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Summer Workshops 2016

Sutton Coldfield Movie Makers is growing and developing. This summer, at the suggestion of SCMM member Ian Reed, we have introduced 'workshops'. The way it works is that a SCMM member offers to host (at their own home) a workshop on a subject of their choice.

Any SCMM member who is interested can come along. We like to learn, and we enjoy each other's company, so it is a great way to keep in touch over the summer.

FINAL CUT PRO X - Arthur Fletcher

Arthur and Ann Fletcher set the ball rolling with a workshop on Final Cut Pro X. They invited any SCMM member who was interested, checked what might be of use to the participants and jumped straight in. Members who came ranged from complete beginners to experienced users.



Arthur himself demonstrated various FCPX techniques. Other experienced members brought along their laptops/computers and demonstrated other aspects of FCPX.

A sociable atmosphere and a chat over the lunch break made it a truly enjoyable and informative get-together.

It was such a success that Arthur hosted a second workshop run on similar lines which was attended by 12 people.

See [Film School](#) for details of *One to One FCPX Tutorials*

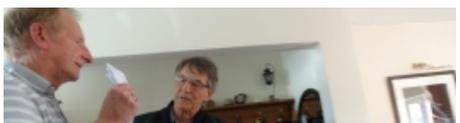
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USING CAMERA ANGLES TO HELP TELL THE STORY - Mike Duxbury

Mike's afternoon was aimed at improving our use of the camera. Its title was "Sex up Your Shots".

Mike began the half day session by giving a brief presentation on the use of different camera angles and their meanings. He illustrated this with clips he'd taken himself or had taken from films. Then he showed us how to prepare a very simple storyboard. He split us (18 people) into groups and handed out a script. He asked each group to prepare a storyboard for that script.

At the end of the afternoon someone from each group presented the group's storyboard. For many of us this was our first go at trying to put down on paper what the camera would be doing and *why* we would choose a particular camera angle for a particular moment in the script.





Mike, Gordon, Ann, Sheila, Jack



Ann, Sheila, Jack, Steve, Neil, Fiona



Alan, Kevin, Gordon, Ann

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CAMERAS - Ian Reed

As part of the summer activity programme, Ian Reed invited members to join him for a day at his home where he skilfully explained some of the technicalities of camcorders and cameras.

The morning session consisted of presentations which included lens manufacture, digital camera sensors, digital video formats and camcorder bit rates all accompanied with a copious supply of supporting literature and an opportunity to ask questions.

After lunch was more "hands-on" and we were able to test the performance of the attendees' cameras and camcorders to compare their capabilities, and discuss their advantages or limitations, together with cost.



The end of the session gave us an opportunity to see some of the gadgets specially made by fellow members to give improvement or variety to the filming process.

Finally, following a special request, and as we had all behaved ourselves Ian kindly demonstrated his steadicam and gave Steve an opportunity to try it for himself.

We all left having been well looked after and feeling a little more knowledgeable.