

super eight

THE NEWSLETTER-MAGAZINE OF THE MELBOURNE SUPER-8 FILM GROUP NO.10 DEC '80

END OF YEAR REPORT

Here I go again providing more material to wrap your chicken giblets and carrot tops in. This is the last Newsletter for the year, and I will try to be as succinct as possible. Firstly, on behalf of the committee I would like to thank everyone for their membership and support. A group like ours is only as good as it's members. More on that later on.

DECEMBER 9th (7:30pm Meeting Room Glasshouse), will see our Annual General Meeting, plus an Open Screening and End-Of-Year "Do" (Drinks etc). As you all know the positions on the committee are up for nomination. They are described briefly below:-

PRESIDENT This person is generally the spokesperson for the group and must be available to answer queries from any interested persons. Their name will usually be the contact name for any official or quasi official arrangements that the group enters into. It is their responsibility to organise and preside over committee meetings.

VICE PRESIDENT This person has to make themselves available to the President and to deputise should the President not be able to attend.

SECRETARY This person is in charge of the collection of the mail, the sending of the Newsletter and Memberships.

TREASURER The responsibilities of this position entail the keeping of the group's accounts in an orderly and up-to-date way. The Treasurer and the Secretary are joint signatories for the cheque book. The Treasurer has to attend to all the group bills and to present the account book at the monthly meetings.

This may all sound very hierarchical or as I often feel like a Boy's Own Club. It has improved greatly since the beginning of the year, but there is still plenty of room for improvement. The group itself, is in fact run on very equitable lines and the usage of titles is not taken particularly seriously by most, and in fact with little respect. They are used for practicality purposes only.

Bill, Matthew and myself will be standing for our same positions again that is Secretary, Treasurer and President respectively. I would like to thank most sincerely Barry Branchflower for all his help on the committee and for being a most able Vice-President. Barry is leaving the committee as is Peter Nathan, who although a late comer to the committee proved invaluable not the least in his self-appointed Devils Advocate position. Queries, criticisms etc are vital to see a healthy group. Brett Cameron is off to Hong Kong (see note in "News" section). Last Point - we're getting there! If any of you feel you have enough time, energy and ideas and could withstand the trials and tribulations of being on a committee, do consider standing. If you'd like any more info. please ring either me or any of the committee. The main factor is time - an average of 5-8 hours per week. The order of events for December 9th is:-
1. Annual General Meeting - 1 hour from 7:30
2. Open Screening (Book in films with Bill) - 1 hour from 8:30
3. "Do" This is B.Y.O. as well as our limited supply. This will start at about 9:30. Attendance to the latter is not restricted by non-attendance to any of the former. Hope to see you there.
Sarah Johnson.



Christmas drawing by Jo Hampton

Designs by Ross Doonan



MEETING REPORTED

DRAMA WORKSHOP

Members and other were witness to yet another display of indeflatable enthusiasm and effort by John Calder at last months Work Shop.

This was an audience participation exercise, and whilst some of us had our reservations about its suitability (Bill found time to be the door attendee) the success of the exercise cannot be denied. Workshopping can be a terrific way to script a project or to improve and enlarge on ideas. The exercise was recorded and we look forward to see the result.

Sarah Johnson.

PORTRAIT OF DESIRE Rose Doonan

A tiny TV flickering in a corner is the last remnant of an outside world as we are taken across a blackened room into a warmly lit internal chamber. Here we play voyeur to a display of narcissism presented in relation to sexual desire, (the object of desire being revealed as a projection of self). The film's mask-like use of make-up and the performance at times resembling mime, evokes something of the mythological. It was particularly reminiscent of Jean Cocteau's Orphee in its use of the mirror, especially the shot of the figure 'trapped' inside the 'other world' of the mirror. The last images refer the internal reality back to a more specific identification in the outside world: the final signature is an image of the filmmaker's shirt forming a symbolic pink triangle.

THE GREEN DOOR Bill Mousoulis

Another quite personal film, (although very differently so), which bears some resemblance to Gillian Leahy's My Life Without Steve. The Green Door, however, has a simple eloquence and an authenticity the bigger film lacks.

(Anne-Marie Crawford)

The Complete Works of August Stramm a film by Marcus Bergner

Perhaps typical of experimental cinema (spot the contradiction), Marcus' film is nonetheless worthy on several counts. For a start, it is pleasing aesthetically, in its relaxed, home-movie images, certainly, but more so in its strange, at times ethereal soundtrack. And the resulting (for remember, this is an experimental film) junctures of sight and sound themselves produce a thrilling feeling of discovery and newness - which is, at the very least, a vindication (if there need be one) of this kind of cinema.

(Bill Mousoulis)

SUPER 8 NEWS



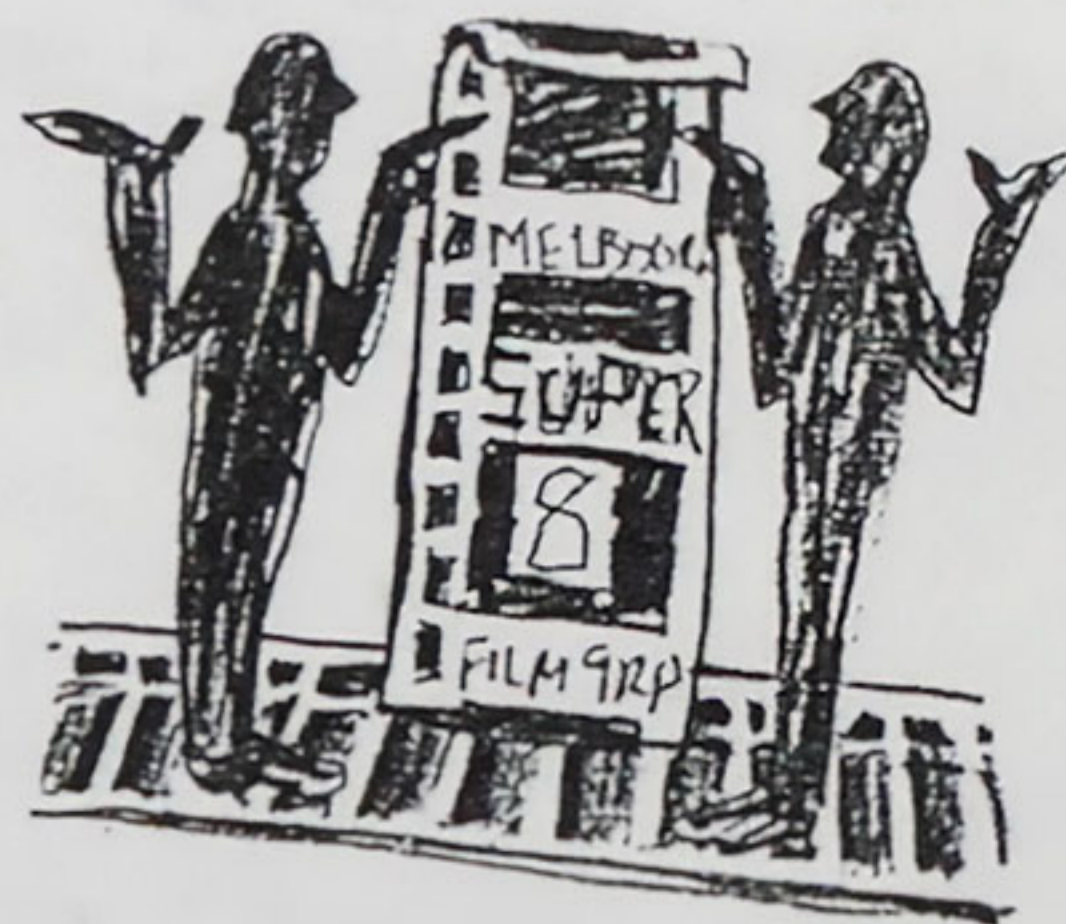
THE MONTH IN SUPER 8

This is a new section in which we intend to have a general column about general activities which either have recently occurred or are about to.

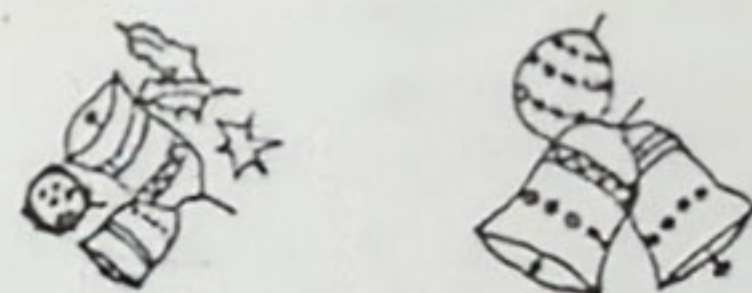
- * Nick Donkin ("One Night in Chippo", "Only You" etc etc), has won a place at the National Film, Television and Radio School in Sydney. Well done Nick.
- * Brett Cameron, one of the tireless committee, is off to live and work in Hong Kong. Brett will be working for a film company and we wish him luck and thank him for the work he has done for the group.
- * The Sydney Super 8 Group will NOT be bringing down their festival. Apparently it will still be going to Adelaide, but not Melbourne or Freemantle. I guess financial problems lie at the bottom of this. It's a disappointment however.
- * Lastly, Barry and everyone who has ever done the layout for the newsletter would like to thank Ron Olthof for buying Barry's much advertised camera.

YEAR BOOK

Contributions (they don't have to be typed), are very welcome. Please send to our post box address P.O. Box 1150, RICHMOND NORTH 3121, or give them to Anne-Marie or Sarah, by JANUARY 9th. Thanks.



TOP FIVE



THE TOP FIVE Compiled by Bill Mousoulis

All year Barry has reported on and reviewed the films screened at the monthly Open Screenings. But what did the rest of us think? What were the films that made us sit up and take notice? The following people were asked to name five films, the only restriction being that the films played at the Open Screenings.

(The films are listed in alphabetical order except where noted, and the director of each film is mentioned once for each specific film title.)

Barry Branchflower

1. DeJa Vu (Drew Waters)
2. Fleas - is the Word (John Calder)
3. Maladaption No.3 (Peter Napier)
4. Normal Bias (Matthew Rees)
5. Only You (Nick Donkin)

John Calder

(preferential order)

1. Maladaption No.3
2. The Third Stroke (Ian Kerr/David Wood)
3. Ge-Long (Barry Branchflower)
4. The Midnight Train to Kathmandu (Mehmet Raif)
5. One Night in Chipppo (Nick Donkin)

Brett Cameron

(preferential order)

1. One Night in Chipppo
2. Dulcie's Love (Peter Nathan)
3. Normal Bias
4. The Microwave (John Calder)
5. Ge-Long

Nick Donkin

1. DeJa Vu
2. Normal Bias
3. Persephone (Jo Hampton)
4. Square Bashing (Stephen Harrop)
5. Zog's New Job (Kym Sansovini)

Sarah Johnson

1. Legion (Mark Titmarsh)
2. The Midnight Train to Kathmandu
3. Normal Bias
4. One Night in Chipppo
5. Underground (Anne-Marie Crawford)

Ian Kerr

1. Fleas - is the Word
2. Imagex Three (John Calder)
3. The Midnight Train to Kathmandu
4. Normal Bias
5. One Night in Chipppo

Bill Mousoulis

(preferential order)

1. Dreams Come True (Jane Stevenson)
2. Legion
Underground
3. The Midnight Train to Kathmandu
4. One Night in Chipppo
5. Twister (Matthew Rees)

Peter Nathan

1. Undead (Mark Savage/Richard Wolstencroft)

With maximum input, we can see what can be done: a facet of Super-8 to be encouraged.

Matthew Rees

1. Dulcie's Love
2. Maladaption No.3
3. One Night in Chipppo
4. Square Bashing
5. The Third Stroke

THE TALLY

- | | |
|---------|--------------------------------------------------|
| 6 votes | One Night in Chipppo (Nick Donkin) |
| 5 | Normal Bias (Matthew Rees) |
| 4 | The Midnight Train to Kathmandu
(Mehmet Raif) |
| 3 | Maladaption No.3 (Peter Napier) |

65 films were played throughout the year at the Open Screenings, yet only 20 of them get a guernsey here, suggesting either a myopia or a consensus (probably a bit of both.) Of course, no-one can deny Nick Donkin's success with One Night in Chipppo, whilst the good showing of The Midnight Train to Kathmandu points to an awareness of the value of films not strictly narrative. In the end, there are no real surprises here, apart from Stephen Harrop's Square Bashing picking up a couple of votes.

★ Competition ★

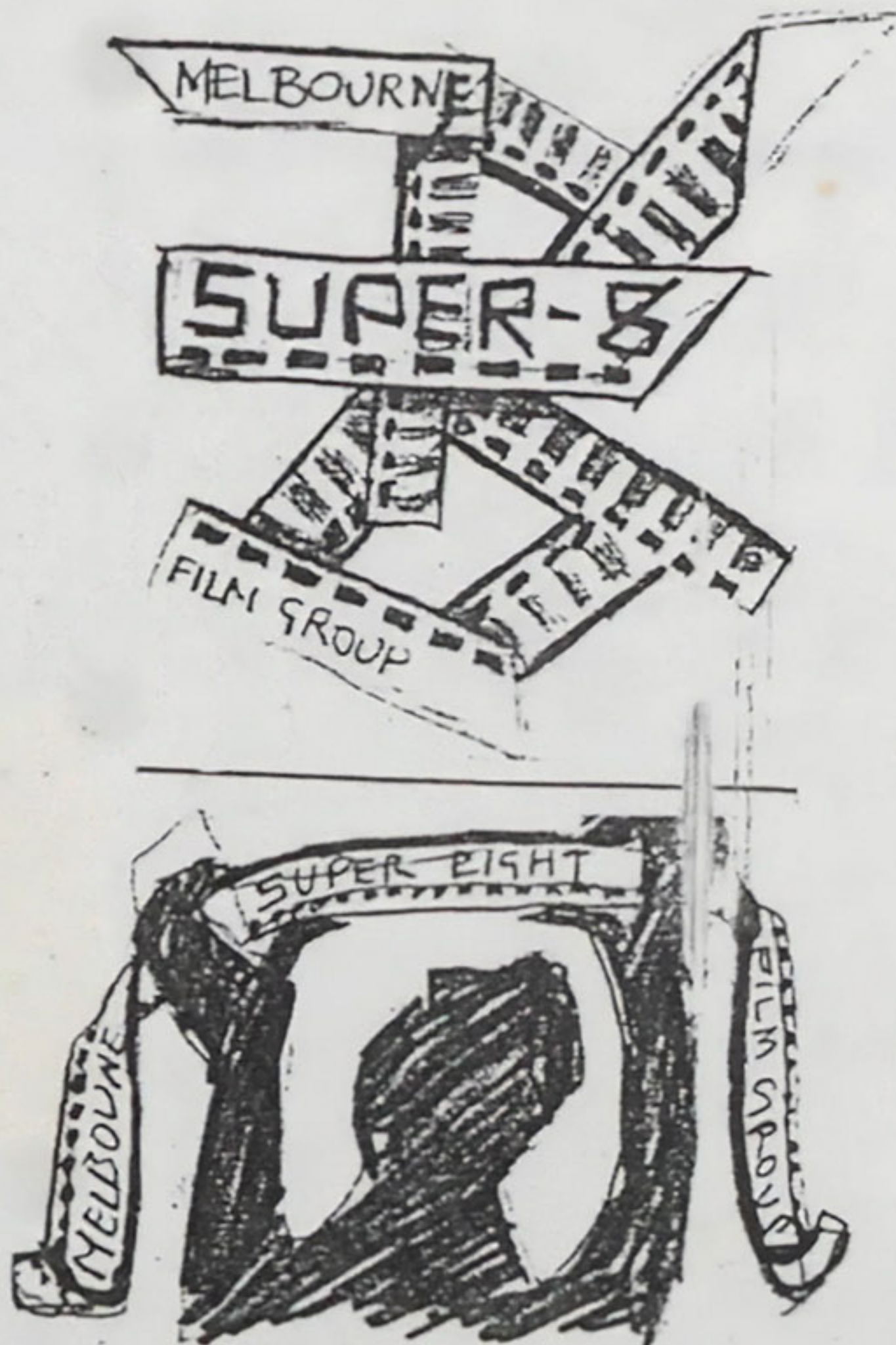
This is your last chance to enter the Melbourne Super 8mm Film Group logo competition.

ANYONE is eligible to enter. The only requirement is that the title "Melbourne Super 8mm Film Group", be incorporated into the design.

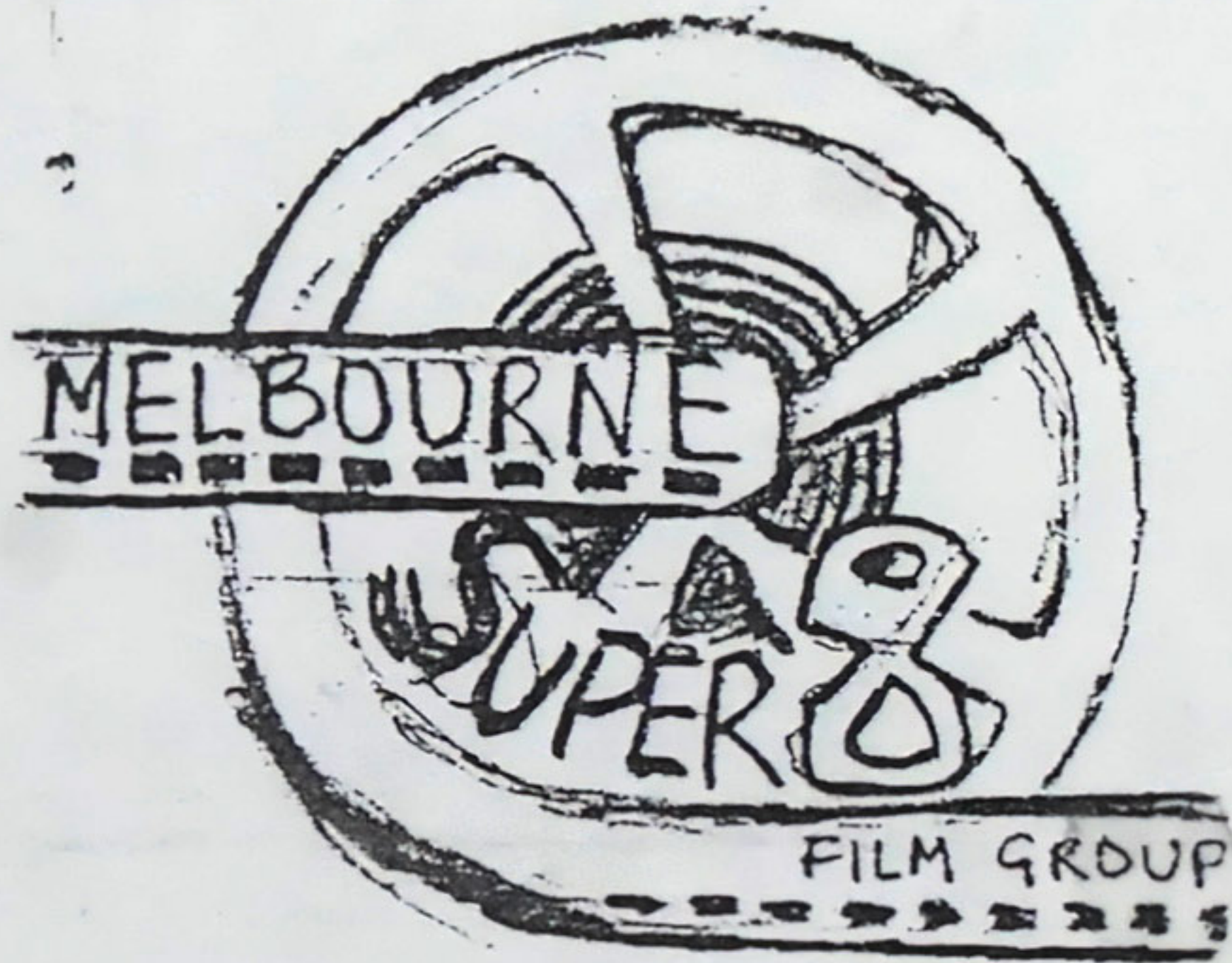
The prize for the winner will include free membership to the group, and a \$300- staedler tech. pen set.

Entries close December 16th.

Send them to the group c/o
P.O. Box 1150,
RICHMOND NORTH 3121.
Or bring them to the last meeting of
the year on December 9th.



To receive the monthly film magazine **Filmnews** free in the mail each month, simply send your name and address to: P.O.Box 433, Manly, NSW, 2095.



Contact numbers for the group

Sarah Johnson 534 4344
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 Matthew Rees 387 9292
 John Calder 428 1072
 Peter Nathan 850 1329
 Brett Cameron 569 5142

Services (give and/or get)

Crew (call Bill)
 Equipment (Bill)
 Cast (Matthew)
 Production (Peter)
 General (Sarah)
 Musicians (Brett)

Newsletter layout and Editorial: Sarah Johnson and Anne-Marie Crawford.

This newsletter is published monthly by the Melbourne Super 8mm Film Group.

CONTRIBUTIONS WELCOME. CONTRIBUTIONS WELCOME. CONTRIBUTIONS WELCOME.

Membership to the Melbourne Super 8mm Film Group is \$10- for 12 months, this includes free newsletters posted to you !!!, free admittance to Open Screenings, availability to Resource-Pool (equipment, operators, actors, musicians etc), and the ability through the tax exempt form to get discount film. A bargain!!!!

super eight

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