



Sorry We're
CLOSED

ASE VICTORIA LOCKDOWN LETTERS

Friday, 4 September 2020

LOCKDOWN LETTERS NO: 1

#1

I am a Melbourne-based freelance film and TV editor and I have not worked since part way into Lockdown 1.0. Once we got deep into Lockdown 2.0 Stage 4 pandemic territory, I found the non-stop childcare, homeschooling and endless domestic chores pretty tedious. I was dying to flex my editing muscle (and check it still worked!) but needed to do something small that could be managed after hours. Then it turned out my friend and artist, Tom Whitty, had written and recorded an excellent song about being locked down called "A Little Bit Longer". I loved it so much I asked if we could make a film clip together for it. Tom's idea was for people across Melbourne to submit home videos which I would cut together into a clip. We put the call out on social media and ended up with over 200 submissions, which was thrilling.

I knew we couldn't just string a bunch of disparate clips together. Each image had to somehow associate with the one before or after to really make it work. Finding these juxtapositions was the really fun part of the process. Tom also wanted to go hard on the nostalgia element of the clip as, hopefully, this period will one day be just a memory. We went with a very strong super 8 look and this also helped tie the clips together and conceal the varied formats.

Tom's song has a drive and optimism that is so wonderful and I wanted to make a clip that captured this energy and delivered some joy back to all the people who generously contributed. I went a bit "edit crazy" with jump-cuts and filters galore! It was a total treat and very cathartic for me. Hopefully there's some catharsis in it for all our contributors as well.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-gm9chIfAlM>

#2

LOVE

Remote work
Jobkeeper- when my contract finished
More time in my garden
More time with my son
Discovered Frame-io
Learning DaVinci
Online Festivals I would never had been able to see otherwise
Walking the dogs at a decent time
Working in my pyjamas
'Touch up my appearance' effect on Zoom
Cooking diner earlier
Streaming services
Writing that one great screenplay I have in me

HATE

Remote work
Having to accept radical pay cuts
Trying to live off Jobkeeper
Having to dip into my super
Lack of work opportunities
My utility bills increasing by at least a third
Weeding
Having only my son to talk to (he feels the same)
Same old bloody pyjamas (and slippers if I'm honest)
Not going to the Cinema
No nights out with friends
To many choices on streaming services
Being scared that at my age I can't financially recover

#3

I just wanted to share my video from my kids perspective of Stage 4 lockdown in Melbourne

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=v559n-cJA5M>



Comments from member

'Thanks, so much for this initiative. It does sometimes feel like the rest of Australia is back to some kind of normal and we have been left behind.'

Thank you to all our members who have contributed so far to ASE Victoria Lockdown Letters. We are proud to share the first instalment from our community. Please keep them coming, they can be written, photograph, video or combined which ever artistic voice you've found during these tough times. We ask that statements be no more than 200 words and any records under five minutes.

Please send your stories to viccommittee@screeneditors.com.au