WOLLONGONG
CAMERA CLUB
MOVIE
MAKERS

MEETING NIGHTS

First & Third Thursdays of the Month

MEETING VENUE

Figtree Heights Public School, St George Avenue & Lewis Drive

Vehicle entrance off Lewis Drive

FIGTREE

CONTACT DETAILS

www.wollongongcameraclub.com

http://www.wollongongcameraclub.com/video-catalogue/
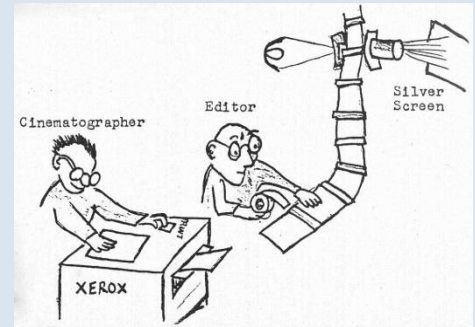
IN THIS ISSUE

FROM THE EDITOR'S POINT OF VIEW

by Ian Simpson

*The Order is rapidly changing*

It was nearly 50 years ago when I first took up this hobby of movie making. Back then it seemed to be a much more stable world. The amateur movie making format was 8mm film which had been in existence since 1932. Sure there had been a minor upset in 1965 when Kodak introduced its cartridge version of 8mm film stock and called it Super 8, and for sure the diehard Standard 8mm movie makers were up in arms when Super 8mm was introduced. However, Standard 8mm film remained in production until 1992 and Super 8 film is still available today. Change was more leisurely back then. I reflected back on those years when I was seeking to understand the current, seemingly rapid change in the digital domain.

To get a clearer understanding I looked at how long an amateur movie making format existed before another came along, and the following table is the result. The values for 8K are obviously a guess, but putting that aside, the interesting feature of this table is how video formats have a life span of about 6 to 10 years. Meaning if you want to keep up with the developments in technology you will need to revamp your equipment at least every 10 years. My collection of camcorders confirms that observation; with cameras covering the formats of

Format	Year Introduced	Years of the Format before next Format
Standard 8	1932	33
Super 8 / Single 8	1965	18
8 mm Video / VHS-C	1983 / 1982	6 / 5
Hi 8 / SVHS-C	1989 / 1987	6 / 8
DV – SD	1995	8
HD	2003	11
4K	2014	4?
8K	2018?	

Hi8, DV, HD and 4K. That is 4 cameras in 27 years. And this does not include the many computer upgrades required to keep up with this evolution in digital technology, nor does it include software and hardware purchases. Does anyone now use a Sony Video Editing Controller, RM-E33F that once allowed reasonable control over assemble edits from camcorder to VHS recorder? I think not. The technological change to far superior nonlinear editing computer editing killed off this often less than perfect analogue editing method.

So change has been beneficial. Only the very dedicated would go back to film splicing as the sole method of post-production editing. Film users now digitalise there films and edit them as though they are files from a digital camera. Also how silly were we to be cutting up our sole, unique footage. An edit was destructive if you used cement, and messy if you used tape as too many tape splices too close together upset the sound on film and jittered through the projector gate. So filmmakers did not like experimenting, just cut out the bad bits and join the rest in the required order. So much better today, where editing on the computer allows you to experiment to your heart's content and also make as many movies out of the one original footage as you like.

So change can bring not only benefits but increased creativity. So don't be afraid of a new format like 8K when it comes along, after all, who knows what else 8K may bring with it in the next few years? What is clear is that each frame of the movie is a picture with about 33Mpixels. One consequence of adopting 8K could be that you truly no longer need to carry a separate still camera for amateur use. Just shoot video and select the best frames for still images for your album. We have finally arrived at the universal camera and a new, radical way of shooting still images.
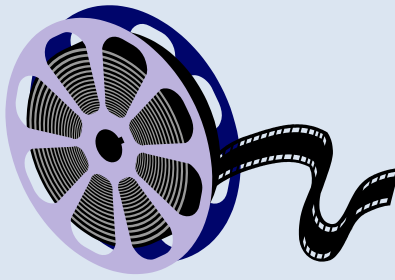
Last Month at the Club

7ᵗʰ July 2016

Due to no access to the school hall for this meeting, seven members attended Ian Simpson's home. The programme for the night began with a practical exercise where the members advised Ian how to edit some footage taken in Shanghai. Firstly the members were taken through the shots captured during a day in Shanghai. These could be grouped into a sequence of shots taken at an ancient Chinese garden; of a visit to a museum and finally some night shots and of boats lit up at night. The members decided to just restrict themselves to the night sequence and proceeded to tell Ian how to assemble the shots to tell the story of night life in modern Shanghai. A one minute video resulted.

After some supper the attention of members turned to re-structuring the programme for the rest of the year. The most pressing need was to put resources into answering the next Combined Clubs challenge which was a movie made to the theme, "Wrong Number." After the programme was revamped, John & Ann Devenish's video was shown. This was another minute from the *Yukon Territory*. The meeting ended with the discussion of how we could use training videos, available on the internet, to help improve our skills in movie making.

21ˢᵗ July 2016

For this club meeting we were back at our usual venue, the school hall. There were 10 members in attendance and Tom Hunt, once again ran his highly effective brain storming session to raise ideas for movies to the theme, "Wrong Number". Here Tom divided the members into pairs and asked each group to come up with ideas for a movie on the theme. Then he split the pairs up and reformed them with new members. The new pairs were asked to further develop the ideas developed in the first round. This process was then repeated again.

The members then reformed as a whole group and the best idea from each pair was explained to the whole group. This resulted in 6 good ideas for a video. Tom then asked the members to vote on the ideas, so as to choose the best two ideas. Once these were decided it was then time to ask members to draw up a script and then a storyboard which would be presented at the next meeting.

CHEERS FROM THE YUKON TERRITORY – *The Land of the Midnight Sun*

By John Devenish

Spent four nights camping in the Tombstone Provincial Park, wildflowers are beautiful and plentiful. Walking Poles allow freedom to walk, even up a steep(ish) scree slope to the

vantage point in the snaps. We made it to less than halfway up the hill and we believe from Clare that the views improved every step further **UP**. We believed her. All rocks and hills in the snaps are limestone. The road below is the Dempster Highway, a 731km gravel road to Inuvik, only some of which we travelled this year.

Blackout curtains are working well. See image. Garbage bags and cardboard!
Clare is in the midst of setting up her new house.
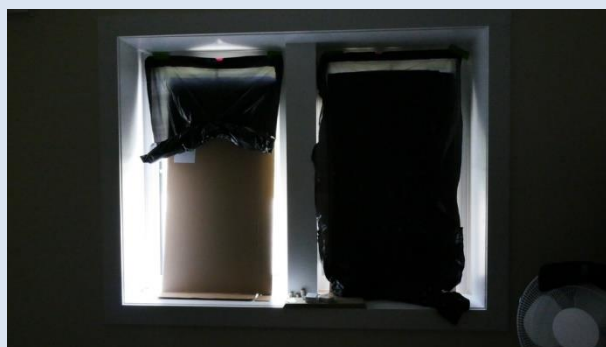
Last night we were taken up the Yukon River for a picnic dinner into a pending thunderstorm, which luckily by-passed us. Our hosts: Troy and Molly.
The river is interesting in that it carries a lot of silt at all times. The "white noise" hiss heard as silt passes the bout's hull is remarkable. The culprit is a glacier on the upper reaches of the White River.
The brown river is not floodwater but silt and dark sandy silt deposited on sand/gravel bars makes for great picnic sites.

Picnic at 21:40 hours

The boat made hard work travelling upstream but made up for it travelling back to town. The craft is based on a Chinese "junk" and was built by our host.

I have included a couple of snaps from last night and part of the weather forecast for tonight, note the sun/cloud predictions and their times for this evening. Night photography has a different meaning here in Summer.

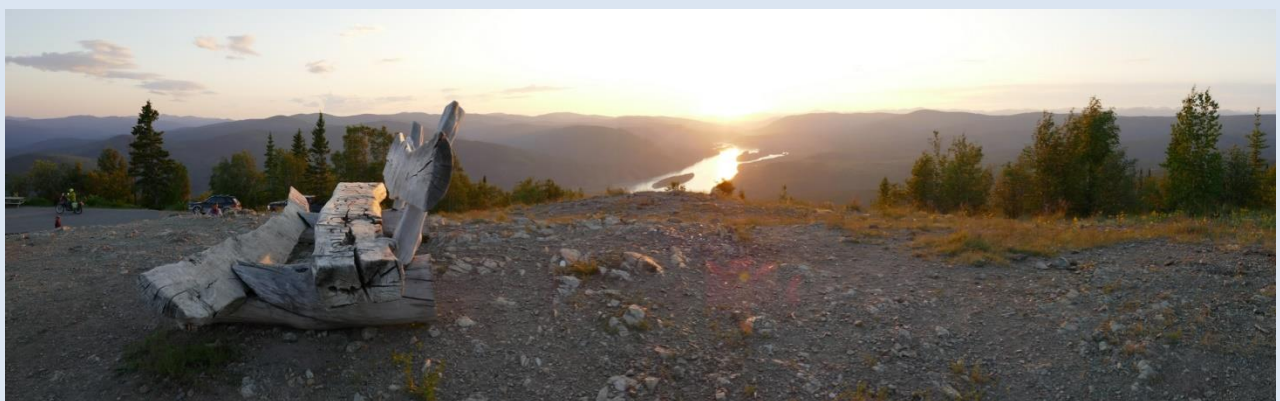*Night Photography under the Midnight Sun*
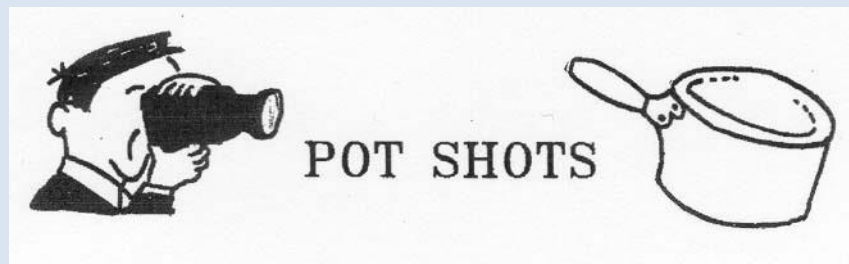

Ann at Midnight

July 14 Forecast for Night
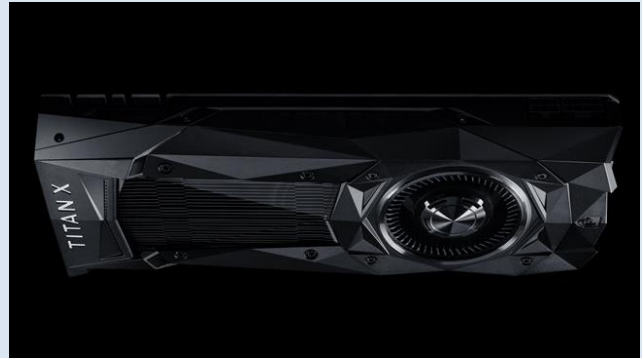

Dawson City at Midnight

Sunset at Midnight from Midnight Dome

POT SHOTS

What is Over Kill Today is Tomorrow's Average

Following on from the launch of their new GeForce GTX 1080 video cards, Nvidia has released its most powerful video card to date. It is called the GTX Titan X. It boasts of having 12 Gigabytes of RAM and 3584 CUDA cores in a double slot package. To put all this power into perspective, we need to refer to the words of *Redshark* reviewer, Craig Marshall, " …. if you *run popular GPU accelerated video post-production software such as DaVinci Resolve, and Intel's recently released 10 core i7 CPU mated with say, 64GB of fast RAM in an X99 motherboard along with two or three SSDs 'striped' together under Win 10 64bit OS with just one Titan X GPU plugged in beside your Decklink card, you should be able to work realtime with 60P and faster 4K RAW footage* …" So not really necessary for our amateur league, but then once HD was just the province of the Professionals.

That Elusive Film Look

Even though digital video from professionals has surpassed 35mm film resolution and in RAW format video can match film's dynamic range, some professional still worry about the "video look". They still seek the "film look." To help them in this quest, *Filmconvert* have scanned 19 film stocks at 6K resolution so as to provide as faithful as is currently technically possible that "film look" to video. They supply plug-ins to the popular editing programs, such as *PremierePro, FCP* and *Avid Media Composer*. They are also constantly updating their camera profiles by analysis of each camera's curves and colour science.

Preserving Those Memories

Once you have collected a large footage of family events and holidays then thoughts turn to how you can ensure your children and grandchildren can still enjoy them in the decades to come. For those who shot their family adventures with *Kodachrome* film, you will be luckier than those who shot with less stable film emulsions. But even the most stable film emulsion suffers from the effects of time, temperature and humidity. Mould spots appear, the emulsion shrinks, colour fade or in the case of *Kodachrome* develop a magenta tone. Even with our analogue and digital video tape, layers can stick together and the oxide coating can come off. Although both film and tape can last for decades if sensibly stored, that does not mean some deterioration has not set in. So the race is to convert these precious images to a more "stable" platform. Many of us are carefully digitising our films and analogue tapes and uploading the files onto hard disc drives. However, as we have all experienced these drives fail unexpectedly and always after their warranty period, which is usually three years. So we have to become very diligent in backing up the backups every 3 years until something more stable comes along. Or if you have only a few precious images, optical disc backup may be the best.

2016 Programme

Date	Meeting Agenda	Place	Responsible Member
July 31	M2M Challenge – Videoing an Event – need 3 teams of 2 people. One team at the start: Edmund Rice College; one team midway on the route and one team at end: Mt Kembla.	Edmund Rice College and finishing at Mt. Kembla	All
August 4	Select best Script from all members' scripts and have members each draw up a Storyboard – Select Production Team and allocate jobs	School Hall	All
August 18	Select best Storyboard from all the members' Storyboards – Plan Shoot and other details. At end of shoot give all members a copy of the footage to edit in conjunction with the selected Script and Storyboard.	School Hall	All
September 1	One Minute Videos + Old Videos	School Hall	M Davies
September 15	Members show their edited version of "Wrong Number" – select best for Combined Clubs meeting plus any individual efforts to this theme – NOTE THIS MEETING MAY NEED TO BE SWAPPED WITH OCT 6 MEETING DEPENDING ON WHEN THE CLUB SHOOT OCCURS.	School Hall	All
October 6	Presentation on Animation	School Hall	Peter Brown
October 15	Combined Clubs Meeting – Video Challenge: Wrong Number	Milton-Ulladulla Bowling Club – 68 Vincent Street Ulladulla	All
October 20	Bring in a Video you would like members to help you with or give an assessment of – Entries for VOTY are due this meeting.	School Hall	All
November 3	Presentation on White Balance / Colour Correction.	School Hall	Max Davies
November 17	Night Shoot at Belmore Basin – "Daylight to Dark"	Belmore Basin	All
December 1	Gala Night –Screening of VOTY Entries.	School Hall	All
December 13	Annual Dinner		All

Colour Code: Normal Monthly Meeting   Extra Monthly Meeting Special Meeting