



PRESS RELEASE

DATE: 11/04/2011

SUBJECT: Community Filmmaking – What’s it all about?

For over 60 years Kev Franzi has been a documentary filmmaker and photojournalist. Now at the age of 79 he has a new passion – teaching and promoting the value of Community Filmmaking. When asked what Community Filmmaking was all about? He had this to say –

“Well, in a nutshell, it’s about using today’s amazing digital technology to capture and preserve our Australian heritage -- the images of our lifestyle – past present and future. To be more precise, It’s about capturing and preserving the stories of enterprising and very talented people in our communities today, and celebrating their achievements. It’s also about supporting communities under stress, and promoting their stories. It’s about teaching people new creative skills using simple digital technology that will give them great satisfaction and reward as the local video filmmaker.

I believe Community Filmmakers can play a very important role in preserving our social history now and in the future, from using simple techniques of photojournalism to document our family history, through to video filming a major community event for future promotion or as an historical record -- anyone can learn the skills-- and learn to do it well, whatever their interests are. But digital technology is a double edged sword. As a creative tool it’s brilliant, but for long term storage, it’s not recommended. We live in a highly computerized “Throw away society”—a society where technology is developing so quickly that yesterdays programmes won’t always work with tomorrow’s exciting new gadgets. So, unless we capture and **carefully organize the preservation** of today’s social history, in 50 years or less, few records will survive of our life and times, because —“sorry, we lost the videos and the photos too, when the harddrive crashed”. But there is an answer-

The aim of Community Filmmaking is not only to capture the “Living Images” of our past, present and future, but **to ensure their archival preservation**. These are Pictures with a Purpose, and **creating and preserving Pictures with a Purpose = a Life with a Purpose**. So, whatever your age, and whatever your interests-- learn to do it well!”

The Kenilworth Arts council is presenting a workshop called Adventures in Community Filmmaking, see the website at www.kenilwortharts.org.au or phone 07-5472 3223 for more information.

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Kev Franzi received the **Sunshine Coast Australia Day Senior Citizen of the Year Award** for 2011. This was awarded for his contribution through Documentary Filmmaking, Teaching and Local Community Development.
