

Brighton and Hove Camera Club
Annual General Meeting
Methodist Hall, Portland Road, Hove
Tuesday 7 May 2013

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 Anthony Hunt, Colleen Slater, Jerry Webb, Chantal Lonsdale, Leo Jago, Shahazhan Choudhury, Sidney Lipman and Ellen Miller.

2 Minutes of the AGM of 8 May 2012 and Matters Arising

The minutes of the last AGM had been distributed by e-mail. The President advised that there were no outstanding matters requiring attention. Gerry Neville proposed the minutes were accepted as a true record of the meeting and this was seconded by Bob Webzell.

3 President's Review (122nd Report to Committee)

David Gerrard presented his report ...

This is the 122nd Report to Committee (I'd be interested in reading some of the early reports sometime if they are in the archive), and this is my 3rd and last report to Committee.

I only took the job because everyone else took a step backwards, but I would like to think I have grown into the role and I will certainly miss doing it, although it will be nice to turn up on a Tuesday next season without worrying about whether we have a speaker or if we are going to get the room set up in time.

I'm not saying it was particularly stressful because we have a core of people at the Club who make it all happen each week. It is always dangerous to list names because someone always gets missed off, but in particular I would single out:-
John Hazard and his projection team, Andre Jolley for doing Front of House (who probably curses me for talking him into doing it), John Francis who does a lot of work behind the scenes as Treasurer, Norman Atkinson who travels here from Littlehampton each week and is always here early and who always pitches in to help, Chantal Lonsdale and Maggi Tillotson for putting together our excellent exhibition at the Dome, Jerry Webb for putting together our best ever programme next season - which you don't know about yet (and also just for producing such wonderful photography), Claude Lester who organises all sorts of things for us and Tony Bowall for being Vice President and doing the vote of thanks every Tuesday.

Also the Competitions Team, The Distinctions Team and loads of other people.

Also people like Ron Lord who puts out all the chairs every week and Aileen Beddison who is always helping on the door or doing the teas.

All these people have made my life a bit easier.

In terms of how our Winter Season went this year, I went through the Club Programme and, for me, I think the following are worth highlighting as I particularly enjoyed them:-

Andrew Hasson - so modest about his excellent photography

Will Cheung - still so absolutely enthusiastic about photography

Ann Cook (and her assistant 'Ron') - who should have her own TV series

Our first impromptu Members Showcase – which was a revelation.

Our membership is currently over 160 and our average weekly attendance has remained quite good at around 60. Again this season we have had people join all through the season - even within the last few weeks, and this is due to our on-line presence and the ability of people to contact us and get replies via e-mail through the website. However 90 people have come to the Club this season with a view to joining but half of these, having paid one visit did not join, so I think we need to look at how we can make the first visit to such a large Club a bit less daunting.

On a sad note we lost two long term members of the Club:-

David Valdes and Stan Gillam both of whom were Life Vice Presidents of the Club.

Also Pete Betts, a newer member of the Club, who died in a tragic accident at the start of the year.

Last year I had quite a long list of member's achievements but this year I'm afraid it is looking a bit thin. What I have got is that,

Ron Lord and Alex Trussler got their Licentiatehips (LRPS) in March,

Maggi Tillotson, Jean Gerrard, Colleen Slater and Tony Bowall have had images accepted into this year's London Salon Exhibition. Congratulations in particular to Maggi, who got two images accepted.

Gill Golding was accepted into Goldsmiths College to do an M.A. in Photography and Urban Culture.

The Club has had two great exhibitions,

Our recent exhibition in the Friends Meeting House under the auspices of Brighton & Hove Arts Council where Claude Lester, Chantal Lonsdale, Peter Elvidge, Tony Bowall and Ben Mifflin all sold prints and our "Performance" exhibition at the Brighton Dome last Christmas.

We will be back at the Dome this coming October.

That's about all I'm going to say tonight as I thought I would keep it brief. All though the new Committee structure hasn't yet been confirmed I would like to wish Peter Charnaud all the very best as he takes over the role as President as from now, and I hope you will all be back here on 17 September for an absolutely cracking season.

Thank you.

4 Treasurer's Report

John Francis presented the club accounts and made the following comments,

The Interim Accounts are on the screen and I have a few paper copies here for you to look at, if you want to.

Subscriptions were up reflecting that more people joined the club during the year – amazingly, some people seem to pay their subscription and then never turn up again!

Rental expenditure was a little higher than last year; there were two fewer main club meetings because of the way the calendar fell this season, but we scheduled more workshops and, of course, the rents went up. However, as has already been mentioned during Club meetings, the attendance at Distinctions Workshops has been disappointingly low and we will therefore be arranging fewer next year, unless there is a surge of confirmed interest.

Lecturers and competition judge costs were higher this year than last due to the calibre of speakers that we booked. Due to the weather, we only had one charged evening this year, but we will be continuing to charge on the door for particularly worthwhile (and therefore slightly more expensive) speakers next season.

Exhibition costs and expenses almost balanced out this year.

There was no significant capital expenditure during the year as we didn't move premises!

We do have a respectable balance on our bank account but this is only sensible as the life of our equipment is obviously unpredictable and it will need replacing at some point in the future.

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.

As far as next season in concerned we are expecting room hire costs to increase and other speakers' costs may be higher as well, reflecting the calibre of speaker that our members expect. We will therefore be making a charge on some evenings, which will be indicated in the programme, to contribute towards these costs. The charge of £3 per member, per evening, will continue for workshops, including distinctions workshops.

However, in spite of potential higher costs, the committee has decided to hold the subscriptions 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 Colin Miller and Seconded by Bill Brandt.

5 Nominations

The committee sought nominations for three posts, those of President and Vice-President and one of the three non-specific Committee Members. These vacancies had arisen following the stepping down of David Gerrard, Tony Bowall and Claude Lester from their committee positions. By the deadline, one nomination had been received for each position. These were,

Post: **President**
Nominee: Peter Charnaud ARPS
Nominator: John Hazard
Seconders: Jerry Webb LRPS

Post: **Vice-President**
Nominee: Jerry Webb LRPS
Nominator: Nigel Rose
Seconders: Damon Hart

Post: **Committee Member**
Nominee: David Gerrard ARPS
Nominator: John Francis LRPS
Seconders: Tony Bowall FRPS

As these posts were all unopposed and after ensuring there were no objections or abstentions the meeting confirmed the nominated members as the post holders for a period of not less than two years from this meeting.

6 Confirmation of Committee for 2013/2014

The secretary confirmed the members of the Committee of the club for the 2013/2014 season would be,

President	Peter Charnaud ARPS
Vice President	Jerry Webb LRPS
Life Vice Presidents	Bill Wisden MBE Hon FRPS Steve Boyle ARPS
Treasurer	John Francis LRPS
Secretary	Tony Crowther
Committee Member	Colleen Slater ARPS
Committee Member	David Gerrard ARPS
Committee Member	Paul Stillman LRPS

The secretary advised the meeting that the committee would be co-opting three further members to join it at their next meeting on June 27.

Peter Charnaud was invited to introduce himself to the members and to make a presentation to the out-going President, David Gerrard, in recognition of the work he had done for the club during his time in office.

7 Confirmation of Officials for 2013/2014

The secretary confirmed the full list of all the Officials of the club was,

President	Peter Charnaud ARPS
Vice President	Jerry Webb LRPS

Life Vice Presidents	Bill Wisden MBE Hon. FRPS Steve Boyle ARPS
Treasurer	John Francis LRPS
Secretary	Tony Crowther
Committee Members	David Gerrard ARPS Colleen Slater ARPS Paul Stillman LRPS
Front of House	tbc
Distinctions Advisers	Bill Wisden MBE Hon. FRPS Trevor Gellard FRPS Tony Bowall FRPS Steve Boyle ARPS
Entry Group Conveners	Jean Gerrard ARPS Audrey Marshall ARPS
Membership Secretary	Norman Atkinson LRPS
Competitions Team	Bill Brandt David Wilsdon ARPS
Website Team	John Hazard Sally Wilkinson
Publicity Team	Tony Crowther Jerry Webb LRPS
Exhibitions Team	Chantal Lonsdale Maggi Tillotson ARPS
Programme Secretary	Jerry Webb LRPS
Summer Programme Secretary	Leo Jago
Projection Team	James George Tony Knight LRPS Nick Eastham ARPS
Workshops Convener	Paul Stillman LRPS
Archivist	Gerry Nevill LRPS

8 Competition Results

Entry Group Print Competitions

1 st	Vita Wiehl
2 nd	Jerry Saville
3 rd (Joint)	Julia Baverstock Richard Burniston

Christine Grace

A Group Competitions

Projected Image

1 st	Jerry Webb
2 nd	Jeremy Brex
3 rd	Vicky Lamburn

Print Competition

1 st (Joint)	David Gerrard
	Colin Miller
3 rd	Jerry Webb

8 Summer Programme Events

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.

Christine Grace	+	Chris Wright	
Penny Bailey	+	John Atkinson	
Jerry Webb	+	Ian Knott	
Aileen Beddison	+	Rob Mettler	
Maggi Tillotson	+	Colleen Slater	
Heather Buckley	+	Norman Atkinson	+ Chantal Lonsdale

Album Covers

Original album covers were selected by a draw for the teams taking part in the competition. These were,

	Team		Artist	Album Title
1	Bohemian Snapsody	-	Kate Bush	The Sensual World
2	Talking Heads	-	The Clash	London Calling
3	Great Uncertainty	-	Madness	One Step Beyond
4	Norman's	-	Joni Mitchell	Hejira
5	Un-named	-	Adam and The Ants	Antics in the Forbidden Zone

9 Treasure Hunt Awards

The Treasure Hunt was organised this year by Audrey Nelson, Penny Bailey and Claude Lester. Penny and Claude introduced the competition and presented prizes. Unlike previous years there was no single theme but a series of photographic challenges based on visualising nine separate concepts which were found by answering a set of questions. The photographs were to be taken in or around Brighton Marina. The concepts were

Reflection, Texture, Pattern, Portrait of a Stranger, Metropolis, Chiaroscuro, Maritime, Weather and Feathers, Fur and Fluff. There were 9 teams.

The pictures produced by the teams were shown to the meeting and a vote taken on the best single image. This came from the Blue Steel team.

Steve Boyle had offered to make a more careful judgement of the whole competition and, for each concept, selected identify the team that had handled it most convincingly. Steve's results were,

Concept		Team
Reflection	-	The Jamm
Texture	-	2 Old Farts and 2 Newbies
Pattern	-	Black Knights
The Stranger	-	F'ing Stops
Metropolis	-	The Jamm
Feathers, Fur and Fluff	-	Red Snappers
Maritime	-	Latecomers
Weather	-	Blue Steel
Chiaroscuro	-	Latecomers

In addition to the above, the teams were asked to consider the colour of the images they produced with the intention each could display a rainbow range of colours within the set they finally presented. Prizes were to be given for the best range of colour and individually for the best image in each of the seven rainbow colours.

The best rainbow panel went to the Mermaids and Mariners team.

Finally, an overall team prize was awarded to The Jamm team.

10 The Paris Trip

During the year a group of members had travelled to Paris for a photographic weekend. Jerry Webb had selected a range of the images taken and put them to an authentic French musical soundtrack for the entertainment and amusement of the meeting.

He and the other photographers were thanked and congratulated.

11 AOB

Bill Wisden expressed his concern at the apparent fall in standards of hospitality at the club following a recent meeting when the visiting speaker was not offered a drink during the mid-evening break, causing Bill to step in and arrange it. Bill proposed that someone should be made responsible for ensuring outside speakers and judges were offered refreshments in the interval. David Gerrard assured Bill this was a rare aberration and must not occur again. He stated the matter would be on the agenda at the next committee meeting.

Peter Charnaud reported that the club had committed itself to having a stand at the

Brighton & Hove People's Day on June 15. He asked if anyone would be able to help man the table for the day.

Colin Miller said he would like any available members to support him and Jerry Webb who were involved in a "Speakers' Corner" event at Brighton Dome on June 11.

Claude Lester reminded members who had not collected exhibition prints that the storage conditions in the Methodist Hall were not good and that prints should be taken that evening.

David Gerrard reminded members that although the main season was now over there was an informal meeting at The Palmeira public house on Cromwell Road every Tuesday evening from about 8.30 pm. David agreed to send an e-mail to all members advising of this and to ensure it was also put on the club's website.