

Wakefield Camera Club Annual General Meeting

9th December 2013

- 1 Apologies for absence;- David Jones, Vera Jones, Yvonne Warriner, Ray Parker, Peter Field and Ray Todd.
- 2 Members present;- Alan Smith, Chris New, David Hullock, David Kershaw, David Lockton, Del Delap, Gordon Sawyer, Ian Waddington, John Bickerdike, John Michael Bunn, Lyndsay Halliday, Malcolm Dobson, Matthew Gaughan, Michael Holliday, Mike Hincliffe, Nigel Hazell, Paul Smith, Peter Wells, Phil Gledhill, Rob Smitten, Robert Bilton, Robert Gibson, Roger Frost, Sally Sallett, Sarah Hargeaves, Shereen Allen, Stephen Slocombe, Steve Womack, Steve Wood, Steve Wright, Steven A Wood, Trevor Botttomley, William Mahoney.

Guests Lee Ward, Ross Willson, Mike Hart.

- 3 The Minutes of the February 2013 AGM were taken as read.
- 4 Matters arising from these minutes. There were no matters arising from the minutes.
- 5 Treasurers Report;-
Again as in 2012, it's been an unusual year for the club this last year, mainly due to the club changing the date in the year when subscriptions became due, from after the AGM, which has previously been in February, to the beginning of October. Also, because of this change, the club has brought forward its financial year from the end of December, to the end of September and thus only covers a nine month period.

As always the club has gained and lost members and although membership had increased from 79 at the end of 2012 to 97 showing at the new year end of September, several members have not renewed their subscriptions for this coming year, so current membership remains about the same. Also, again due to the change mentioned above, subscriptions collected and credited on the 2012 balance sheet, included the part year of 2013 for existing members up to the end of September a debit offsets for this. Entrance fees are slightly down on the previous year, but the club held an auction night and which helped.

More has been spent on sundry purchases, mainly trophies/medals, hand-out leaflets and club shirts (the latter being recuperated from members and credited under sundry income). The main items under sundry expenses include the free ProAm prints for members, Awards Presentation gifts, framing on unmounted prints at Bevelos (for A4 competition winners), tickets purchased for the advanced photography course (again, cash received from members attending the course being also credited under sundry income) and the donation made to St Helen's Church on our evening outing there. An amount of cash was stolen on a break-in and this has been stood by the club and is included in Sundry Expenses.

Though the club's overall balance at the end of September 2013 is down, we are still in a

very good financial position and hopefully after all the changes of moving dates around and collection of subscriptions, we will be on a more even keel this time next year.

I would finally like to thank all club members, for their support throughout this last year and especially to all of the committee members for their hard work.

Trevor was given a vote of thanks and the Audited Accounts were accepted as a true record.

One member suggested that the committee should “chase up” members and encourage them to attend meetings.

6 Subscriptions for 2014 to remain the same as 2013.

7 Secretary’s Report:-

My report will always be short, especially as I have to write up the minutes. I hope you have all enjoyed this year and are happy with the way things are done. If not please tell us, it’s your club and all we want is to make it better. The one member of the committee who has no restrictions on his expenditure is our Syllabus secretary, and hopefully he will keep entertaining us with great speakers and an interesting agenda.

We also need to do well in external competitions, as this helps draw in new members, as does the annual exhibition. To achieve that we would like more of you to try your hand at our internal competitions and hopefully win back the initiative from our lady members, who seem to be taking the lion’s share of the prizes at present.

My own major “cock-up” was failing to make it clear when writing up the rule amendments that were agreed in February, that the Maurice Biglin is still an applied Competition. This has now been corrected. I would like to thank those that pointed out the error of my ways (I think).

One thing that distresses me every year is the members who fail to renew their membership. The last time I checked, we have lost 27 members who have not renewed this year. I know that there are many different reasons and I will, as always, write to each one and ask why. But it still troubles me that we are not meeting the needs of everyone who initially joins. Please feel free to tell any members of the committee if something is wrong, or we are not making you sufficiently welcome. We can work effectively without complements, but we do need to be made aware of your complaints.

In the discussion that followed it was agreed that the Secretary should email a copy of the Members Survey to all the members.

8 Presidents Report:-

I’d just like to thank my fellow committee members for all their hard work over the past

year. So, in no particular order;-
DK for keeping us organised & filling in all the boxes.

Bill, now stepping down as Competition Secretary, for setting up the new, and very impressive scoring software, for organising judges who were, on the whole, pretty fair and for making sure prints and PDIs were where they should be.

Chris for getting the new 2014 syllabus and speakers organised.

Malcolm and his team for the splendid job of organising the summer exhibition in the Ridings – which brings in new members.

Trevor for yet again manning the door, signing up new members and keeping track of the money.

Steve Wright for doing an amazing job on the website, which I'm sure you will all agree looks fantastic!

Steve S for being my deputy and organising the survey.

We'd like more of you on the committee, so do consider it. I have the really easy job of just standing here and introducing/announcing things. So thanks to you all.

- 9 Motions affecting Wakefield Camera Club Rules.
Competition Rules, it is proposed that we add; -
"Prints should be accompanied by a small digital image for use by the Competition Secretary in maintaining the Competitions Database."
To all internal print competition rules, with the exception of the Novice A4 Unmounted Print Competitions.

After some discussion it was agreed that we should advise on the image sizes required and that the image could be sent to the competition secretary by email or on disc. So the amended rule will read; -
"Prints should be accompanied by a small digital image for use by the Competition Secretary in maintaining the Competitions Database. The images should be not more than 1024px wide or 768px high, DPI is irrelevant. The images may be given to the Competition Secretary on disc, on a stick or emailed."
- 10 Exhibitions. It was agreed that we should continue to plan for an exhibition in the Ridings each July, as a lead in for to the summer school. Other options were discussed, including the possibility of two exhibitions per year or looking at other venues. The consensus was that the Ridings offered the best foot fall, though the possibility of advertising the event on the big screen in Trinity Walk was raised. No final decisions were made and the options left with the committee.
- 11 Syllabus for 2014; - this was presented by Chris New and agreed by the membership. Chris was given a vote of thanks for his efforts.

- 12 Election of Officers for 2014. The following officers were elected as a block by the membership;-

President	Sally Sallett
Vice President	Steve Womack
Treasurer	Trevor Bottomley
General Secretary	David Kershaw
Syllabus Secretary	Chris New
Competition Secretary	Robert Gibson
Exhibition & Marketing Coordinator	Malcolm Dobson
Webmaster	Steve Wright
YPU Representatives	John Bickerdike
	David Kershaw
	Malcolm Dobson
Elected Members	Steve Slocombe
	Bob Jones
	Steve A Wood
	Peter Wells
	Lindsay Halliday
	John Michael Bunn
Auditor (Non-committee post)	Peter Sallett

All life members are automatically entitled to attend and vote at all committee meetings

- 13 Any Other Business.

a/ Wakefield Camera Club Life Membership Trevor Bottomley

Tonight it is my intention to reduce the clubs income, something no treasurer is ever happy about, but I hope to convince him that this idea has merit. We are often impressed by the ability to produce outstanding images, or the ability to be a great orator and offer recognition to such people in various ways. However these "front of stage" performances inevitably involve "back stage" work by some un-sung hero. We have one such member and tonight I would like to offer him recognition for his work over more than a decade. He quietly gets on with any task we assign to him and seldom complains about his work load.

I could continue, but as I have the task of writing up the minutes of this Annual General Meeting, I will conclude at this point and propose that we make Trevor Bottomley a life member, may I have a seconder?

You will notice Trevor that I waited until you had paid this year's membership fees.

David Kershaw

The motion was approved unanimously.

b/ We had an invitation to jointly sponsor a talk by Peter Paterson at Huddersfield Photo-Imaging Club, on Wednesday 23rd July 2014. The general feeling of the members present was to offer to advertise the event in our clubs newsletter and suggest that any of our members who were interested purchase tickets, but that we should not get involved in organizing an event that may be of benefit to only a few of our membership.

c/ Selection of eleven set subjects for on-line competitions. The following eleven subjects were agreed; - Statues, Toys, Rust, Time, Still life, Rivers, True rainbows, Numbers, Blue, Windows, Lights Night.

d/ The Yorkshire Rosarians asked if we could provide a judge for their annual digital image competition. Sally offered to contact them and act as judge.

e/ The club has bought a copy of Adobe Elements 12. Steve Wright will load this to the clubs laptop using the clubs website email address.

f/ Bill suggested that we consider organizing an Iconography competition (I think he intended a competition based on Images captured on mobile smart phones) open to the public, or to schools. He also suggested that we consider arranging talks and/or print exhibitions in schools.

g/ A member felt that we were missing an opportunity to attract more members by failing to use the full possibilities of Facebook, He felt that we should create an interactive on-line group and invite the public to post images to an on-line Facebook competition, possibly with a prize of a free club membership. He was invited to attend any committee meeting and expand on this idea, though the initial response from the members present tended to be a little negative to the idea.

h/ From the discussion came a request that subjects for discussion at committee meetings be advertised in advance, so that members could attend if the subject interested them. This presents some problems but will be discussed in committee.