

# Potters Bar FilmMakers

The Video Club for East Herts.

<http://www.pottersbarfilmmakers.co.uk>



## Autumn Newsletter 2018

Affiliated Member



The Film & Video Institute  
North Thames Region

## Fancy Facebook?

Potters Bar FilmMakers has its own Facebook page! So, you don't' "do" Facebook? Maybe now is the time to give it a go. Signing up is really easy and is free. You just fill in your name, email address or mobile phone number and give it a password (I know passwords are a pain but they keep you safe on social media) Add your date of birth (so they know you are over 13 and old enough to join), your gender and you are "on".

Apart from reading articles about films and upcoming events at Potters Bar FilmMakers, what else might tempt you to use Facebook social media? Well, it's a great way to keep in touch with friends who live a long way away, like in another country. It is a quite user friendly system which allows you to find and then ask people you know to be your "friend" and have access to what you "post" on your page. You can also interact with clubs such as Potters Bar FilmMakers by "liking" the page. It also has a service called Messenger which is a live text but is also free.

You can post short paragraphs about what you have been doing and add photographs or video clips which your friends then get to see and respond to. Best of all, you get to enjoy what they are doing almost as it happens and not have to wait for next Christmas' boring "round robin" newsletter! You can use Facebook on your computer or your smartphone as little or as much as you want.

I have found it a great way to keep in touch with friends in the UK and abroad. I also access the BBC News website through it and other things that I have a great interest in such as Chickenshed Theatre. Best of all, you are in total in control of who you share with and how much you want to share. If you should find you don't like using Facebook, switch off and you have lost nothing, except the Potters Bar FilmMakers Facebook page!

Max Bender

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## Open Competition 2018

The Open Competition was held on Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> June 2018 and attracted ten Advanced entries although it was only possible to watch eight films due to technical problems with the other two film files. There was an interesting variety of subjects, film styles and cameras used.

First shown was "All in a day's work" by Phil Elmer, a nine and a half minute film showing robins inside a nest box laying eggs, the chicks hatching, feeding and finally fledging. A variety of shots were included with "amusing captions" and it had taken five years to achieve the film. The film was joint second with a vote of 76%



The next film was "The little black book" by Christine Collins which was also nine and a half minutes long. The film tells the family history of her great grandfather Charles Fentum who was an amateur thespian in the 1880s performing plays with moral themes such as "Black eyed Susan" to local audiences and recording all his performances in a little black book which now belongs to Christine.

The "camera movement across still images was very effective" but some "voice over needed to be louder". The film was also joint second with a vote of 76%

"Lumiere London", a five minute film by Max Bender, was the third

film shown. It showed a number of the installations from the three day event around central London in January 2018, set to music. It was “bright and colourful” but some shots were “a bit static” The film won the competition with 83%.

The fourth film was “Now I’m 64” by Max Bender, a one and three quarter minute set of still photographs from across his life set to a brass ensemble playing Lennon and McCartney’s “When I’m 64”. The photographs had originally been part of a larger group shown at his retirement parties and club members “liked the music”. The film was joint fifth with 57%.

The next film was “The Ape man Cometh” by Ed Kinge, a ten minute review of the Apeman camera which has very similar features to a “Go Pro” but at significantly lower cost. The film included narration, speech to camera and test sequences to demonstrate the use and versatility of the camera. The film showed “good tracking shots” and the film was joint second with a vote of 76%



The sixth film was “Epping Forest” a film by Andrew Tweed of six and three quarter minutes duration which showed the walk from Epping to Loughton by Andrew and Barbara in early spring. It included description of 10<sup>th</sup> Century Forest Law and was filmed using a Go Pro camera on a selfie stick. Some sound was “indistinct” and shots were stabilised in post-production. It was judged joint second with a vote of 76%

The penultimate film was “Wedding” by Andrew Tweed which ran six and a half minutes. It recorded the celebration of a Hawaiian style rainbow themed gay wedding held at the Trafalgar Tavern in Greenwich with a variety of stills and video entirely recorded on a camera phone. It was described as being “a lovely souvenir of the day” and was fourth with 62%.

Finally shown was “Chicken Feed” by Andrew Saunders, a five minute film shot in the Philippines about a chicken breeder with thirty females and twenty males who uses them for cock fighting. The film included interviews and internet footage of a fight. Comments suggested that “the interview needed subtitles”. The film was joint fifth with 57%.



Report by Max Bender

# Open competition - 28/6/2018

## Results

There were no Graduate entries

Advanced entries

Winner- Max Bender-London Lumiere -5mins-USB 83%

Joint Second-Christine Collins-The little Black Book-9.5mins-DVD  
76%

Phil Elmer-All In A Days Work- - -9.5 mins- DVD  
76%

Joint Third-Ed Kinge-The Apeman Cometh-10mins-USB 68%  
Andrew Tweed-Epping Forest-6mins 40secs-USB 68%

Fourth-Andrew Tweed-Wedding-6.5mins-USB 62%

Joint Fifth-Max Bender-When I'm 64 -1min 45secs-USB 57%  
Andrew Saunders-Chicken Feed-5mins-USB 57%

**PHOTO OF WYLLYOTTS MANOR      FROM PENNY LOVE. JUNE 2018.**

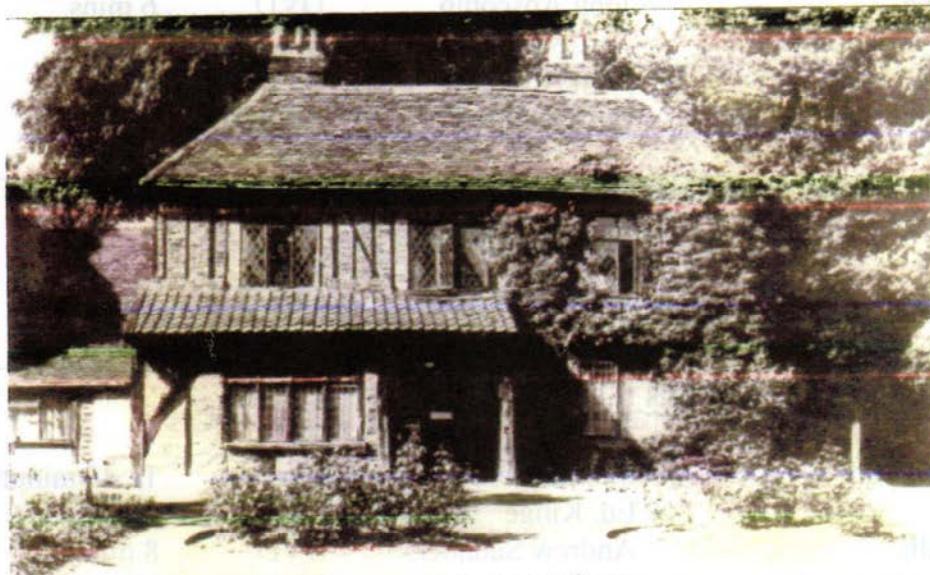
I have no idea when this photo was taken but we moved to Potters Bar in 1955 so probably around that time.

Then it was used by part of the local council and the office where people went to pay their 'rates', (now the community charge or poll tax). We went in through the door you can see and had to be sure to bend your head as was a very low entrance. It was very dark in there and to me as a 15 year old and my brother aged 11, it was a bit creepy. We were always on the watch in case any big spiders, or other creepy crawlies, fell on us from the creeper round the door and on the walls when we went in.

It is now The Old Manor pub and restaurant but according to some information I have found it is a Grade II listed building, a 16<sup>th</sup> century barn with a house that was built in the 1800s.

I remember it being very pretty with trees and some flowers in front. As we had moved to Potters Bar from Harringay in North London, it was very unusual, nothing like that where we lived and to go into such a place was like stepping into history.

Whenever I go into The Old Manor it brings back memories of all the times we went in 'to pay the rates' with our Mum.



## **REPORT OF THE ‘SHOW AND TELL’ EVENING BY PENNY LOVE WITH PHOTOS BY BOB CHESTER**

What an interesting evening this turned out to be and with so many members wanting to give us their information we only just had time for them all, maybe this should be included in the next programme in 2019, let our Chairman or any of the committee know if you would like it again.

Ed Kinge suggested it and could be about anything you are interested in, not even film related.

First up was Phil who brought along some of the equipment he used when he made his film ‘All in a days work’.



It was filmed in a friend’s garden with the camera right inside the birds nesting box. Some of the cables had to be run into the house via the cat flap !!! He had the actual box there and most of the bits

and pieces used, Just goes to show the dedication to his film making.

Next was me. If any of you have been to my house you will know that I do embroidery called ‘Counted Cross Stitch’.

I start with a blank canvas with tiny squares to put the stiches in, silk, a chart to show where and the colour of each stich, (16 stitches to the inch), to end up with a picture. I



compared this with film making such as, I use a wooden stand and hoop to hold the canvas and in film making we use a tripod and camera. I ended by showing my latest completed ‘work of art’ which is a Tigers head and shoulder all done in a very fine wool. I don’t do ‘small’ and this one is 16 x 16 inches square.

Ed came next. He showed, and told us the history, of some very old cameras in his collection. Amazing how things have changed over the years.



He had a 1903 ‘pocket’ camera, one of the first portable cameras but not as we know portable cameras today as was quite big. It cost around 78 dollars then and would be about 2120 dollars today. It took past card size pictures with only 6 exposures to each film. It came ready loaded with film and you had to send the whole thing back to Kodak for the film to be developed and a new one was then loaded up and sent back to you ready for you to take next lot of photos.

Bob couldn't get his lovely old, almost 40 years, Ford Corsair into the building so he had some leaflets and told us about the car and how it had been converted to a soft/open top by a company named Crayford.



Apparently the design was brought over from America but wasn't able to be used

As too similar to their other designs. It was 'launched' in 1962 and re designed in 1965. It seems that only two door cars could be converted as four door ones not strong enough for the work needed.

Christine had worked with Armand and Michella Denis some years ago, (many of you will remember their lovely wild life programmes on BBC TV I am sure), no, she didn't go on location with them but edited their films for the documentaries they made and showed. When she started in the 'film business' she was a sort of general dogs body but due to the illness of the 'sound' person she took over and continued in that roll so got to meet many famous people over the years.



One film made in Covent Garden fruit market meant that she had a very early start of 3am, and another time had to go on a boat in very rough seas. Interesting to see pictures of the equipment used then in comparison to what is used today. Just goes to show how quickly todays modern technology has taken over..

## **Distribution Dates for Next News Letter.**

**Please send your Articles or Comments for inclusion**

**In the next Newsletter to:-**

**The PBFM Editor – Ron Jones FACI**

**By the dates listed below:-**

### **Winter News Letter**

<b>Last dates for Hard Copy Input to the editor</b>	<b>15th. Nov 2018.</b>
<b>Last dates for Contributions by e-mail</b>	<b>22nd. Nov 2018.</b>
<b>e-mail Distribution Date</b>	<b>29th. Nov 2018.</b>
<b>HARD Copy Distribution Date</b>	<b>6th. Dec. 2018.</b>