

November
December
2015



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

www.youtube.com/wollongongmm

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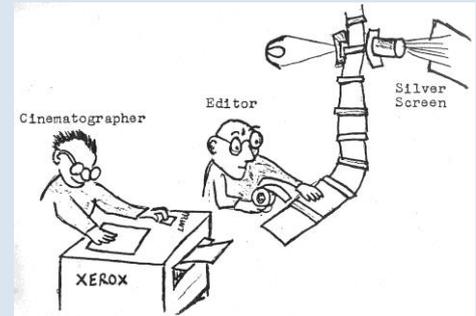
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FROM THE EDITOR'S POINT OF VIEW

by Ian Simpson

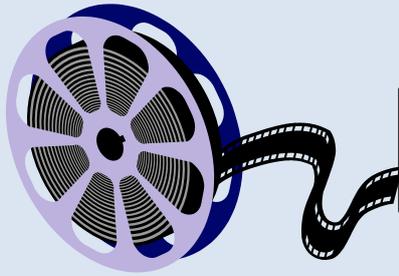


Once when we bought a product we got something physical that we owned. We could then do with it what we wanted. We could re-sell it, we could keep it, we could even put it in the garbage once we had lost interest in it. However, in this modern digital world, increasingly our physical objects are either temporary or are virtual ones. Our record collection, be it LPs or CDs have been replaced by such on line sites as iTunes or files on our smartphones. Our movie collection has moved from DVDs to online sites such as Netflix. Even our computer programs, which once resided on shiny discs, are increasingly being transferred to the 'Cloud'; that ethereal world that we have to continually pay for access but which we can never own its contents. Also increasingly our own private files are migrating from our computer's hard drive to that 'Cloud' in the digital realm. So the future of our computer based hobbies is one where we will have only a lend/lease arrangement. We will have to depend on third parties to store all our data and to provide us with access to programs that allow us to interact with the data. In one sense the brave new world of Orwell and Huxley has arrived. Big brother is alive and well and living in the 'Cloud'. We can only hope that he is a benevolent god.

So in this digital, virtual world where the real and physical seems to be disappearing, Leica, the company that introduced the 35 mm film format which has morphed into the 'full frame sensor', have an interesting marketing campaign, "Das Wesentliche". Roughly translated these German words mean, essentials, basics, fundamentals, things which are necessary for life and health. Leica, in their marketing campaign, have focused on the essentials that create the perfect photograph. They have expand on this idea, it is the provision of the 'ideal tools' that allow photographers not to be distracted but rather to be able to concentrate their thoughts, their actions, and their passions on creating the perfect picture. The 'tool' for this endeavour should be high quality, be dependable and above all should not distract the photographers from their quest of capturing the decisive moment or bringing their own vision to life. If you think carefully about this approach you will soon realise it goes contrary to current attitudes and developments in the digital world of photography and videography. Cameras have become computers, mobile phones have become cameras, still cameras have become video cameras. The new photographic 'tool' is expected to do almost everything, but unfortunately nothing very well – not at least until the next upgrade or firmware download. Leica's "Das Wesentliche" campaign is crying out; wait a minute! If you want to take superb photos then pick a 'tool' that does this and only this task, executed to the highest quality and is built to last.

The other side of this argument is the positive sale pitch, that all of this change is what we, the consumer, want. We 'demand' the latest 'tools' and software to work with. We 'demand' versatility in our 'tools'. These 'tools' must be ready to hand and easy to use. Along with the ease of use is an attitude of 'near enough is good enough'. A photo from a fixed focal length lens on a smartphone is 'good enough.' No need for a quality camera where its lens alone costs more than the smartphone as tomorrow there will another model smartphone that will be a little bit better.

Leica has a challenge on its hands with "Das Wesentliche" to convince the general public that a good quality lens is worth the money and a single purpose, durable 'tool' is the way to go. Good Luck.



Last Month at the Club

1st October 2015

The One Minute Video night was a great success! Twenty four videos were viewed by the eleven members and one visitor in attendance. Displaying a sign of the times these videos were presented either as files on a USB or the older DVD with the Club's Macbook Air or Blu-ray player being used respectively. The videos in order of presentation were:

Tom Hunt:

Butterflies

Jumbo Day

Over the Edge

Ann Devenish

Chris City Commute

Erin's Drive

Chad rides Home

Sarah's Journey

Note: Ann's One Minute videos complement each other and trace how modern suburban humans get to work; from working at home to riding a bike to a nearby location to travelling distances either by private or public transport.

Peter Brown

Waiting at the Farm

Jim Pyle

Sunday in the Mall

Sunset Cruise

Mexico (authored by Jim's daughter)

Noel Gibson

Platypus

Chris Dunn

Florade

Heavy Seas

John Devenish

Carnarvon Gorge

Probus

Big White

Karenni Deeku Festival

Peter Kis

Chess 2

Max Davies

Password

Married Again

Life Begins

Greville Park

Ian Simpson

The Making of a Graphic Artist

After a break for supper, ably supplied by Don, it was announcements time with Tom Hunt.

The meeting was then capped off with the showing of the three versions of “The Last Word”; two from the Sydney Video Makers Club and our effort. These were followed by Max Davies, “Lawrence Hargrave”, one of our entries in the “Over the Edge” challenge for the next Combined Clubs Meeting.



22nd Combined Clubs' Meeting & 16th Meeting of Southern NSW Division of FMM - Figtree 10th Oct. 2015

On Saturday 10th October 2015 a mini convention was held at Wollongong. Or at least that was what it seemed like, as members of six video clubs assembled in the Figtree Heights School Hall for a day of discussions and the viewing of videos. In attendance were representatives of the four clubs that make up the Southern NSW Division of FMM:

ACT Video Camera Club,
Milton Ulladulla Video Club,
Shoalhaven Movie & Multi Media Group,
Wollongong Camera Club Movie Makers

Plus by special invitation, there were members of the Sydney Video Makers Club and the Southwest Video Club (Sydney). In all there were 38 members in attendance.



The agenda for the meeting consisted of three presentations and the viewing of the clubs' video contributions to the set challenge; "Over the Edge".

The Wonders of Wildlife and Macro Videography

The first presentation was, "The wonders of wildlife and macro videography" by Nic van Oudtshoorn. Nic, an Associate of the Royal Photographic Society, stated that the aims of his presentation were to show and discuss some of his videos and to give some advice for travel videos. The video he showed displayed a virtual museum, created with the assistance of the *Adobe* program, *After Effects*. The 'displays' in this museum were introductions to his videos on birds, animals and



insects. These ‘displays’ allowed Nic to conveniently mix media, 4 x 3 images within 16 x 9 videos. To create his videos, Nic uses a process that involves firstly laying down the audio track. The images and footage are then added to suit the audio track. His photographic technique involves the use of manual focus, with the images and footage captured as RAW files which are later manipulated by such programs as *Magic Lantern* (for his *Canon 5D* DSLR camera). He also uses the program, *Twister*, for slowing down footage in postproduction.

For his macro work, Nic has the choice of using a bellows unit, or to reverse a standard Nikon or Canon lens so as to act as a dioptre or use a 180 mm lens which allows more distance between the camera and the subject. For example, Nic quoted a depth of field of 1 mm when the 180 mm lens was set at an aperture of F11. In the second part of his presentation, Nic talked about his equipment, his RED camera and Canon gear.

Nic finished his presentations by showing some videos and talking about how he conditions insects and ants to bright lights; firstly he uses a thick red filter and then gradually reduces the density of the filter and finally he switches to the required light source. Finally Nic mentioned how easy it is to get aerial views for free, just go to *Google Earth Pro* site.

We thank Nic very much for taking the time to give us this very informative but brief insight into his very busy world and to share some of the skills and knowledge he has gained.



Telling Engaging Stories

The final presentation was by Ruskin Spiers, President of the Sydney Video Makers Club, on the topic of “Telling engaging stories”. Ruskin’s theme was that we do not tell enough stories in our videos. He believes the best way to engage your audience is to tell a story, whether it is a 60 second advertisement, a drama or a travelogue. All these stories need a beginning, a middle and an end. Ruskin believes that the members of his club, the Sydney Video Makers, are telling better stories now than they did 5 to 10 years ago. The putting of a good story on video can require many people; perhaps

- a) 1 or 2 people have the idea and draw up the script,
- b) About 4 are involved in pre-production and casting,
- c) Some 12 people are involved in the shoot, and
- d) About three are involved in postproduction.



Then, of course, there may be 40 or more who will be the video's audience and judge its impact and quality.

Scriptwriting is often the first, major stumbling block for amateurs in the process of making a movie. Ruskin mentioned the scriptwriting format program, Celtx, however, you still need the inspiration to create the words that you type into Celtx. Then even when you have the script, you can have different interpretations of that script. As an example of this, Ruskin mentioned the world-wide competition run by Sony before the release of the film, *Django*. The script of a scene from the film was given to teams around the world to create a video. The variety of the interpretations of that script were quite amazing, with the Australian team winning the competition.

Ruskin then discussed the activities of his club which consists of 65 members. About 60% of their output is scripted dramas; 25% are travelogue and 15% are documentaries. Ruskin believes all these genres should be scripted. A documentary should tell a story so a script is needed even if the documentary is a "as it happens" documentary.

The Sydney Video Makers have 4 competitions per year for individuals and teams. There are 4 teams in the club with fixed numbers of about 8 people. The positive aspects of the teams are the social aspect, the mixture of interests and the pooling of equipment. The negative aspects are the production standard (technical) does change very much and the roles played by team members does not change; there is movement inertia.

To tackle the learning side of our hobby, Sydney Video Makers sought professional help from online sources such *Lynda.com*. Whilst in the making of dramas and comedies, the teams sought professional actors from such online sites as *Starnow.com*.

Ruskin then introduced a concept that few had heard of, the *Logline*. This is a 26 word max description of the movie and its key characters. It contains:

The Protagonist,

The Goal,

The Antagonist, and

The Obstacle to be overcome.

We should all think of summarising our own videos with Loglines especially if we put them up on *YouTube* or *Vimeo* sites. It would help our potential audience decide if they want to view our work.

Throughout his presentation, Ruskin showed short videos made by club members. Often these movies were short one minute advertisements. Many thanks go to Ruskin for not only joining the Combined Clubs meeting, but also giving us an insight into the activities of a very active and professional group of movie makers.



A very fine lunch was prepared by the WCCMM team lead by Max Davies. We thank the team and give a very special thank you to Heather Gibson and Marie Simpson who ‘slaved’ quietly preparing the food whilst the presentations were conducted in the adjoining room.

Show & Tell - Boys and their Toys

First up was Col from Shoalhaven Movie & Multi Media Club, who showed a pan and tilt device which is situated between camera and tripod. The pan and tilt are operated by a remote control cable and can be battery or 240V powered. It cost Col \$100.

John from South West Video Club showed a GoPro mount for the snow skier. The GoPro is mounted on a pole or a helmet.

Chris from WCCMM exhibited a Rode Pro Mix which



cost \$650.

FAMM Update

Mark Tunningley, Southern NSW Director, gave an update on the 2016 Convention as well as the Competition ByLaws which are up for review.

The Video Challenge

Before the various clubs' videos were shown, there was a discussion as to whether to adopt Milton Ulladulla Video Club's suggestion of changing the challenge into a competition between the clubs with a perpetual trophy being awarded to the winning club. Judging would occur at each meeting and the winning club would hold the trophy until the next meeting. After much discussion it was decided to keep the challenge as 'friendly' contest between clubs and their members and not to formalise it as a competition.

The topic set for this challenge was, "Over the Edge." The first video shown was from the Shoalhaven Movie & Multi Media Club – "A Taste of Paradise" A farm for young people with disadvantages who work on a "Permaculture and Organic Farm."

Milton Ulladulla Video Club's video was a variation of what over the edge means and asked the question does exercise make you young or just show how old you are?

The ACT Video Camera Club showed two videos: "Live and Let Die" – a Guinea pig race, and "L J Crooker Presents" – a real estate advert for a house that is "over the edge."

The Wollongong Camera Club Movie Makers had two videos: "The Last Word" made from a script given to the club by the Sydney Video Makers Club and "Lawrence Hargrave" which tells the story of the early experiments in aviation carried out by Lawrence Hargraves over the edge at Bald Hill, Stanwell Park.

The Challenge for Next Meeting

As it is Shoalhaven Movie & Multi Media Club's turn to host the meeting, their choice of a challenge topic was: ***Finally Finished.***



Photographs by Tom Hunt

15 October 2015

With 11 members in attendance it was time to think about next year's programme. Time to see what members wanted and see how it could be organised next year. A number of ideas and suggestions were raised and Tom Hunt collected the suggestions and agreed to draw up next year's programme.

Also 14 entries were submitted for the annual VOTY and A/V competitions. Not bad for a membership of 15.

Videos

The New Order by Ann Devenish

The Apiarist by John Devenish

The Last Word by WCCMM Team

Summer of '86 by Ian Simpson

Moving Postcards – Greetings from a Wet QLD by Ian Simpson

Over the Edge by Tom Hunt

Jumbo Day by Tom Hunt

Brampton Challenge by Tom Hunt

Smooth Water by Peter Brown

A Walk in the Park by Max Davies

Marine Rescue – Port Kembla by Max Davies

Audio Visuals

Big Day out by Bruce Shaw

Nhuddgand, The Essence of Life by Bruce Shaw

The Making of a Graphic Artist by Ian Simpson

5 November 2015

In the presence of 11 members and 1 visitor, the competition videos from Milton Ulladulla Video Club were viewed and judged. The members were firstly formed into teams for judging. There were 7 videos to assess and to write comments.

After the judging and supper, Chris Dunn presented an animation of the club logo.

The rest of the evening was devoted to an introduction for members of *Facebook* and the Club's *Facebook* page. Tom Hunt has been responsible for the setting up of the *Facebook* page and wanted to encourage members who have not joined *Facebook* to do so. As Tom said, this is a good way to keep in touch with the latest news of our Club.

19 November 2015

\by *John Devenish*

Our guest speaker, Noel Downey, an enthusiastic drone aficionado, brought along two machines and ancillary equipment to enlighten us. For a speaker who professed to be a hopeless orator he did a fantastic job for about an hour and a quarter.

Ten members of the club had an enthralling evening with Noel Downey, a practical man with many interests. With an extensive knowledge of still photography and an enjoyment of surfing he early on saw the potential for shots from a camera mounted on a drone. The hexacopter he brought, he himself built, so he knows its foibles and capabilities exactly. With six carbon fibre propellers the lift capability is about 3kg. A gimbal arrangement can give 360 horizontal and 180 vertical adjustments with the drone able to be



positioned too. We were amazed the remote control would operate over 2km. Noel used a set of “virtual reality” goggles rather than a simple monitor (iPhone, iPad).

The clips he showed let us see the usefulness of the drone in commerce, from paddocks and crops to real estate with much more detail than Google Earth. He has filmed along much of the coast of NSW. The flight along sections of the Northern Illawarra had us gasping as he flew along and beside the Sea Cliff Bridge. His real love is in the skill of free flying with his smaller Quad Copter. The GoPro footage had us skimming and dodging among trees in real time. This copter seemed to bank and turn like an aeroplane.

Noel explained the qualifications legally required for the pilot of a drone. Certification with CASA and the attendant fee of 10 to 15 thousand dollars. Regulations of where to fly are also enforced by Work, Health and Safety.

Noel revealed in question time an anomaly which allows unfettered use of a Powered Paraglider for photography. No certification or fees involved. Questions of insurance were also raised. All in all Noel was a gem of a speaker who had us all enthused to pilot a drone.

See <http://www.panoramio.com/user/6206043> for some of Noel's photography and [One Minute with Noel Downey](#) for Noel and his drone.

John & Ann called in on Noel Gibson last Monday afternoon and, despite having his first dose of Chemo on Friday, he was in good spirits and is looking forward to coming to the Gala Night on the 4th.

Just to Let You Know Noel

We are All Thinking of You

Q. Why use Vimeo?

A. It was necessary for this year's VOTY Competition.

by John Devenish

In the process of introducing an online paperless judging system, kindly provided by **Sydney Video Makers**, it became evident that our videos had to be uploaded to Vimeo to use their system. And a journey of discovering the ins and outs of Vimeo began.

With the help of Ruskin Speers from SVM the requirements of both the online judging system and Vimeo were revealed. It turned out to be a comparatively satisfying journey.

We have had a YouTube Channel since Christmas 2009 with many of our productions uploaded. Our Vimeo account was made 2 years ago with the possibility of having a video presence on both YouTube and Vimeo. Alas this did not happen due to data limits.

Having to upload this year's VOTY entries to Vimeo my eyes have been opened to the differences between these two major on line video exposure services. Both cater for SD & HD uploads. Downloads are typically 1280 x 720 pixels.

YouTube

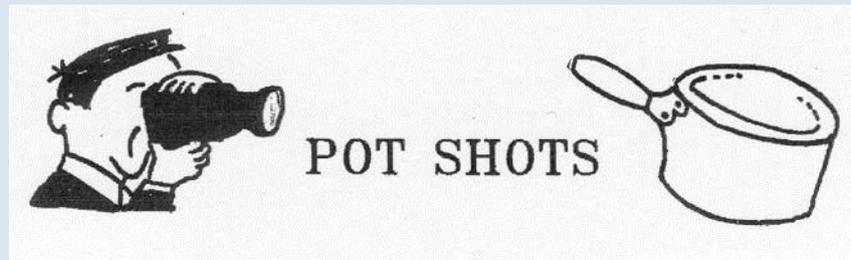
- There are no weekly upload limits. Everything is free.
- YouTube is difficult to navigate, unless one is a regular user and can keep up with method changes.
- There is ever present advertising, a pain in the proverbial. This is a commercial site.
- Security options are limited.
- There is much rubbish uploaded by reasonable folk, also many uploaders seem to be strange.
- Joining YouTube requires a Google account and not everyone is happy with this.

Vimeo

- There is a weekly free upload of 500MB (a seven minute video properly prepared for uploading is about 250MB). Therefore only two seven minute uploads per week are possible. Nothing exceeding 500MB can be uploaded at all.
 - Vimeo is easy to navigate. It is very user friendly.
 - There is no advertising, this is not a commercial site.
 - Security options are better.
 - Folk using Vimeo are more likely to be interested in Video Production.
 - Joining Vimeo is straightforward.
 - An email address is the only requirement.
-
- Vimeo's downside is having to pay a fee when large amounts of data are uploaded over a short time: \$12 for one month of 20GB with 5GB of upload per week (available), ten times more than the free option. We have a one month subscription. In the past paper, postage and disks for VOTY cost about \$20.
 - An annual fee of \$69 is available rather than \$12 per month, a good option for serious users. We would have difficulty justifying this option ... at present.

Members with a Vimeo account make managing the competitions entries much simpler all round. SD & HD Videos uploaded by members to their Vimeo feed can be linked to the Competition Judging System without the need to provide a thumb-drive or DVD/BD.

We aim to have a completely on line paperless system for 2016. The paper and thumb-drive VOTY entry option will remain available.



Leica goes Mirrorless and Rangefinderless in its New SL model.

There are a few firsts with this new Leica, such as 4.4MP viewfinder and its 4K video feature. To achieve 4K capture, the 24MP, 24 x 36 mm full frame sensor is given a Super 35 crop mode, whilst HD capture uses the full frame mode. In HD mode you can also capture 120fps slow motion. Super 35 mode enables UHD and DCI 4K to be recorded internally at 8-bit, 4:2:0 sampling to a UHS-II or UHS-1 SD card or you can record to an external recorder via the 1.4 HDMI port at 10-bit, 4:2:2 sampling. The SL will shoot 11 fps of RAW images. This compares to Sony's a7II rate of a mere 5 fps. The camera is capable of operating over an ISO range of 50-50,000 and has a maximum shutter speed of 1/8000. Also due to the absence of an optical low pass filter this camera will bring out all the sharpness in the legendary Leica lenses—that is if Leica makes enough of them to match this model. At present the camera is offered only with a Vario-Elmarit-SL 24-90mm f/2.8-4 zoom lens and with a promise of more to follow. The price—if you need to ask - then you cannot afford it.

A hidden advantage of shooting 4K.

Most 4K cameras that record to an internal card shoot the 3840 by 2160 resolution with the limited colour sampling of 4:2:0 with 8-bit encoding. What this means is that for every block of 2 by 2 pixels, although there are 4 image brightness samples, there is only one colour sample. However, during the down conversion of the 4K images to HD, every 2 by 2 block of pixels in 4K becomes one pixel in HD. Thus in HD every pixel represents a shade of colour, that is, for 8-bit encoding this means a value between 0 and 255. So images should be more colourful but post treatment is still limited by the coarse 256 colour graduations.

Before Kodachrome there was Kodacolor

Not so well known is that before Kodachrome reversal colour film arrived in 1935, there was already a colour reversal film being marketed by Kodak since 1928, called Kodacolor. This is not to be confused with the later colour negative film of the same name. As a 1928 book explains, the reversal Kodacolor film was quite complex in construction and also required a red-green-blue filter to be attached to both the camera and the projector:

“Instead of having the usual smooth surface, the side opposite the sensitive coating is embossed with cylindrical lenses so minute as to be invisible. The lenses, which are part of the film itself and made of the film substance, would each look, vastly magnified, like a rib of a corrugated iron roof. They run lengthwise of the film and the width of 559 occupies an inch.

The effect of these invisibly small lenses is to separate the rays of light coming through the three segments of a three-colored light filter into the camera. Each of the three colors of the filter -red, green, and blue- lets into the camera from the scene in front of the camera only the light rays of its own color. The three different colored light rays register on the film only as black and white; but each tiny lens embossed on the film so distributes the light rays falling upon it that the various colors register on the sensitive film emulsion as a distinct black and white impression for each color at that point. The light of the projector then passes through the film in such a way that it shines out through the tiny film lenses, and then through the projector lens; and each ray is directed through the proper color on the light filter, to fall on its proper spot on the screen. The combination of the three colors, red, green, and blue, gives every possible natural tint.”

A reel of 16 mm Kodacolor shot in 1930 may be the earliest colour movie of Yellowstone National Park. For details of this find and to see what the restored footage looks like go to:

<http://unwritten-record.blogs.archives.gov/2015/11/19/an-update-on-kodacolor-decoded/>

2015 Programme

Date	Meeting Agenda	Place	Responsible Member
December 3	Gala Evening – viewing entries in VOTY 2015	School Hall	Tom Hunt
December 8	Annual Dinner & Awards Night	TBA	All

2016 Programme

Date	Meeting Agenda	Place	Responsible Member
January 21	Workshop – Brainstorming “Finally Finished” Project	School Hall	Tom Hunt
February 4	Capturing Sounds - Q&A on Facebook & Videos on Vimeo	School Hall	Tom Hunt & John Devenish
February 18	Green screen night – “Elderly men on bench” joke video	School Hall	Peter Kris & Tom Hunt
March 3	“Finally Finished” studio night	School Hall	I Simpson & J Devenish
March 8	AGM	School Hall	All
March 17	Camerawork and Storytelling in Holiday videos	School Hall	Ian Simpson
April 4 - 8	FAMM National Convention – The Sebel, Kirkton Park	Hunter Valley	All
April 7	One Minute Movie night	School Hall	Max Davies
April 21	Team Video Projects – Create a video biography / personal portrait	School Hall	Tom Hunt
May 5	Issues with copyright	School Hall	Chris Dunn
May 14	Combined Clubs Meeting – show our “Finally Finished” video	Nowra	All
May 19	Making an Animated Video	School Hall	Jim Pyle
June 2	Midyear Competition – entries up to 7 minutes in duration	School Hall	All
June 16	Editing Workflow	School Hall	John Devenish & Tom Hunt
July 7	Editing Workshops in members’ homes		All
July 21	Theme Night – “Unreasonable Expectations” – bring along a video that fits this theme	School Hall	Tom Hunt
August 4	New ways of capturing video	School Hall	I Simpson & T Hunt
August 18	Voiceover Workshop	School Hall	Tom Hunt
September 1	One Minute Videos	School Hall	M Davies
September 10	Spring Outing to Australian Botanic Gardens	Narellan	All

Colour Code: Normal Monthly Meeting Extra Monthly Meeting Special Meeting