



Editor Graham Evans
Chairman

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www.springparkfilms.org.uk

FORTHCOMING ATTRACTIONS

8th June – MEETING CANCELLED DUE TO USE OF CHURCH FOR GENERAL ELECTION POLLING STATION

22nd June - VISIT FROM SUTTON FILM MAKERS

We welcome members of Sutton Film Makers to our humble abode. This is a 50/50 evening where Sutton will show us some of their films and we hope to show them some of ours. These film makers from Sutton have a reputation for making very professional films, so come along and join in the fun!

6th July – VISIT FROM ROD WILLERTON

Rod is a member of Haywards Heath Moviemakers which is yet another formidable club from our region. He will be entertaining us with some great films from the past.

20th July – SPRING PARK'S SUMMER OUTING

After organising a terrific walk around Wapping last year including stunning sunshine, Graham R is preparing another great walk for us in London. This time we will explore Rotherhithe including a pit stop at lunch-time. Graham hopes to whet our appetite for this special "works outing" at the 6th July meeting and to find out who is coming along.

PREVIOUS EVENTS AND MEETINGS

11th May – Movie-Go-Round

Once again we invited members to bring along and show their recently made films and listen to the comments of three fellow members. The panel comprised of Graham E, Roy and Richard. Keith S provided us with the opening film "East Anglian Waterways", a relaxing and sometimes exciting look at the British messing about in boats on the

Norfolk Broads. The panel were generally impressed by the cinematography and cutting and thought the background music appropriate.

By coincidence, Chairman Graham showed us a film "Cruising Into Maidstone" made quickly using footage he took "on the fly" whilst on a shoot for another film in the town. It showed a brief river trip into Maidstone and the historic buildings on its riverside. The panel felt that the film needed a commentary and some re-shooting to bring it up to scratch.

"Photoshoot" was the eagerly awaited 2017 creation from Peter. This had all the usual winning ingredients that we have come to expect from Peter. It involved taking still shots of wild birds in a London park. But before that there was the normal fun to be had exaggerating the work needed to create the photographer's prop for the birds to pose on. The panel are no longer asked to decide whether films are "hits" but undoubtedly they all thought that this was one.

Roy is one of our most prolific film makers and he brought along his latest entitled "Mr Mellows". Unlike many of Roy's films, the shooting of this one did not involve travelling thousands of miles. It was all about Mellows Park close to his home in Wallington, which was donated to the locals by a benefactor called – yes you've guessed it – Mr Mellows! The panel judged the film to be well made with good shots and slick editing and a helpful voice-over.

The final film was also from Roy. It was called "African Revival Ball". Roy explained by way of introduction that the "ball" in question was a big fund-raising event organised by the charity

“African Revival”. Roy’s film was shown at this event to grab the attention of those attending, showing them a short information film how the charity transformed the lives of people in Africa. The version of the film was not compatible with the aspect ratio set up for the club projector but the panel saw enough to recognise the power of the film. There was some discussion of the pros and cons of using images, captions and dramatic music and not having a voice-over in “info-mercials” like this. But the panel judged it “fit for purpose”.

25th May – Films from SERIAC 2016

Recently, films entered for the SERIAC Film Festival are preserved for posterity on a set of DVDs (and this year Bluray too – see the piece below). Spring Park purchased a set of the 2016 collection and intended to show some of them on the 8th of June but the Prime Minister had other ideas! So we settled down to watch Disc 2 of the set, mainly because it seemed to be about the right length of time and did not contain too many films made by Spring Park (we wanted to see films from other clubs).

We watched “Are You Being Served” about how a master carpenter made a chair. We also watched “South Georgia” made by our very own Alan. “Follies Man” was an amusing film that envisaged a figure from history showing the buildings he had commissioned to a present day stranger. “Pot Luck” was a short drama film commissioned for previous “North v South” contest. “Haslemere” was a travelogue all about this small town. “The Player” was one of those computer animated movies with a savage twist. “Beast in a Briefcase” was a rather blood-soaked violent drama involving some great chase sequences and somewhat exaggerated special effects. “The Biter-bit” was a very funny one-liner comedy film which rounded off the evening.

HAVE YOU PAID YOUR SUBS!

Most members have already paid their club subscriptions for 2017/18, but a few have yet to pay. The amounts payable are unchanged: £15 per individual member and £5 for each member of the same household.

Members have in the past been asked to pay subscriptions and other similar payments (eg to special events like our Anniversary Dinner) by cheque rather than cash. The exception to this rule is payment of the regular entrance fees at our meetings and entry to the annual show. With the closing of the club’s local branch of the HSBC bank in West Wickham, it makes it easier for our Treasurer if payments of subs are paid by members via BACS or direct transfer (eg using electronic banking. If you wish to pay in this way, please ask Treasurer Dorothy or Membership Secretary Keith B.

Cheques made out to Spring Park Film Makers are still acceptable. Membership Secretary Keith will be happy to accept them as usual.

THE IAC NATIONAL AGM WESTERN WEEKEND HOEDOWN

This year the event is hosted by our own IAC Region (SERIAC) and promises to be a weekend packed with attractions and special group outings. It is based at The Coniston Hotel in Sittingbourne, Kent. The dates are 19th – 22nd October this year and you can get all the details from the SERIAC website or ask our very own Brenda who just happens to be the Secretary of SERIAC!

GET YOUR OWN COPY OF “THE SPRING PARK STORY”!

A few of you got a free DVD of this film by being on the winning table for the Chairman’s Quiz at the Club Dinner. Copies of the film on DVD will be available at meetings and we hope you can donate £5 to club funds at the same time. For those unable to see the film at the dinner, it lasts approximately 30 minutes and “stars” Tony, Gerald and Mike amongst others telling the story to the background of rarely glimpsed footage of Spring Park members making films and at meetings in the olden days. This includes how the two Spring Park blockbusters “Flat Out” and “Unfounded Rumours” were made.

GET YOUR OWN COPY OF THE SERIAC 2017 SHOWREEL BOX SET

Whilst we are on the subject of DVDs, don’t forget that Brenda has the latest box-set from SERIAC. The discs contain all the films entered this year for the SERIAC Festival including some of the best films from our club and many others from Kent, Surrey, Sussex and South London. The DVD collection is priced at only £15 if you order from Brenda or Keith S.

Go on spoil yourself – it will make a change from watching those endless reality TV shows!

TEA ROTA

22nd June - Tony Shepherd