

Chelmsford Camera Club

Annual General Meeting for the year 2013/2014 Held at Moulsham Mill, Chelmsford at 19.30 on Wednesday 21st May 2014.

Those Present:

Alan Shipperlee, Alan Watts, Alec Fraser, Andrew Pickess, Andy Donn, Ann Burley, Ann Vine, Annie Ringland, Barry Collin, Bob Pollard, Brian Purdy, Brigitte Whiteing, Bruce Gray, Christine Newbery, Clare Price, Colin Birch, David Clark, David Heath, David Steward, David Whiteing, Elaine Butcher, Greg Keeling, Heather Tabor, Jackie Bale, John Goodacre, John Shears, John Story, John Wheeler, Jonathon Banks, Katerina Frankova, Konrad Borysiuk, Lance Garwood, Marnie Smith, Melvyn Frewin, Mike Brown, Mike Rose, Pat Frewin, Paul Griffiths, Phil Voyez, Richard Earey, Sheila Birch, Stuart Whitely, Tom Fenwick, Tom Peacock, Tony Cockrell, Tony Mansfield, Vladimir Docekal

Melvyn Frewin as Club President chaired the Meeting.

1. Apologies for Absence:

Annie Goss, Bill Coles, Mike Crack, Nick Burley, Richard Stevens, Rick Gill, Veronica Rice,

2. Approval of the minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on 23rd May 2013.

Approval of the minutes of the 2013 AGM was proposed by Annie Ringland and seconded by John Shears. The minutes were then approved by the meeting *nem. con.* and signed by the Chairman as a true record.

3. Matters arising from those minutes.

- CB to ensure that members are reminded at least 4 weeks in advance to prepare and deliver contributions to Members' evenings **Action Complete**
- Item 7 New scoring system for Theme Competitions: CB actioned to raise suggestions from AGM at Committee Meetings **Action Complete**
- The motion to retain Themes in the League was defeated.
CB to ensure that Committee takes note of this Member recommendation. **Action Complete**
- AF to prepare 2013-2014 Welcome letter draft for approval prior to Barbecue, and gather further suggestions from the Committee **Action Complete**
- Treasurer/ Webmaster (AP) to post the agreed fees for 2013/2014 on website. **Action Complete**
- Review of proposal for 2014/2015 that Premier workers achieve a minimum score say average of 9 points per competition to stay in Premier and otherwise to be demoted: CB/AF to ensure this goes into the Committee Agenda at the appropriate time. **Action Complete**

4. Treasurer's report and presentation and approval of the annual accounts- Andrew Pickess

The Clubs membership rose to 90 members plus 4 honorary life members. 14 new members joined during the season. We are averaging 51 members each Wednesday evening down on last seasons 54. 17 other potential members came along, but failed to join the club.

The number of members we now have means that the waiting list was implemented and no new members have joined since the beginning of November. There are currently 11 people on the waiting list hopefully they will be able to join in September but that depends on how many current members don't rejoin next season. 16 members have attended less than 10 meetings I suspect we won't see some of those next year.

The club remains financially sound even when making a loss of £752 this season which was due to having to replace the projector; had that not been needed we would have had a surplus of c£1200.

There are no significant changes in either income or expenditure.

I would like to thank Keith Walters for auditing the accounts.

I have a detailed breakdown of the accounts available if any one has any questions.

Discussion on this Report :

Barry Collin asked for more detail about equipment purchases. This was mainly the new projector at around £2000. Ann Vine asked what the other items were. Andrew Pickess mentioned the frames displaying our pictures in Broomfield Hospital, cost of the Club Website at £100 and the music licence. Acceptance of the Accounts was proposed by Barry Collin, seconded by Bruce Gray and carried unanimously.

Andrew Pickess proposed that as the Auditor had done his work without payment, per the Club's normal practice a bottle of wine should be given to him as a token reward. A vote was taken and this was carried unanimously.

5. Officers' reports:

(Proposed by the President that the reports be dealt with in their entirety and then voted upon at the end of the final report).

(a) Secretary- Alec Fraser

Apologies if this report looks similar to last year!

Can we request that members who ask questions on this report or any of the others can give their name? I know who most of you are but it helps when typing the minutes. I use the same method as for Committee meetings, which is to write three quarter of it in advance, leaving gaps for the detail.

The query feature on the Club Website is a vital link and I receive lots of membership queries by phone and email. The Waiting list has to be explained and for those who are keen to visit I try to warn the Reception team and Clare Price who is Membership Secretary and welcomes everyone to the weekly meetings.

EAF correspondence and notices are a priority, but lots of other information constantly comes in and the important stuff goes on the notice board- due to space restrictions some filtering is necessary and I try to cover the regional and Club events, excluding all the pure advertising material.

Occasionally we get offers of equipment for sale and even magazines, and our Christmas Social was enhanced by a sale of small items for Club funds donated by a local wedding photographer who was emigrating.

Two print box orders were delivered during the season- 22 boxes in November 2013 and 4 boxes in May 2014.

My next job following this meeting will be to draft the annual Welcome Letter to individual members to invite renewal of Membership- a bit early this year as we would like to clarify as soon as possible which of the current members wish to renew.

Action: AF to prepare 2014-2015 Welcome letter draft

There were no questions on this report

(b) Programme Secretary- Melvyn Frewin

The 2013-2014 season included a selection of prestige speakers, which included Colin Westgate, Nadir Khan & Liz Cutting. I hope you all enjoyed the programme for 2013-2014.

We had two cancellations- both speakers; generally I feel that the speakers proved to be excellent which resulted in a good balanced programme. Some of the judges proved to be a mixed bag with varying degrees of success. Some will not be coming back to the club again whilst I am programme secretary.

The committee has again agreed to allow me to spend more money for prestige speakers for the 2014 – 2015 season, which I have done.

These include: “Under the African Sky” by Phil Shaw, “Wildlife on our shores” by Colin Edwards and “A moment in time” by Margery & Kevin Maskell

The cost of judges and speakers continues to increase for the next season.

I have invited a varied list of judges for the new season some who you will have seen before and some new ones to the club.

The practical evenings will continue on a Thursday at the Bell Centre, Baddow. The subjects for the evenings will be displayed on the club website.

The new programme for 2014 – 2015 season is complete and it is hoped to have them printed ready for the annual BBQ on the 9th August.

Should any member have any ideas they would like to put to me as to regards lectures or demonstration evenings please let me know and we will try to implement them in future seasons if possible.

Melvyn listed the following Trophy Competition Themes for the coming season:

Print: “Fantasy”, “Mono” and “Interiors”

PDI: “Creative”, “Simplicity” and “Motion”

Guidance on these Themes from Pat Frewin will be placed on the Club Website.

Bell Centre Programme:

September: Macro. October: Distinctions. November: Night time & low light. January: People and Portraits teaching evening. February: Your Image Appreciation. March: Techniques with your camera. April: Lightroom. May: Annual Exhibition selection. See Website for full details.

Discussion:

Mike Rose asked about the response to the email survey concerning the low attendance at the Bell Centre evenings. Andrew stated that some members are otherwise occupied and others don't wish to be out on too many evenings in the week.

Answering a question from Tom Peacock, Melvyn stated that there would not be a “star” speaker in the coming season.

Members suggested the following speakers to be considered for booking in the future:

Charles Duley – recommended by Greg Keeling

Tony Woodley (award winning portrait photographer) recommended by Tom Peacock

David Ward- recommended by Annie Ringland

(c) Competition Secretaries:

(i) Print: Bill Coles (read by Secretary in Bill's absence)

League

There were five League competitions this season with 43 people submitting colour prints and 37 submitting mono prints.

League Mono

Entry Level was won by Brian Purdy who moves up to Advanced Level together with Mike Crack. Advanced Level was won by Andy Jones, who moves up to Premier together with Ray Lawrence, the winner of the Premier section was Barry Henshaw. There will now be 10 members in the Premier section for 2014/15.

League Colour

Entry Level was won by Brian Purdy who moves up to Advanced Level together with Mike Crack and Vladimir Docekal. Advanced Level was won by Bruce Gray who moves up to Premier. The winner of the Premier section was Pat Frewin. There will now be 12 members in the Premier section for 2014/15.

This year there were problems due to the number of print entries, because of this I had to reduce the total to a satisfactory level for judging. For the 2014/15 season we are trying a different approach by grouping mono and colour together, and allowing each participant to enter up to three prints. The three prints can be of any combination, one mono two colour, one colour two mono etc. etc. As in the 2013/14 season, if the total entries rise above a certain level, I will reduce the total to an acceptable level for judging. It is therefore important that entries are numbered in preferential order, e.g. preference 1, 2 & 3. Otherwise I will make the decision for you.

Burley Cup

The competition for the best panel of three was well supported.

It was won by Greg Keeling with a panel entitled Ready to Record, Charles Shearer second with Gannets in Flight and Ray Lawrence third with Riding White Water. Four authors were awarded Highly Commended, Ray Lawrence for Touch-line Animation, Pat Frewin for Characters of Malta and Abstract Footwear, Mike Crack for Motocross at wakes Colne.

Panel of Six

The Cyril Chorley Memorial Trophy for the best panel of six prints was won by Melvyn Frewin with a panel entitled Abstract Exotic Flowers. Pat Frewin was second with Eucalyptus Bark Patterns and Barry Collin third with Made in Gateshead Dying in Madeira. There were three Highly Commended awarded; Jackie Bale for The Beauty of Butterflies, Bruce Gray for Mist over Jokulsarlón and Andrew Pickess Battle of Britain Monument – Westminster.

Annual Awards

There were over 142 images submitted which was a challenge for the judge Vic Hainsworth, but gave us some excellent prints on the annual awards evening.

Monochrome Prints

Cup winners were Greg Keeling (Class 1), Andy Jones (Class 2) and Mike Crack (Class 3) with Andy Jones winning the cup for Best Mono Print and Mike Crack winning the trophy for Best Entry Level Mono Print.

Colour Prints

Cup Winners were Pat Frewin (Class 1), Alec Fraser (Class 2) and Charles Shearer (Class 3) with Pat Frewin winning the trophy for Best Colour Print and Mike Crack winning the trophy for Best Entry Level Colour Print.

Following a vote by the members, the President's Cup for the Best Image of the Year was won by Andy Jones.

Galleries

I would like to say thank you to Members who have loaned their prints for display at Broomfield Hospital and Essex County Council, these will be changed shortly.

Many thanks to all those who participated in these competitions, they were very successful and the standard of the prints was praised by the judges.

Thanks to Sheila Birch who manned the laptop and logged the scores, and to those who helped in displaying the images for the judges.

There were no questions on the above report.

(ii) PDI- Rick Gill (Read by Secretary in Rick's absence)

League

This season consisted of five competitions with the following results.

Awards

Premier Level

1st place	Colin Birch	48 points
= 2nd place	Steve Langridge	46.5 points
= 2nd place	Veronica Rice	46.5 points
4th place	Barry Collin	45.5 points

12 members took part at this level in all of the competitions.

Advanced Level

1st place	Tom Plucinski	47.5 points
2nd place	Pat Frewin	46 points
3rd place	Jonathan Banks	42.5 points

18 members took part at this level in all of the competitions.

Entry Level

1st place	John Shears	44.5 points
2nd place	Sheila Birch	44 points
3rd place	Bob Pollard	42.5 points

14 members took part at this level in all of the competitions.

Themed Competition

THEMES

1. Creative
2. Flora
3. Solitude

20 entrants, thus 60 images.

Creative

=1st place	Barry Collin	Can you not see it?
= 1st place	Andrew Pickess	Dance movement
3rd place	Greg Keeling	Kings Cross station

Flora

= 1st place	Pat Frewin	Banana Plant
= 1st place	Tony Clark	Alstromeria
3rd place	Brigitte Whiteing	Rose

Solitude

= 1st place	Greg Keeling	Contemplating
= 1st place	Steve Langridge	Early riser
3rd place	Pat Frewin	Solitary yacht

Winner with 28 points - Pat Frewin

3 x second places with 27 points each -

Barry Collin,
Greg Keeling
Tony Clark

Annual awards

18 members entered 71 images into Class 1 - creative/pictorial

1st place	Bruce Gray	Ice & mist
2nd place	Greg Keeling	Liverpool St Station
3rd place	Greg Keeling	Unknown man

6 members entered 20 images into Class 2 - Portrait

1st place	Greg Keeling	Contemplating
2nd place	Greg Keeling	Tiptoe
3rd place	Pat Frewin	I'm not sulking!

14 members entered 41 images into Class 3 - record/natural history.

1st place	David Bishop	Smoke, steam and snow
2nd place	Steve Langridge	Little Egret
3rd place	David Bishop	Walking the dog

Best entry level image overall - Bob Pollard with 'Alex Dowsett - dash for glory'

Best overall image - Bruce Gray with 'Ice and mist'

I would like to thank Brigitte Whiteing and Alan Shipperlee with assistance with score keeping throughout the season.

Discussion:

Tom Peacock asked about promotions/demotions in the PDI league. This was not included in Rick's report but will be announced shortly.

(iii) External Competition Secretary- Pat Frewin

We have had another successful year, achieving 5 wins, 3 - 2nd places, 5 Best images and 2 merit awards. The details are as follows:

C4's Shield Panel Competition:

This is our External Panel of 6 competition, which this year was won by Benfleet CC, 2nd - Ipswich and 3rd - Thurrock. We did gain a Highly Commended with "Fading Roses" by Pat Frewin.

Colchester 8 x 8 Competition:

This competition comprises of 8 prints by 8 different authors from 8 clubs. Chelmsford won the trophy, winning by a margin of 7 marks to Colchester.

Benfleet Battle:

This is a straight print battle with Benfleet CC. Chelmsford won, scoring 187 marks to Benfleet's 173. The Best Mono was awarded to "Father & Son" by Andy Jones and the Best Colour print to "Vulture feeding on Carcass" by Veronica Rice.

ICON Battle:

This is a battle between 5 of the best clubs in the area. Chelmsford did well to come second to Ware, with Bottisham & Burwell coming 3rd.

Baddow Mono Print Competition:

Chelmsford came 1st of 6 clubs, all entering 6 Mono prints. The Best Print was awarded to "Whispering Nuns" by Ann Burley, the 2nd best to "Bridge to Nowhere" by Barry Henshaw and the 3rd best to "The Thinker" by Nick Burley. We also received a winners cheque for £25.

CAPS Print Competition:

Chelmsford came 1st of 8 clubs in the Chelmsford area, winning by a margin of 7 marks. "The Thinker" by Nick Burley was awarded the Best Print of the night.

This is the 7th consecutive year we have won this trophy.

EAF PDI Championships:

36 clubs from the East Anglia Region take part in this competition. Chelmsford did very well to come 8th out of the 36. Thanks go to Colin & Sheila for covering the event, and for the support of Annie, Elaine, Clare, Charles and Dave.

Essex Inter-Club PDI Competition:

This was a very close competition between 9 clubs. Chelmsford came 2nd to Upminster, trailing by only 1 mark. "London Wasps v London Irish" by Ray Lawrence was awarded the Best Image of the night.

Braintree Shield:

This is a mono print competition between 11 clubs. Chelmsford came 2nd to Colchester, losing by only 1/2 mark!

EAF Print Championships:

This is again a competition for all the clubs in the East Anglia Region. Chelmsford came 9th of 24 clubs. Some excellent work was shown.

Maldon Challenge:

This competition is for 8 mono prints and 6 PDI images. Chelmsford came 3rd of the 12 clubs entering, losing out to Thurrock and Colchester

We did gain 2 Merit awards, these were "Lloyds Building" by Phil Voyez and "Alex Dowsett- Dash for glory" by Bob Pollard.

CAPS PDI Competition:

This competition is for 7 PDI images, 3 of these are themed. I am pleased to report that Chelmsford won this year, the first time since 2008, and by a margin of 3 marks. We scored 67.5 marks out of a possible 70. My thanks go to Colin for covering the event in my absence.

Next season we have been invited to take part in a PDI Battle with Harlow Photographic Society, which I have accepted. The date is 16th October.

The support this year for the External competitions hasn't been great. I would like to see more members come along to the events, as it enables you to see some really excellent work.

My thanks go to all the members who provide me with their excellent work. The standard is very high, which reflects in our success over the last season. Thanks also go to Rick who supplies me with a CD of all your competition entries, which I can use to for all of the external competitions.

I am looking forward to another good season next year.

There were no questions on this report.

(d) Exhibition and Publicity Officer- Annie Ringland

Annual Exhibition: Annie stated that space in the Library Foyer has been booked from 10th to 24th August.

The exact number of stands which will be available is unknown. We are looking to our "insider" to use persuasive influence to help us.

Members' prints not entered in the Annual Awards can still be submitted directly for selection tomorrow 22nd May at the Bell Centre. Up to 4 prints can be submitted per member.

Discussion:

Ann Vine asked about "manning" of the Exhibition by club members. Was there any point to the Exhibition if we are not seeking to recruit new members? CB stated that we have decided to hold the Exhibition and man it. A list will be published on the website.

Annie confirmed that a sheet was being circulated for names to be entered against time slots

Barry Collin asked if the Essex Chronicle was being kept updated with Club events. Annie confirmed that this has been done on an occasional basis, although her entries were not always printed in the week they were submitted and sometimes not at all.

(e) Webmaster- Andrew Pickess

Last year I stated that the Forum had been re-introduced, however after much work on securing the site on one day I received 953 fake registrations so the forum was deleted never to return.

Also last year I promised to introduce a way of uploading PDI images to the website, this was completed and is now being used by all members. Rick told me it took him 30 minutes to set up the PDI #5 competition a great improvement from when before Tony would have had to load 30/40 CD's or Memory sticks into the laptop before he could even start.

Most of the other work this year has been in the background:

- Home page meetings and hand in dates are automatically updated from a database saves me having every Thursday to update the site.
- All of your images can no longer be found on a Google Image Search as they have been deleted from Google and are no longer indexed, this should be the same for other search engines as well.
- A site search was also added.

Usage of the site is quite high:

- Visits: 9,299
- Page views: 30,202
- 27.66% of visits by mobile device
- most popular page is the programme

If you get a 10 in a league print competition you can now upload these in the same way you do PDI's to the website (except no checking names, size etc.) this is the preferred method.

Any new ideas for the site then just let me know.

Discussion:

Barry Collin complimented Andrew on the progressive improvements to the website.

Tom Peacock asked if there was to be a Phototrek this summer; Andrew replied that the entries had diminished steadily since it was introduced and it had now been scrapped due to lack of interest.

On request Andrew gave a brief verbal report on the recent AV Competition.

10 entries in total had been received from 6 members.

Results were as follows:

First: Andrew Pickess - Station X, Second: Andrew Pickess - Battle of Britain, Third: Colin Birch - Henry's Birthday, Highly Commended: Ray Lawrence - Motor Bikin'

(f) Chairman- Colin Birch

It has been a good year with an excellent programme thanks to Melvyn. You, as Club members, have been supportive and seem to have enjoyed the activities, so please make sure you rejoin by the end of the summer break as we have a waiting list and we would like to be able to offer places to new members in September. Andrew has the forms and you can join at the end of this meeting, at pub or photoshoot evenings, or by post.

Last summer's barbecue was excellent thanks to Pat, Melvyn and the weather, so please ensure that you are on the list and have paid for this year's. The pub evenings have added variety this summer as there is a different pub to go to each time. The list of pubs and photoshoot locations is on the website.

The interest in distinctions has continued with people trying for their CPAGB. There is another advisory day on Sunday 31st August at Foxton near Cambridge and there are still places available if you are interested. Eight members had images accepted into the EAF exhibition at Wingfield Barns and I also understand that Clare has achieved 25 acceptances in national exhibitions which is the first rung on the ladder for BPE distinctions. The Thursday evening workshop in October will concentrate on distinctions so make sure you come along to that.

The Committee tried to find an alternative venue for Club evenings with facilities comparable to those at the Mill. However, it proved too difficult to find somewhere that people were sufficiently enthusiastic about so we decided to stay.

I'd like to close by thanking this year's Committee for all their efforts, with a special 'thank you' to the two retiring members, Ann Burley and Rick Gill. And, of course, many thanks to Melvyn as President for keeping an eye on everything.

Discussion: Questions were raised on the following topics in the above report.

Alternative venue search:

Ann Vine asked if a larger venue was being sought to accommodate more members, and if the current limit on membership was being dictated by the space available. CB replied that this was not the case and while the larger venue would give improved comfort, visibility, and facilities for the current level of membership, we were not seeking to grow the Club further.

Tony Mansfield asked about the criteria used by the Committee for selection of venues- could we approach City of Chelmsford Council for help?

CB: Council rooms were looked at as part of the search but were generally too dear.

Tony Mansfield: It would ease the financial and space issues and solutions (see discussion below) if we had more space and it was used to fit in more members.

CB said that the real problem is that with the current arrangements for competitions we have too many images for judging on print evenings, so regardless of money aspects, we need to keep the numbers down.

Barry Collin said that typically clubs have allowed about 100 minutes to judge print competitions and if there were 100 prints to judge that would allow minute for each. The problem was that judges will often start by talking for 3-4 minutes on each print which towards the end of the session with the

inevitable speed up signals, only a few seconds is left per print which gives no time for meaningful feedback.

Facilities at Moulsham Mill:

Members then suggested some ideas which might improve the use of space in the existing room at Moulsham Mill.

Andy Donn suggested a screen could be placed in front of one of the iron pillars.

Annie Ringland proposed that a screen on a stand could be tried for one of the members' evenings

Colin Birch offered to bring in a screen so options could be tried

Action: CB

Barry Collin suggested that a second screen could be placed at the side of the room. For print competitions, members could be asked to bring images on a CD for screen viewing, and the judge would view the print.

Tom Peacock said that this second screen, while it is used in some venues only works when the screen is mounted in a raised position for visibility and projection eg on a stage.

MF suggested that an LCD monitor screen could be used at the side of the room.

Committee is to discuss ideas and report back to members.

Action: CB to place on agenda.

Heather Tabor suggested that we could possibly dispense with prints altogether. MF said that high quality prints have properties that cannot be properly evaluated by looking at a digital image on a screen.

Grouping together of Colour and Mono in Print Competitions (See Print Secretary's Report):

Bruce Gray asked why the committee had decided to amalgamate colour and mono

CB explained the reasons as follows:

As explained in Bill Coles' report, it was necessary to reduce the number of prints per evening to a satisfactory level for judging. Various options had been considered by the Committee and debated at length but in the end it was decided to adopt the same model as for PDI competitions, which had been running for some time without problems.

MF: explained that this decision and competition structure could not be changed as it had now been incorporated into the 2014-5 programme. Dates are agreed with all participants and it is ready for print.

Annie Ringland said that the Committee had thought long and hard; the only alternative way to split colour and mono was to hold them on different evenings, which would result in a season almost entirely of competitions.

Alan Watts asked why the Committee had not announced or discussed such a major issue. Tony Mansfield was not happy with mono prints being judged against colour.

Heather Tabor asked if this decision can be reviewed for the following year if desired by members.

Ann Burley felt that as the new system would require new cups, we would not be able to revert.

MF stated the Committee has a duty to take this type of decision on behalf of the members, that new cups would not be an issue and certainly the decision could be reviewed for another season. He proposed that a review should be initiated first in Committee, and then with the membership starting half or two thirds of the way through the season. That way everyone can make an input.

Bryan Purdy stated his view that the proposed system works perfectly well with PDI and should be adopted for this season.

Tom Peacock proposed that if necessary an EGM could be called, say, in January after we have tried it for several months.

Barry Collin agreed that an EGM can be called by following the rules in the constitution which state that the Club Secretary and Chairman can call an EGM at any time on request of 6 members.

Barry also felt that the Committee had in fact proposed the best solution for next season but had handled the communication aspects poorly.

Action: New system is to be adopted but Committee must continuously monitor its operation, and consult with members no later than January 2015. Due notice of this consultation is to be given and a solution agreed for the 2015- 2016 season. **Action: CB** to ensure this happens

If members are not content with the review or consultation they are of course free to request an EGM at any time by following the above constitutional procedure.

Acceptance of all of the Officers' reports was proposed by Tom Peacock, seconded by Sheila Birch and carried unanimously.

6. Year 2014/2015 subscriptions.

The Committee proposes that **the 2014/2015 subscriptions should be held the same as this year. Which was: Annual membership £30, Concessionary membership £25, Family membership £50; Junior/Student membership in full time education under the age of 21: £10, Overseas Member £10; normal Wednesday entrance fee £2.00 and the evening workshops £1.00.**

Ann Vine asked if this scale of fees would provide enough income. Melvyn Frewin stated that there was no need for an increase, as the loss this year was solely due to the (exceptional) projector purchase.

The motion to hold the fees at the current level was proposed by John Shears, seconded by Tom Peacock and carried unanimously.

Action: Treasurer/ Webmaster (AP) to post these fees on website

7. Renaming of League Categories:

Premier, Advanced, and Entry Levels are being renamed as 1, 2 and 3 respectively.

CB explained that there is no "stigma" to level 3; it also allows demotion from 2 to 3 for those who may be experienced but have not achieved the necessary score to stay in Level 2.

John Shears asked if members who don't enter all League competitions in the season for their level will be demoted. This will occur in future as the rules are applied, but the current rules still apply at this moment and will determine levels for next season.

Barry Collin asked that Competition Secretaries should be vigilant for re-entered images as he suspected that some breaches of the rules may have been missed.

Action: CB to pass this message on to competition Secretaries who had presented apologies for this meeting.

BC had proposed some changes to the rules asking for the same words to apply to themes as for the league. Barry's changes had been rejected by the Committee who had felt that the present rules were sufficient.

Tom Peacock asked if the committee can change competition rules outside of an AGM?
CB affirmed that this is completely in order.

Barry Collin agreed that a General Meeting is only required for constitution changes.

David Heath asked if the onus is on Competition secretaries to check for illegally re-entered images?
CB confirmed this was the case.

Bruce Gray suggested that if members are required to submit images of prints on CD, challenges can be made to Comp. Secs. after the session and if proved, marks can be removed.

Tom Peacock pointed out that there is a program available which can be used to check for illegal re-entries.

Action: Committee to consider the above- **Action CB** to put into Committee Agendas

8. Membership renewal

Membership renewal: Existing members are requested to rejoin by the end of the summer break as we have a waiting list and would like to be able to offer places to new members in September.

9. President's remarks: Melvyn Frewin

I said last year that my first year had passed extremely fast but my second year seems to have been even faster. Your committee has been kept very busy with changes to the print competitions for the 2014-2015 season, and several visits and extensive discussions on a new venue.

I am sorry to hear that Ann Burley and Rick Gill are standing down from the committee. They will be missed. I take this opportunity to thank them both for their hard work they have put in for the club and to wish them every success in the future.

It was encouraging to see the quality of the images being produced by members.

This work allows Pat Frewin, External Competition Secretary, to enter high quality work and achieve the trophies you see on the table tonight.

This is also shown by the spread of the Annual Awards Certificates and trophies across a wide range of members, some of who were in their first year at the club.

Several members achieved their LRPS distinction with the Royal Photographic Society this season, also others are due to take various PAGB distinctions in the future.

Some members who have been entering National Exhibition level competitions have gained acceptances and their first level of qualification.

Help is available via the mentoring scheme within the club should any members require it.

We look forward to following their progress in gaining distinctions and hope this encourages other members to follow suit.

I take this opportunity to thank our secretary Alec Fraser for his tireless work in the background, handling new member enquiries, EAF correspondence, all the agendas and minutes of committee meetings and good input at committee meetings. This all gets done without any praise and the club members are not aware what he does for the club. So thank you Alec.

I look forward to seeing you all keep up the good work for the 2014-2015 season.

10. Election of the President.

Melvyn Frewin has agreed to be nominated again for this position. No other names have been put forward.

Melvyn handed over the chair to Colin Birch and a vote was taken unanimously in favour. Melvyn was declared as duly elected to the office of President and continued as Chairman of this AGM.

11. Election of Officers and Ordinary Committee Members

The following nominations had been received for the positions listed below

Club Chairman: Colin Birch

Vice Chairman: Pat Frewin

Secretary: Alec Fraser

Treasurer: Mike Crack

Programme secretary: Melvyn Frewin

Competition Sec PDI: David Heath

Competition Sec Prints: Bill Coles

External Competition secretary: Pat Frewin

Committee Member Web: Andrew Pickess

Committee Member Sound: Dave Steward

Committee Member Rota Organisation:

Committee Member Publicity: Annie Ringland

Assistant Treasurer and Committee Member Membership: Clare Price

Committee Member Equipment: Alan Shipperlee

See nomination sheet for individual proposers and seconders

All positions being unopposed, adoption of the entire Committee was proposed by Bruce Gray and seconded by Alan Watts

Voting then took place by members, except those above nominated as Committee Members.

Those in favour: All

Those against: none

Abstentions: none

The above were declared as duly elected Committee members to serve for the 2014-2015 season

12. Election of Honorary Auditor.

Keith Waters has agreed to be the Auditor for the 2014-2015 season- his adoption for this role was proposed by John Shears, seconded by Jackie Bale and carried unanimously.

Post Meeting Note: Apologies- This was a misunderstanding on the Secretary's part as Keith Waters has subsequently notified Andrew Pickess of his intention to stand down as Auditor. A new auditor is to be sought and this will be placed on the Agenda for the next Committee Meeting.

Action: CB

13. Any other business

Next year's Trophy themes are to be found on the Home page of the Club website

Guidance on themes provided by Pat Frewin

Andy Donn asked about the position of current members with regard to those prospective members on the waiting list- what is the deadline for renewal? MF stated that there will be a degree of leniency applied. Andy Donn asked if there will be a discount for early renewal. MF replied that we have decided not to do that this year.

The 4C's Inter Club Panel competition will be held this year on 26th October and will be judged by Ron Tear. At present 11 clubs are expected to participate in addition to Chelmsford.

This concluded the formal business of the 2014 AGM and the meeting was declared closed at 9.56

Presentation of the Nice Cup for meritorious service to the Club.

The Cup was presented by Melvyn Frewin to Barry Collin, who has served the Club well over many years in a number of different committee positions.

Presentation of the League Awards.

Trophies were presented by Melvyn Frewin- see Website and/or above reports for winners.

Presentation of the Photographer of the Year Award

Pat Frewin was the winner of this trophy, which was presented by Melvyn Frewin. Ray Lawrence achieved second position and Greg Keeling was third.