

PRESS KIT

WHISKER

The lengths a man will go to

'WHISKER' with ERROLL SHAND, MICK INNES, IAN HARROP, COURTNEY ABBOT and MONTY
Cinematographer IAN McCARROLL, Editor STUART MORLEY, Casting STU TURNER & JOE FISHER
Production Design BRANT FRASER, Costume & Make up Designer KYLEE STRATHDEE
Composer PETER VAN DE FLUIT, Sound Design CRAIG MATUSCHKA, FX and Post Production BLOCKHEAD
Executive Producers MICHELLE TURNER & NICK WARD, SHORT & SHARP
in association with THE NEW ZEALAND FILM COMMISSION
produced by YOLANDE DEWEY, written by COREY CHALMERS, directed by STEVEN SAUSSEY
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whiskershortfilm.com

KEY INFORMATION

FORMAT	DCP
ASPECT RATIO	2.39
SOUND	5.1
RUNNING TIME	10 mins - excluding credits
SHOOTING FORMAT	F65, Sony 4K RAW
COUNTRY OF PRODUCTION	New Zealand
DATE OF COMPLETION	March 2014

DIRECTOR:	Steve Saussey
WRITER:	Corey Chalmers
PRODUCER:	Yolande Dewey General Entertainment Systems Ltd. Stuff & Nonsense Ltd. yolande@stuffandnonsense.co.nz tel +64 21 554 262

WEBSITE:	http://whiskersshortfilm.com
LOG LINE:	The lengths a man will go to.

SHORT SYNOPSIS

A homeless, hungry drifter and his dog discover judging night at a local beard-growing contest. Desperate for the colossal meat-pack prize, but with no beard to speak of, he enters the competition and takes the stage.

LONG SYNOPSIS

A homeless drifter and his dog are made to feel unwelcome in a small New Zealand town, rejected by the locals everywhere he goes.

Hungry, cold and desperate, he discovers the warm lights of a pub, where it happens to be judging night of the local beard-growing contest.

Getting closer, he spies the main prize - a colossal meat pack. His own face bare with no beard to speak of, he watches from outside as a motley procession of bearded men take the stage for measuring.

As a winner is about to be announced, the crowd is silenced as the drifter appears at the stage to compete.

Facing barbs from the mocking townsfolk, but a truly desperate man, he goes to great lengths to win the prize.

STEVEN SAUSSEY • DIRECTOR

Steve's comedy is intrinsically linked to the funny bone of New Zealand. bestadsonline.com currently ranks Steve Saussey in the Top 6 commercial directors in the world, and he is internationally respected as one of the best TVC comedy directors in advertising today. After graduating from Elam School of Fine Art, Steve was a graphic designer/illustrator before becoming an advertising copywriter at Mojo Auckland and Bates London. A writer and performer on the Max TV series 'Box Dog', he has shot music videos in Hollywood for MTV and directed drama (a two-part episode of 'Amazing Extraordinary Friends' and 'Let's Get Inventin'). In addition to shooting back-to-back TV commercials in Australia and New Zealand, Steve is currently developing a long form comedy concept and slate of features with laughs and heart at their core. He has recently launched his own production company, Stuff And Nonsense Ltd. To see more, visit <http://www.stuffandnonsense.co.nz>

YOLANDE DEWEY • PRODUCER

Yolande has worked in production since the mid 90's. She's travelled all over the world producing TVC campaigns with budgets ranging from \$5.00 to \$4 million for production companies in Australia, NZ, US, UK, Germany and Vietnam. She's also produced music videos and mentored numerous directors and film-makers with their short films along the way. She was shortlisted by the Australian Film Commission in 2007 for the emerging screenwriters scheme and is passionate about the film-making craft. Yolande recently launched new production company Stuff and Nonsense Ltd. (www.stuffandnonsense.co.nz), and produces full time for Steve Saussey.

She is committed to bringing Steve's unique style of comedy to film and television.

COREY CHALMERS • WRITER

Corey is a well respected, highly awarded writer and advertising creative director, creating some of New Zealand's most popular and loved work, as well as viral spots with over eight million views. Although an ad creative of note, his true passion lies in film and television. Central to his success has been an innate understanding of story and the need to relate to the audience, as well as challenge them. Corey's particular strength lies in storytelling, character, popular (i.e. good) comedy, and a taste for the absurd. Underpinning this love of laughs, entertainment, visual wit and flair is a deep belief in humanity, heart and honesty. He is currently developing numerous feature film scripts. His advertising work is at <http://coreyandguy.com>

GENERAL ENTERTAINMENT SYSTEMS LTD

GES was formed by Corey, Yolande and Steve in 2013 to produce the Short Film Whisker, commissioned by the New Zealand Film Commission in association with Short and Sharp for Premier Shorts 2013. The team continue to collaborate and have two feature films currently in development.

IAN McCARROLL • CINEMATOGRAPHER

After finishing a (very useful) degree in anthropology at Victoria University Ian decided his best career options lay in the New Zealand film industry.

Having now been shooting for 20 years, initially in the music video scene before turning his hand to TVCs and drama Ian, is quite happy travelling the world, and New Zealand, shooting for a wide variety of clients and directors.

In between jobs you'll find Ian sculpting his facial hair, waxing his board or checking out the latest in the world of cinematography.

STUART MORLEY • EDITOR

Stuart has been an editor for more than 15 years, after starting as an assistant in 1993 at Karl Marks Post Production. Stuart edits both films and commercials; some of which have been awarded internationally.

Stuart's first feature film 'Men's Group', directed by Michael Joy, was awarded Best Film at the IF Awards in 2008. For his efforts Stuart received a nomination for Best Feature Editor by the Screen Editors Guild of Australia. Stuart is based in Sydney, Australia.

ERROLL SHAND • 'THE MAN'

Some of Erroll's work highlights include Screen Time's "Safe House" (Tony Michael's), "Underbelly - Land of the Long Green Cloud" (Terry Clark), Desert Road's "Harry" (Wayne 'Chocka' Fahey) and "Sunny Skies" (Gunn Gibson). In 2013 one role took him to the mountains of China working with Wiseacre films on their upcoming feature film - "China Bigfoot: The Legend of the Yeren". Following that a stint with "Red Sky" in a new TV series; filming on Mt Cook in the 3D Feature Film re-enacting Sir Edmund Hillary's summit of Everest and as Neil Hesketh on Shortland Street.

MICK INNES • 'MC'

Michael John Innes was born in Christchurch in 1953 and became Mick Innes when he moved to Australia 20 years later. With a career spanning 3 decades in film, television and theatre, Mick is a veteran actor, with countless roles in New Zealand and Australia, including Bootmen, Home and Away and Echo Point in Australia and NZ's Hounds, Sunny Skies, Super City and Shortland St. He also performed in several theatre productions in both countries.

Mick turned 60 in 2013 and to celebrate he co-created the solo performance ZEN DOG: Hazy Recollections From The Life of Mick Innes - a series of raw confessions, looking back into his life as an actor, as someone who is not afraid to expose himself - what you see is what you get.

MONTY • DOG

Monty came our short film hot on the heels of being trained as one of first dogs in the world to drive a car by himself. Mark Vette and his team rescued him from the SPCA as he was about to be put down, and he joined the campaign to show rescue dogs are smart dogs too. Driving alongside Ginny and Porter, this was the biggest viral media event in NZ history with millions tweets and over ten million views on YouTube.

Check him out <http://www.markvette.com> or drivingdogs.co.nz

CREDITS

DIRECTOR
WRITER
PRODUCER

Steven Saussey
Corey Chalmers
Yolande Dewey

EXECUTIVE PRODUCERS SHORT & SHARP

Michelle Turner & Nick Ward

DIRECTOR OF PHOTOGRAPHY
EDITOR
COMPOSER
SOUND DESIGN
CASTING
PRODUCTION DESIGNER
PRODUCTION MANAGER
1st ASSISTANT DIRECTOR
PRODUCTION COORDINATOR
CAST COORDINATOR & PRODUCTION
PRODUCTION ASSISTANT
CONTINUITY
ADDITIONAL ASSISTANT DIRECTORS
EXECUTIVE RUNNER & AWESOME UNIT
1ST ASSISTANT CAMERA
2nd ASSISTANT CAMERA
2nd ASSISTANT CAMERA (Te Aroha)
DIT/VTR PLAYBACK
GAFFER
BEST BOY
LIGHTING ASSISTANT
KEY GRIP
GRIP ASSISTANT
CRANE GRIP
SOUND RECORDIST
ANIMAL TRAINER & COORDINATOR
SENIOR TRAINER
ADDITIONAL ART DIRECTION & STANDBY
ART DEPARTMENT ASSISTANT
RAIN FX
COSTUME, HAIR & MAKEUP DESIGNER
COSTUME, HAIR & MAKEUP ASSISTANT
STUNT BEARDS
STANDBY COSTUME
LOCATIONS

SAFETY OFFICER
ADDITIONAL UNIT SUPPORT
CAST DRIVER
SECURITY
CATERING

CASTING FACILITIES
CASTING ASSISTANT
CAMERA EQUIPMENT
GRIP EQUIPMENT
HOT HEAD
LIGHTING
RADIOS
UNIT EQUIPMENT
STILLS EQUIPMENT

Ian McCarroll
Stuart Morley
Peter van der Fluit
Craig Matuschka
Stu Turner & Joe Fisher
Brant Fraser
Victoria Hardy
Jennifer Butcher
Jennifer Dutton
Judy Dale
Eva Urlwin
Kath Thomas
Rob Grieve & Julian Pellizzaro
Heinz Arbaugh
Ben Rowsell
Kim Thomas
Daniela Conforte
Ashley Thomas
Chris Fawcett
James Dudley
Drew Wright
Jerry Mauger
Tom Davis
Mike Coney
Eugene Arts
Mark Vette, Animals on Q
Jazmin Vette-Dal Bello, Animals on Q
Sam Evans
Rua Smith
Dagan Jurd , Film FX
Kylee Strathdee
Natalie Perks
Hair Creations
Olivia Dobson
Phil Aitken
Jordi Scott-Smith
Marty Clist
Grant Moffitt
Todd Smythe
David Flanagan & Larryn Rae
Julz Bistro (Auckland)
Marie's (Te Aroha)
Catch Casting
Madeline Gainsborough-Waring
Imagezone
Jerry Rig Ltd
Harrison & Watkins
Film Lighting NZ
Radio Waves
Loaded Bases
Hi Def Cameras Ltd (Chris Matthews)

VEHICLES
POST PRODUCTION & VISUAL EFFECTS
COMPOSITORS

3D ARTISTS

COLOURIST
POST PRODUCER
EXECUTIVE POST PRODUCER
TITLES
SOUND FACILITY
FOLEY
SOUND PRODUCER
ADDITIONAL SOUND
DIGITAL IMAGING & FINAL MIX
SOUND RECORDING REMIXER
MIXING TECH
INSURANCE

Topic Rentals
Metropolitan Rentals & Marvel Catering
Blockhead
Nigel Mortimer
Stefan Coory
Oliver Faldo
Mike Robinson
Matthew Sutherland
Peter Ritchie
Libby Behrens
Josephine Mackenzie
Blockhead
Liquid Studios
Dan Nathan (Liquid) & Native Audio
Sarah Yetton
Tristan Dewey, Bang Bang Studios Melbourne
Park Road Post
Mike Hedges
Alexis Feodoroff
Apex Insurance,
James McGhie & Darrin Madgwick

CAST

MAN
DOG
BARBER
MC
SHIRL
LARRY McGARRIGLE
GUS McGHEE
MORTON HACKETT
BRUCE LEADBETTER
BOY

Erroll Shand
Monty
Ian Harrop
Mick Innes
Courtney Abbot
Jules Longdin Prisk
David Stewart
Brant Fraser
Ian Bruce
Toa Talamahina

PUB PATRONS

Peter Vegas, Zac Blair, Sigi Spath, Victoria Saussey, Victoria Hardy, Nikki Henry, Richard Faulkner, Pablo Campos De Lemos, Kapil Arn, Grant Blair, Colin Buckley, Terina Choi, Emma Churchill, Neil Clemens, Sereana Colati, Byron Delves, Martin Devine, Rudolph Edwards, Peter Fleming, Kay Marie Fowler, Rob Hallie, Judith Hapeta, Mylene Hermaia, Terry Hobin, Andrew Hogg, Tremaine Hughes, Arron Jordon, David Maida, Terry Mao, Faron Moke, James Monroe, Dave Nicholas, George Novotny, Pamela Parkinson, Gill Russell, Barry Spencer, Jeanine Stanley, Nupaia Talake, Nigel Willoughby, Ian Wright, Roland Yorke, Peter Allen, John Bouttell, Ross Chapel, Joe Clement, Snow Clement, Peter Drinkwater, Robert Cleven, Michele Laurie, Pete Matin, Tua Pahi, Arther Pratt, Hugh Price, Todd Smythe, Merry Talamahina

END CREDITS MUSIC TRACK 'White Rabbit'

Composed and Performed by Peter Posa

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THANKS TO

Harry Harrison, Apex Insurance, James Bell Accounting, Search and Destroy, Mangere Bridge Tavern & Wanderers Sports Bar- Mark Walsh, Te Aroha Grand Tavern -Graeme & Sue Blackford, Matamata Piako District Council, Te Aroha iSite Visitor Centre- Michele Laurie, Tina Brown, Te Aroha Croquet Club- Carol Baker, Beddis Electrical- John Beddis, Econohonda - Malcolm Kirkby, Boese Landcare Traffic Management, Beattie Rickman Legal, Aroha Mountain Lodge, Te Aroha Motel, Bits and Pieces Store, Marvel Catering, Seru, 830 Coffee Roasters, Don Anderson, John Day, Noel Stedwell, Lorraine Lancaster

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DIRECTOR'S NOTES

For a long while I had been looking to film a short story of a classic nature, with an actual beginning, middle and end. Corey's script, thanks to its simplicity, humanity and originality, leapt off the page as a fully formed tale.

I see it as a tragi-comedy. A piece of fantastical folklore. A fabulist oddity populated with fascinating, characters and visuals.

There's a huge amount of 'Kiwi-ness' in this story as well, and not just in where it's set. There's a kind of rural 'hard luck, mate' aspect to the events reminiscent of stories like John Mulgan's NZ novel *Man Alone*, and countless kiwi yarns spun across the miles and the years in pubs throughout New Zealand. There's black humour for sure, but underlying it is a dryness and wryness offset by an inherent fondness for humanity (and dogs).

Woven into the yarn are threads of, loyalty, sacrifice, social acceptance, as well as some really excellent smallgoods presentation, but above all 'Whisker' is intended to be an emotional experience to make you laugh, cry and, hopefully enjoy.



Corey Chalmers, Writer & Steve Saussey, Director

KEY FILM IMAGES



WHISKER Film Frame: 'Get outta here'



WHISKER Film Frame: 'Locals Arrive'



WHISKER Film Frame: 'Hungry Dog'

KEY FILM IMAGES



WHISKER Film Frame: 'Morton faces the Beardometer'



WHISKER Film Frame: "You are aware this is a beard growing competition?"



WHISKER Film Frame: 'Pub Crowd Aghast'

KEY FILM IMAGES



WHISKER Film Frame: 'Shirl Wields the Beardometer'



WHISKER Film Frame: 'The Man looks in the window'



WHISKER Film Frame: "C'mon up, Champ"

BEHIND THE SCENES



WHISKER On Location: Barber shop



WHISKER On Location: Rubbish bin



WHISKER On Location: Hairdo



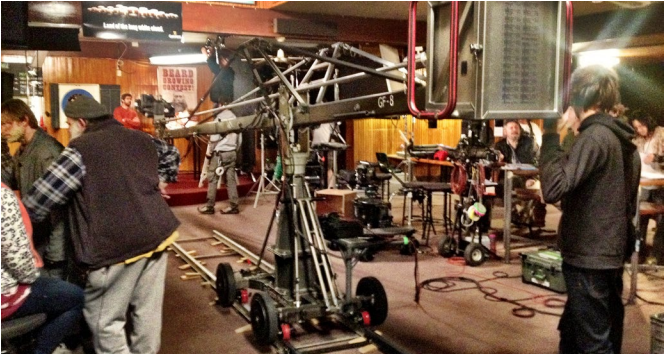
WHISKER On Location: Rain machine



WHISKER On Location: Clapper board



WHISKER On Location: Director directing.



WHISKER On Location: Pub crane



WHISKER On Location: Director at video split



WHISKER On Location: Pub closeup



WHISKER On Location: Farewell

BEHIND THE SCENES



WHISKER On Location: Dog at window



WHISKER On Location: Bungy rig



WHISKER On Location: Bus stop rain



WHISKER On Location: Pub at night



WHISKER On Location: In the park



WHISKER On Location: DOP at work



WHISKER On Location: Street scene



WHISKER On Location: Beardos



WHISKER On Location: Excavation



WHISKER On Location: Conducting extras