

SECRETARY'S REPORT TO ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
ORPINGTON VIDEO & FILM MAKERS
1st April, 2014

My first report in 2003 thanked Annabelle for her support during my first year as Secretary. Fortunately she continues to be my back-up, someone who really knows what should be done in all circumstances.

We had 54 members in 2003, more than 70 last year. The Treasurer will have told you that we now need to encourage more new members to join as unhappily members become ill and are lost to us (and their families). Fortunately we did also gain three new members during the year.

Shortly after AGM 2013, Mike Shaw kindly agreed to take over the work of Publicity but outside the committee. We held the EGM in June enabling Annabelle to be an Ordinary member as she had hoped. Mike has done very well with articles and photographs in several local newspapers as well as online communications. It is not easy to attract the attention of the printed Press, as you may realise, even 'Fleet St.' struggles against on-line information.

Brenda reports that she received more entries for most club competitions this year, the Top Ten had 21, the same as last year, 29 in the Annual Comp. and Mike Turner Plate had 11 entries against only 5 the previous year.

Haywards Heath kindly did the judging, two of the judges Ron Prosser and David Fenn, attended Oscar Night. Brenda thanks everyone who entered into the spirit of the occasion by dressing up and also thanks entrants to all competitions. Their support is essential whether they win or not.

More Fiction, Special Effects and Animation films would be welcome to ensure that we continue to be able to offer a varied programme at our Public Shows, maybe the Coaching Evenings will encourage your film-making. Ian Menage works hard to organise us, hopefully his efforts will have the desired effect.

We stay in contact with other clubs, Spring Park invited us to a 50/50 evening to share films without competition and we are hosting the Triangle comp. on 15th April this year. Some members attended the Spring Park Annual Show, and they reciprocated at our Public Shows. Shooters Hill members are regular patrons of the Shows, as we say, rivals and friends. *Power Corrupts* gained good comments at Staines Silver Salver but did not come first in the judges' opinion. .

As always, the Club would not function without assistance from members not on the committee: Peggy providing Catering on many occasions, John Epton helping with technical support, Mike Coad controlling N v S and the 'other halves' who contribute in so many ways.

The committee thanks everyone for helping and will welcome suggestions for new activities for the future.

Freddy Beard
Hon. Secretary