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Current Projects

SUTTON COLDFIELD MOVIE MAKERS ARE MAKING MOVIES

Four Summer Projects

"MOVING OLETA"



A story based on the Country and Western song "Moving Oleta". The words of the song inspired **Ann and Arthur Fletcher** partly because they have been married for nearly fifty years. Though written by Ann and Arthur and starring Ann and Arthur, the film is being made with the help of a number of members of the Club. It is the first time that Ann and Arthur have been involved in a Club film, and they are thoroughly enjoying the experience.



Dementia`

"Dementia is becoming more prominent in our generation and we wanted to portray a story where two people, like ourselves, who have grown so attached to each other during their lifetime, could be affected by the turmoil of this condition.

"WISHES"



A drama written and Directed by **Ian Reed**. He got the idea for the story from the film "It's a Wonderful Life" in



which an angel helps the character played by James Stewart. Once the idea settled in his mind, the script took on a life of its own.

Ian says that originally the script was too long "That always seems to be the problem for me. I have great difficulty in getting a story to be 20 minutes or less."



Getting it finished



He has had the usual difficulties with finding locations and organising a shooting schedule to fit in with actors' availability. He had hoped to finish by the end of June, but now it looks like he won't be finished filming until mid



We have tried to show the frustration, and also the hope of recognition of two people who have always been so close, but are now living in two completely separate worlds." Say Ann and Arthur.



August. Ian is aiming to complete the film in time for it to be entered in the North vs South Competition.

Enthusiasm

Ian is experienced at filming events and making documentaries. He had success with his little drama "The Last Laugh" but this is his first Club drama.

Many Club members are involved in the making of the film both as actors and as crew.

He has also drawn on Trinity Players drama society for actors to fill the main roles. Ian particularly likes the enthusiasm from everyone. They are all looking to do the best they can for the project.



"THE DECISION"



This film is based on the script written by **Julian Austwick** which the Club voted as the film they most would like made for the North vs South Competition. Julian has starred in previous Club dramas, but this time he is directing the film.

"THE BIRMINGHAM SPIRITUALS"



Jill Lampert's husband's choir asked for a video and sound recording of the world premiere of "The Birmingham Spirituals" which they had commissioned from Patrick Larley.



So on 12th July 2014 members of Sutton Coldfield Movie Makers filmed the first performance of "The Birmingham Spirituals" at Ladywood Arc.



It was was sung by Birmingham Festival Choral Society and the Birmingham City Gospel Choir, with the BFCS Chamber Orchestra conducted by Patrick Larley.

Finding Actors

For the first time Sutton Coldfield Movie Makers has included actors who were found through a website called "StarNow".



StarNow is a very

useful website for any aspiring actors and/or film makers to link up.

Club members are involved as crew and as actors and extras, but most of the main parts are being taken by outside actors.

Obstacles

Scheduling to fit in with availability of actors and locations has been difficult, but the film is still on track to

Sound Recording

Ian Reed recorded the sound, using 10 microphones and a mixer. He'd borrowed the equipment from friends

be completed in time for the North vs South competition. Getting the right locations has been a challenge, but Club members have pulled out all the stops. There is even going to be a 'wedding' put on at a real Church, with the vicar saying the crucial lines.



Learning Curve

Julian says that the making of this film has been a huge learning curve - from the scriptwriting to storyboarding, auditioning actors and

directing. Club members have been incredibly helpful not just with finding locations, but also providing props and equipment as well as giving direct assistance with the making of the film.



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and Club members. Gordon Hunt climbed a ladder to string a washing line from one Church pillar to another and hung four of the microphones from it.

Cameras

The cameras were operated by Gordon, Jill Lampert and Julian Austwick.

Editing

Jill is editing the film using the multi-cam function in Edius. She says she's learning a lot from the experience, and her notes to herself for next time are:

- Everyone should keep their camcorder running throughout the whole performance - helps with syncing.
- Fixed camera on a wide shot is absolutely essential - make it as attractive as possible.
- Other camera users need to remember that **close ups** of individuals or small groups of singers and of instrumentalists are very desirable.
- Close ups of instrumentalists playing are more interesting if they can be shot from different angles
- Extreme close ups of instrumentalists' fingers/hands are good if you can get them.
- Listen/look out for which singers/instrumentalists are important at that moment in the music
- Try and hold your shots for a whole musical phrase.
- Wider shots from different angles are good.



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