

**Brighton and Hove Camera Club
Annual General Meeting
Methodist Hall, Portland Road, Hove
Tuesday 8 May 2012**

President: David Gerrard, **Vice President:** Tony Bowall,
Secretary: Tony Crowther, **Treasurer:** John Francis

Minutes

1 Welcome and Apologies

David Gerrard welcomed the attending members and apologies were noted from John Francis, Fran Arthur, James Arthur, John Luke, André Jolley, Liz Outhwaite, Philip Robinson and Anthony Hunt

2 Minutes of the AGM of 24 May 2011 and Matters Arising

The minutes of the last AGM had been distributed by e-mail. The secretary pointed out the main outcomes of the meeting and suggested there were no outstanding matters requiring attention. Leo Jago proposed the minutes were accepted as a true record of the meeting and this was seconded by Bob Webzell.

3 President's Review (121st Report to Committee)

David Gerrard presented his report ...

“Thank you all for coming along tonight . Another Winter Season has come and gone.

So how best to summarise this season.....?

Well, the Committee met during last summer and decided we wanted to start this season with a bang and hang the expense, which I think we did by having Mark Power as our first speaker. Other great external speakers this season were Guy Edwardes and his fantastic landscapes, Ken Scott's amazing adventure across the Pyrenees, Paul Goldstein's wonderful images from the poles and Africa, and one of the highlights for me – Marc Aspland showing us (in a very modest way) what great skill you need to be a top Sports Photographer. How I wish I could have taken all that kit home!

Rosemary Wilman was almost a novelty by turning up with boxes of prints. This was fairly standard a couple of years ago but is steadily being replaced by digital projection. I remember when I did my A level in photography 12 years ago – our tutor told us to learn more about photography go out and look at as many prints in exhibitions as possible. Not sure that digital projection really replaces that.

We went out on a bit of a limb by asking Kevin Meredith to judge our first Projected Image competition. Kevin definitely had a different slant on what he believed a good image should consist of which made us all sit up.

We also put on show some of our best home grown talent.

Heather Buckley gave Bill the shakes with the quality and innovation of her photography.

Jerry Webb showed us his stunning black & white, wide-angle images.

And Bob Webzell showed us his images that had been accepted into International exhibitions and introduced us to a different route to getting photographic qualifications.

What else happened this season.....?

Jean & Audrey have continued to work hard to keep our Entry Group members motivated, and the numbers have remained high throughout the season.

Paul Stillman (who has become our Workshops Convenor) laid on a tremendous day of Studio workshops in Brighton, learning from some of the issues we had back in October at the Eclectia Gallery.

What was missing this season? Well there was no expedition to foreign parts – so a lot of Europeans breathed a sigh of relief. If someone would like to organise a trip next season then please let me know.

Membership has repeated the trends of last season and before that. No matter what the starting membership numbers are we end up at the end of the season with a hardcore membership of 60-70.

What has been a bit different this year is that even as recently as last week I have had potential new members contact me. They all see our website and make contact via there, so it's a good job those e-mails now come to me. This shows how important the website is.

Our current website was set up by John Hazard who, quietly behind the scenes, continues to maintain it. John is also here every Tuesday to set up the digital projection and quite often ends up helping to set the room up. I suggested at our last Committee meeting that we should make John an honorary member in recognition of all the work he does for the Club. This was unanimously agreed. So thank you John, and although it is not much, it is an indication of how much we appreciate what you do for the Club.

Last year I read out a list of everyone I wanted to thank for their help and support but I'm not going to do it this year. The list is virtually the same and most of them appear on the front cover of our programme, but thank you for making this Club work.

However I do want to mention a few names:-

Rod Orrell has been our Programme Secretary for the past 2 years and is stepping down as from today. Thank you Rod for two exciting Winter Programmes and welcome Jerry Webb who is taking over the role.

Thanks to Anthony Hunt who is also stepping down as from today as Front of House and is

being succeeded by André Jolley.

Thanks to Peter Charnaud who is stepping down from the Competitions Team and is being replaced by Anthony Hunt.

I would also like to thank Liz Outhwaite who has taken up a new kind of role of Front of House "chaser". Liz wanted to do something for the Club even though she couldn't get here every week so by sending out e-mails every week a couple of days before each Tuesday meeting she reminds our small team of helpers of what needs to be done to set this room up.

I would also like to thank that small team who do come and get the room ready every week and help put it all away again – quite often working around people who stand about chatting and not being of much help – and sometimes that includes me! Shame on us all!

As per last year I would like to read out the Club member's successes over the year. Again I apologise if you are not on the list but I can only list what I know.

Most importantly, in June 2011, Bill Wisden received an MBE for "services to Art".

Other achievements by club members are,

London Salon of Photography

Trevor Gellard elected as Member

Southampton 2012

Tony Bowall
Heather Buckley
Trevor Gellard
David Gerrard

RPS International Print Exhibition 2012

Maggi Tillotson

RPS International DPI Exhibition 2012

Bob Webzell

London Salon of Photography 2012

Tony Bowall
David Gerrard
Jean Gerrard
Maggi Tillotson
Bob Webzell

RPS Licentiateship

Derek Boocock
Tony Knight
Liz Outhwaite
John Smith

RPS Associateship

Jean Gerrard
Ray Gray
Neil Harris
Mike Warren

**Surrey Photographic Association
Exhibition 2012**

Tony Bowall
Trevor Gellard (commended)
David Gerrard
Jean Gerrard
Colleen Slater (commended)
Bob Webzell (commended) and Best
Monochrome Print

I do hope I am going to see everyone back next season although, in Brighton, lifestyles change and people move on.

I'm afraid you have got me as President for one more year but please let me know if you have any ideas or concerns about the Club. I will listen.

Thank you."

4 Nominations

The committee sought nominations for one post, one of the three non-specific Committee Officers. This vacancy had arisen following Jerry Webb's stepping down from the position and taking over the Programme Secretary role from Rod Orrell. By the deadline, one nomination had been received.

Nomination for Committee Officer: Claude Lester
Nominated by: Heather Buckley
Seconded by: Wayne Grundy

Claude Lester was elected without opposition or abstention.

5 Confirmation of Officials for 2012/2013

The following were confirmed as Officials of the club for the 2012/2013 session.

President	David Gerrard ARPS
Vice President	Tony Bowall FRPS
Life Vice Presidents	Bill Wisden MBE Hon FRPS Stan Gillam ARPS David Valdes Steve Boyle ARPS
Treasurer	John Francis LRPS
Secretary	Tony Crowther
Committee Member	Colleen Slater ARPS
Committee Member	Claude Lester LRPS
Committee Member	Paul Stillman LRPS
Front of House	André Jolley LRPS Liz Outhwaite LRPS
Distinctions Advisors	Bill Wisden MBE Hon FRPS Trevor Gellard FRPS Tony Bowall FRPS Steve Boyle ARPS
New Members' Group Convenors	Jean Gerrard ARPS Audrey Marshall ARPS
Membership Secretary	Norman Atkinson LRPS
Competitions Convenors	Bill Brandt Ant Hunt LRPS David Wilsdon ARPS
Website	John Hazard Rich Cutler ARPS
Publicity	Tony Crowther Jerry Webb LRPS

Exhibitions Convenor	Chantal Lonsdale Maggi Tillotson ARPS
Winter Programme Convenor	Jerry Webb LRPS
Summer Programme Convenor	Leo Jago
Projection	John Hazard Tony Knight LRPS Nick Eastham ARPS
Workshops Convenor	Paul Stillman LRPS
Archive	Gerry Nevill LRPS

6 Treasurer's Report

John Francis was unable to attend the meeting but did provide, along with the final accounts from 2010/2011 and the interim accounts for 2011/2012, a statement that was read out to the meeting by the Secretary who explained that the AGM was occurring, as usual, before the end of the club's financial year so the current years accounts could only be considered interim and those from the previous year needed to be accepted by the AGM.

The Treasurer's report made the following points regarding the accounts:

1. Paper copies were available to consult.
2. Subscriptions were down reflecting that about 14 fewer people joined the club in 2011/2012 (than in 2010/2011).
3. Rental expenditure was lower in 2011/2012 than in 2010/2011 because of fewer distinctions workshop bookings,
4. Lecturers and assessors costs were higher in 2011/2012 than in 2010/2011 due to some speakers charging higher fees than we have been used to paying – hence the door charges which have helped to keep the overall cost down. There will be three similarly high calibre and therefore high charging speakers next season.
5. Exhibition costs were lower in 2011/2012 than in 2010/2011 as there was less need to purchase items needed to help with the displays.
6. Capital expenditure is shown separately for 2011/2012 and reflects the investment made by the Club in its new display stands, lighting and other equipment needed as a result of our move to this hall. Steve Boyle worked hard to make the light holders that have been added to the stands this year to improve the viewing of prints.
7. In accordance with the Club constitution, the accounts will be audited, after the year end, when they are all complete and Bob Webzell has very kindly agreed to do this again.

The Treasurer suggested we should expect room hire costs to increase next year and other speakers' fees may be higher as well, reflecting the calibre of speaker that our members expect. He reminded the members that we will be making a charge on some evenings to contribute towards the costs of speakers who charge a particularly high fee. The charge will continue at £3 per member per evening, as will the charge for workshops, including distinctions workshops.

However, in spite of potential higher costs, it was reported that the committee had decided to hold the subs for next season at the current rate:

- £47 per member
- £79.50 for a joint membership.

Questions were sought from the members but none were forthcoming.

Acceptance of the accounts was Proposed by Jerry Webb and Seconded by Richard Gamper.

7 Competition Results

Entry Group Print Competitions

1 st (Joint)	John Williams
1 st (Joint)	Chris Wright
2 nd	Sally Wilkinson

A Group Competitions

Speciality Prints

1 st	Colleen Slater
2 nd	Heather Buckley
3 rd	John Francis

Projected Image

1 st	Ant Hunt
2 nd	Rob Mettler
3 rd (Joint)	Heather Buckley
3 rd (Joint)	Jerry Webb

Print Competition

1 st	Bill Wisden
2 nd (Joint)	Heather Buckley
2 nd (Joint)	Trevor Gellard
2 nd (Joint)	David Gerrard
2 nd (Joint)	André Jolley
2 nd (Joint)	Jerry Webb

8 Pairings for “Mystery Portraits”

A draw was made of members putting their names forward for the Summer portrait project. Unfortunately there was an odd number of participants so one of the “pairs” had to be a trio. The following were drawn.

Jean Gerrard	+	Hugh Card	
Penny Bailey	+	David Gerrard	
Jerry Webb	+	Tony Crowther	+ Alex Herbert
Jeremy Brex	+	Rob Mettler	

Maggi Tillotson + Chantal Lonsdale
 Heather Buckley + Grant Finney
 Aileen Beddison + Michelle Spender

9 Treasure Hunt Awards

The Treasure Hunt was based on “Aspects of Brighton” There were 8 groups and 8 “Aspects” of which each group was asked to select 6 for producing photographs.

Group	Members
1 Expectations	Gerry Neville, Sidney Lipman
2 Lonsdale Luvvies	Chantal Lonsdale, Claude Lester, Penny Bailey, Audrey Nelson
3 Bang Bang Club	Juliette Greig, Jerry Webb, Peter Charnaud, Richard Gamper
4 Top Trio	Sue Scaping, Jean Gerrard, David Gerrard
5 Brighton Shiny	Alex Herbert, Jeremy Brex, Heather Buckley
6 The Rich T's	Maggi Tillotson, Wayne Grundy, Rich Cutler
7 Untitled	Rob Mettler, André Jolley, Liz Outhwaite
8 Convenors	David Wilsdon. Colin Miller, Bill Brandt

“Aspect”		Winning Group
1	Day-trippers	5
2	Seagulls	7
3	Volks Railway	6
4	Doughnut	8
5	The Pier	4
6	The Gay Village	3
7	Pavilion	1
8	Shopping in the Laines	2

Picture of the Day voted for at AGM was “Doughnut” by Group 8

10 AOB

Maggi Tillotson advised the meeting that the current show at Cafe Koba was being changed on May 30 and help would be needed to take down the prints and assist the exhibitors for the new show. Maggi said she would e-mail the membership as a reminder.

Bill Wisden asked about progress with the selection of prints to be added to the archive. David Gerrard said he believed Colin Miller and Steve Boyle had this in hand but would contact them to ascertain this was taking place.

Sidney Lipman offered his thanks to all those who assisted in the running of the club.

David Gerrard reminded the members that although there were no formal club meetings until September 18, some members did continue to meet informally on Tuesday evenings at The Hove Place pub in First Avenue, Hove and all were welcome.