

The  
**LINKING SHOT**



Haywards Heath Movie Makers

Summer / Autumn 2023

# From your Chairman

## David's Deliberations

Well, what a summer we've had!

I'd like to thank everyone that came along on "Albany Day" to help with the setting up and clearing away on that Saturday afternoon. I'm sure you will agree that the event was a great success not just that we did so well but, with the smooth running and organisation that made it look so easy to our visitors. Rod had put the films together and, ably assisted by Merv, projected a very professional show. Liz and her team welcomed everyone with a cup of tea or coffee and produced cream scones, cakes and biscuits for the refreshment break. Ray produced some very nice certificates for the various awards as we no longer use physical trophies to avoid the need for (now) expensive engraving costs.

I had a number of complements both on the day and later by e-mail from several attendees who said how much they had enjoyed such a slick show (to quote one such comment). So, it was a job well done all round. You can read an account and see some pictures taken on the day in this issue.

We had a very well attended and successful social gathering at Haskins garden centre in June. It seems this is a very popular venue as the restaurant was very busy with a good selection of food on offer.

As we are heading towards our next competition season, here is a reminder of what is needed.

October is the Open Competition. Your film can be any genre but limited to 15 minutes maximum.

November sees the Alan Early themed competition. The theme this year is "A Day Out" and films must not exceed 5 minutes. We also have the 60 second competition which can be any genre. This year we are introducing a new competition "Cut to Music". You can select your own music choice for this.

We had a good crop of films for last year's competitions, so let's see if we can do likewise this year.

That's all for now.

David

# The Albany Competition

The previous Albany Competition was in 2019 before Covid lockdowns struck. And beyond that there had been a lack of entries due to the lockdowns affecting the preparation of new films. Because HHMM won in 2019 with our entry of "A special Relationship" it was down to us to organise this next one after three missing years. This was on 24 June at the Wesley hall, Haywards Heath. In the meantime there had been much discussion with other clubs led by our Chairman David Fenn which changed to competition to alternate years, and amended the rules to open it up to a wider range of clubs as well as allowing older material to be used provided that it had been recently updated by some editing. These changes were all to increase the number of potential entries in these times of diminishing film making across film making clubs in general due to the age effect. And it seems to have worked.

A total of nine entries came in from ourselves and six other clubs.

Chichester Film & Video Makers  
East Sussex Movie Makers  
Full Moon Productions (Stephen Lancing)  
Orpington Film & Video Makers  
South Downs Film Makers  
Surrey Borders Movie Makers

Our video presentation guru Rod Willerton had assembled these into a continuous projection session. The judging had been carried out in advance rather than on the day - one of the other innovations to save everyone except the judges hanging around while the judges deliberated on the actual day.

Sutton Coldfield Movie Makers did the judging and they had very kindly prepared their results presentation as a specially made video with comments made on each film by one or other of the various judges. This excellent presentation deserved its own prize really.

We will do our best here, within the restrictions imposed by the static images and printed text of a paper based medium, to summarise each entry, the judges comments and the overall results.



### **Lucky Jem**

Aspiring actor Jem has entertaining conversations with her agent as she works her way up from Rep theatre hoping to eventually star in feature films.

The judges liked the success sequence and how the audience would be gripped about her onward progress.

### **Bohemian Spirit**

Sam and Gary discover a ghost that plays the flute in a disused theatre. They rent the place and make money from having audiences to watch the ghost, until one of them is destined to swap places with the ghost. The judges liked the superb makeup, the eerie music and the twist at the end.





**Albany Editing Award**  
 (Surrey Borders Movie Makers)

### Turning Back Time

A then and now story about the Agent living well compared to the past pop stars for whom he forgot to pass on their commission. But the wealth comparison flips when they catch up with him.

The judges very much liked the portraits coming to life and the seamless editing for jumping back and forth in time, without confusion.

### Reaching for the Skies

A documentary about the youngest aviator ever to fly solo round the world. Based around filming during his stopover at Biggin Hill.

The judges thought it a good choice to have the aviator do the presenting. They liked the scenes shot in the control tower, the route map and the re-created archive footage.





**Syd Mitchell Award for Best Comedy**  
(East Sussex Movie Makers)

### **Fish & Chips**

Two ladies dressed as seagulls make comments about what is going on around them on the seafront.

The judges enjoyed the jokes and the enthusiasm of the actors for what they were doing. They thought there were technical aspects that needed more attention to detail.

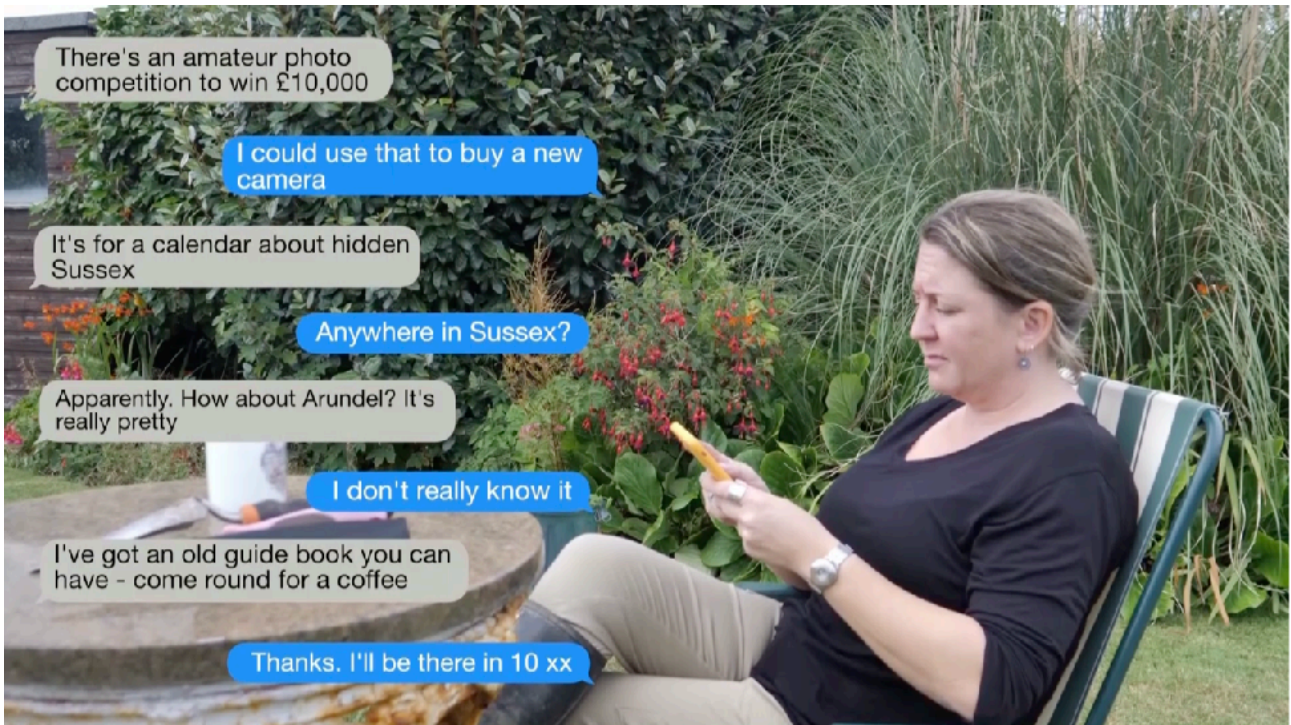
### **Are You There Mum?**

Angie meets her friends Joe and Nicky at a seance hoping Madame Lee will help find the combination code for her late mother's suitcase.

Gordon Hunt thought it was a nice film, made sense, funny, sounded good, looked good, held attention. Ian Lane thought Helen's performance of Madam Lee very convincing and that the low light scenes were very well handled.



**Runner Up**  
(Haywards Heath Movie Makers)



### Alice's Amazing Arundel Adventure

Ian Lane liked the idea of using a photographic competition as a reason for visiting Arundel.

A wide selection of shots and good use of a split screen and on screen text messages.

Ian Reed thought it was a great publicity film showing interesting places to visit.

### Seeds for Life

A re-processed documentary originally made in 2009 about the work of the Millennium Seed Bank at Wakehurst Place.

The judges noted the professional quality of the presentations, thought it was well planned with good picture quality and well recorded sound.





### Rags to Riches

This was a wide ranging film threaded together by Cyril and his partner. They walk from a sea front shelter to a free exhibition where Cyril thinks they should offer a discount to seniors.

The exhibition featured some historical reconstruction drama and then on to the collection and sorting of recycled clothes to raise money in support several local Worthing charities.

### The Judges from Sutton Coldfield



Ian Lane



Steve Jakab



Ian Reed



Richard Brown



Jill Lampert



Gordon Hunt



We did not expect to win with our reserve entry based on re-editing a 12 year old documentary about the Wakehurst place Millennium Seed Bank. And our freshly made film came in as runner up. So, however you look at it, it will be down to us at HHMM to organise the next Albany in 2025. Whether we will even have enough surviving members to form an organising committee by then is a mute question.

### **Outline of future Programme**

Except for quarterly daytime social gatherings, all talks, discussions and film screenings are now by Zoom on the fourth Tuesday of each month at 7.30 pm. See our website for more details.

#### **2023**

- Sept 26 A zoom presentation by Izzy Searle, a trained freelance writer and script supervisor, based in Haywards Heath. Izzy has several credits to her name including theatre and film work. She will be illustrating her talk with a slideshow and will also share some clips.
- Oct 24 Open Competition - max 15 minutes ideally made/revised in the last year
- Nov 28 Short film competitions  
Alan Early: maximum 5 minutes to theme "A day out"  
Cut to music: your music choice, maximum 5 minutes  
60 Second: anything under 60 seconds
- Dec 19 (*third Tuesday*) Christmas Clips and Quizzes  
with your own drinks and nibbles

#### **2024**

- Jan 23 AGM
- Feb 27 South Downs Film Makers - SDFM will present films for us
- Mar 26 iPhone film making - tips and pitfalls from Rod with practical demos and filmed examples

This link should get you connected to any of our Zoom meetings

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/3281843137pwd=RS90cjBRUi9LVE0rOWMyZUdkZ3lwUT09#success>

**Next Issue** The next issue of Linking Shot will probably be in January 2024 by which time we should have enough copy based on the October and November competition evenings. Send in your contributions.

Views expressed by members in the Linking Shot may not be the views of the HHMM committee unless stated