

Chelmsford Camera Club

Annual General Meeting for the year 2014/2015
held at Moulsham Mill, Chelmsford at 19.30
on Wednesday 20th May 2015.

MINUTES

The meeting was chaired by the Club President, Melvyn Frewin.

Those Present:

Alan Watts, Andrew Pickess, Andy Donn, Ann Vine, Barry Collin, Bob Pollard, Brian Purdy, Brigitte Whiteing, Clare Price, Colin Birch, David Bladon, David Clark, David Heath, David Steward, David Whiteing, Don Beckett, Greg Keeling, Heather Tabor, John Goodacre, John Sander, John Shears, John Story, Jonathon Banks, Katerina Glover, Konrad Borysiuk, Melvyn Frewin, Mike Crack, Mike Rose, Pat Frewin, Paul Griffiths, Peter Tachauer, Richard Stevens, Ron Gregory, Sheila Birch, Steve Cooper, Steve Langridge, Tom Peacock, Tony Cockrell, Tony Mansfield.

1. Apologies for Absence.

Alison Johnson, Alec Fraser, Bill Coles, Annie Ringland, David Bishop, Derrick Cutts, Veronica Rice, Annie Goss.

2. Approval of the minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on 21st May 2014.

Approval of the minutes of the 2013 – 2014 AGM was proposed by Alan Watts and seconded by Mike Rose. The minutes were approved unanimously and signed by the President, Melvyn Frewin, as a true record.

3. Matters arising from those minutes.

- a. Prepare 2014-2015 Welcome letter draft (AF) **Action Complete**
- b. Publicise promotions/demotions in the PDI league **Action Complete**
AP has worked out a webpage for members to check, for PDI, which Level they will be at for next season. This will also be done for prints. **Action Complete**
- c. Discuss ideas for improving use of space at the Mill (CB)
Ideas included: dual PDI viewing (Use of LCD monitor but where could it be mounted?), dual print viewing (Springfield CC has used a webcam for this) Apart from increased time and effort for setting up, these solutions need 2 screens and more floor space.
The Committee decided to take no action on these particular suggestions – arrangements will stay as at present. **Action Complete**
This decision was reported and explained at the first meeting of the new 2014-2015 season and in the Newsletter.
- d. Monitor new print league approach and report to members (CB). The changes had proceeded smoothly with no adverse reaction. This was reported in Club meetings and in the Newsletter. The Newsletter requested the views of Members on the change and again there had been no reply indicating any problems. **Action Complete.**

Discussion: Tom Peacock stated that he had given Alec Fraser a piece of paper with six signatures requesting an EGM to review the changes and asked why an EGM had not been called. Colin Birch said that the working of this arrangement was continuing to be monitored and that if members were not content they could request an EGM. Tony Mansfield said "We've had a year, are we happy or not?"

Melvyn Frewin said that there had been no negative reply from the Newsletter article and that this AGM could vote to scrap the new competition regime.

A vote was then taken with the following result: **31 to keep the current competition regime, 7 against, 1 abstention.**

Barry Collin said that we must find out what had happened to the request for an EGM and that if Alec had received it, we would have to go back to the six original signatories and have the EGM.

New Action: Melvyn to check with Alec whether the EGM request had been received plus the associated signatures. The decision as to whether or not to hold an EGM will then be made by the Committee in the light of the vote which has just been taken at this AGM.

- e. New league levels 1, 2 & 3 - inform members how they will work. **CB has** explained in newsletter (and information was placed on Website). The theme competition marks have been included into the League scores. Highest mark from each group of 3 images in the Theme Competitions will be used as the League score, but it was decided not to make the theme competition compulsory. This will not change the programme, which has been fully assembled. The existing trophies would be retained, CB wrote an explanation of the proposed procedure for the newsletter and a brief summary was included in the welcome letter.
- f. Post new fees on website (AP) **Action Complete**
- g. Pass on message concerning reuse of images to Comp. Secs. and consider ways of improving policing the policy (CB) **This had been done and an explanation for the Newsletter was written by CB. Action Complete**

4. Treasurer's report and presentation and approval of the annual accounts- Mike Crack

Club membership is 91, including 4 Honorary Life Members. We cleared the waiting list at the beginning of the season by taking on 11 new members, and 4 people joined later in the season. There is no waiting list at present. Of the 11 new members from the waiting list 6 only attended 2 or 3 times early in the season, so it's likely that they will not re-join. This, coupled with the normal turnover each year, means that we should anticipate next season's membership being down by, perhaps, 10-15 on this year. This will result in a reduction of income from membership fees and weekly attendance fees.

Average attendance on Wednesday evenings is 46 – 5 down on last season.

The Club remains financially sound with a surplus of £1300 this year. When we take into account the £2000 we paid for the new projector last year (resulting in a £700 deficit) we can see that the result of all other financial activity was virtually the same. Therefore, I propose no change to membership fees for next season, and I'm prepared to accept fees at the end of this AGM for those of you who would like to pay now. I'd like to thank Debbie Owers for examining the accounts and, as there was no charge for this service, I propose sending her a small gift voucher.

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

Questions: None. Tom Peacock complimented the New Treasurer on his first year in office.

Action: A new auditor must be engaged for the next financial year

Acceptance of the Treasurer's report was proposed by: Andrew Pickess

Seconded by: John Shears, the vote was unanimous

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

There is little to say this time except that there have been the usual membership enquiries through the year and it is always a pleasure to meet these people for the first time at Club meetings if they do decide to turn up.

There have been two print box orders during the season- this is good to see as it indicates that members are intending to produce lots of high quality work!

Praise to the Committee members for doing their jobs so well, and thanks to those leaving the Committee at the end of this AGM. Especially, thanks to Colin for being such an excellent Chairman for the past 3 years- he has always led from the front by taking on more actions than anyone else!
It's time to start writing the Welcome letter to introduce the programme for next season. I look forward to seeing many of you at the BBQ and the other summer events.

Questions: None

b. Programme Secretary- Melvyn Frewin

The 2014-2015 season included a selection of prestige speakers, which included Phil Shaw, Jane Goodall & Dave Mason. I hope you all enjoyed the programme for 2015-2016.

I feel that the speakers proved to be excellent which resulted in a good balanced programme. This year was similar to last year where some of the judges proved to be a mixed bag with varying degrees of success.

The committee has again agreed to allow me to spend more money for prestige speakers for the 2015 – 2016 season.

These include:

“What is the difference between a CC print and a Exhibition Print” by Jim & Fred Price,

30 years as a Pro-Photographer by Barry Marsden,

“The Creative side of Me” by Malcolm Bumstead.

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

We 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 2015-2016 season is near completion and it is hoped to have them printed ready for the annual BBQ on the 8th August.

This was my last year as Programme Secretary after Approx. 8 or 9 years. I hope that I have been able to keep you entertained with a good mixture of speakers and wetted your appetite to progress further with your photography. If elected Colin Birch will be your new Programme Secretary.

Should any member have any ideas they would like to put to Colin (If elected) as to regards lectures or demonstration evenings please let him know and he will try to implement them in future seasons if possible.

Questions: None

c. Print Competition Secretary- Bill Coles

League

Within the 2014/15 season there have been a few changes compared to last season.

- 1) There were six League competitions, which included for the first time the Themed competition, the results of which go towards the total points at the end of the season.
- 2) For the first time Colour and Mono prints were judged together, unlike previous seasons where Colour and Mono were judged independently.
- 3) As well as members being able to increase their positions e.g. from Level 3 to Level 2 and from Level 2 to Level 1, it is now a possibility to drop down a Level, from Level 1 to Level 2 and from Level 2 to Level 3. This does not reflect on an individual member's ability, but purely based on the

number of points achieved to stay at a particular Level.
Further details on the rules can be found on the CCC website.

Final top place results were as follows:

Level 1 – Melvyn Frewin
Level 2 – Trevor Burley
Level 3 – Thomas Fenwick

As in previous seasons, each participant can enter up to three prints. The three prints can be of any combination, one mono two colour, one colour two mono etc. etc.
As 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

There were a total of 26 panels entered and results were as follow:

1st – Brian Purdy – Latches and Catches
2nd – Alison Johnson – On the wing, in the wild, Green eared Humming Bird
3rd – Andrew Pickess – Autumn Colours
H/C – Phil Voyez – Bridges and Towers
H/C – Alison Johnson – Rural Life in Myanmar
H/C – Pat Frewin – Brass Verdigris

Panel of Six

There were only eight panels entered, results were as follows:

1st Alison Johnson – Hummingbirds in the Wild – Costa Rica
2nd Ray Lawrence – Touch Line Animation
3rd Pat Frewin – Brass Verdigris
H/C Alison Johnson – Life in Windows and Doorways – Cuba
H/C Pat Frewin – Aftermath of the Storm

Annual Awards

There were 157 images submitted for judging, 103 Colour and 54 Mono, but none from Level 3.

Paul Radden was the judge and he helped to make a very enjoyable evening. The trophies awarded were as follows:

Mono Class 1 (Pictorial)	Andy Jones	Canalside - Berlin
Mono Class 2 (Portraits)	Alison Johnson	Mo posing as Jane Bown's Bjork
Mono Class 3 Record/Nat. Hist.)	Melvyn Frewin	Oxburgh Hall
Best Overall Mono	Andy Jones	Canalside - Berlin
Colour Class 1 (Pictorial)	Tony Clark	Sunday at Leadenhall Market
Colour Class 2 (Portraits)	Trevor Burley	Green Eyed and Hennaed Hands
Colour Class 3 Record/Nat. Hist.)	Veronica Rice	Leopard Cub Chasing after Mum
Best Overall Colour	Tony Clark	Sunday at Leadenhall Market

Galleries

I would like to thank those Members who have loaned their prints for display at Broomfield Hospital and Essex County Council, these will be changed shortly and the current display images returned.

Finally thank you to Members who participated in the print competitions and for entering their images on the required handing in date, this helps me considerably and I will continue to insist this happens in the 2015/16 season if elected.

Thank you to Sheila Birch, who manned the laptop and logged the scores on judging evenings.
To those who helped me in displaying the images for the judges thank you.

Questions:

Heather Tabor asked for clarification of the new promotion / demotion rules. There was a lot of discussion about the unfairness of potential beginners, in Level 3, competition against someone who had been demoted from Level 2. However, it was stressed that the demotion was only 35 and then if someone had entered into 5 competitions then they were unlikely to be demoted. Most people who would be demoted had not entered the 5 competitions.

The meeting was informed that the Benfleet club promotion/demotion system was very similar to the football league i.e. two people go up and two people go down.

A vote was taken to prevent demotion to level 3, there were 29 for the motion and 3 against.

Action: Committee to look again at this particular ruling.

(Suggestions were asked from the meeting as to how this problem could be overcome)

Action: Committee to consider how to encourage more entries into the Panel of 6 competition

Action: Committee to consider why no level 3 prints were received for the Annual Awards

d. PDI secretary: David Heath

League Competition

This year there were six league competitions, the last of which was themed.

For each league competition (including the themed competition), an individual's highest entry score could be counted towards the overall league score. The entries were separated into levels for the first five competitions but the entrants from all three league levels were judged together within each theme in the sixth (themed) competition. At the end of the season, each individual's score was the sum of the five highest scores from the six competitions. In all levels the maximum possible score was 50 points. The winners in each division were as follows.

Level 1

Winner - Greg Keeling - 49.5 (runner up Steve Langridge with 48)

Level 2

Winner - Alec Fraser – 50 (runner up Bob Pollard with 48)

Level 3

Winner – Vladimir Docekal – 46.5 (2nd equal were Nigel Brewer and David Clark, with 42.5)

Altogether in the six league competitions, 489 entries have been judged.

PDI 1 – 85 images – all judged

PDI2 – over 100 images submitted so only priority 1 and 2 judged – 83 in total

PDI3 – over 100 images submitted so only priority 1 and 2 judged – 79 in total

PDI4 – over 100 images submitted so only priority 1 and 2 judged – 79 in total

PDI5 – over 100 images submitted so only priority 1 and 2 judged – 76 in total

PDI6 – 87 images submitted (3 x 29) – all judged.

Dividing the number of 10s by the number of individuals entering the competitions in each level gave the following.

Level 1 – 16 from 82 = 0.20

Level 2 – 23 from 100 = 0.23

Level 3 – 6 from 44 = 0.14

Should the judges be asked to be more lenient for level 3 entries?

Themed Competition

There were three themes in this competition – ‘Creative’, ‘Simplicity’ and ‘Motion’. For the themed competition itself, the highest sum of the three entries for each contributor determined the themed competition winner.

This year’s winner was Alec Fraser with a total of 27.5 out of a possible 30.

The Annual Competition

A total of 148 entries were sent to be judged by this year’s judge, Paul Radden of Waltham Cross, to the Annual Awards competition. There were 62 Class 1 entries (creative/pictorial), 33 class 2 entries (portrait) and 53 class 3 entries (record/natural history). There were no entries from members of level 3.

Class 1

The winner was Colin Birch with ‘Dawn over Loch Cairidh’

Second was ‘Millennium Bridge’ by Greg Keeling

Third was ‘Priest waiting for the bride’ by Greg Keeling

There were highly commended entries by Bruce Gray, Pat Frewin, Greg Keeling and Tom Plucinski

Class 2

The winner was Greg Keeling with ‘Andy Giggling’

Second was ‘The Office Manager’ by Tom Plucinski

Third was ‘Freddie’ by Pat Frewin

There were highly commended entries by Ron Gregory and Kate Glover

Class 3

The winner was Colin Birch with ‘African Fish Eagle’

Second was ‘Green Tree Frog Litoria Caerulea’ by Heather Tabor

Third was ‘By Salvador Dali’ by Ron Gregory

There were highly commended entries by Steve Langridge, Veronica Rice and Colin Birch

The overall PDI winning entry was ‘African Fish Eagle’ by Colin Birch

Questions:

The meeting was asked how many people would be promoted or demoted:-

Level 1 to 2 – none

Level 2 to 1 – 8

Level 2 to 3 – 2

Level 3 to 2 – 5.

There followed a discussion on how judges judged, in particular the level 3 group. Barry Collin outlined a method that could be used for the Themed Competitions whereby the 10 marks was split into two groups of 5 marks each, 5 marks allocated for the relevance of the subject to the theme and the other 5 marks for quality of the image.

Action: Committee to consider this proposal.

The Annual Awards Category of Class 3 was briefly discussed e.g. Record or Natural History, many people have thought this was a strange category, even the last presiding judge, but Barry Collins explained that it was a Factual category.

Action: Committee to consider whether Natural History and Record shots should be judged together in the Annual Awards.

d. AV Trophy Report- Andrew Pickess

This year there were 9 entries to the competition, 1 down on last year.

3rd Andrew with “A year on the Common”

2nd Ray with “It’s our Fight”

1st Alison with “The Natural World of Costa Rica”

It would be really good if we could get a few more entries next year.

Alison entered for the first time last year and with her second entry won the trophy. So it can be done, pluck up courage and give it a go.

Questions:

Tom Peacock asked if AVs could be done in Photoshop, Andrew Pickess said that they needed an executable program.

e. External Competition Secretary- Pat Frewin

We have had another successful year, achieving 5 wins, 4 - 2nd places, 3 Best Image awards and 4 Meritorious Awards. The details are as follows:

Harlow PDI Battle: Judge - Roger Winter

This is a new battle with Harlow, supplying 25 digital images. We beat Harlow by 410 marks to 396. A very enjoyable evening. Thanks to Annie for her support.

Benfleet Battle: Judge - Brian Willett

Benfleet won the battle, scoring 178 marks to our 172.5

Best Mono print was awarded to "Gentlemen's Retreat" by Melvyn Frewin

Thanks to Bill and Annie for their support.

Colchester 8 x 8 Competition: Judge - Daphne Hanson

This competition is for 8 prints from 8 clubs, by 8 separate authors.

Chelmsford came 2nd with 146 marks, with Clacton winning with 149 marks.

Thanks to Colin, Sheila, Barry, Ann and Nick for their support.

ICON Inter Club Battle: Judge - Paul Radden

This is the last ICON Battle involving 6 clubs, as the club has now closed. There was some excellent work, and we did well to come 3rd, with Ware winning and Bottisham coming 2nd.

Thanks to Annie, Ann and Nick for their support.

4 C's Panel Competition: Judge - Ron Tear

This is our external Panel of 6 Competition. This year we had a good turnout, with 14 clubs participating, and 27 panels shown.

Chelmsford won the trophy with "Touch Line Animation" by Ray Lawrence.

Baddow Mono print competition: Judge - Bob Good

This is a mono competition, between 7 clubs. Chelmsford came 2nd, with Ongar winning the trophy. The Best Print was awarded to "Managerial Emotion" by Ray Lawrence.

CAPS Print Competition: Judge - Vic Hainsworth

This competition was between 5 clubs in the Chelmsford area. Chelmsford won by quite a good margin.

"Solitary Yacht" by Pat Frewin was awarded the Best Print.

This is the 8th consecutive year we have won this award.

Cambridge PDI Competition: Judge - Richard Walton

This digital competition is between 36 clubs. Chelmsford unfortunately only came 18th, but "Managerial Emotion" by Ray Lawrence won the Best Image. Thanks to Colin for covering the competition, and to Clare, Annie and Elaine for their support.

EAF PDI Championships:

We have to enter 25 images for this competition, and there is a total of 34 clubs entering. We did get into the 2nd round, and finished 12th overall, so did quite well.

Thanks to Colin for covering the competition and to Sheila and Greg for their support.

Essex Inter-Club PDI Competition: Judge - Daphne Hanson

This is between 9 clubs. Chelmsford won the trophy with a margin of 3 marks. Thanks to Annie for covering the competition, and to Bill for his support.

Braintree Shield; Judge - Brian Willett

This is a mono competition, between 12 clubs. Chelmsford came 2nd, losing by only 1 mark to Witham.

Thanks to Barry and Bruce for their support.

EAF Print Championships :

This is for 25 prints from 24 clubs. Chelmsford made it to the 2nd round, coming 8th out of the 24 clubs.

Thanks to Colin, Clare, Annie and Elaine for their support.

Maldon Challenge: Judge - Harold Mousley

This is between 14 clubs, with lots of excellent work. Chelmsford came 2nd, with Colchester winning the trophy. We received 4 Meritorious Awards by Andy Jones, Melvyn Frewin and Ray Lawrence. Thanks to Bruce for his support.

CAPS Digital Competition: Judge - Dave Mason

This competition is between 7 clubs, entering 3 themed and 4 open images.

Chelmsford came 3rd, with Ongar taking the trophy. Thanks to David Heath for compiling the competition.

Harlow 6 Way Battle: Judge - Paul de Sylva

This is a new competition between 6 clubs. Chelmsford did well to come 1st, beating Ware by 2 marks.

Thanks to Colin for covering the competition.

Many thanks to all the members who let me use their work, and for the continued high standard you are producing. This year I have been able to use work from all the levels, which is excellent. Keep up the good work next year.

I would like to have some more support from the members at the competitions, as they are very interesting, and you see some great work.

Lastly my thanks go to David for supplying me with a CD of all the competition, so I have work readily available to select from.

Questions: None

f. Exhibition and Publicity Officer- Annie Ringland

The exhibition in the library atrium last year was a success as it usually is. It is a shame that the Essex County Council is so reluctant to replace the ageing and decrepit boards but the standard of our images was as high as usual. There was an opportunity for the first time for everyone at every level to exhibit and I felt this was a success. Thanks to Pat and Melvyn who selected the way in which the pictures were hung and to everyone (including Colin) who came and helped with the setting up and taking down of the exhibition.

The publicity has been rather patchy as I felt that saying the same thing every week in the Essex Chronicle (sometimes it didn't get in at all) was not very interesting, so I tried to keep it to things that were slightly different or of more general interest to the public.

Questions: None

g. Webmaster- Andrew Pickess

The website design was refreshed recently, still looks more or less the same, however the underlying code is now HTML 5 which is now the standard. Therefore it will be more reliable with modern web browsers.

A brand new mobile site was also introduced giving just the info you would need, programme, leagues etc. on a mobile device.

The new PDI Upload facility is now used by all but 1 member, and is also now being used by the Wilmslow Guild Photographic Society.

Usage of the site is quite high, but down on last year:

1. Visits: 9,176
2. Page views: 28,690
3. 32% of visits by mobile device
4. Most popular page is the programme
5. League tables looked at 2200 times

19/90 members have a gallery

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

Questions:

Peter Tachauer asked if the site supported a link to Flickr, Andrew Pickess said it could, this way people could hold their images in one place.

h. 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 would like to be able to offer places to new members in September. Mike, our Treasurer, 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 Wednesday evenings this summer start off with photoshoots and as the evenings get shorter, finish with various pubs. There are also three day trips you might like to join. The list of locations is on the website.

The interest in distinctions has continued with people achieving PAGB and RPS distinctions, including two ARPSs. There is another PAGB advisory day on Sunday 11th October at Fulbourn near Cambridge and there are still places available if you are interested. Several members also had images accepted into the EAF exhibition at Wingfield Barns.

The Committee is still keeping an eye open for an alternative venue for Club evenings but we haven't been able to find anywhere suitable.

This has been my third year as Chairman so it is time to hand over the reins to a new Chairman for the coming season. I have really enjoyed the challenge although it has kept me quite busy at times. I'd like to close by thanking this year's Committee for all their efforts, with a special 'thank you' to the three retiring members, Annie Ringland, Alan Shipperlee and Dave Steward. And, of course, many thanks to Melvyn for keeping a Presidential eye on everything.

Questions: None

Acceptance of the Officers' reports was proposed by: Barry Collin
Seconded by: Tom Peacock Carried Unanimously.

Barry Collins gave a vote of thanks to the Committee.

6. Year 2015/2016 subscriptions

The Committee proposes that the 2015/2016 subscriptions should be held the same as last 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.

Proposed by: Tom Peacock
Seconded by: Heather Tabor
Carried Unanimously

7. Membership Renewal: Existing members are requested to rejoin by the end of the summer break as we are at our maximum membership and would like to be able to offer places to new members in September.

8. New Venue

Colin Birch gave a presentation to the meeting, this included the list of venues that had been investigated, images of the Chelmsford Rugby Club venue and a series of pros and cons of the existing venue versus the potential new venue (Rugby Club).

Additionally Brian Purdy had rearranged the existing venue room, moving the chairs 90 degrees to their normal position, and a made shift screen had been erected in front of one of the pillars.

There were many comments and questions but the final consensus of the meeting was that there were too many "ponderables" about the potential new venue and the new seating layout and availability of the Tea table had been received extremely well. The only real issue was the lack of a disabled access other than the stairs.

A vote was taken as to whether to stay at the Mill or move to the Rugby club:

To Stay – 24
To move – 8
Abstain – 2
(Didn't vote) – 2

The meeting therefore decided that the existing venue with the new seating layout was accepted.

A new Screen would however have to be purchased. **Action: Equipment Manager**

Action: Committee to consider, along with the Moulsham Mill Management, whether any form of assistance could be purchased, possibly with a Lottery grant, to aid disabled persons to mount the stairs.

9. President's remarks.

Your committee has been kept very busy with the everyday running of the club for 2014-2015 season, and several visits and extensive discussions on a new venue.

I am sorry to hear that Annie Ringland, Alan Shipperlee and Dave Steward are standing down from the committee. I take this opportunity to thank them all for their hard work they have put in for the club and to wish them every success in the future.

The quality of the images being produced this season has improved with some Level 3 members having work chosen for external competitions.

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/ ARPS distinction with the Royal Photographic Society and CPAGB with the PAGB this season, also others are due to take various 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 two new committee members this season David Heath and Mike Crack for the exemplary way they have carried out their duties for the club.

I look forward to seeing you all keep up the good work for the 2015-2016 season.

Themes for 2015-2016:

Print – Old age (mono), Windows and doors, Creative

PDI – Weather, Neglect, Creative.

Questions: None

10. Election of the President.

Melvyn Frewin handed over the chair to Colin Birch for this item.

Nominated: Melvyn Frewin

Proposed by: Clare Price

Seconded by: Heather Tabor

Carried Unanimously

11. Election of Officers and Ordinary Committee Members.

Nominations are as follows:

Chairman: Pat Frewin

Vice Chairman: Clare Price
Treasurer: Mike Crack
Secretary: Alec Fraser
Print Comp Secretary: Bill Coles
PDI Comp Secretary: David Heath
Ext Comp Secretary: Pat Frewin
Programme Secretary: Colin Birch
Webmaster: Andrew Pickess
Exhibition and Publicity: Bruce Gray
Sound: Mike Rose
Equipment: Brian Purdy
New Members: Clare Price

All positions being unopposed, the proposal for appointment of the above persons to the positions as listed was **Carried unanimously**

12. Election of Honorary Auditor.

This item had been carried forward to the next Committee meeting.

See Action already placed under item 4 above (Treasurers Report)

13. Any other business.

a. Tom Peacock brought up the subject of the average age of the club, he said that we need to encourage newer, and younger, members. He outlined the proposal he had previously put to the committee, whereby he would set up a training course for these new members. Colin Birch reiterated that there was a training course, it had run 2 out of the last 3 years, and lasted 8 weeks. Tom said we should advertise for new people and Colin Birch stated that at the Annual Exhibition, several new members were often recruited. Melvyn Frewin stated that the club never knows how many new people will join each year but that the committee give up a lot of their time to training. Tom Peacock stated that the club needed people 18 years and above but Pat Frewin stated that the club work would interfere with their school work and a good age to recruit people would be 30-40 years old.

b. Alan Watts asked how many of this year's Speakers would be returning next year. Melvyn replied that none would be returning and that any returning speaker would have a different talk. Additionally now that the committee had agreed to spend more money on speakers he has been able to appoint different and hopefully higher quality speakers.

14 Presentation of: The League Awards.

Trophies were presented by Melvyn Frewin – See Website and / or above reports for winners.

15 Presentation of: The Photographer of the Year Award.

Alison Johnson was the winner of this trophy but was not present to receive it.

16 Presentation of: The Nice Cup

The Nice Cup was presented to Colin Birch for his outstanding and exceptional work for the Club over a number of years.