



ANNUAL AUDIO-VISUAL COMPETITION

Friday 21st February 2025

Weeley Village Hall, Old Clacton Road, Weeley, CO16 9LW.

On the night, our Judges joined us via the Zoom platform:

Linda Gibbs MPAGB AV-AFIAP

&

Edgar Gibbs FRPS MPAGB AV-AFIAP

Total number of entries = 8

Overall duration = 39 minutes 57 seconds

RESULTS:

FIRST - The Clacton Lifeboat 2025; **SECOND** – Kenya; **THIRD** - Lady Emma’s Relocation; **HIGHLY COMMENDED** - Celtic Nation; **COMMENDED** - My Creativity

JUDGES’ COMMENTS

Sequence: 01.	Comments:
Author: Jeff Cranwell.	<p>The audio was a positive choice, with some lovely quality photography, from really clean and sharp still images to enjoyable video clips and some nice moody misty pictures. The one area we think was a little distracting, especially in the first half, was the style of dissolve. Our eyes were really struggling to try and cope with the effect, while a simpler dissolve would have worked a lot better. Additionally, the zooming in and out was also a little distracting. It would have been nice to have had a map just to see the plan of journey and we would have felt a little bit more part of all the experience. It could have also provided a bit more of a context to some of the locations. We liked hearing the captain’s comments as it brought a bit more personal view to the AV. Perhaps a couple of other comments either from the captain and/or Second Mate would have helped. The music was a hint repetitive and there were a number of cuts to the music which worked well. Overall, this AV showed significant potential, and we hope it will be revisited and refined further.</p>
Title: Lady Emma’s relocation.	
Duration: 6 mins 46 seconds.	
File type: MP4 [iMovie]	
3rd Place	
Sequence: 02.	Comments:
Author: Wendy Leech.	<p>We liked the font used for the title of this AV, which was smooth and soft in style, matching the flowing images and setting the mood for the AV. The part of the AV that we particularly liked was the choice of music. However, when it came to the end the music just faded away and left us a little up in the air without a satisfactory feeling that the AV had come to a natural end. The quality of the photography was very good and there were some interesting abstract images. Nevertheless, although the photography was good</p>
Title: My Creativity.	
Duration: 2 mins 38 seconds.	
File type: MP4.	
Commended	

	<p>it was placed on a beige coloured background, which we found distracting. AV productions are a form of cinematography. No one would find it acceptable to watch a film in a cinema with a beige background or a TV programme at home with a beige background. Unfortunately, it wastes the opportunity to fill the screen and get maximum impact out of the images used. This type of production was more towards the style of a Photo Harmony. We thought that with some editing, and a different choice of music or the same music but finding a way to put a nice end to the piece, with a “musical full stop”, it has got potential. It was a creative sequence and in that respect the title was very appropriate.</p>
Sequence: 03.	Comments:
Author: Peter Bushby	<p>The title was intriguing, featuring an abstract image of pews illuminated by light passing through stained glass windows. We felt this AV was a collection of images set to a piece of music but unfortunately, we struggled to connect the audio and visual aspects. In trying to follow the words of the song we also tried to understand the images and how and why they went together. There was little continuity, and at times, the images were unclear. Although the photography was a mixture of approaches, there were some nice gritty mono images contrasting with the more traditional/ordinary images. In general, though the pictures were on the screen too long and there were some dissolves and cuts which did not help with the interpretation of the song. At the end, the music faded out, with no satisfactory conclusion to the storyline.</p>
Title: Twists and Turns of Love.	
Duration: 6 Mins 3 seconds.	
File type: MP4. [Power Director].	
Sequence: 04.	Comments:
Author: Robin Davy.	<p>This was a very interesting look at the wildlife of Kenya. A great opening title font and the effect used, provided a good introduction. Most of the photography was good although a few of the images were a little on the soft side. Good choice of music and use of sound effects. The script was interesting and informative, and it really added to the story that was being told. One area we felt needed a little bit more attention was the end. One of the things that is always good to finish an AV with, especially if it is an AV with a voiceover is to insert a positive conclusion. The way this is said by use of intonation allows the audience to know that the AV is coming to an end, together with the music arriving at a natural end as well. There is a considerable amount of potential in this AV. Perhaps the author could try using Topaz to pull a little bit of sharpness back. Overall a good sequence; with lots of interesting facts and well captured wildlife photography.</p>
Title: Kenya.	
Duration: 6 mins 13 seconds.	
File type: Exe.	
<i>2nd place</i>	
Sequence: 05.	Comments:
Author: Colin Brett.	<p>This was a pleasing collection of puffin photographs. Puffins are lovely birds. They are well known as the clowns of the sea, and for doing all sorts of poses, landings, carrying fish in their beaks and the author managed to capture all of these. However, whilst the photographs are impressive, they do not effectively convey a narrative or story. Nevertheless, seeing the puffins was delightful and conveyed the author’s pleasure in taking them. The music was acceptable. It would have been helpful to have had a map right at the beginning showing the location of Puffin Island. Knowing where</p>
Title: Puffin Island.	
Duration: 2 mins 26 seconds.	
File type: Exe.	

	the place where the photographs were taken would have provided a little more information, which would have added to the enjoyment of the sequence.
Sequence: 06.	Comments:
Author: Bob Adams.	An interesting AV as we have not been to Clacton, so it was good to learn a little of its history and the way it had changed and developed. The photographs captured the changes, and was a good example of the reportage genre. A change of music can provide a change of pace, but the choice of the instrumental “Bohemian Rhapsody Meets Metal” did not really match the images and the more the music built up, the less it suited. The script was good but unfortunately the voice over was spoken too fast and sounded artificial. However, the narration did allow time to breath and gave an opportunity to enjoy the photography. The ideal end was the last sentence spoken about the timing and budget aspects of the project, but going beyond this diluted the AV. Nevertheless, an interesting AV with potential.
Title: A Moment in Time.	
Duration: 6 min 2 seconds.	
File type: MP4. [DaVinci Resolve].	
Sequence: 07.	Comments:
Author: Martin Leech.	This was an enjoyable AV with a start, middle and end. The introduction was good, and it was nice to see the Clacton lifeboat when it first started, with the use of old images and sound effects of the sea. We liked the pictures of the new lifeboat and how it fitted in within the new lifeboat station. We also liked the photographs out at sea, plus the launch. Some of the horizons need to be adjusted during post processing so that they are all at the same level. The use of the “wave” dissolve did not add to the story and our suggestion is to stick to the same dissolves throughout, so that the story flows visually. The narration was well paced with a good clear voice, and the script was effective, plus the mixing of the music was well handled. The choice of the music “For Those in Peril on the Sea” was particularly appropriate, which had a positive and uplifting end using a male voice choir over the video.
Title: The Clacton Lifeboat 2025.	
Duration: 4 mins 53 seconds.	
File type: MP4.	
<i>1st place</i>	
Sequence: 08.	Comments:
Author: Dave Egerton.	This was an AV of various images taken around the Celtic Nations and generally the photography was very good. It was a lovely idea to showcase the author’s travel photography on a specific theme. We recognised some of the places, but what would have enhanced the AV would have been some maps showing the locations. This would have added to the enjoyment of the travelogue.
Title: Celtic Nations.	
Duration: 5 mins 31 seconds.	
File type: Exe.	
<i>Highly Commended</i>	