

Melbourn and District Photographic Club
A.G.M. 2nd April 2013

1 Attendance

David Gray (Chair), Keith Truman (Vice Chair), Steve Stanton (Treasurer), Bruce Huett (Secretary), Joe Cox, Bob Dennis, Nick and Helen Holway, Peter North, Pat Rowley, Anne Truman, Monica Gray, Mo Hunt, Eve Maythorne, Peter and Rosemary Burt, Gerald Cranwell, Paul Lidbetter, Valerie Moules, Malcolm Taylor, Jenny Collier, David Stocks, Vernon Gamon, , David Reynolds, Nigel Swain, Paul Ravenscroft, Jo Norcross, Sam Buchanan

Guest: David Clifford

2 Apologies for absence.

Colin Fielder, Pam and Ian Aynsley, Rod Bufton

3 Welcome

David warmly welcomed all members and especially David Clifford, son of long standing member Ken Clifford, who had come to present a trophy in memory of his father.

4 Minutes of last AGM on 3rd April 2012

Copies were available at the meeting and attendees were given the opportunity to read them. The minutes were adopted: Proposer: Keith Truman; Seconder: Peter Burt, carried unanimously.

There were no matters arising.

5 Chairman's report

David Gray thanked all members for a successful year with good attendance and membership. Membership had increased with attendances at an average of 26 per night (23 for 2012). It had been exhilarating, but exhausting ! He thought that the comment of a visiting judge, Barry Hatton, that we were "a happy and friendly club" encapsulated what the club should be about.

All of the lectures and judges had been good and he thanked Nick and Helen for organising this part of the programme.

He thanked all the committee for their involvement in the successful activities of the club and especially Bob Dennis for preparing the miniature prints for the winners of the trophies and Keith Truman for his arrangement of club evenings and circulation of advice notes.

He thanked everyone involved in helping arrange the very successful Melbourn Trophy evening, particularly the cake suppliers, tea servers, people who provided prizes for the raffle and those who sold tickets on the night.

6 Vice Chairman's report

Keith Truman thanked all members for their contributions to competitions, even if some projected images arrived just on the dead line! There had been a good submission of projected images, but less support for prints and panel prints and participation at Points of View. The reasons for this, and support that the club could give to increased participation, needed discussion.

7 Treasurer's Report

The balance at the end of the year was £1,933.63, an increase of £98.51. This was largely due increased membership and attendance fees and less expenditure as less equipment had been bought. The Melbourn Trophy had made a healthy net profit of £ 179.30. Lecturers and judges fees were down slightly as two judges had not charged a fee. A record was now being kept of rates and mileage charged for future estimates.

It was recommended that fees stay at the same level for 2013/2014.

Steve Stanton was thanked for taking over this role and Anne Truman for covering when he was not able to be present.

Malcolm Taylor asked what the membership numbers represented. It was explained that this was the total at the end of the year. However some members (especially the students) had not attended in the later part of the year and several had joined late in the year so average participating members was a bit lower. This was reflected in the average meeting attendance of 26.

Adoption of the accounts was proposed by Keith Truman, seconded by Rosemary Burt and carried unanimously.

8 Programme and Competition Secretary's Report

Nick reported that there had been a varied programme with a variety of subjects and a mixture of male and female lecturers and judges, with two husband and wife teams:

- Close up
- Wild life
- Landscapes
- Urban
- Travel

Two bookings had already been made for next year.

On the competition front the new print stands, made by Bob Dennis, had proved very successful. The self judged competition at the beginning of the year was enjoyed by members.

There had been a new battle with Royston, which will continue. Most of the battles this year will be at Foxton, including one with Bottisham – just prints (this has been missed for the last couple of years).

Nigel Swain will be assisting Nick and Helen in preparing the programme for 2013/2014.

A vote of thanks was given to Nick and Helen Holway for an entertaining and enjoyable season.

9 Presentations

David Clifford made the annual award presentations:

Points of View

Nigel Swain

Panel Print	Katrina Richards
Rookie of the Year	Peter North
Print of the Year	Colin Fielder
Projected Image of the Year	Katrina Richards
Chairman's Trophy	Keith Truman

A new trophy; the Joe and Jack Cox trophy for the most points in the year for prints, was presented by Joe, Cox to celebrate their service to the club for over 40 years, to Anne Truman. Joe gave a brief description of the start of the club in Melbourn.

Another new trophy, the Ken Clifford Memorial trophy, for the most points during the year for projected images was presented by David Clifford to Keith Truman.

David Clifford told the members that Ken had loved photography all his life and after his wife had died it was what kept him going. He had loved the club meetings and the friends that he had made there. He would have been overwhelmed that a trophy had been provided in his honour and David thanked the club for this memorial to his father..

10 Officers for 2013 – 2014

Bruce Huett took the Chair

The following were proposed for election to the committee:

David Gray	Chairman
Keith Truman	Vice-Chairman
Bruce Huett	Secretary
Steve Stanton	Treasurer
Nick Holway	Programme
Helen Holway	Programme
Nigel Swain	Programme
Clive Porter (in his absence)	
Bob Dennis	
Peter North	Web Master

Election of the committee was carried unanimously.

The meeting was reminded that Joe was an honorary president (and member) and Joe Cox and honorary member.

David Gray resumed as Chair.

At the end of the meeting Pat Rowley thanked the committee for their hard work during the year.

11 Melbourn Trophy

This had now been running very successfully for 40 years involving up to 16 clubs. However some clubs were finding scheduling difficult for the later rounds and David Gray therefore suggested that the final round should be the semi finalists (i.e. four clubs rather than the current two). This would be held as usual at Foxton in late March. He considered that this would potentially increase takings as more people would be likely to attend.

This would require less images per club and person.

It was agreed that the committee should consider the issue, prepare some new rules and consult with the other clubs for implementation probably for 2014/2015.

New rules will be written for the Print competition.

12 Visitor Fees

It was agreed that visitors should be charged £3 for attendance at meetings, particularly lectures. Raffles and better advertising should be considered

13 Summer Programme

Steve Stanton proposed a summer programme once a month, the first meeting to be in Melbourn on Tuesday 14th May, meeting at 7.30pm at the Dolphin Pub on the High Street. Those interested can take pictures as part of the Melbourn Photographic Record Project. This is an initiative to provide a 2013 record of the village, if possible taking pictures from similar angles to those in the book: Pictorial Melbourn (possibly partially compiled with help of a club founder). Bruce Huett will e mail further details.

Future meetings to be agreed, but possibly first Tuesday of the Month.

It was suggested the committee consider a day "coach" trip.

14 Rules

Members were reminded of the following rules:

- Prints/projected images should not be over two years old;
- Not same (or very similar) in print and projected image;
- Prints not less than 9 inches on the longest side (apart from this size and shape is at the discretion of the photographer);

Maximum Print Mount 400 x 500mm (EAF) or 20 x 16 inches

New rules will be written

15 Website

There is now a need to replace the website that Ken Clifford maintained effectively for many years.

Peter North has taken on this task and has been working with Peter Simmonett from Melbourn Village website. A unique URL www.melbourn-photographic-club.co.uk has been allocated and Peter has worked on the template provided by Peter Simmonett. He will explore changing the template.

The advantages will be:

- Melbourn Trophy material readily available to participating clubs;
- Club e mail address for enquiries;
- 'News' section could replace e mail circulations;
- One stop shop for programme, technical guides and all material related to club activities;
- Show case club competition high scorers;
- Personal galleries available for club members;
- Publicity for club and attraction of new members;
- archive

Peter North will send out an e mail describing how to access the new website and the format required for submitting pictures for your personal gallery (5-10).

There is no website size limit; launching the site was slow at first but has improved.

Security will be considered. There will be a password controlled members area e.g. for access to guides. There is a standard copyright statement on the site. Permission should be obtained before downloading members' material from the site. Although it is not possible to prevent visitors to the site copying content, all member's images will be reduced in quality by as much as 80% so that they display well on the site but are of too low quality to be meaningfully exploited commercially. In this respect the site will be much better protected than many other club sites or photo sharing sites

Member's images will only be put up on the site if they are comfortable with this, and permission will be sought before this is done.

A forum was suggested.

The members expressed their thanks to Peter North and Peter Simmonett for this initiative.

16 **Suggestions for 2013/2014**

There was a discussion on the lower entry numbers for the print and panel competitions and Points of View.

Time and expertise in mounting seemed to be the limiting factor for most present,.

On mounting; as well as the possibility of a club evening session Keith Truman offered to provide some personal help to new members

It was suggested that panel design needed to be considered by members during the summer so appropriate pictures could be taken. A "creative" session was suggested.

A number of suggestions were made regarding the Points of View which Nigel Swain (next year's organizer) will consider.

Vernon Gamon suggested that more information should be given on how a photograph was taken. It was suggested that this could be put on the back for prints. It would entail too much work for projected images. However if people could bring along their meta data to the meetings then some time could be left after the judging to discuss the winning photographs. It was also suggested that a club night could focus on people talking about how they had approached creating their best photographs.

17 **Tea Rota**

This appears to have worked well. It was suggested that the rota for the next year should be available at the AGM next year.

18 **Music Group**

Problems had arisen with the load music from the music group practicing in the neighbouring hall. This had happened previously. It was suggested that:

- lecturers and judges use the PA system;
- the group be approached to keep the volume down;
- hold the meeting in the part of the room near the hatch and close the shutters

19 **Publicity**

Material was now placed in the Foxton village magazine, the listing, Meldreth village magazine as well as Melbourn magazine. This seemed to have contributed to increased interest in the club.

The club had manned a stall (free) at the Melbourn fete which had generated a lot of interest.

Bruce Huett requested assistance for additional tasks such as posting notices of our speaker meetings on the EAF circulation and contacting other clubs.

20 **Fowlmere prints**

Pat Rowley thanked members who had donated prints to his fund raising project for the Fowlmere village Hall and asked that they could continue these donations.

21 **2013/2014**

The club will start back on Tuesday 17th September 2013