

Viewfinder



MARCH 2010

From the President's Desk



"Times are-a-changing!"
I noted several members recently upgrading cameras to newer widescreen versions... many are Hi Definition as well.



I guess the widescreen Hi Def Television revolution has driven this to some extent as people want their videos to fill their new 16.9 screens. Standard Definition DV can be 16.9 widescreen, or regular 4.3 (square), some cameras offering a choice. When it comes to Hi Def, it's all widescreen.

Originally shot on tape, HDV (high definition video) spread to hard disks as well, then came along AVCHD (advanced video coding high definition), an alternate codec offering a better compression than HDV with lower data rates. This allowed tapes and hard disks to be ditched in favour of "flash card" recording.



The AVCHD codec being so efficient, actually takes up less space on your computer than Standard Definition DV, but you are going to need a fast computer to view and edit it with.

Most of the professionals I talk to are shooting widescreen, some in HiDef as well, but most of the customers are happy to receive DVDs in standard definition, as not everybody has a BluRay player. The uptake on BluRay seems to be a little slow. I am sure that will change, and Standard Definition will go the way of audio cassettes... can anybody remember them?



Keep the batteries charged!

Mark Franks
President



[Www.swvc.org.au](http://www.swvc.org.au)



PROGRAMME For MARCH Meeting

Wednesday, 10th March, 2010

* PRESENTATION by:

- PETER BLASINA

(Unfortunately Peter was unable to attend last month as he was delayed at Adelaide airport)

Peter (the "GADGET GUY") will be informing us of the latest technology to come out of the "world's largest electronic show" from LAS VEGAS, which he has recently attended.

(See Reinfrid's column-p.2)



* CLUB NEWS

- Video Competition -Details of changes made for 2010

* "SHOW AND TELL" segment

Please bring "items of interest" to show.

* QUESTION AND ANSWER SESSION

From the Vice President



Well, here we are again. As you will remember, last month, our special guest, **Peter Blasina**, was not at the meeting, and the reason was that he was held up in Adelaide. I rang him the following day and he apologised to me for not being able to attend. He was also very scolding of **Jetstar**. Apparently they held him up over there.



During our discussion, he indicated that he would be able to visit us at our March meeting, so let us hope that we are lucky this time! He asked me to contact him one day prior to our meeting, **which I will do**. So having said that, let's hope all will be well.



My next point I would like to mention is the following:

Last year some of our members went to Temora to videotape the air show and we all appeared to have had a very good time.

So, as they say, "Let's strike while the iron is hot" and continue to go to places (perhaps that are not so far away), so that more of our members can participate and have a blooming good time. All we would have to do is look around and find some interesting place to visit and mention it at the next meeting... it's that easy.

This brings me to the end of this newsletter. I will not be able to contribute to the next newsletter due to spending time (and I hope, not too much money), in Las Vegas. I'm sure I will be able to bring you all some news about new products in the video & audio field. They say the **Las Vegas trade show is the world's largest**.

Remember...

Make movies, make friends.

Reinfrid Langmann
Vice President



JOKES OF THE MONTH



COMPUTER GEEK



I was having trouble with my computer. So I called John, the 11 year old next door, whose bedroom looks like Mission Control, and asked him to come over..

John clicked a couple of buttons and solved the problem.

As he was walking away, I called after him, 'So, what was wrong?'

He replied, 'It was an **ID ten T error**.'

I didn't want to appear too stupid, but nonetheless inquired, 'An, **ID ten T error**? What's that? In case I need to fix it again.'

John grinned. 'Haven't you ever heard of an **ID ten T error** before?'

'No,' I replied.

'Write it down,' he said, 'and I think you'll figure it out.'

So I wrote down: **ID 1 0 T**
(Wait 'til I see **that geek** next time!!....)

How Twins Are Made

So, this is how they do it....

one of life's great mysteries solved!



(Contribution by Michel Munier)

TREASURE ISLAND



What a huge success our February meeting proved to be with a good roll-up of members in attendance to start off our first meeting of the year. I would also like to extend a welcome to new member, **Trish Glossop**, who joined our club at our last meeting, and we look forward to your future participation in our club activities.

I would like to thank those members who support our club by purchasing tickets in our monthly raffle, with the club collecting \$41.00 last meeting.



Although this may not seem a huge amount, it enables us to recover some of the costs involved in running our club, such as website facilities, insurances, tea and coffee, without having to increase the cost of our members' annual club fees.

For a small outlay of **\$1.00 per ticket or three tickets for \$2.00**, members and guests have the chance of winning a bottle of wine as well as the opportunity to get rid of the loose coins weighing down and wearing out the lining of your pockets!



Last month's raffle winner.



As Easter is only three weeks after our next meeting I will also include some Chocolate Easter Eggs with the bottle of wine as our prize in the March raffle, and look forward to being inundated with members wanting to purchase some tickets. Ah what bliss.....a glass of red wine and a mouthful of chocolate Easter eggmy idea of heaven!

Talking about fees, just a reminder that visitors and non members can attend club meetings twice at no charge with a fee of **\$10.00** charged on the 3rd and subsequent attendances to our group meetings until such time that they become a member.

Annual Members' fees are due on 1st July each year and remain at \$55.00 for single membership, \$65.00 for joint memberships (married couple or partners) and \$105.00 for family membership (family group from same household).

The club also has several training videos and CDs, music CDs as well as Royalty-Free video Footage for members to borrow from our Library. To be eligible to borrow the CDs, you must be a **current year financial member** and have paid a **once only Library fee of \$25.00** (this is separate to the yearly membership fee) which enables you to use the training CDs for 1 month at a time.



Looking forward to catching up with you all on Wednesday 10th March 2010, and until then.....

Happy Videoing.....

Jan Hudson
Treasurer



VIDEO COMPETITION



In our last newsletter, and at our February club meeting, we announced that the committee had held a special meeting to review the club competition rules, as there was a general feeling that the rules were too complex for most people to understand and not fair to all entrants. As a result of this meeting and after several hours of thought and deliberation, the committee has amended the competition rules effective from February 2010 as listed below and now appear on our competition website.

This year there will again be two competitions based on the same categories as last year, with the May club meeting (12/5/2010) being the closing date for entries in the first competition (maximum 3 minute video). The September club meeting (8/9/2010) is the closing date for entries in the second competition (maximum 7 minute video).

PLEASE READ THE FOLLOWING COMPETITION RULES TO ENSURE THAT YOUR ENTRY MEETS THE NECESSARY CRITERIA FOR OUR 2010 SWVC VIDEO COMPETITION.

SOUTH WEST VIDEO CLUB INC VIDEO COMPETITION RULES (Effective from February 2010)

1. GENERAL RULES

- 1a Entrants for all club competitions must be financial members of the club.
- 1b No professional video can be used in club competitions. (eg a video produced for financial gain.)
- 1c A video can only be entered once in any club competition and cannot be submitted in any future SWVC competitions.
- 1d A maximum of 10% of footage from outside sources not produced by the entrant can be included in any competition entry, and must be essential to the storyline.

All competition entrants must sign an entry form declaring that copyright clearance of all visuals and sound recorded is their absolute responsibility. The club cannot be responsible for any unauthorized use of such material.

- 1e A separate entry form **must accompany** each entry. Titles and credits are to be included in the running time.
- 1f Joint entries will be accepted, but only the principal producer will be eligible for any award. Other members of the same group are eligible to submit entries in any categories in their own name.
- 1g Entries for all competitions are to be submitted by the relevant closing date.
- 1h The committee reserves the right to exclude any entry from the competition deemed to be offensive to the majority of viewers. (The Competition Manager should notify the committee of any such entry before the entries are shown at a club meeting. The committee should then view the entry in question and decide if it complies with this rule. If not, the entrant should be advised of the decision, and the entry will be rejected.)
- 1i Where possible, outside judges will be appointed to judge each competition. Failing this, an audience vote will be taken.
- 1j The Competition Manager will be responsible for running each competition and keep records of the scoring.
- 1k The committee is to be responsible for all rules and regulations for competitions and to adjudicate on any dispute, with their decision being final.

2. COMPETITIONS

- 2a Each competition will have five categories for judging purposes:
 - Documentary
 - Music
 - Travel
 - Drama
 - General Interest (any video not falling into the above categories)

Cont. next page

Editor's Corner



- 2b Each entry will be judged from a score 0-100.
- 2c There is no limit to the number of entries submitted, however only your highest scoring entry will be used as your score in that competition.
- 2d There will be three trophies awarded in each competition (First, Second & Third) with Certificates presented to 4th, 5th and 6th where entries permit.
- 2e To be eligible for the “VIDEO MAKER OF THE YEAR” award, a member must have entered the two competitions held throughout the year.
- 2f The highest score from both competitions held during the year will be totalled in a point score to determine the “VIDEO MAKER OF THE YEAR”.
- 2g Other awards may be presented at the discretion of the committee.

It looked as though last month's meeting would end up a “non-event”, when our advertised guest speaker, **Peter Blasina**, failed to appear, due to a plane delay in Adelaide, but this turned out not to be the case.



At a moment's notice, several members stepped up to the mark. **John Sirett**, made an impromptu presentation with several of his videos, which were opened up for discussion by the members. This proved to be a worthwhile exercise involving lots of participation.

Our webmaster, **Peter Hamilton**, also grabbed the opportunity to give us a most comprehensive explanation of his redesigned club website and invited all members to make contributions, in order to get the most out of it.



David Tran introduced us to the exciting new **Apple iPad** (info in last month's newsletter-David's column), and also demonstrated its uses by tutorials on U-Tube.

It was also an opportunity to advise our members of some of the changes to our competition rules.

It was great to see many new members interested in forming User Groups for video editing (including HD) with Pinnacle Studio 14.

All in all, it turned out to be a worthwhile meeting which held the members' interest. **Thank you to all who contributed to the night's programme.**

I'm writing this column prior to being admitted to hospital for a thyroid operation. Hopefully, I will be well enough to attend this coming meeting.

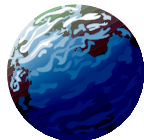
Have fun sharing knowledge.

Josie Milgate
Editorial Officer/
Librarian



Voice from

The Planet



Hi Everyone,

More and more new cameras have been released into the market. They only support solid state media (SDHC Card or Memory stick Pro).

The latest camera which is going to be released by Sony in the next couple of weeks is the Sony Camcorder HDRAX2000.



This new video camera, aimed at the **prosumer market**, produces broadcast quality footage while recording in the AVCHD format. The camera records full 1920×1080/60i high-definition video at up to 24Mbps and features progressive scan at 1080/24p and 25p. That means you can get full HD video with beautiful film-like effects.

The camera comes with XLR mic inputs, three 1/3 CMOS sensors, a wide angle lens, gamma and color correctors, high-quality, low-light recording and a ton of manual controls...among a host of other things.

This camera records on Memory Stick™ and also the more popular and cheaper SD/SDHC Memory Card.

The HDR-AX2000 is set to be available about mid March, 2010 and carries a RRP of \$5,799. Yes, that's twice the cost of high-end, consumer-level video cameras, but much cheaper than what you'll pay for professional-level cameras.

For more info, please check out www.sony.com.au

Corel VideoStudio Pro X3

Corel has just introduced VideoStudio Pro X3. This new version now is twice as fast, has everything you need to import, edit and share standard or HD movies and DVDs.



You can start with an amazing new collection of professionally designed templates from RevoStock® and real-time, studio-quality effects, then share your story everywhere, from YouTube™ to Blu-ray and everything in between.



New! VideoStudio Express

Make quick edits, or combine video clips, photos, music and voiceover to create a professional-looking video project in minutes.

New! Movie Templates

VideoStudio Pro X3 offers the best-quality movie templates in its class, including over \$500 US worth of templates from RevoStock

Enhanced! Blu-ray Authoring and Burning

Create your own Blu-ray titles, and author menus for DVDs and Blu-ray Discs, including BD-J menus. For more info, please check out www.corel.com

David Tran

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Technical Co-ordinator



SWVC website:

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Mark Driver (*Secretary*)

Josie Milgate (*Editorial Officer /Librarian*)

Max Milgate (*Public Officer
& Editorial Co-ordinator*)

David Tran (*Technical Co-ordinator*)

Peter Hamilton (*Webmaster/Audio Visual*)

Club Meetings:

Venue: Digital Planet Technologies

Unit 11/43 Heathcote Road
(Corner Centenary Ave)
MOOREBANK

Time: 7.00pm on **2nd Wednesday** of the month

February - November
(Christmas Party in December)

'Viewfinder' graphics from:

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