



AES Melbourne Section

Chairman's Report 2019/2020

Meetings:

Much has happened in the 12 months since the last AGM. 2020 introduced unexpected and challenging changes that would force changes to the world and so to Melbourne AES section.

In the last 12 months Melbourne AES Section also held six meetings on topics of interest to general and new members alike. These included:

The August Annual General Meeting saw Guillaume Potard talk on Machine learning and artificial intelligence. We were reassured that automated audio production was a way off as we still need the 1000 petaflops and creative capability of the human brain.

In October, Drew Parsons provided an update on modern audio post-production demands illustrated by use of the Pro-Tools workflow enhancements driven by user demand.

In December Associate Professor Neil McLachlan of the Melbourne School of Psychological sciences developed themes of rhythm and tone trans-perception and emotional interactions.

The February tour of the Australian College of the Arts (Collarts) facility in Wellington Street Collingwood also included outlines of the Audio production courses offered.

Alex Schlösser of AS Audio Singapore was to speak on the 16th March 2020 describing 3D audio recording, Production and reproduction, but this could not happen as Alex had to urgently return to Singapore within 24 hours to beat the lockdown.

A change of plan was needed.

David Foreman's Sonos virtual tour in May 2020 was the first of the screen-based meetings, undertaken with the help of a Sonos Zoom account. This gave unique insights into collaborative product development including Australian representation.

With the move to on-line meetings, AES Melbourne now had access to a wider base of presenters and took advantage of this by promoting both local and now International AES sessions. The first of these was on Automated Mic Mixing streamed from Indiana USA on July 8, 2020.

Then on 20th July, Ric Curtin conducted an online walk-through of his post-production studio facilities in Western Australia including demonstrations of cinema/TV production works in progress. Visiting this location would not have previously been practical.

Tonight we will continue the process after the formalities of the Annual General Meeting with Andy Stewart's session being streamed from Gippsland. More about that later. (treasurer's report tabled and spoken to).

As outgoing chairman I would like to thank the Committee for their continued effort in keeping Melbourne AES thriving, with particular thanks to our secretary Peter Smerdon for his excellent and continued support and management.

Meeting reports together with slides and audio recordings can be found on the website aesmelbourne.org.au.

And now for the more formal part of the evening. All positions of office bearers for the Melbourne Section need to be vacated each year and elections held.

Being out of a job, I now hand over to Rod Brown to handle the process.

We look forward to an exciting year!

Graeme Huon

14 September 2020