

Wakefield Camera Club Annual General Meeting 6th February 2012

- 1 **Present**;- Chris Heslop, Chris New, Daniel Kinghorn, David Carr, David Hall, David Kershaw, David Lockton, Geoffrey Cross, Gordon Sawyer, Helen Barraclough, John Bickerdike, John Boyd, John Michael Bunn, Judith Kershaw, Les Forrester, Linda Golding, Lyndsay Halliday, Malcolm Dobson, Mike Hart, Peter Marsh, Peter Wells, Robert Jones, Roger Gaynor, Ros Ramsden, Steve Wood, Trevor Bottomley, William Mahoney and Yvonne Warriner.
Plus two visitors.
- 2 **Apologies for absence**;- David Jones, Peter Field, Steve Wright and Vera Jones.
- 3 **The Minutes of the 2011 AGM** – were taken as read.
- 4 **Matters arising from these minutes.**
 - a. **A3 prints for Members**;- questions were asked as to the take up of the print offer and if many of the prints provided had actually ended up in competitions. The value to the club of providing these free prints was discussed at length and it was finally agreed that we should offer 3 free prints per member again this year. The committee were instructed to monitor the number of prints and ask members using this service if they had subsequently used the prints in club competitions. A decision will then be made at the next AGM if we are to continue offering free prints.
The possibility of arranging to print winning digital entries was raised and will be discussed in committee.
 - b. David Hall asked if the subject for the **Maurice Biglin Trophy** would be for wildflowers again this year. After some discussion, it was agreed that Wildflowers was Maurice's speciality and so the competition should always be for Wildflowers. Maurice's family were thanked for donating £250 for the competition to continue.
- 5 **Treasurers Report**;- During 2011, on the income side, the club has again seen a slight rise in members, ending the year with a membership of 100 (including joint membership) resulting in a slightly higher income from membership fees. The amount of income generated from the weekly attendance figures has increased quite considerably, as the entrance fee was increased from £1.00 to £1.50. Income from other sources was boosted by the kind donation of £250.00 from Maurice Biglin's son for the Maurice Biglin Wild Flower Trophy Competition.
On the expenditure side, YPU subscriptions have increased slightly, as this is based on the number of members for the club previous year's membership (i.e., for 2010). The club has spent quite a bit more on judges and speakers this last year, when we had several prestige lectures or presentations. We had two exhibitions in the Ridings Shopping Centre also, compared to just one in 2010. Much less has been spent on equipment than the previous year, the only major items being the new projector screen and the wireless microphone system. Sundry expenses, comprising of the small items purchased and general expenses not covered in the other sections of the balance sheet have increased over the last 12 months. Some of these sundry expenses, however, are offset by some of the sundry income items, such as when we have had several raffle prizes.
The Club at the end of 2011 is in good financial position; the end of 2010 saw an overall loss of over £400, but by the end of 2011, this was turned into a profit of over £500.
I would finally like to thank all Club members for their support throughout this last year.

Trevor Bottomley.

The balance sheet was discussed at length by those present and a breakdown on the cost of 'speakers' and the 'sundry items' was requested. Trevor provided details of the larger fees paid to speakers, but did not have the details to hand for a complete breakdown of the 'Sundry items'. It was agreed that Trevor should produce such a breakdown and display it at the back of the room for the next two meetings. It was also agreed that if any section of the balance sheet should in future show a significant increase, then a breakdown of this section would be provided at the AGM.

Steve Wood proposed a 'vote of thanks' for Trevor and David Hall (the auditor) and this was given.

- 6 **Subscriptions for 2012-13**;- It was unanimously agreed that attendance fees and membership fees should remain the same for this next year.
- 7 **Secretary's Report**;- I have no intention of making this a long, drawn out speech, especially as I will have to type it into the minutes. From my point of view it has been a successful year. The committee has worked towards ensuring that our club has grown and more importantly, that we have kept the members informed, inspired and happy. It would be impossible to meet everyone's requests and requirements, but we have tried. Steve has taken the Presidents role to a new level with 'Presidents Pals', David and Vera have worked away in the background to ensure we have interesting meetings, competitions and outings. Trevor has continued to extract money from you all, so that we can pay for the speakers and equipment that makes the club work. David Hall has tried to burst my eardrums on several occasions with the 'still temperamental' sound system and he continues to make the web site a 'must visit' event each week. We initially had problems with publicity, but this is now coming good, especially with the Wakefield Express articles written by Chris and the weekly newsletter from Debi. It is unfortunate that Debs studies mean that she will not be on the committee this coming year, though I expect David Hall, who I hope you will re-elect, will ensure the Newsletter is even equally as interesting. Two of our new committee members this last year, Malcolm Dobson and Steve Write, have represented your interests brilliantly, by always asking the questions that challenge the less well thought out plans (though 'pain in the ***' sometimes came to mind. I also need to thank Brian and Shirley for feeding us when we held social events; I personally hold them responsible for at least 2 inches of my waistline. One member of our committee who I will miss crossing swords with is Nick, our retiring Vice-President. His work pattern tends to clash with club nights, so we have not seen as much of him as we would like. I am forever inspired by his understanding of composition and the art of tight cropping to concentrate on the relevant elements of a subject. I hope we will still be able to draw on his knowledge this year. That brings me to Sally; I thought long and hard about how to describe Sally; I could not find the right 'verbs', let me just say that I'm proud to have got her to agree to stand as vice-president this year. As for you lot, just keep telling the committee when we go wrong and keep telling us what you want changing, after all it's your club.
- 8 **Presidents Report**;- Steve thanked all the members of the committee for the work they had done throughout the year and expressed the opinion that they were working well as a team. He also thanked the members who helped to set up and put away, before and after every meeting. He felt that the 'Presidents Pals' idea had worked well, though he was a little disappointed at the take up of the offer. He intended to expand the idea this year, possibly offering more warning of planned trips, but he was still 'ready and willing', should anyone wish to contact him at short notice and suggest a trip out.

Raising the issue of the microphone, Steve thought that we now had the right equipment, but possibly needed a battery tester to ensure the prevention of microphone failure when we have a speaker.

The membership gave Steve a vote of thanks for his work over the last 12 months.

9 **Motions affecting Wakefield Camera Club Rules.**

a. **Competition Rules** :- After protracted discussion on the problems of excessive entries, yet the need to allow members to submit their prints to completion, it was agreed unanimously that the proposed competition rules amendment should be implemented. The competition secretary still having the right to amend or alter these as the year progresses. It was also recommended that the committee consider revising the competition schedule in some way to offer more opportunity for print workers to submit work, without making competition entries too large. Possibly by running more print only competitions, but not at the expense of current digital competitions. A proposal from the floor that winning entrants should be asked if they would like a medal (or not) was agreed by a majority vote.

10 **Exhibitions** :- it is our intention to hold a 3 or 4 day exhibition in the Ridings Shopping Centre in July. There is also a chance that we could exhibit in the Chantry for one of the 'Arts Walks', possibly in September.

11 **Syllabus for 2012-13** :- The syllabus for 2012-13 was displayed on the screen and agreed by the membership. A request that more instruction nights should be included in the 2013-14 Syllabus was raised. It was agreed that this should be discussed in committee.

12 **Election of Officers for 2012-13** :- The following members were voted in 'en block':-

<p>President – Steve Wood Vice President – Sally Sallett Treasurer – Trevor Bottomley General Secretary – David Kershaw Syllabus Secretary – David Jones Competition Secretary – Vera Jones Events & Exhibitions Officer - Malcolm Dobson Social/Membership Officer - Bill Mahoney Social/Functions Officers – Brian & Shirley Holding Publicity Officer(s) - Chris New, David Hall Webmaster - David Hall Elected Members - Bob Jones, Lyndsay Halliday, Steve Wright, Steve Slocombe, Yvonne Warriner. YPU Representative(s) – John Bickerdike, David Kershaw, Malcolm Dobson Life Members – John Bickerdike, David Lockton, John Gardner</p>

13 **Any Other Business.**

a. **Wakefield Hospice Calendar** for 2013;- Peter Wells has proposed that Wakefield Camera Club should provide the images for the Wakefield Hospice Calendar, next year. The committee had agreed to this and Peter was currently trying to agree the subject for the calendar with the Hospice organizers.

b. **Meeting Room Heating**;- this issue has been raised on several occasions, but in the present financial climate it was agreed not to request that the heaters be turned on earlier.

c. A vote of thanks was called for and given to **Nick and Debi** for their efforts over the last year. It was hoped that we shall see them able to participate in club events soon.

d. **David Hall** was thanked for the 'outstanding' job he has done in updating the web site.

e. A request for more **one to one instruction** was raised. The issue was discussed at length and it was agreed that we should try and offer advice between 7.00pm and the start of our meetings. Bill Mahoney undertook to try and organize this; both Mike Hart and Les Forester offered to provide the tuition initially.

14 The meeting closed at 9.46pm