

**Chelmsford Camera Club**  
**Annual General Meeting for the year 2021/2022**  
**held at Broomfield Football Club**  
**at 19.30 on Thursday 26th May 2022**

**Those Present:**

Ray Lawrence, Colin Birch, Clare Price, Brian Purdy, Mark Taylor, Andrew Pickess, Steve Marriott, Mike Crack, Dave Clark, Brigitte Whiteing, Tom Plucinski, David Bishop, Chris Hackett, Trevor Sadowski, Bas Patel, Sally Freeman, Gary Woods, Ian McDonald, Jenny McDonald, Alec Fraser, Graham Chorley, Alan Chapman, Hannah Sadowski, Helen Edwards, John Shears, Keith Brown, Liz Crosson, Neil Crumpen, Steve Wilkinson, Tom Peacock, Tony Mansfield.

1. **Apologies for Absence** – Pat Frewin, Melvyn Frewin, Bruce Gray.
2. There were no error or omissions . The acceptance of the minutes was proposed by Andrew Pickess and seconded by Graham Chorley and the minutes were approved unanimously with 31 votes for 0 votes against and 0 abstentions.
3. **Matters arising** from those minutes.

Alison Johnson asked what day of the week and what format the Special Interest Groups (SIG) would take next season. RL replied that they would mainly be zoom but nothing concrete had been decided. RL said the members would be consulted before any decisions were made.

Zoom was decided to be the main focus of SIG meetings with maybe several practical sessions put together for an evening at BFC. Wednesday was considered the most probably day.

The SIG timetable was decided as, first Wednesday of the month, Wildlife (ML), Second Wednesday, Lightroom, Post processing (MC) and third Wednesday, Beginners (CB). More recently, a Canon R5/R6 SIG has been added and others are possible. *Note that the planned charge of £2 per meeting was not implemented this season but it will be next season.*

**Action: Complete**

Zoom licence to be changed to yearly when our current monthly subscription has expired. £140 yearly but about £170 if pay monthly.  
A yearly licence was purchased.

**Action: Complete**

There was a discussion about where we could hold SIGs, CB said that all venues must be considered. See above.

4. **Treasurer's report** and presentation and approval of the annual accounts.

CB ask MC to comment on the Annual accounts.

MC said that he had circulated his report and the Income and Expenses Report for the year ending March 2022 and there had been only one comment from members

whereby someone thought that there was a figure in the wrong column, but MC cleared this matter with the member..

The reports show in summary (see appendix 1 for full report) that the total sum in our bank and cash accounts is £7620 and the above report shows a deficit of about £1,600 and this was an income problem due to reduction in membership and reduction in attendance.

There were no further questions.

CB thanked MC

Steve Marriott proposed the approval of the Treasurer's report and Accounts and John Shears seconded the proposal. The Treasurer's Report and Accounts were approved unanimously with 31 votes for, 0 votes against and 0 abstentions.

- 5. Officers' Reports:** Proposed by the President that the reports be dealt with in their entirety and then voted upon. This year all of the Officers' Reports have been emailed to members in advance so that they can read them prior to the AGM and have any questions they wish answered. There were no questions.

**See Appendix 1 for all the reports**

- 6. Members to vote on Officers' Reports.**

Alec Fraser proposed the approval of all the Officers' Reports and Mike Rose seconded the proposal. The Officers' Reports were approved unanimously with 31 votes for, 0 votes against and 0 abstentions.

- 7. Chairman's Report**

The chairman's report was read out by Ray Lawrence.

Good evening everyone.

This is the second season of tenure, and it has again been complicated by the lingering effect of the pandemic in terms of how we operate. The financial impact has been significant as we chose to take a path of ensuring the club continued to operate effectively, using the healthy bank balance available to the club from previous years prudence to support various elements of activity and ensure we had a program to be proud of.

The year saw us formally take residence at new premises, a direct consequence of the desire to move from the Mill, and I am sure all those who have attended the club evenings would agree the facilities are indeed good. As we all know, the move comes at a price. The fees are more expensive than the Mill, yet less expensive than the vast majority of alternative options looked at.

It became apparent during the course of the season a reduced membership and less footfall through the club doors, meant our original forecast losses would need to be re evaluated and in January we raised the club night fees. Despite the fact the issue of funds remains fundamentally one of income, there remains an onus of responsibility on the committee to examine all of our cost base, which we relentlessly undertook during the course of the year. This

has resulted in us taking various decisions in terms of our expenditure to allow the club to present a budget (subject to the outcomes of the AGM) which at the least should break even for the next fiscal period.

What has been rather disappointing is the dwindling numbers of members attending on Thursday evenings, whether physically or via zoom, which on quite a number of occasions means that the income received by the club on the evening, doesn't cover the new expense of the hall, before we even consider speaker or judges expenses or refreshments. Quite obviously, if this trends continues, then the club will need to re visit it's proposed pricing policy.

On a more positive note, the club has continued to excel in terms of external competitions entered, a testament to the quality of club members imagery. A big thank you to Sally Freeman, Ian McDonald, and Mike Rose who have undertaken our selections for competition and helped ensure we are in amongst the running

The club is holding it's annual exhibition at the library again this year, and this is one of the primary events which attracts interest and potential membership to the club. It is vital we succeed as far as it is possible with this event, and for the period of two weeks we have as many of the time slots for the exhibition covered so we can talk to any interested persons in terms of the club, their interest, and potential to join. I urge everyone to give up where possible a couple of hours at a time to cover this event with us to make it the best possible outcome. The more members we achieve and secure, the greater the financial security of the club, which in turn may allow us to re consider our position in terms of certain expenses.

At this point in time we have two vacant positions on the committee, one in terms of the PDI competition, and one for looking after and organising the refreshments and raffle prizes with Steve Marriott. I would urge club members to consider whether they could contribute to the club by taking these positions. As of this evening, there are no volunteers.

For next year there will be no Zoom alternative on Thursday evenings. The Zoom experiment has been wonderful in terms of keeping the club going during the pandemic, and has allowed us to secure speakers who would find it geographically challenging to be with us, plus members who maybe more at risk to feel at ease and keep in touch with the club. it has also proven difficult, and the quality of some evenings diminished in terms of trying to cater for two sets of audience, one physical and one virtual. We intend to retain zoom next season for SIG evenings only.

There are various events organised for the summer months to keep our trigger fingers and all seeing eye's active. This includes the photo trek competition, afternoon teas at Little Easton on the 12th June, the summer BBQ on 30th July, and various other events including MX and trips organised by the various SIG groups. It would be great to see as many of you as possible on these dates.

Finally, the club continues to operate in part due to a hugely committed group of volunteers. There are two retiring members of the committee, Mark Taylor and Bas Patel for whom we are immensely grateful for their input and energy. To all the members of the committee, retiring or continuing, who put untold effort, energy and diligence into the well-being of the club, I offer on behalf of all the

membership and the club itself our extreme gratitude and my own personal thank you.

The president thanked Ray Lawrence.

- 8. Year 2021/2022 subscriptions:** The committee proposes that the 2022/2023 subscriptions will change as follows. Annual membership £35 for all members, no concessions or Family membership, normal Thursday entrance fee of £3.

Proposer and Secunder are not required as this proposal was proposed by the committee.

The 2022/2023 subscriptions are approved unanimously with 30 votes for, 0 votes against and 1 abstention.

Members were asked to try and bring the correct change.

There were various discussions about different payment methods, including using debit cards and possibly including a raffle ticket, yearly payments. RL to discuss with the committee any new possible payment structure.

**Action: RL**

- 9. Membership Renewal:** Existing members are requested to rejoin by the end of the summer break as we would like to be able to offer places to new members in September.
- 10. President's remarks:** Ray has given us a comprehensive report on the year so there's not much to add. What I would like to say is thanks to our Chairman and Committee for keeping everything going successfully and to you, the members, for your support. Mark Taylor and Bas Patel are both stepping down from the Committee so I would like to say a big thank you for your sterling service. Thanks, guys

I trust that people are taking pictures again, so if not, now is the time to get out and about with the better weather. Finally, I'm looking forward to seeing everyone at Sally's in Little Eastern on 12th June and at the BBQ at Pat & Melvyn's on 30th July.

**11. Election of the President.**

The meeting was then handed over to Ray Lawrence, the Chairman, to conduct this election.

Ray said that as there were no other counter proposals Colin Birch was re-elected as president.

**12. Election of Officers and Ordinary Committee Members.**

The Officers and Committee members already proposed and seconded to form the new Committee are as follows:

Chairman	Ray Lawrence
Vice Chairman	Andrew Pickess
Secretary	Clare Price

Treasurer	Mike Crack
Programme Sec	Colin Birch
Competition Sec PDI	TBA
Competition Sec Prints	Ian McDonald
External Comp Sec	Sally Freeman
Webmaster	Andrew Pickess
Sound System	Mike Leonard
New Members Sec	Steve Marriott
Catering/Rota Sec	TBA

This doesn't exceed the maximum number so Colin Birch proposed that the whole committee is re-elected and Mark Taylor Seconded the proposal.

The new Committee was duly elected unanimously.

### 13. New Venue Update

Colin mentioned that there was some light coming into the venue which was very noticeable during PDI evenings, he hoped that a new curtain would be in place for next season.

Helen Edwards asked why did the club move from the Mill. CB replied that it was too small and it didn't cater for people with mobility problems. Also there were pillars in the room which caused visibility issues. Car parking could be a problem, however the Mill had an ambience which people liked but in general the membership wanted to move, this did take several years to achieve.

Mike Rose asked if there'd been a price increase on the Broomfield hall, RL said that we were reducing our hours by ¼ hour each week to make a saving. RL also said that the Broomfield hall was more expensive than the Mill.

### 14. Answers to members' written questions.

Pauline Drew had asked if the club was looking for another premises as the situation is remote, Colin Birch looked very dismayed and said that Broomfield **club** had been trialled by the members and they have voted to move.

John Shears asked about the continuation of zoom, CB replied that the main meetings would always be at the hall but the SIGs would be on zoom and keen people could attend several SIGs. CB has no zoom speakers in the coming season.

John Shears also mentioned that the current competition set up doesn't work with very few members in the level 3. CB replied we are always looking at this set up, and prior to the pandemic there was an average of 7 people in level 3. CB said if the numbers don't improve then we will move to just two levels.

JS third point was about the competition structure, he said that there wasn't much movement between the levels in the leagues, CB said that there had been an average of 8 promotions or demotions each year in the print league. CB said that people don't change rapidly and considered this amount of movement acceptable.

RL to consider whether an Open evening would be suitable for CCC to encourage people to join the club.

**Action: RL**

Nicola Riley suggested members were able to bring guests to the club. This had always been possible to bring a guest or guests but a limit needs to be put on it (5 times) otherwise they would need to join. Prospective members can still attend for 3 times (without joining).

Alan Chapman made a suggestion to reduce cash handling by paying club subscriptions in bulk . CB said it is a useful suggestion possibly with a small reduction but the club isn't in a position to offer this at the moment.

Alan, in his written question discussed a sustainable member, CB felt that it needed further discussion with Alan, how can people help the club more and therefore a recognition of their efforts.

**Action: CB**

Alan Chapman volunteered to be CCC's media secretary. Thank you Alan.

## **15. AOB**

- a) Tom Peacock asked if there was any interest in the club for a portrait group. CB said that CCC used to hire Sandon hall in the past, usually 3 set ups but the key issue was getting the models but this would increase the costs. CB said if CCC had the capabilities then this could continue. The club still has a set of studio lights. Unfortunately, TP was not able to commit to organising this type of event. CB said that we as a club should look into it further.

**Action: CB**

- b) Liz Croxson suggested involving the parents of BFC in Chelmsford Camera Club as a way of encouraging even more new members. RL to ascertain Lesley Temple's view on this matter.

**Action: RL**

Meeting finished at 21.18.

## **Image of the Year.**

Following the votes by members who attended the Annual Awards evening last week, the choice was as follows:

'We Can Always Sell the Dog', the best print by Jenny McDonald

'Figures on the Beach', the best PDI by Gary Woods

Following the vote, 'We Can Always Sell the Dog' was declared the Image of the Year - congratulations, Jenny

## **The League Awards**

Well, you already know this as it's on the website but this is usually when we actually present the trophies.

### **Print League**

Level 1 Winner - Pat Frewin with an impressive 99 points - Cleaver Cup  
2nd - three people tied for 2nd place with 96 points:  
- Alison Johnson, Tom Plucinski and Mike Rose

Level 2 Winner - Nicola Riley on 98 points - Gray's Cup  
2nd - Alan Evans on 91 points  
3rd - Jenny McDonald on 90 points

Level 3 Winner - Steve Marriott with 94 points - Encouragement Cup  
2nd - Bas Patel on 20 points

### **PDI League**

Level 1 Winner - Tom Plucinski on 98 points - Digital Trophy  
2nd - three people tied for 2nd place with 97 points:  
- Brian Purdy, Pat Frewin and Sally Freeman

Level 2 Winner - Nicola Riley with 96 points - Club cup  
2nd - two people tied for 2nd place with 95 points  
- Keith Brown and Steve Wilkinson

Level 3 Winner - Alan Chapman on 95 points - Club cup

It's quite a slog over the whole season so congratulations to everyone who took part.

### **Photographer of the Year Award**

Those of you who follow these things may have worked out who has won but here it is, hot off the press.

Third Place - Brian Purdy with 293 points

Second place - Sally Freeman with 315 points

First Place on 352 points - Pat Frewin

Congratulations, Pat. There's a lot of hard work there!

### **The Nice cup**

This was presented to the Club by Ron Nice in 1974 and is awarded to the member who has made an outstanding contribution to the Club over the past year. The winner is chosen by the President, Chairman and Secretary and this year we have awarded it to someone who has responded extremely well to the challenges raised by the pandemic. He has put in a lot of work to ensure that the Club will survive financially and pushed us all to make the difficult decisions necessary to do that. So congratulations to our Treasurer, Mike Crack, and thanks for all the hard work you have put in.

Those who have received a trophy should make sure they also collect the relevant box and leave it with me if they wish it to be engraved.

## Appendix 1

### Programme Secretary's Report 2021-22: Colin Birch

This year's programme was very successful although several speakers or judges had to be replaced at a late stage due to them catching Covid. Zoom was used a few times to reach speakers we would not otherwise see and while that worked well, we did lose some of the social aspects of a physical meeting. For the coming season all the weekly meetings will be at the Broomfield Football Club and remote meetings only used in fallback situations.

Next season we have Justin Minns, Daniel Bridge and Colin Westgate plus a variety of other talented photographers to give us some very enjoyable evenings. The programme will be published in June as usual.



## **Print Competition Secretary's Report – Ian McDonald**

Firstly, I would like to thank all those that have helped and supported me this past year, it really is appreciated.

### **League Competition**

Level 1 was won by Pat Frewin with 99 points. Alison Johnson, Tom Plucinski and Mike Rose were joint second, with Alec Fraser third.

There were eight demotions from Level 1.

Level 2 was won by Nicola Riley with 98 points. Alan Evans was second and Jenny McDonald third.

Nicola is, therefore, promoted to Level 1.

Level 3 was won by Steve Marriott with 94 points.

Steve is, therefore, promoted to Level 2.

### **The Mono Print Competition for the Dennis Clarke Memorial Trophy**

42 prints were entered for the mono competition this season. First place went to Ray Lawrence with Pat Frewin second and Colin Birch third. Three members were highly commended – Pat Frewin, Sally Freeman and Ian McDonald.

### **The Burley Cup (panel of three)**

First place went to Brian Purdy, second place to Sally Freeman with Pat Frewin third. Ray Lawrence and Pat Frewin were highly commended.

### **The Cyril Chorley Memorial Trophy (panel of six)**

There were 11 entries for the panel of 6 competition. In first place was Pat Frewin with Sally Freeman second and Hannah Sadowski third. Sally Freeman and Nicola Riley were highly commended.

Lastly, I would like to thank all those who have entered prints for this season's competitions. It is only with your support, and participation, that we are able to maintain a programme that continues to provide work of a such a high standard.

Ian McDonald  
Print Competition Secretary

# Chelmsford Camera Club PDI League 2021 / 2022

## PDI Competition Secretary's Report

I would like to thank all those that have helped and supported me this past year, and also those who have taken part in the competitions. Everyone has helped to make this a successful season.

### League Competition

- Level 1 was won by Tom Plucinski with 98 points and Brian Purdy, Pat Frewin and Sally Freeman were joint second on 97 points.  
There are two demotions from Level 1.
- Level 2 was won by Nicola Riley with 96 points and Keith Brown and Steve Wilkinson were joint second on 95 points. Pauline Drew came fourth on 94 points.  
All are therefore promoted to Level 1.
- Level 3 was won by Alan Chapman with 95 points.  
Steve is therefore promoted to Level 2.
- Statistics  
Number of Entries 478  
Number of Authors 43  
Level 1 Entries 235  
Level 2 Entries 230  
Level 2 Entries 13  
  
Number of 20s 46

### Annual Awards - Cup Winners

Class 1 Open Mono - Steve Marriott with '60's Chic'  
Class 2 Open Colour - Brian Purdy with 'Cactus'  
Class 3 Scapes - Gary Woods with 'Figures on the Beach'  
Class 4 People - Alan Chapman with 'Prime Position'  
Class 5 Creative - Tom Plucinski with 'Still Life with Helping Hand'  
Class 6 Action - Tom Plucinski with 'Riding the Wave'  
Class 7 Wildlife - Alec Fraser with 'Watchful Duck'

Best Level 3 PDI - Alan Chapman with 'Prime Position'

Best PDI - Woods with 'Figures on the Beach'

## **CCC External Competitions 2021-22 Summary**

This is my third year as External Club Secretary, I am pleased to report a total of five wins from twelve competitions.

We achieved 13th place in the PAGB GB Trophy this year a gain of 26 places from last year when placed 39th.

Our 3rd place position in the EAF Championship Print competition qualified Chelmsford CC in the PAGB Print Club Championship October 2022

### **Competitions completed**

#### **29 September 2021 Five Club Battle PDI**

Judge Ken Payne

- 1st - Benfleet 228
- 2nd – Chelmsford 219
- 3rd – Steyning 216
- 4th – Ampthill 214
- 5th Brentwood 209

5 Clubs took part, with 60 entries

#### **16 October 2021 4CS Panel of Six Competition**

Judge Clive Tanner

- 1st Martin Hancock Ipswich "When Darkness Falls"
- 2nd Jane Barrett Benfleet "Power and Grace"
- 3rd Derek Howes Colchester "Humpback Wales Bubble Net Feeding"

15 Panels 8 Clubs took part

#### **19 October 2021 Colchester 8x8 Print Competition**

Judge Sarah Kelman

- 1st Chelmsford 150
- 2nd Clacton 140
- 3rd Colchester 138

8 clubs took part

#### **21 October 2021 Benfleet Battle Print Competition**

Judge Roy Essery

10 Colour 10 Mono

- 1st Chelmsford 353
- 2nd Benfleet 347

## **2 November 2021 Windmill Challenge Trophy**

Judge Sarah Kelman

2 Mono Prints 2 Colour Prints 4 PDIs

1st Chelmsford 151  
2nd Loughton 143  
3rd H2 139

## **Best Print "Blackbird Tossing Back a Pink Berry" Alec Fraser**

### **January 2022 PAGB The GB Trophy**

12 PDIs (on-line)

1st Nottingham and Notts Photographic Society 149  
2nd Smethwick Photographic Society 145  
2nd Catchlight Camera Club 145  
13th Chelmsford 135

55 clubs took part

### **13 February 2022 EAF PDI Championship**

25 PDIs

1st Beyond Group 318  
2nd PICO 308  
7th Chelmsford 294

29 Clubs took part

## **Award Personal Selection "Blackbird Tossing Back a Pink Berry" Alec Fraser**

### **26 February 2022 St Ives PDIs**

Judge David Smith

6 PDIs (on-line)

1st Cambridge Camera Club 113  
2nd PICO 109  
4th Chelmsford 105

19 Clubs took part

### **1st March 2022 Braintree Shield Print**

Judge Naomi Saul

6 Mono Prints

1st Chelmsford 53.5 Decided by Tie Breaker Image  
2nd Colchester 53.5  
3rd Maldon 48.5

10 Clubs took part

**Image of the night "Looking on from Pitchside" Sol Campbell by Ray Lawrence**

**13 March 2022 EAF Print Championship**

15 Prints Open

1st Beyond Group 195  
2nd PICO 187  
3rd Chelmsford 182

**CCC Qualify in the PAGB Print Club Championship October 2022**

**18 March 2022 Essex Inter Club PDIs**

Judge Dr Julie Hudson

6 PDIs (on-line)

1st Benfleet 55.  
2nd Upminster 52.5  
3rd Photofold 51  
7th Chelmsford 49  
7 Clubs took part

**22 March 2022 Photofold Battle PDIs**

Judge Harold Mousley

40 PDI (on-line)

1st Chelmsford 441  
2nd Photofold 433

My thanks to:

Andrew Pickess for his IT help, providing score sheets and updating web page

Mark Taylor for running the Zoom competition

Mike Crack for sending information to members and assisting with finance for external competition fees

The selection committee, Ray Lawrence, Ian McDonald Mike Rose and Stephen Birch

Colin Birch for the organising Judges and engraving of Trophies

All members whose images supported the competitions

Sally Freeman 10 May 2022

## Treasurer's Report for AGM Year End Accounts at 31 March 2022

The total sum in our bank and cash accounts is £5991  
The Income & Expense summary shows a deficit of £1629.

Membership is down from 100 (2019 pre-Covid) to 76  
Average weekly attendance (in-person plus Zoom) down from 51 to 37

The pattern of income and expenditure during the Covid restrictions was very different from previous years, with income and expenditure down significantly. Major causal factors were:

Income:

- Reduced membership fees
- Reduced attendance fees
- No Raffle

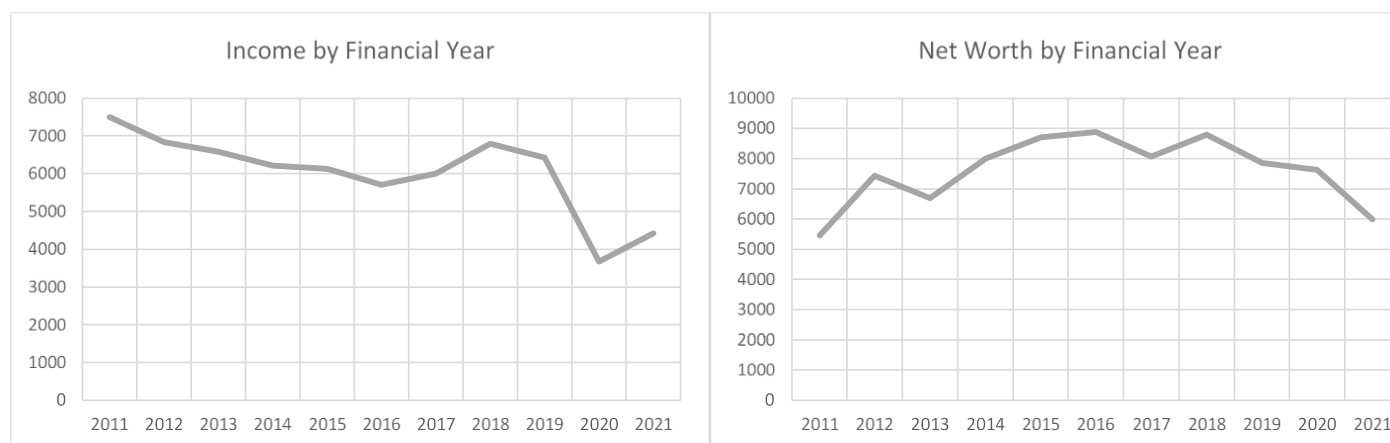
Expense:

- No venue hire fees - replaced by on-line meetings via Zoom
- No social events - Christmas social/Barbecue
- No weekly refreshments

As we emerge from Covid we are beginning to understand the new reality. Membership and average weekly attendance is down by 25% and we are now back with in-person meetings, so we have re-introduced the cost of renting a venue

The graphs below shows that we have an income problem, and we are unable to continue with the present financial model without incurring a significant annual deficit of around £1600pa. We recognize, however, that before asking for more membership fees, we should seek economies which have minimal impact on the quality of our meetings. I have examined all areas in an attempt to establish a budget that has a realistic chance of breaking even. I believe the economies identified, along with the proposed changes to membership and attendance fees, have resulted in a workable budget. Note that we have protected expenditure on Judges and Speakers.

You will have an opportunity to discuss and vote on the changes later in the meeting – Item 7 on the Agenda.



Mike Crack  
30 April 2022

## Chelmsford Camera Club

### Income & Expenses for Year Ending 31 March 2022

Income	2020/21	2021/22
Membership fees	2095.00	1877.50
Attendances - Club Night	1570.00	2925.00
Attendances Practical	0.00	0.00
Raffle Collection		310.00
Less Raffle prizes		102.75
Bank Interest	1.02	0.36
Panel of 6 Comp	0.00	-127.18
Misc Income	0.00	40.00
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>3666.02</b>	<b>4922.93</b>
<b>Expenses</b>		
Rent - Wednesday Club Nights (Mill)	165.24	2186.00
Rent - Thursday SIGs (Mill)	55.08	0.00
Rent - Special Meetings	82.50	0.00
Judges Expenses	446.25	564.65
Speakers Expenses	957.50	1388.00
Insurance	312.19	307.35
EAF, PAGB etc	57.67	209.67
Weekly Refreshments	25.76	150.25
Social Events (BBQ & Xmas Social)		0.00
Donations	28.50	25.00
Engraving and Cups	354.22	409.49
Equipment Purchase/Maint/Repair	436.69	302.57
External Competitions	152.75	114.63
Other Expenses	51.30	0.00
Website	228.04	177.59
Postage and Stationery	106.31	138.75
Programme Printing	236.00	236.00
Printing and Photocopying		0.00
Zoom subscriptions	214.30	186.09
Joe Cornish 2022		155.71
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>3910.30</b>	<b>6551.75</b>
Surplus/-Deficit for the year	-244.28	-1628.82
Balance at start of year	7863.94	7619.66
<b>Balance at end of year</b>	<b>7619.66</b>	<b>5990.84</b>
Bank Current a/c end of year	3697.49	1784.81
Unrepresented cheques	50.00	15.00
	3647.49	1769.81
Bank Savings a/c end of year	3953.56	3953.92
Cash in hand	18.61	267.11
	<b>7619.66</b>	<b>5990.84</b>

Hon. Treasurer: **M. CRACK**

