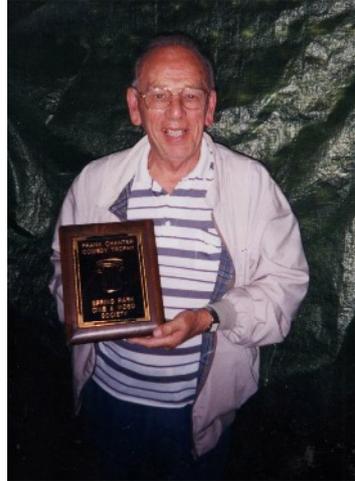




Editor Graham Evans
Chairman



DOUG ROSS 1929 - 2017

Issue No. 556 – August 2017

www.springparkfilms.org.uk

Spring Park's Doug Ross sadly died recently, aged 88. He was one of Spring Park Film Makers' stalwarts. Born in Paisley near Glasgow, Doug was a proud Scotsman who did his apprenticeship as an electrical engineer on the Clyde. He was a paratrooper during his national service and later worked in Iraq. He later married and lived in West Wickham and worked in industry and local government. He was a keen amateur cinematographer in his younger years, but he was in his early sixties when he joined Spring Park. Fairly soon he was showing films at the club and joined the executive committee as publicity officer. In the 1990s, there were glossy magazines catering for our hobby, particularly the use of camcorders and computer editing. Doug managed to get articles about our club in these magazines as well as in local newspapers and residents and church magazines. He was a gregarious chap and welcomed new members enthusiastically, including me. He made a few films of his own including "Summer Sailing" and "Photo Finish" which were shown on at the club's annual shows. He was the first winner of Spring Park's Frank Chanter Comedy Award in 2001 with "The Pilgrimage" (see photo above). Doug very often appeared as an extra or actor in club films. These were usually comedies and included "Going Cuckoo", "Vicars in a Twist" and "Jock Around the Clock" as a TV interviewer (where joke sub-titles were used to translate his Scottish accent). Perhaps his best known performance in front of the camera was miming as lead guitarist of Adam Faith's pop group The Roulettes in my film "Faith the Music". He later featured in the comedy "Doggon it!" Members will remember his warmth and kindness, his caring nature, his sense of humour and dedication to our club. He helped me set up and put away the projection equipment at most club meetings until his recent spells of ill health. At his funeral, Minister Bill Bowman called Doug a "gentle man" as well as a "gentleman". His friends at Spring Park and others in the wider film-making community will miss him a lot.

Doug leaves his wife, two children and three grandchildren to whom we send our condolences.

Graham Evans

FORTHCOMING ATTRACTIONS

3rd August – TRIBUTE TO DOUG ROSS

Chairman Graham has put together a programme of films made by Doug and many others, which he appeared in as an extra or in speaking roles. We will be welcoming many of Doug's relatives and friends to this event.

17th August – BFI FILMS

A selection of old films from the BFI, which was founded in 1933. The BFI is a charity governed by a royal charter.

31st August – FILMING WILDLIFE

Graham R will inform and entertain us, showing how to film wildlife. This will be followed from our own "bird man" Tony Shepherd with some excellent films on this subject.

20th July – SPRING PARK'S SUMMER OUTING



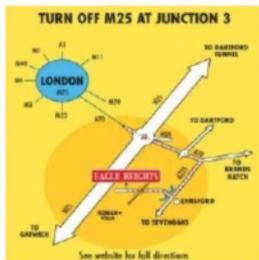
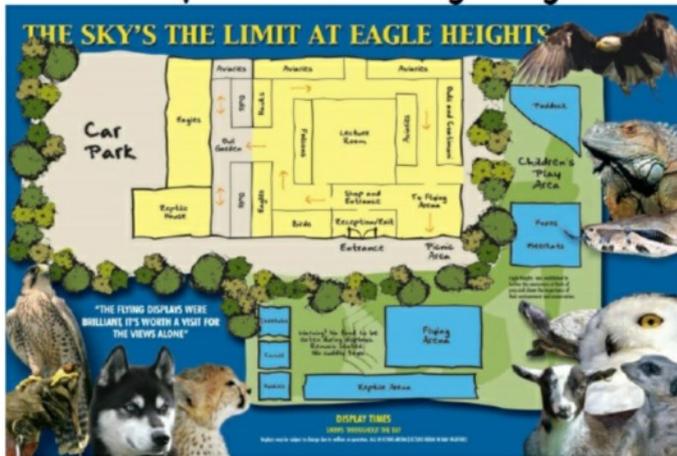
*The team relax on the south side of "Docklands"
Photo by Keith S*

After organising a terrific walk around Wapping last year, Graham R prepared another great walk for us. This time we explored Rotherhithe guided by the highly knowledgeable Graham who explained the history of each area to the group. The day included lunch at a riverside pub and an exciting trip back to London Bridge via the "Thames Clipper".

ENTRIES FOR THE SPRING PARK 2017 COMPETITION AND SHOW

Chairman Graham is keen to receive your entries for our club's annual competition. As usual each member can enter up to 3 films (no entry fee!) to be judged externally. The closing date here is the 31st of August. Members vote on the films in September which not only gives us the two members' awards but also helps to decide which films will be included in our Annual Show in October. **This time the Committee have decided that films previously entered for the members vote but not included in previous Annual Shows can be entered this year for this year's Show (but not the Competition).** Only 3 films per member rules still applies and only 2 films per member will be seen at the Show.

Spring Park Film Makers 7th September visit to Eagle Heights



If you would like to join us or require a lift please let Brenda know. We will meet and leave the Emmanuel Church at 11.15am arriving at the centre for the 12 noon display and then have lunch in the tea shop. If you are driving, Eagle Heights is situated 5 minutes from the Swanley Interchange.

Lullingstone Lane, Eynsford. DA4 0JA

We are happy for all to come and as long as there are 10 or more in our group the cost will be £6.25 per person.

Please let Brenda know if you will be joining us

springparkfilmmakers@hotmail.com or phone 020 8462 2822

PREVIOUS MEETINGS

6th July – ROD WILLERTON – ASPECT RATIOS

Rod is a member of Haywards Heath Moviemakers which is a major club in our region. The title "Aspect Ratios" might have sounded a little technical but it was fascinating nonetheless. Rod explained that the 4 by 3 ratio was the standard for many decades, not only for professional cinema but also for TV and amateur cine enthusiasts. During the 1950s the cinema industry sought to boost its audience with various patent wide screen formats including Cinerama, Cinemascope and Vistavision. Rod showed us excerpts from many of the blockbuster films of those times to illustrate the visual impact of these wide screen formats. It was a truly informative and entertaining evening.

KENT FILM FESTIVAL

It is less than 2 months before the Kent Film Festival at the Powell Theatre in Canterbury Christchurch University. The date for your diary is Saturday the 23rd of September. Chairman Graham is the competition officer and has received 38 entries (the competition is now closed). Graham has advance tickets for sale at £6 which saves you £2 on the day. Please come and support the Festival and watch some really varied and entertaining films.