

# Potters Bar FilmMakers

The Video Club for East Herts.

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



Summer Newsletter 2017

Affiliated Member



The Film & Video Institute  
North Thames Region

# Tim Stannard – Ad Hoc Productions

Tim Stannard is a computer and IT person who became interested in film making and often uses his family as the stars of his films. On Thursday 9th March 2017 he came to talk to us about his work for Staines Video Makers.



The first film Tim showed us was from 2010 and featured his extended family singing a Slade Christmas song. In 2012 his daughter Elise was studying “The Great Fire of London” and for a primary school project she wrote a script which they made into a film starring her as a newsreader in September 1666.

The following year Elise was studying the history of the Tudors at primary school and he made a film about the six wives of Henry VIII called “Tudor Rap!” Tim used a 3m by 6m green screen in his living room and additional lighting then “chroma keyed” out the green and replaced it with still images.



His daughter and her friends sang along to a pre-recorded soundtrack. Tim and his wife took acting roles too. He used increasingly complex background effects and enjoyed the editing process using “Vegas”.

In 2014 Tim made “Tut Tut” about the ancient Egyptians after creating a written storyboard of the song with scenes and backgrounds pre planned.

He explained with a tutorial video “A Sound Job” how he uses “Sony Acid” and MIDI files to visually create and programme the complex sound files. Tim began to experiment with using “Pseudo 3D” to add computer generated 3D backgrounds to his films. He also uses “Hit Film Pro” and recommended anyone wanting try out video effects download the free version “HitFilm Express”.

“Race for Life” was a 1 minute documentary film Tim made using split screen, rapid cutting and tinting of images. The documentary “Tuck Pointing” is an interview with a brick pointing expert which he edited with music ending precisely with the last frame and has received 260,000 hits on YouTube.



The most sophisticated history themed film so far is “Greece is the Word”, the 7 ½ minute story of Theseus and the Minotaur, made in 2015. Tim includes humour within the story and auto-tuned his daughter and her friends to produce highly professional sounding voices. The film received 5 stars from BIAFF and is available to view on YouTube.

The 20 minute documentary “A Joy to Ring” tells the story of the restoration of the bells and clock in St Mary’s Church tower using interviews, film and animation. The story is told chronologically and edited to maintain the audience’s interest in the events.

The final film Tim showed us was a modern ghost story called “To Eleanor”. Made last year, it features his daughter playing twin sisters by a lake. Tim’s talk was most interesting and displayed the variety of his work and the time and dedication he gives to filming and editing videos of a high quality

*Max Bender..*

## On location with the “A” Team!

I am the new boy on the “A” Team and, on a pleasant mid-March morning, we met to film the latest production on location. The film is called “A close Call” and takes place in a hotel bedroom. The Tweeds kindly allowed us to use their spare bedroom which, with a little set dressing, became the perfect location for the film.



Camera and lighting were set up and the first shots were completed with Gill and I making ourselves useful while Kim played the bored business man,



Christine directed and Penny operated camera and sound recording. We then took a tea and cake break ready for the first dialogue recording.

The filming was undertaken more or less chronologically with shots lined up and rehearsed before being filmed from different angles.



Sometimes a take would be achieved first attempt but on other shots it took a couple of goes to get it right. Then we broke for lunch and another coffee.



During the afternoon session, we completed the story with some additional footage from other angles and Gill doing the telephone voice over at the end of the film. It was a finally a “wrap” and time for more tea and cake!

Everyone enjoyed the experience of working together shooting a collaborative film and we will be meeting to edit the footage shortly and complete the first “A” team movie of 2017

*Max Bender*

# P.B.F.M. Win the Their First Round in the K.O. Competition

Round 'A' of the K.O. Competition was between P.B.F.M and two other very strong Clubs, Harrow Film Makers and Staines Video Makers.

It proved to be an outstanding contest with a great selection of videos being screened from all three Clubs.

The Competition was judged by Eric Jukes and Rodney Willet. Our judge should have been Ben Simon, but he failed to make an appearance.

However the competition was judged by the two other judges, they did a good job giving good and favourable comments on the three clubs programmes.

Thanks must go to all the makers and members who were involved in producing the four videos that made up our programme.

The Photography in "Messing about on the River" by Ed Kinge was superb;

The Acting of all the characters in "A" Team production "Moving On" was very convincing. As we have come to expect from a John Astin production, "Ups and Downs in Lisbon" had an interesting and informative commentary.

"Stolen Property" was a very short one minute video, by a new film group in the Club "Moonlight Productions", had the audience laughing at the unexpected punch line.

Harrow were next to show their selection of videos. They began with "Cambodia". This was a documentary, which developed into a holiday film, but the commentary lacked the informative information delivered when compared to a John Astin commentary.

Next was a story video from Alan Colegrave entitled "Just a Simple Question or Not" this as we have come to expect from its maker, was a well acted and produced story, about the difficulty that a male suitor had in popping the question.

This was followed by a documentary "Heath Robinson Lives On" which took the viewer to an exhibition to demonstration of school children's version of working models based on the hair brain versions of Heath Robinsons famous examples.

Next was an account of the Harrow New Year Parade. This started with the design of the main float, which was a tribute to Charlie Chaplin. Then to a group of young dancers who were to accompany the float. I felt very sorry for all who took part in this event including the dedicated camera persons who all had to put up with the incessant and heavy rain that persisted throughout the day.

Harrows final entry was a very short documentary on how to get rid of the slimy pests that damage our lovely plants in the garden. This was very well photographed and though extremely short got a loud and humorous response from the assembled audience.

Our Club will now progress on the Final which is hosted by the winners of last years contest, Staines Movie Makers.

The Final selection of videos came from Staines Video Makers and began with A Walk on the Thame Side. This was a very well made video with beautiful images taken on the riverside showing lovely pictures of the wild life on the river. I was particularly impressed with the editing of some of the shots to the tempo of the music and the flight of the swans. This was an outstanding video to watch.

Next came a very an amusing animated film about a resident couple who live in a densely populated area that long for a life in the countryside, and the husband attempt to solve the situation. The Video was full of humour and very well constructed. The animation was of an excellent quality.

Our Memphis Experience was the next video, this was a Holiday film that was full of beautiful images of the

Then followed another short video showing some impassive water scenes taken in "Krika National Park" in Croatia. This was very short lasting only two minutes but was full of some beautiful images

Staines Final DVD was "To Eleanor" This was a poignant story about a young girl, whose Twin sister had been lost in a drowning accident. It was very well filmed and edited. The story was well told about how the young girl wrote a letter to her lost sibling.

This Video was a fitting end to what had been an excellent selection of entries from all three clubs

Then followed by the final verdict by the judges, who declared that after some difficulty in deciding the winner, as all the videos shown were of such a high standard. Their final verdict was that PBFM had shown the most entertaining programme. So P.B.F.M. were declared the winners.

We will proceed to the Final where we will meet the other finalist:-

This takes place on Sunday May the 7th. at  
Laleham Village Hall,  
The Broadway,  
Laleham TW18 1RP.

# North Thames Region IAC Knockout Competition - Round A

## by Max Bender

Potters Bar FilmMakers hosted Round A of the competition at the Wyllyotts Centre on Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> March 2017. They were joined by members of Harrow Film Makers and Staines Video Makers and judges Eric Jukes and Rodney Willott, with Brenda Granshaw FACI acting as Referee.

Potters Bar Filmakers showed four films. Their programme opened with “Messing About on the River” by Ed Kinge, a film to the song described by judges as having “beautiful composition with humour” and noting how shots matched the lyrics exactly. “Moving On”, by the A Team, was the story of a young gardener who finds a buried ring which rekindles love for its elderly owner and his grandfather and was described as “a story developed beautifully”. The third film was John Astin’s “Ups and Downs in Lisbon” showing how the city’s tram system negotiates its steep inclines and was described as “a well done documentary with interesting information, not just a holiday film”. The final film was “Stolen Property”, by Moonlight Productions, the story of a pair of inept art thieves, described as “a short sketch which made us laugh”.

Harrow Film Makers went second with five films. “Cambodia”, by Geoff Foord, gave us a view of both Cambodia’s brutal past and its emerging development and was described by judges as “telling both the history and showing us Cambodia now”. Next came “Just a Simple Question, or not” by Alan Colegrave, a wedding proposal constantly interrupted by mobile phone calls described as “a lovely comedy sketch”. Then followed “Heath Robinson Lives On”, a video by Judy Long of the working machines that a group of students had made. The judges felt it would have benefited from “additional background explanation” about the title. The fourth film was “Harrow’s New Year’s Day Parade” by Alan Colgrave and Geoff Froom, telling the story of the development of the Charlie Chaplin themed float through interviews and footage taken in the rain on the day when the float received third prize. The judges commented on the detailed interviews. The final film was “A very English War”, a short film by Judy Long of a gardener’s battle against slugs and snails. The judges described it as having “beautiful pictures, good close ups and voice over”.

Staines Video Makers presented the last five films. Firstly “A Walk on the Thame Side” made by Allen House, a scenic and musical riverside view of life on the Thames. The judges described it as having “lovely film visuals” and commented on the pair of swans creating a heart shape together. The second film was an animated short titled “The Sound Catcher” by John Anscumb, telling of a city couple who longed for the sounds of the countryside and created their own solution. The film was hand drawn and the judges enjoyed “the animation with a story”. The next film was “Our Memphis Experience” by Roger Crunden, showing Ching’s visit to Gracelands and then on the Mississippi River. The judges enjoyed the music matched to the film. The penultimate film was “Krka National Park, Croatia” by Geoff Rippingale which the judges described as “two minutes of pleasant shots” The final film of the evening was “To Eleanor...” by Tim Stannard, a ghost story with a twist. The judges commented on the effective use of voice over during the letter writing sequence, “the skilful use of Elise as twins” and said it had the best storyline of the evening.

In summing up, the judges commented on the high quality of the films during this particular round from all three clubs taking part and said that the decision was close but that Potters Bar FilmMakers should go through to the final to be held at Laleham Village Hall on Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> May 2017.

See The Full Programme overleaf.

# NORTH THAMES REGION IAC KO COMPETITION

**Round A Hosted by Potters Bar FilmMakers** at  
60+ Room, Wyllouts Centre, Darkes Lane, Potters Bar. EN6 2HN  
on Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> March at 7.30pm

**Judge 1 Ben Simon Judge 2 Eric Jukes Judge 3 Rodney Willott**

**Referee Brenda Granshaw FACI**

<b>Potters Bar FilmMakers</b>	<b>Programme</b>		
Title	Maker	Format	Length
Messing About on the River	Ed Kinge	DVD	3 m
Moving On	A" Team	DVD	13 m,
Ups & Downs in Lisbon	John Astin	Bluray	12 m
Stolen Property	Moonlight Productions	DVD	1 m

Judges Comments

<b>Harrow Film Makers</b>	<b>Programme</b>		
Title	Maker	Format	Length
Cambodia .	Geoff Foord.	bluray	8m 30s
Just A Simple Question or not.	Alan Colegrave.	bluray	2m 8s
Heath Robinson Lives On.	Judy Long.	bluray	2m 58s
Harrow's New Year's Day Parade	Alan Colegrave & Geoff Frood	bluray	12m 40s
A Very English War.	Judy Long	bluray	50sec

## Judges Comments and Interval

<b>Staines Video Makers</b>	<b>Programme</b>		
Title	Maker	Format	Length
A Walk on the Thame Side	Allan House	bluray	5 m
The Sound Catcher"	John Anscomb	DVD	6 m
Our Memphis Experience	Roger Crunden	bluray	10 m
Krka National Park, Croatia	Geoff Rippingale	bluray	2 m
To Eleanor ...	Tim Stannard	bluray	5 m

## Judges Comments and Result

The NTR KO Final between the winner of the first rounds A, B, C, and D  
Will be hosted by the winner of Last Years Competition, Staines Movie Makers  
**At Laleham Village Hall, The Broadway, Laleham, TW18 1RP**  
**Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> May at 1.00pm**

# The Holiday Competition

The Annual Holiday Competition took place on the 6th April and was the first of the competitions to be held under our new internal competition officer Ed Kinge who has volunteered to take up this position which became vacant after the untimely death of John Parks.

Ed is a well established member of the Club who has great background knowledge of Camera work having been a long established in the art of still photography. He began by introducing a new simplified scoring system, which he hoped would produce more meaningful results which were much easier to understand.

In truth, this really should be the easiest category of all of the Club's competitions to enter, as nearly all our members go away on holiday sometime during the year. But the competition itself proved to be a little disappointing, as there were only two entries in the advanced section, and both of these were from John Astin. so it wasn't really a competition at all.

This seems to be a trend which has carried on from the previous year competitions. The output of videos entered by our advanced members in all competitions seems to falling to quite a disturbing level.

This could make arranging programmes for our entry into other competitions difficult the in the future.

The competition however was saved by the enthusiasm of our newest members Max Bender, Andrew Saunders and Dominic Lobo who entered four videos between them. The Result of the Competition is shown below.

## Holiday Competition 2017 Results

<u>Graduate entries</u>	<u>average total mark</u>	<u>percentage</u>	
Max Bender - Port To Plate	24.5	66	winner
Dominic Lobo - Love Berlin	19.8	53.5	
Andrew Saunders - Lantern	18.6	51	
Dominic Lobo - Ibiza	18.3	50	

<u>Advanced entries</u>	<u>average total mark</u>	<u>percentage</u>	
John Astin - Hola Caneria	32.5	87	winner
John Astin - Douro Discovery	32	86	

# A Very Interesting Evening

Ed Kinge one of the Clubs best video makers gave a lecture to a very attentive and fascinated group of members of our Club night on the 4th of May.

Ed has had vast experience in the photographic art, having started his interest in photography eventually becoming a professional still photographer.

He had put a lot of work into preparing for his talk and he had assembled a video disc with various shots to demonstrate the main points of his lecture.

He began by saying there were no rules to composing a satisfactory scene and it was down to the photographer to choose the right camera angle to convey the mood and information the each shot was intended to convey to the audience. This was empathised in the first sequence of shots of a young girl sat on a lakeside. In each of these shots the girl was placed on the left hand third of the frame with the view of the lake filling the right hand side on the frame. He said that this was an example of the rule of thirds which was a well know way to construct a scene. However the feeling generated in these three shots was extremely different as in one of the shots the little girl was looking out of the frame causing the audience to wonder what she was looking at. He said that this changed the mood of the picture giving it an air of drama or mystery, as opposed to the other two shots which were of a much calmer atmosphere.

His next demonstration was the formation of the triangular format. He went on by saying that this was a classical format that was often used by Edwardian photographers when producing the

professional family portraits and also by classical medieval painters who were commissioned by the church to produce religious paintings.

He went on to demonstrate the use of various and unusual camera angles. He said that it was the inclusion of low angle and through shots often were very impressive as these shots were taken from a viewpoint that was unfamiliar to us, as we normally see scenes from eyelevel.

By now the audience were completely involved in his demonstration and there were some lively discussions between Ed and the audience.

At this point Ed said that his talk was taking longer than he had thought and that he still had a lot to cover and that the shots that had been taken by members specifically for this talk at Ed's request. These would have to be put back to a later date as there was not sufficient time to include them in this weeks talk. We then broke for a short interval

The members returned from the interval and Ed's talk continued explaining other points of composition, that were required in producing a pleasing image, such as perspective, lighting, depth of field, patterns, the importance of including shadows, the different effect the position of the sun and the time of day has each shot.

At the end of the evening Ed was thanked for all the effort that he had put in to preparing the evening and for the information that he had graphically demonstrated.



# NORTH THAMES REGION IAC KNOCK OUT COMPETITION

Competition Final Hosted by Staines Video Makers  
At Laleham Village Hall, The Broadway, Laleham, TW18 1RP  
On Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> May at 1.00pm

Judge 1 Tom Hardwick FACI Judge 2 Geoff Harmer LACI Judge 3 Celia George

Referee Brenda Granshaw FACI

<b>Potters Bar FilmMakers</b>	<b>Programme</b>		
<u>Title</u>	<u>Maker</u>	<u>Format</u>	<u>Length</u>
Messing About on the River	Ed Kinge	DVD	3 m
Moving On	A" Team	DVD	13 m
Ups & Downs in Lisbon	John Astin	Bluray	12 m
Stolen Property	Moonlight Productions	DVD	1 m

## Judges Comments

<b>South Essex</b>	<b>Programme</b>		
<u>Title</u>	<u>Maker</u>	<u>Format</u>	<u>Length</u>
Misscommunication	Stewart Cope	DVD	1m
Zundert Flower Show	Chris Taylor	DVD	5m 20 s
The story of Kirby's coaches	Chris Taylor	DVD	7m 50 s
Water, water, everywhere	Don Mouatt	DVD	5m 15 s
Go Ape	Lee Payne	DVD	3m 30s

## Judges Comments and Interval

<b>Bourne End Video Makers</b>	<b>Programme</b>		
<u>Title</u>	<u>Maker</u>	<u>Format</u>	<u>Length</u>
Afternoon Tea	Club Film	bluray	2m 20s
Mosaic	Club Film	bluray	6m 49s
Promenade Sentimental	Club Film	bluray	2m 42s
The Life of Riley	Jenny Hazell	bluray	3m 45s
The Next Stop	Club Film	bluray	11m 30s

## Judges Comments

<b>Walthamstow Cine and Video Club</b>			
<u>Title</u>	<u>Maker</u>	<u>Format</u>	<u>Length</u>
Blackfiers Through Holborn	Mike Darewood	DVD	11m 30s
Nearly a Hero	Paul Reilly	DVD	2m
Vestry House	Roy Garner and Ted Playle	DVD	14m 30s

## Judges Comments and Result

**The Winning Club will be invited to host next year's Knock out Final Competition**

The K.O. Competition Final hosted by Staines Video Makers proved to be a very good competition, with all three clubs presenting a very good programme, which was well supported by the participating Club Members.

As I arrived at the venue with Marie, I was pleasantly surprised to be joined by my daughter and my two grandsons, who had travelled up from Bristol to see the competition. Sam is currently studying Film production at Gloucester University and Matthew has recently obtained his Masters degree in Script writing.

Now follows Matthew's comments on the videos he saw.

Hi Granddad!

Just wanted to say that Sam Mum & I enjoyed seeing you and Nanny on Sunday, and finally managing to come to one of your film competition finals! The atmosphere was great in the village hall: everyone was incredibly friendly and enthusiastic. Me & Sam managed to have several interesting chats with the couple sat behind us (sadly we forgot their names), but it was amazing to hear she had been making films for the club since 1975

Sorry we couldn't stay for the final programme of films from the Walthamstow Club as we had to travel back to Bristol, but we all really enjoyed what we did manage to see – particular highlights were the two 1 minute “punchline” films which really set the Village Hall off chuckling!

You asked me to make some notes on the films for potential publishing in the club newsletter, so below I'll give some of my thoughts:

### **Potters Bar Programme**

What was particularly interesting about this programme of films was that every single piece gave something different, meaning it ended up being the most varied of the clubs I managed to see. Within this programme there was a “punchline” short with ‘Stolen Property’, an atmospheric mood-piece-come-documentary in ‘Messing About on the River’, a straight documentary with ‘Ups & Downs in Lisbon’ and

a dramatic short in 'Moving On'. This shows that the club contains a mixture of varied interests from its filmmakers, and varied skills from those who take part: as fiction filmmaking is an entirely different beast to documentary.

'Messing About on the River' was the standout from this programme in terms of cinematography and editing – the varied shots of all the boats and the cutting between the various rowing actions and people playing on the riverbanks shows the director has a great grasp of rhythm within filmmaking. Where this film fell short, however, was on its story and overarching theme. I did find myself agreeing with the judges when they said the opening of the girl reciting the poem didn't feel as though it linked particularly well to the rest of the film. Whilst her poem was about playing on the river and that was supposed to be the link, it actually came across as though the film was introducing her as a kind of protagonist that we were going to follow throughout some kind of journey; so when she introduces the film and then promptly disappears, the point to her ever having been in the film at all disappears with her.

'Moving On' was a lovely little story with a nice twist at its climax. It had developed the characters sufficiently, so that by the end of the film we were invested enough in the characters that we wanted them all to have a happy ending. What particularly impressed me about the screenplay of this was how it handled theme – the achilles heel of any writer – by juxtaposing the early relationship anxieties felt by a teenage boy with the relationship regrets of an elderly woman who wished she'd fought harder for the love of her life. This simple yet surprisingly heartfelt message of not giving up so easily on those you love came through very strongly. If I had to give a criticism here, I would say what let this film down was some odd directorial decisions on placement of characters within the scenes and some uninspired cinematography.

'Ups & Downs in Lisbon'. I enjoyed this documentary more than I had anticipated and it made me want to go to Lisbon to see all the

little back alleys and weird trams that occupy them. The narrator did a brilliant job of explaining Lisbon's history before sidestepping into the vehicle part of the documentary, which is where he really shone – no doubt because that's where his passion truly lay. In terms of the content I thought this documentary was particularly strong and informative. Perhaps the only change I'd have made is on the theme of the documentary. Given the filmmaker's passion was definitely focussed on the fascinating transport of this city, he maybe could have better linked the first half of the documentary (on Lisbon's history) to the latter (on the vehicles) by covering the city's history in terms of how its transport developed. That way he could've covered all the major historical events that unfolded whilst also keeping to the transport theme and thus the documentary would have felt a little more joined together. On the whole though it was a really interesting and informative piece!

'Stolen Property'. This was just brilliantly written and very, very funny. There's not much more to be said about it really: it did what it set out to do – make everyone laugh. The acting was shaky and the location was a weird choice for filming it (a dingy back alley with the dodgy deal done out the boot of a car would have made more sense), but none of this took away from the punchline so I don't think any of the rest of it matters.

### **South Essex Club Programme**

This collection of films was the least varied of the bunch, given that 4 of the 5 of the them could be considered documentaries. However, within the documentary genre, there was a surprising array of techniques on display, from the editing to music / atmospheric piece of 'Go Ape' to the informative 'The Story of Kirby's Coaches', this club showed that they could pull off a good documentary.

'Misscommunication'. Much like 'Stolen Property', this was a one minute "punchline" film and was the most risqué of the day. The joke was hilarious and caused a raucous laughter throughout the audience.

Again, much like ‘Stolen Property’ I found the set up a bit nonsensical – the man simply wouldn’t say all of those things to a woman he only might have slept with – but it didn’t matter as the pay off was mightily funny.

‘Zundert Flower Show’. This documentary had some wonderful shots of the carnival and all the bright colours really helped to keep everyones interest over the 5 minutes. I agreed with the judge here also when she said that the cutaways to the audience added some much-needed rhythm to the piece, rather than just watching float after float go by. However, this could perhaps have been better achieved by doing some edgy cutting and splicing of the various floats to some background music with a bit of a beat to it. Some random cutting between all the various highly coloured floats could have kept the energy up and really highlighted all the hues of the festival – sometimes it pays to try a more arthouse style of presenting a documentary if the footage itself isn’t interesting enough on its own.

‘The Story of Kirby’s Coaches’. This was one of my favourite films of the day. I thought the documentary was extremely well-crafted – giving the life story of Kirby and intermingling it with the story of how his company grew. The mixture of fresh footage and archive footage gave this film a lot of heart and maintained the interest for the viewer, as because of this, not only did the audience see a coach company developing, they saw a country, tourism industry and world developing and it no-doubt reminded many of the changes they’d seen in their lifetimes. It was a brilliant piece of work and I can’t think of anything I’d have done differently.

‘Water, Water Everywhere’. Sadly I think this was the biggest let down of the afternoon. Whilst the subject matter was fantastic, I thought the execution of it was very poor. It started out as a documentary format with some information on the waterfalls and some of the history of famous individuals that had visited them, but all too soon an orchestral version of Tina Turner’s ‘Simply the Best’ started up and we were subjected to 4 minutes of pictures of waterfalls

not-even synchronised to the music. It was weird, random and completely ruined what could have been a lovely little film about a little-known natural wonder that should receive more attention.

‘Go Ape’. This was a high-action, fun piece that showed off some of the capabilities of the Go Pro camera. The music choice matched the mood perfectly and the editing of the clips to the music was done very well. It was a fun and enjoyable little piece. Like one of the judges said, it was the perfect length, and allowing the song to dictate the length of the film was a smart decision.

### **Bourne End Video Makers Programme**

This group of films was the second most diverse after the Potters Bar Programme. From a poem-come-film of ‘Afternoon Tea’, through the documentary of ‘Mosaic’ to the short film ‘The Next Stop’, this group of filmmakers also showed they have a talent for creating an array of different pieces. On reflection I think that this video club probably deserved to win the top prize of the day, as, in my view, it had one of the best documentaries – ‘Mosaic’ – the best shot and characterisation of any film in ‘Afternoon Tea’, and the most technically impressive film in ‘The Next Stop’. Whilst that’s not to say it had the best film of the day or that it didn’t have the worst film of the day, the overall average quality of this programme was the best.

‘Afternoon Tea’. Ironically just as we’d had our afternoon tea interval in the Village Hall, this film was the first up. Me and Sam both thought that this was the best acted and best shot film of the day. The characterisation of the woman, the house she lived in and the set up all fit the theme the poem conveyed perfectly. The kind of understated sad but accepting loneliness was in equal measures heartbreaking and comforting. This was a real pleasure to watch.

‘Mosaic’. This was the second best documentary of the day after Kirby’s Coaches. The subject matter was an inspired choice, as it was confined enough that the small budget of the film wasn’t stretched in

any way and yet the artist at the centre of the film was passionate enough to completely carry the nearly 7-minute piece. I felt as though this documentary has the most natural-feeling cinematography of the day, in part due to the handheld nature of how it was filmed, which gave both a contemporary and intimate feel to what I was watching. The story of the mosaic was told brilliantly – from artist inception, through the process of making it to final completion – so that I had no further questions by the end of the piece: this is exactly what I'd want from a small and finite subject documentary.

'Promenade Sentimental'. Just like 'Messing About on the River', this was a documentary that sits more in the mood-inducing realm than as being anything factual. The shots were lovely and the subject was set all around a beautiful lake. I can see the place meant an awful lot to the filmmaker through just watching it, and thus the 'Sentimental' moniker it wears as its name is justified. There wasn't much to keep the average audience member interested – aside from lovely pictures – but I get the sense the purpose of this film wasn't to be enjoyed by the masses but simply as a keep-sake for a select few. And thus I would argue it does that job rather well.

'The Life of Riley'. There wasn't much to make of this documentary. I thought it was fairly well shot and had a very interesting subject matter, but ultimately didn't think it was executed very well. Through no fault of the filmmakers, the main interviewee was not good on camera and came across as unenthusiastic, which seems like it can hardly be the case given all the time he'd spent on restoring the car. Which leads me to my main point: the film was about the restoration of a lovely Riley car, yet was filmed after the restoration process was finished – thus what was the point of the film? It couldn't show any footage or reveal much information on its subject matter – I found this, therefore, to be the most disappointing film of the day.

'The Next Stop'. This was the last film I was able to see and definitely the most technically impressive. The amount of different locations used, the size of the cast and the CGI implemented meant that this

film had had some serious effort and time spent in its creation, and it definitely paid off. This film had far and away the best actor of the day starring in it – the male lead – and it even made use of an animal star which is never easy. In fact the production of the film was all excellent and really elevated it above most other films that were shown that day.

Matt :

Both Marie and I were very pleased that my daughter and her sons were able to come to Staines. I am sure that they enjoyed the Show and the reception that they were given by our Club members.

Now follows my comments on the videos entered by Walthamstow A.C.C. that Matthew was unable to see because they had to take Sam back to his University at Cheltenham, on their way home to Bristol.

## **Walthamstow Cine and Video Club**

Blackfriers Through Holborn Mike Darewood

A documentary video of a walk from Blackfriars to Holborn. This included a lot of scenes of buildings and places to be seen during this walk. There was a lot of good camera angles and an interesting commentary, but I felt that it was a bit on the long side.

Nearly a Hero Paul Reilly

During the Second World War, Britain was taking a beating from the German ships and submarines.

We were looking for something to build a ship out of that couldn't be destroyed by torpedoes,

A scientist named Geoffrey Pyke. Had the idea to build a 2,000 foot long, 300 foot wide and two million ton aircraft-carrier made out of Ice, this was his story.

Vestry House Roy Garner and Ted Playle

A documentary about a Museum in Walthamstow, that began with some impressive aerial shots taken with a drone camera. When the Camera took us inside the Building we were shown a great verity if



things that were exhibited in this museum. It was accompanied with a very clear and well spoken commentary.

The competition was judged by a excellent selection of Judges Tom Hardwick FACI. Geoff Harmer LACI. & Celia George who were given a very difficult task in selecting the Club which had put together the best programme.

Their comments on each Clubs programme was given after each programme was shown and their comments were very good and indicated that this was going to be a very close decision. I myself thought that PBFM's programme was the lightest and most entertaining but then after all I am a bit biased.

When the Judges announced their decision, they declared that:- PBFM was awarded second place and that the first place was awarded to Bourne End V.M. So congratulations to Bourne End, who will now be hosting Next years final.

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## **Our Members Successes at BIAFF**

**John Astin was awarded Four Stars for his Documentary "The Secret Island".**

**John was also awarded 3 Stars for his Travelogue "Douro Discovery".**

**Ed Kinge was awarded 3 Stars for his Film to a Record "Messing About on the River.**

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**Is anyone interested in a PBFM group visit to the Chicken Shed Theatre in Cockfosters?**

**If you are, please let me know and I will give you a choice of upcoming shows.**

**From Bob Chester.**

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## **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:-**

<b>Last dates for Hard Copy Input to the editor</b>	<b>31<sup>st</sup>. Aug.</b>
<b>Last dates for e-mail Contributions by e-mail</b>	<b>6<sup>th</sup> Sept.</b>
<b>e-mail Distribution Date</b>	<b>13<sup>th</sup> Sept</b>
<b>HARD Copy Distribution Date</b>	<b>20th..Sept</b>