

Chairman's report – 12 May 2017

My first year as Chairman has been a real eye-opener for me and has made me realize that I think it would be prudent in the future if the Chairman is elected from someone who already has a working knowledge of the Council, either a current or former Council member for instance, as there is so much to learn and understand in the running of our great organization and I really don't think, as a working cameraman with a very busy schedule already, that I was ready for it.

Having said that, I have tried to be as good a Chairman as possible and have managed to attend all the Council meetings so far as well as trying to keep a presence on the forum and elsewhere.

The GTC has had another very eventful year this year with the renewed debate about the name change once again coming up. Council, quite rightly have decided that this needs to be put to bed once and for all so that we can move on with everything the GTC stands for and not be distracted by the problem that expanding on the initials has given us.

My first 'official role' as Chairman was on the 6th October when I attended and presented the fourth GTC Bill Vinten University Awards at the University of Bournemouth. It was a great success thanks to the hard work by Alan Duxbury and Clive North in particular and a great team on the night including Jay Rozanski, who once again streamed the event live. Thanks to Jay who brought his own technical equipment to make this possible combined with the resources from the students at Bournemouth University. The top three prizewinners were present with the main prize awarded to Krister Gressum Antonsen, University of York. The overall Bill Vinten University Trophy, which is presented to the university with the highest combined score for three films from different genres, was won by University of Portsmouth. A highlight was a speech given by last year's winner Angus Mitchell who had gained some valuable work experience with Martin Hawkins and also on the latest Star Wars film! Not a bad start to a career. It was a great prestigious evening for the GTC and a valuable event to encourage and attract new members to the GTC.

Throughout the year there has been a great range of benefits available to members including the normal fine selection of workshops from Clive North, newsletters and Zerbs all brimming with great articles and some new benefits that Council have been proud to present after a lot of hard work behind the scenes. This year the GTC have launched their own PLI (Public Liability Insurance) for instance and a new 'credit card style' membership card, which looks a lot more professional. Many congratulations to everyone involved with all of the above.

Finally, I would just like to say a massive thank you to my fellow Council members and the other people who work behind the scenes to make the GTC what it is. I have been made very welcome and people have been very patient with my start as Chairman for which I am very thankful.

I'm hoping that with a slightly lighter workload and a following wind and increased knowledge my role will become more complete in my second year.

Graham Maunder