

insisted that he couldn't leave his puppet outside. Chris kindly threw an arm over his shoulder and escorted the long bearded Barschak out of the room. Chris came back to introduce his film. A perfect fringe beginning for this new festival.

Day Two

The Friday started with some heavyweight seminars that some event organizers would have you paying nearly £300 for. Pepper Post presented their take on HD post entitled 'Do you really need 2K?'. The presentation was followed by another panel discussion called the view from Directors, Producers and DoPs. Speakers included directors Richard Jobson, Tony Salmon and Paul Wiffen, and DoPs Terry Flaxton and John Rhodes. Richard showed some clips from *16 Years of Alcohol* and *The Purifiers*, which he was showing at the main festival. He describe his dissatisfaction at what as a Scottish film maker was expected from him; 'I m a modern person and so are my friends' said Richard almost to the presence of Sir Sean Connery and the like who seemingly want Scottish films to be made with a whiff of heather in each frame. The talk got bogged down in some technicalities before Paul Wiffen and his *Carmilla* trailer came to the rescue with it heady mix of blood, heaving bosoms and Peter Gabriel sound track. Paul like many of the filmmakers at the festival runs purely on the passion of getting his first film made. He has gone so far as to make the trailer to illicit funds to make the rest of the film, his description of how he had done so far is funny and instructional and can only provide him with a kill or cure pill for the rest of his film-making career.

Personally I had wanted to hear DoP John Rhodes speak for a while as his work in HD is of the finest quality. A slow and modest starter John soon got into his stride and concluded that HD is just another format and that all his years in film naturally helped him and would help others who were using HD for the first time.

The Festival then moved into its parallel tracks with the



Various content from the Festival starting with the eventual winner of the screening in competition *The Wreck of the Mary Celeste* (top); below and clockwise is *Who: A Soldier's Tunic*; *The Happiness Thief*; *Neil's Party*

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