper Room, Methodist Church,
Perrymount Road, Haywards Heath.

Mar 13th Holiday competition

Mar 27th TBA



Contact: Annette Lowe (Sec) 01534 721920

annette@lowejersey.co.uk

Alan Michel (Chair) 01534 862567

Chairman@jerseycamcorder.org

www.jerseycamcorder.org

Meet second Wednesday of every other month at The
Royal Jersey Showground, Trinity.
Upstairs in the Council or Bureau Room. 7.45pm
Next meeting Wednesday April 14th 2017

Maidstone
Image and
Video Group



Contact: Frank Bassett

01622 745123

info@maidstonecamcorderclub.co.uk

www.maidstonecamcorder.co.uk

Meet 1st & 3rd Wednesday of the month from 7.45pm
East Farleigh WI Hall ME15 0HQ

CLUB DIARY

Please send your programme to the editor
see SERIAC contacts on page 2

Programmes can be subject to late change so please check with the club before visiting.

Miller Centre Moviemakers

T. Black, 15a Beechwood Road,
South Croydon, Surrey CR2 0AE
<http://millercentretheatre.org>

Meet: Fridays 7.30pm 30 Godstone Road,
Caterham, Surrey CR3 6RA



Contact: Freddy Beard FACI

01689 813616

beardfreddy@gmail.com

www.ovfm.org.uk

Meet 8 – 10pm on alternate Tuesdays at the Barnard Room, St. Augustine's Church, Southborough Lane, Petts Wood BR2 8AT

Mar 6th Oscar Night
Mar 20th Guest Speaker
Apr 3rd Workshops
Apr 17th AGM & Members' Voices
May 1st Make then laugh. Jokes filming



Contact: Philip Robinson, Herne Bay

Little Theatre, Bullers Avenue, Herne Bay, Kent CT6 8UH 01227 366004

playmakers.membership@fsmail.net

www.playmakersfilm.co.uk

Meet at Herne Bay Little Theatre in Bullers Avenue, Herne Bay, Kent. No fixed dates for meetings



Contact: Brian Aspden, 29 Nore Crescent, Emsworth, Hampshire, PO10 7NB info@portsdownvm.co.uk
www.portsdownvm.co.uk

Meet 1st Tuesday each month (plus 3rd Tuesday September to April except December & January) at The Emsworth Centre, 35-37 South Street, Emsworth PO10 7EG

South Downs Film Makers

Contact: Roy Powell tel: 01903 266606

www.Southdownsfilmmakers.org.uk

roy@p2roy.co.uk

Meet at: The Village Hall, Ferring Street, Ferring, West Sussex. BN12 5JP

Shooters Hill Camcorder Club

Contact: Rita Hayes 0208 473 6818

rita.pip.hayes@ntlworld.com

Meet every Friday except 1st Friday of the month
Shrewsbury House, Bushmoor Crescent, Shooters Hill,
London SE18, 8:00pm to 10:15pm



Contact: Sean Phelan 07775 690210

secretary@suttonfilm.co.uk www.suttonfilm.co.uk

Meet at the Parochial Halls, Cheam Village, Sutton.



Spring Park Film Makers

Contact: Brenda Troughton FACI

020 8462 2822

springparkfilmmakers@hotmail.com

www.springparkfilms.co.uk

Meet every other Thursday 7.45 pm to 10 pm
in the Griffiths - Jones Hall, Emmanuel Church,
West Wickham BR4 9JS

Mar 1st Music for your films. where to begin?
Mar 15th An evening with the Chairman.
Mar 29th AGM – chat and nibbles after
Apr 12th April Tom's Variety Show. Tom Hardwick visits
Apr 26th Holiday / travelogue films. New or old
May 10th Editing to music. A 50/50 evening with Orpington.



Contact: Rita Wheeler

secretary@surreyborder.org.uk

www.surreyborder.org.uk

Find us on

<https://www.facebook.com/SurreyBorderMovieMakers/timeline>

Meet on the 1st Friday of each month 7.30pm
St Joan's Centre, St Joan of Arc Catholic Church
Tilford Road, Farnham, Surrey. GU9 8DJ

Mar 2nd Speakers David Fairhead & John Collins
Apr 8th 4 min edit exercise results & audio tutorial
May 11th Paul Vernon from Solent MM latest western Q & A

Tonbridge Film Makers

Contact: Ken Jenner, Chairman

ken.jenner@btinternet.com

Two meetings per month, please contact for details



Contact: Craig Robinson,

8 Chaplin Close, Wainscott,

Rochester Kent ME3 8BY

enquiry@thevideoplayers.org

www.thevideoplayers.org

Meet: Every second Thursday, 19:30 to 22:00 - in the
Midway Campus of Mid Kent College Chatham. ME7 1FN
check website for dates

The deadline for contributions
for the May 2018 edition of
SERIAC News is March 25th

PHOTOGRAPHIC CLUB DIARY

Littlehampton & Dist Camera Club

Contact: Wendy Eve,
30 Torton Hill Road, Arundel, BN18 9HL
01903 882212 litcc@hotmail.co.uk
<http://littlehamptoncameraclub.co.uk>
Meet Wednesdays at 7.30pm in the Methodist Church Hall,
Claigmar Road, Rustington. BN16 2NL

Ludshott Photographic Club

Contact: ludshotpc@yahoo.co.uk
Meet 1st & 3rd Monday of each month September to June. 7.45pm
St Lukes Church, Headley Road, Grayshott, Surrey GU26 6LF .
Mar 5th Jim Henson Trophy. Inter club AV competition
Mar 13th Rosebowl Challenge Trophy
Mar 15th Club dinner
Mar 19th Competition - Club PDI 3
Mar 24th How to cheat in Photoshop
Apr 9th Presentation by the club's three venture groups
Apr 16th Competition - Club PDI 4
May 12th SPA inter club PDI competition

Woking Photographic Society



Contact: 07954 196142 admin@wokingps.org.uk
www.wokingps.org.uk
Meet: Tuesdays, September to June, at 7.45 for 8.00 pm at
Parkview Centre for the Community, Sheerwater Recreation
Ground, Blackmore Crescent, Sheerwater,
Woking GU21 5NZ

Mid Thames Audio Visual Group

Meet at 10am on 1st Friday of the month
Woosehill Community Centre,
Wokingham RG41 3DA
www.midthamesavgroup.org.uk

Contact: Jean Hoyle mtavsec@virginmedia.com
Mar 2nd Problem solving & AV day planning
Mar 18th AV day. Guest speaker Keith Leedham
Apr 6th Presentation by Wantage Camera Club
May 4th AGM

Please send us your club information by March 25th for inclusion in the May 2018 issue. Thanks

I would love to hear what you have been up to (in a film making sense, *oh I don't know though*) as an individual or a club. Please send any information or articles by September 25th. Thanks. K

EVENTS DIARY



BIAFF 2018

12th - 15th April 2018

Hosted by The IAC

The Cairn Hotel, Ripon Road, Harrogate, Yorkshire
www.theiac.org.uk

SERIAC FILM FESTIVAL

Saturday 12th May 2018

Closing date for entries 28th February 2018
The Oast Theatre, London Road, Tonbridge, Kent TN10 3AN
Send your entries to:-
Rita Hayes, 70 Eglinton Hill, Woolwich, SE18 3NR
Freddy Beard, 56 Rookesley Road, Orpington, BR54HJ

