

Jill & John took over Editorship of the RPS AV News Magazine from the November 2008 issue. Their aim is to make the magazine accessible to everyone from the beginner to the advanced worker with articles ranging from news and views from Festivals & AV Days, to instructive tutorials on all aspects of AV. In addition they created a new web site [www.avnews.org.uk](http://www.avnews.org.uk) which contains results & information from the AV world.

They give talks, demonstrations and shows, both individually and jointly to groups of all levels. From entertaining evenings for non-photographic groups, through beginner's workshops, to in-depth demonstrations of PicturesToExe, sound editing and picture manipulation, all illustrated with their award winning sequences. Jill has become an acknowledged expert in the use of PTE and John in Audacity. They are also available for judging AV Competitions. Both have judged at local and National level and are on the PAGB list of approved AV Judges.

Please contact [editors@avnews.org.uk](mailto:editors@avnews.org.uk) for more information and to give us the latest news of the AV world in your area.

We look forward to hearing from you all.

Jill & John

### **Jill K. Bunting CPAGB**

Jill has always been interested in photography for as long as she can remember & began taking slides over 30 years ago. She joined Northwich Photographic Society when they were formed in 1983, becoming a member of the committee a few years later and then Competition Secretary. She became interested in AV when she saw a show at the club, started going to more AV meetings and joined the MAPS AV Group in Manchester. Attending National and International as well as Regional AV events, seeing many different styles of AV, she learned from the experts eventually managing to buy some second hand equipment and begin making her own sequences.

She won first place in the Restricted Entry competition at MAPS in 1992 and began showing her sequences at AV Days gaining useful help & advice. In 1993 she entered the L&CPU AV Competition, winning the Jackass Trophy for Best First Time Entrant and coming 2<sup>nd</sup> overall.

Her first entry into the National AV Championships, later that year was rejected at pre-selection but went into the Wild-Card session where 4 sequences were chosen by the audience to go through into the main competition. 'The Dream' was chosen & went on to win the First Time Entrant Prize, helping MAPS AV Group to win the Gold Medal. Members of this group then went on to form Wilmslow Guild AV Group, who have won the Gold Medal at the Nationals ever since.

In 1994 this sequence was entered into the Dutch International AV Festival gaining the Netherlands Photographic Association Silver Medal. It then went on to Mechelen in Belgium, Adelaide Australia, where it won the Directors Award, New Zealand and finally the RPS International at Bath, where it received a FIAP Ribbon. It also received the Bronze Medal in the first Great Northern Festival held at Wilmslow.

In March 1995 the first adjudication for the new PAGB distinctions in AV was held. Jill successfully gained her CPAGB with a maximum 15 points, being the first person to gain the award.

She has gained Acceptances in several International Festivals over the years with Slide/Tape sequences and still gives shows to local groups with these.

Having worked in the computer industry for over 25 years, Jill quickly took to the Digital era beginning by making the soundtracks for her slide sequences on the computer and creating images in Photoshop.

In 2002 she moved to North Wales, giving up the post of Programme Secretary for Wilmslow Guild AV Group. She joined Rhyl Photographic Society, quickly becoming a member of the committee and then the Competition Secretary. She also joined the newly formed Abergele Camera Club in 2008 and again became a committee member. She was the representative for both clubs in the North Wales Photographic Association – NWPA until she became President of the NWPA in 2011.

Jill is also a member of the North Wales & Wirral AV Group and is keen to encourage more people to become involved in AV & has helped to form an AV Group within Abergele Camera Club.

In 2005 she started making Digital sequences, having ‘played around’ with PicturesToExe (PTE) for about 3 years. Initially made for a fun competition at Wilmslow Guild, her sequence ‘The Colour Thief’ went on to win the FIAP Silver medal in the 2008 IAC Geoffrey Round International Competition. It was requested by invitation for the FIF Festival in Belgium and a copy was also requested for the IAC Archives. It then went on to win a FIAP Silver Medal in the Adelaide AVFest in 2009 and the Gold PSSA Medal in the ‘Theme & Fiction’ Section of the 2011 South African MFFC Salon

Jill’s sequences have always been imaginative, even simple ‘Pictures to Music’ have had a creative edge to them. The digital media allows for much more creativity than could ever be achieved in slides, but the basic principles for good AV still apply.

### **John Smith APAGB CPAGB**

John has been interested in photography since his school days at the Rochdale Technical School. It had a ‘proper’ darkroom and he spent many hours in there producing prints.

Over the years he has tried his hand at photographing most things but, being an impatient sort of chappie, has tended to specialise in portraiture, be it animal or human, and any form of sports action pictures. His motor sport pictures have been published in numerous programmes and specialist magazines but his main claim to fame was that a picture of three rabbits chewing on one dandelion leaf was published in the Mail on Sunday colour supplement and also on the front cover of their calendar – and more to the point, he actually got paid for it!!!

John has served on the Executive Committee of the Lancashire & Cheshire Photographic Union since 1989 and was President of the Union in 1995 and 1996. He is currently Vice-President.

He has been their Folio Secretary, Exhibition Secretary and for eleven years, the Editor of ‘Focal Points’ - their in-house magazine.

He gained his CPAGB award in 1999 at the Lancaster adjudication, in 2001 his name was placed on the L&CPU Roll of Honour for outstanding services to the Union and in 2007 he was granted the Photographic Alliance of Great Britain award, APAGB, for Meritorious Service to the Union and its member clubs.

His name is on the L&CPU ‘Lecturers and Judges’ list and he is regularly invited to visit clubs to judge both Prints, Slides and AV’s and also to lecture on PTE and sound editing.

A founder member of the Rochdale & District Camera Club, he has been their Chairman, Webmaster and acting Syllabus Secretary. In 2007, during their 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebrations, he was made an Honorary Life Member of the club.

He is also the Webmaster and a Member of the Committee at the Wilmslow Guild Audio Visual Group.

John is a retired electronics engineer having at one time been the Service Manager of a company manufacturing and installing sound systems.

He is a member of the Institute of Engineering and Technology and also a Technician Member registered with the Engineering Council

In the 1970's he did all the location sound recordings for a friend who made 16mm films and latterly videos of Stock Car Racing. As a cameraman and sound editor he has worked on the recording of various stage shows, Thai kick boxing tournaments and was involved with the making of a music DVD

An enforced early retirement in 1996 due to ill health forced him to take things a little easier and he made use of that time learning how to use a computer and master all the various software packages. He also became more interested in AV and in 1997 joined the Wilmslow Guild AV Group.

He gained a PAGB ribbon for 'Passing Time' – an analogue sequence on the life of a dandelion in the 2000 Great Northern AV Competition.

John was awarded the Lancashire & Cheshire Photographic Union 'Jackass Trophy' in February 2007 for his sequence 'The Messiah'.

A totally remade version the Messiah was awarded a Highly Commended in the 2007 National AV Championships held in Leicester and in the same competition, John became the proud first recipient of the Sir George and Lady Doreen Pollock Medal for the best first time entrant. However, what pleases him more was that he also won the Second Session Audience Vote.

The sequence has also gained a FIAP Acceptance in the 2008 Geoffrey Round IAC Competition, the 2009 Adelaide AVFest and the PSSA Gold Medal in the 'Humour' section of the 2011 South African MFFC Salon.

John has a wicked sense of humour and has encouraged Jill into making humorous sequences.