



TONBRIDGE CAMERA CLUB

REPORTS FOR THE 52nd ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 10th May 2018



Compiled and edited by Philip Smithies

01 Chairman's Report – Alan Cork

I do hope that you have enjoyed this season's calendar of events. While we strive to put together a programme that provides a balance between pure entertainment and more educational speakers, this season does seem to me at least to have been one where we really questioned what constitutes a good judge. Perhaps this was most evident in the evening we spent in the company of Paul Dunmall with 'A Judge's Eye View' culminating with Liz and Roger Scott's talk entitled 'Escaping the Straightjacket'. Perhaps we have laboured the point too much but as we progress as photographers it is important to recognise that not everyone shares our delight in our latest work and that we should not stop work and down tools simply because one judge did not 'get' our photograph. The AGM will soon be upon us and that is your chance to have your say on where the club is going and what better time than as we usher in a new Chairman.

MEMBERSHIP AND ATTENDANCE

Our membership has been quite buoyant this season currently totalling 87 which suggests either we are getting better at promoting ourselves or at the very least that our offering appeals to photographers. Certainly, at this season's Exhibition I spoke to several members of other clubs who expressed surprise at the high level of support we provided at our Tuesday Evening Groups in addition to the main club evenings. Attendance too has held up well with Open Competitions doing well but trumped this season by interest in In-House presentations. There was a slight revival in attendance at the Record competition but I believe this somewhat misunderstood event will gain new entrants as newer members begin to appreciate the skill needed to produce a good Record image. I just hope that while we continue to attract a good number of members attending open print competitions as this will ultimately translate into a higher number of members producing prints.

TABLE 1 ATTENDANCE AT CLUB EVENINGS 2012-18

Competition \ Season	2017-18	2016-17	2015-16	2014-15	2013-14	2012-13
Talks (Average)	39.0	44.3	42.6	49.4	56.8	53.5
In-house (Average)	49.0	42.0	43.3	49.3	51.7	40.5
PDI Open Competitions (Average)	45.5	46.8	48	51.8	59.8	60.0
Print Open Competitions (Average)	43.5	48.6	41.8	52.2	53.8	58.4
Record Competition	27	22	43	50	50	43
Portrait Competition	39	35	44	43	44	49
Natural History Competition	36	n/a	36	49	47	52
Average	41.5	43.6	44.0	49.9	52.0	53.1

MEMBERSHIP ENGAGEMENT - ENTRIES IN OPEN COMPETITIONS AND SUB-GROUPS

I understand why newer members may feel reticent to enter images into competition, and perhaps our de facto single class system does not help in that regard. Is there a case for re-introducing the two Group system in which newer members can test the water in Group B? To be viable however we would need to have a minimum number of members regularly entering images! If this appeals to you please discuss with others and let us know your views at the AGM.

Nevertheless, there is nothing like the value of having an image critiqued by a competent judge to motivate you into finding ways to develop your skills at the taking stage but also through post-processing. For me, the number of members entering competitions is a good measure of engagement with club activities and while there is essentially no change from last season [Table 2], from what I have seen at the Image Discussion Group for example, we are poised to see several newer members gaining the confidence to take the plunge next season!

TABLE 2 OPEN COMPETITION ENTRY NUMBERS 2011-18

Members \ Season	2017-18	2016-17	2015-16	2014-15	2013-14	2012-13	2011-12
Print	29	28	36	33	42	52	49
PDI	41	42	42	42	44	50	42

I mentioned the sub-groups earlier and while we all recognise their importance for developing our skills as photographers, it is important to remember that we are only able to offer these venues through the good services of volunteers who give their

time to provide an offering that is interesting and relevant to members' needs. As you will know, John and Carole Lewis have decided to step down from leading TONDIG. This sub-Group was originally created to help members embrace digital photography but has now successfully morphed into a sub-Group that has considered a wide range of topical issues such as studio lighting, application of textures in post-production, printing and mounting. Carole and John have done a brilliant job of re-engaging with our membership and while I am very sad that they are stepping down, my question to you is: where next? Does the fourth Tuesday of the month become an evening off or will someone else step forward to lead and further develop the sub-Group? Are there things you want to learn – then, if so, why not lead the sub-Group and ask other members or external experts with those skills to make presentations on those topics? Should TONDIG be replaced by a camera users' Group in which workshops are held to develop practical skills and perhaps look at the products of mini-outings to get the most from our work, for example?

Funding for the sub-groups is primarily raised through attendance fees but because of the importance the Committee attaches to them, they are effectively underwritten by Club funds. While the other sub-groups run by Ann Paine, Paul Penrith and Philip Smithies are well established, any new initiative to replace TONDIG would need to be clearly thought through and ideally have a popular mandate from within the current sub-Group membership.

EXTERNAL COMPETITIONS

We are considered to be a big club in the Kent County Photographic Association (KCPA) and have always participated in competitions and battles with other clubs in the region and beyond. This is an important activity for members because we need to have some feeling for how our photography compares with that of other clubs in the region and beyond.

All KCPA Events are organised by Committee Members with the exception of the KCPA AV Competition. This season saw Tonbridge CC hosting the event. The success of this event lay heavily on the organisational skills of one person: Philip Smithies. His attention to detail and enthusiasm for the topic ensured that the event ran smoothly and was enjoyed by all. From the warm welcome provided by Cathie Agates and Muffi Forbes at the entrance, Colin Burgess and Ray Crowle raised spirits with the promise of prizes in exchange for a modest investment. Colin Smith, Cathie Agates, Joan Gow and Annik Pauwels kept everyone fed and watered throughout the day with copious quantities of tea and coffee – not to mention Annik's amazing cakes! Nick Ryan had brought together a wonderful collection of members' prints to entertain our visitors which Dave Brooker helped to assemble, having already produced a stunning Programme. Great to see Chris Rigby helping out and Liz Turton, assisted by Helen Mossman, who organised the trophies and awards for our judges Dave Wilcox DPAGB(AV) and Dick Williams ARPS DPAGB(AV), to hand out. With 50 entries from 31 photographers, Don Foster did well to project the AVs in a timely manner and was duly rewarded for his efforts by obtaining a 'Best Photography Award' for his AV 'Alone'. Don also received a Merit Award for 'Alone' at the prestigious East Anglian AV Competition.

(Note from Philip Smithies: Alan modestly neglects to mention that he received a "Highly Commended" for "The Story of Tea" and "Best Sound" for "The Farne Islands".)

The KCPA Ross Cup was again held at Ditton Community Centre and with 33 clubs entering, numbers were slightly down on last year. Nevertheless, the judge Chris Palmer FRPS EFIAP DPAGB APAGB was presented with a difficult challenge in deciding awards. Tonbridge CC came a very reputable joint 3rd with 135 marks while Beckenham PS won the event with 141 marks and Canterbury PS came runners up with 138 marks, just 3 marks more than Tonbridge CC. Both represented the KCPA at the PAGB Inter-Club Competition in October 2017.

Some 264 PDIs were entered into the KCPA Diamond Jubilee by 33 clubs and the competition won by Ashford CC with 152 marks after judging by Jay Charnock FRPS. Maidstone CC came second with 151 marks and they will represent the KCPA at the PAGB Inter-Club PDI Championship in Warwick on Saturday 14 July. Tonbridge CC came a very creditable 6th with 147 marks.

This season saw a very closely fought MIPS Trophy Competition [Mersea Island PS] with Tonbridge CC winning the first leg of the competition only to come 5th in the second leg. The formula of the competition is such that provided you are in the top half of your Group in the first stage you automatically go into the play off and while the first leg sees images judged by 6 judges the second leg is a sudden death competition with a single judge making the final decision. No doubt our PDI Secretary, Ann Paine, will fill you in on the details of our results [Report No. 5]. It is worth mentioning that the selection for such external events is based on images getting 19 or 20 in an internal competition and trying to put together a final selection which is composed of a mix of images that best reflect what selectors think will appeal to judges based on their experience.

In the PAGB GB Cup we competed against 88 clubs nationwide and came joint 47th in the Nature category. There were 76 clubs in the open Category and we came 64th. As we had realistically no chance of winning either competition, the opportunity was taken to present images from a wide range of members to make our entry more inclusive but also to test the water for future competitions! Individual results are given below (all out of 15).

TABLE 4. PAGB GB CUP 2018 NATURE

1	Great Crested Grebe With Catch	John Butler	12
2	Baby Cuckoo With Dragonfly On Reed Warbler	Glenn Welch	12
3	Blue Tailed Damselflies Mating	Alan Cork	12
4	Short Eared Owl Hunting	John Hunt	12
5	Osprey Losing Its Catch	John Hunt	12
6	Volucella Zonaria Feeding	Alan Cork	11
7	Puffin With Fish	Glenn Welch	11
8	Forget Me Not	Roger Wates	11
9	Wolf Feeding In Blizzard	Carole Lewis	10
10	Formation Flying	John Butler	10
		TOTAL	113

TABLE 5. PAGB GB CUP 2018 OPEN

1	3D Gallery	Pam Sherren	11
2	Japanese Acer	Michael Dudley	11
3	F16 On Take Off	David Peek	11
4	Caught In The Snow	Roger Wates	11
5	Zorro	Tony Hill	11
6	Thoughts Of Long Ago	Tony Hill	10
7	Playing In The Grass	John Lewis	10
8	On The Ball	Gordon Quinnell	10
9	Misty Highland Scene	Carole Lewis	10
10	Dancing In The Landscape	Ann Paine	10
11	Lady In Lavender	Pam Sherren	9
12	Beauty In The Garden	Ann Paine	9
13	Flamingo Encounter	Pam Sherren	9
14	Snow In Paris	Pam Sherren	9
15	Breitling Walkers	Terry Day	9
		TOTAL	150

The cost of entry in these competitions is small but the value to us as a club is considerable providing a window on current trends in photography and a feel for our place in the world of Photography. It is particularly valuable for those thinking of apply for distinctions either through the salon or RPS/PAGB systems.

WORKSHOPS, MINI-OUTINGS AND NEWCOMERS' DAY

There has only been one mini-outing this season and that was so successfully organised and led by David Godfrey to visit the Hawk Conservancy in Andover. Poor weather caused the event to be cancelled before Christmas but hardy souls managed to get through driving snow in March to finally see and photograph their stunning raptors in flight. Apart from providing a great opportunity to capture some memorable photographs, it proved a great day for members to enjoy each other's company in the manner of a mini-outing! I just hope that others will take David's lead and develop this type of extra-curricular activity.



(David Godfrey)



(Maureen Heywood)



(Glenn Welch)

David is putting ideas together for another mini-outing to Rye Harbour Nature reserve on Wednesday 6th June. I am sure you will appreciate that this all takes a lot of time and effort and in part for that reason we are considering making a nominal charge for attendance. Would you like to see more mini-outing or workshops perhaps linked to TONDIG? Let the committee know your views at the AGM and perhaps consider leading one yourself.

We are in the early stages of planning a Newcomers' Day event next season. These popular events are a great way to get to know more about your cameras and how to use them. They are also a great way to encourage new membership. If you have any ideas for any new activities please let a committee member know so that they can pass on the information to the organisers (tba) for consideration.

GRAIN: A RECORD OF THE CLUB'S PAST AND WINDOW INTO THE FUTURE

As you know, Carole Lewis is stepping down from editing our club magazine Grain after ten years at the helm. Carole has set a very high benchmark by producing a quality product which is the envy of many other clubs. For longstanding members, it is the go-to place to remind ourselves of past achievements, recall club events and with in-depth articles on current topics has provided insight into newer approaches in photography and how to improve our work. Grain provides us with a permanent record of these events and brings members' work to life, something that a single viewing in a print competition, for example, cannot achieve.

Sadly, Walter Coultrup and Ron Boud passed away this season. There were some wonderful tributes and images reported in Grain Issue 122. I was struck by the creativity in the images Walter and Ron produced – something we rarely see in club these days, members more often preferring to enter 'safer' images in Open Competition.

Without an Editor to bring discipline to the process, the magazine, whether digital or in the current hard copy form, will be lost. What in the world will we do without our Club Magazine so expertly edited by Carole Lewis over these pasts 10 years I wonder! Perhaps it is time for you to put your organisational skills to good use and consider editing Grain from next season.

WHAT NEXT

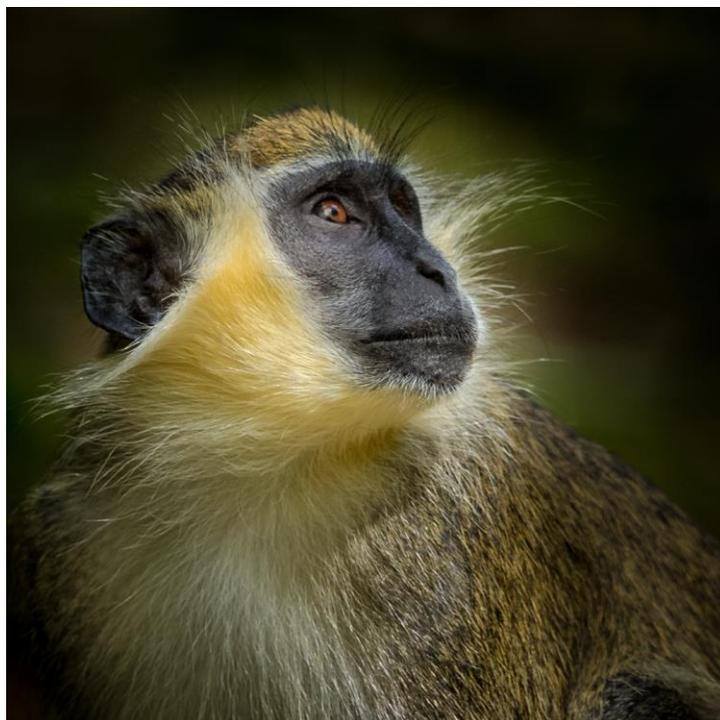
I encourage you to read through the other reports prepared by Officers of the Club. It is important that you are all well apprised about how we, as a Committee, have used your funds to manage and develop the Club this season. Financial stability is important to our long-term sustainability, but for me, it is equally important that we deliver a Programme that reflects your interests and inspires you to produce your best work. After all, our club is defined by the photography our members produce and the enjoyment we feel while participating in this our chosen art form.

MY IMAGE OF THE YEAR

In keeping with the tradition started by Philip Smithies, my personal favourite image of the season has to be David Godfrey's 'Portrait of a Wild Green Monkey' and it is all about the lighting. I must admit the monkey does not look wild to me, but somewhat contemplative! Still, wild can mean different things to different people!

Alan Cork LRPS CPAGB

13 April 2018



02 Secretary's Report – Marilynne Hill

We started the year with four officers:

Chairman	Alan Cork
Vice Chairman	Colin Burgess
Treasurer	Muffi Forbes
Secretary	Marilynne Hill

and 5 other Committee members (Malcolm Hedges, Ann Paine, Annik Pauwels, Colin Smith and Philip Smithies) which on the face of it was not a bad position to be in. However what that position did not show is that there were unfilled Committee positions, namely Social Secretary and External Print Competitions Secretary, and other non-Committee roles such as Stewarding Co-ordinator and Annual Exhibition Co-ordinator. We were also aware that Malcolm Hedges would be standing down as Programme Secretary at the end of the 2017 – 2018 season and we are very grateful to Mick Dudley for taking on this crucial role next season. During the season, Muffi Forbes informed us that she would be standing down as Treasurer at the end of the season for health reasons and we are indebted to Kevin Yates who has agreed to take on this vital role. If he hadn't, it is unlikely that we would be sitting here and be in a position to carry on for another year.

If anything has characterised this season it has been the lack of people willing to come forward and fill roles. With Colin Burgess taking over as Chairman we have a vacancy for Vice Chairman and if no-one comes forward to take on this role then in 2 years' time, when Colin has completed his stint as Chairman, Tonbridge Camera Club will cease to exist. The role of Social Secretary has been vacant for the entire season and this year no one arranged our annual dinner. While we are extremely grateful to Joan Gow for organising the annual outing and to Muffi Forbes who made sure that we still had a tea break throughout this season by ensuring supplies were available, these things will not happen next season unless someone comes forward to take over these tasks. Carole and John Lewis are standing down as organisers of TONDIG and once again unless someone comes forward to run it, this longstanding and popular sub-group will cease to exist. In addition, Carole Lewis is standing down as Editor for Grain so if members want the magazine to continue someone needs to come forward very soon to fill this role.

This season we lost 2 long-standing former members of the Club, Walter Coulthrop and Ron Boud and, although he wasn't former member, I am sure everyone was also saddened to hear of the death of Richard Walton, a well-liked and respected judge and entertaining speaker.

At the end of last season our membership stood at 93. 18 members failed to renew their membership and throughout the season we gained 12 new members so our current membership stands at 87, a decrease of 5. A declining membership is not something we want to see so every effort will be made to address this issue by the new Committee and members can play their part too in attracting new members by promoting the club as much as possible. The Committee would also welcome suggestions from members on how to attract new members and retain existing ones.

I normally comment on just one of the highlights of the season but this year I think I must mention two. The first was in October when Tonbridge hosted the KCPA AV competition. This was a huge undertaking for the club and Philip Smithies, Don Foster and all of the willing helpers that they recruited should be justifiably proud of themselves. It succeeded and sometimes exceeded expectations in all areas and everyone who attended had a thoroughly enjoyable day. Not only that but Tonbridge members did very well in the competition too. The second was the visit to the Hawk Conservancy in Andover that eventually took place in March. David Godfrey organised this superbly not just on the day but also in advance by issuing photography tips and guidance and running a workshop session for new members with little experience of this type of photography. You will have seen from members' comments in the article in Grain how much everyone enjoyed this outing in spite of the inclement weather and how much they are looking forward to another visit, hopefully with better weather conditions. David is thinking of organising an outing to Rye Nature Reserve in the summer.

Finally no Club can function well without a good and adequately sized Committee even when they have the support of willing volunteers, as Tonbridge does, so if anyone thinks they would like to join the Committee we can accept nominations from the floor.

03 Treasurer's Report and Adoption of the TCC Accounts – Muffi Forbes

The bulk of the information is taken from the Annual Accounts which run from 1st April to 31st March the following year. Therefore, there are approx. 5 weeks of activity from the previous season that are included in 2017-2018: the Outing, Presentation Evening and Meetings, etc. which will account for any discrepancies.

I know that many of you would like to see Subscriptions and Door Fees maintained at the current rate. However, having monitored the figures carefully, the Committee proposes an increase in line with inflation as shown below

Category	Current	Proposed
Full Membership	£50.00	£52.00
Joint Membership (2 at same address)	£83.00	£86.00
Junior (Under 18)	£ 8.00	£ 8.00
Full time Student/Unemployed Person	£18.00	£19.00
Full Country Membership	£33.00	£34.00
Ordinary Country Membership	£18.00	£19.00
Door fees:	£ 2.00	£ 2.00

Although there are numerous categories in both Payments and Receipts, I do not intend to go through these line by line but have kept specific analysis to the schedule on the next page.

Subscriptions this season resulted in 87 members compared with 99 in 2014-2015 and 88 last season – with about 10 new members joining since Christmas. The only group to make a profit on Tuesday Evenings was the AV Group, although the Image Discussion almost broke even which was an enormous improvement on the previous season.

The costs for Judging/Presenting were £1467.05 to year end, compared with £1075.89, but following a misunderstanding in reality the charges were similar to last season. You will also note that the cost for Teas was again lower at £337.45 this season. Please don't go wild next season when you won't have me nagging you all. The costs of additional room hire for the smaller Tuesday Groups is a challenge. We have paid £32 per evening per room and these numbers could do with a boost – so maybe a few members could try for one of the various qualifications and help boost our numbers.

Treasurer's Report 1st April 2017 - 31 March 2018

SUMMARY				
	Petty Cash	Bank	Deposit Account	Totals
Starting Balance	£ 275.83	£ 2,172.43	£ 6,020.61	£ 8,468.87
Received (Net re deposit)	£ 1,732.81	£ 9,597.57	£ 3.60	£ 11,333.98
Paid	£ 1,791.45	£ 9,357.53		£ 11,148.98
Balance	£ 217.19	£ 2,412.47	£ 6,024.21	£ 8,653.87
Details of outstanding cheques:			Balance at Bank 1/03/2018	£2,762.77
			Paid in	£1,392.99
			To be paid in	£180.00
Weald of Kent	£1,287.50	101231		
A. Cork	£30.00	101230		
D. Brooker	£193.19	101233		
D. Mason	£40.00	on line		
A. Ainsworth	£100.00	on line		
TMBC room hire	£150.00	on line		
Robin Harmsworth	£20.00	on line		
Hopewell Smith	£102.60	101211		
	£1,923.29			
			Less o/s cheques etc	£1,923.29
			Bank reconciled	£2,412.47

Cost Centre Analysis

Cost Centre	Received	Paid	Balance
Subscription	£ 3,664.00		£ 3,664.00
Door Fees	£ 2,380.55		£ 2,380.55
Dinner	£ -	£ -	£ -
Advertising Revenue	£ -		£ -
Meetings		£ 1,975.73	-£ 1,975.73
Teas etc.		£ 337.45	-£ 337.45
Room Rental		£ 1,882.50	-£ 1,882.50
Insurance		£ 718.46	-£ 718.46
KCPA & External	£ 1,343.45	£ 762.57	£ 580.88
Equipment & Repairs		£ -	£ -
Grain	£ 374.50	£ 719.97	-£ 345.47
Exhibitions	£ 40.49	£ 822.76	-£ 782.27
Prizes & Trophies		£ 314.95	-£ 314.95
Enhancing Your Images Group	£ 153.00	£ 192.00	-£ 39.00
AV Group	£ 290.00	£ 271.00	£ 19.00
Distinctions Group	£ -	£ -	£ -
Image Discussion Group	£ 225.20	£ 256.00	-£ 30.80
TONDIG	£ 200.00	£ 372.00	-£ 172.00
Admin costs		£ 362.79	-£ 362.79
Misc.	£ 69.05	£ 167.21	-£ 98.16
Outing	£ 1,400.00	£ 632.20	£ 767.80
RPS refreshments	£ 31.33	£ -	£ 31.33
Boxes and frames	£ 1,162.41	£ 1,241.39	-£ 78.98
Workshop - Knole Park		£ 120.00	-£ 120.00
TOTALS	£ 11,333.98	£ 11,148.98	£ 185.00
			£8,469
			£8,654

Although it would appear that we received more than we paid out, Weald of Kent, in fact, did not pay in room hire cheque covering January to April until after year end at 31st March. In reality, therefore, the amount paid out should be an additional £1287.50 making a total spend of £12,436.48 and an excess spend of £1,102.50.

Tonbridge Camera Club

BALANCE SHEET YEAR ENDING 31st MARCH 2018

<u>General Account</u>		<u>Cash Balances</u>	
Balance 1st April 2017	£8,468.87	Current Account	£2,412.47
		Deposit Account **	£6,024.21
		Cash - Treasurer	£217.19
Less Excess of Receipts over Payment	£185.00	[** Deposit a/c includes £688.21 re the unspent balance of a £2k legacy from Gerry Howlett]	
	£8,653.87		£8,653.87

Elizabeth A. Forbes - Hon. Treasurer

I have examined the above Summary of Accounts and the attached Receipt and Payment Accounts relating to the affairs of Tonbridge Camera Club for the year to 31st March 2018. I confirm these to be in accordance with the Treasurer's records and explanations given to me.

Barry Bone - Auditor
April, 2018

COMPETITION SECRETARIES' REPORTS

COMPETITION ENTRY NUMBERS SINCE 2010-2011

(prepared by Philip Smithies)

Showing numbers of *members* entering competitions since 2010-11

Season Competition	2017-18	2016-17	2015-16	2014-15	2013-14	2012-13	2011-12	2010-11
Print (Open Competition)	31*	28	36	33	42	52	49	39
PDI (Open Competition)	41**	42	42	42	44	50	42	32
Slides (Open Competition)	7	5	9	10	8	7	9	8
PDI of the Year	18	19	23	22	Did not exist	Did not exist	Did not exist	Did not exist
Print of the Year	15	12	18	22	Did not exist	Did not exist	Did not exist	Did not exist
Record – Total no. of entrants	17	20	20	21	10	15	14	14
Record - PDI	15	19	18	14	10	12	12	11
Record - Print	9	8	8	11	7	11	10	11
Record - Slide	0	0	4	6	0	2	3	4
Portrait – Total no. of entrants	17	18	20	17	8	15	14	14
Portrait - PDI	13	15	18	15	Did not exist	Did not exist	Did not exist	Did not exist
Portrait - Print	9	10	12	7	8	15	14	13
Portrait - Slide	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Natural History – Total no. of entrants	18	21	14	11	14	18	18	24
Natural History - PDI	14	16	11	8	10	15	16	17
Natural History - Print	12	10	10	7	10	13	17	18
Natural History - Slide	0	0	0	1	0	1	3	4
PDI Sequence entrants (Sequences)	9	9	13	13 (19)	Did not exist	Did not exist	Did not exist	Did not exist
Print Panel entrants (Panels)	9	7	6	9 (12)	Not recorded	Not recorded	Not recorded	Not recorded
Slide Sequence entrants (Sequences)	0	0	3	4 (5)	4	4	5	6
Outing – Total no. of entrants	14	21	20	17	Not recorded	Not recorded	Not recorded	Not recorded
Outing – PDI	13	16	15	14	Not recorded	Not recorded	Not recorded	Not recorded
Outing – Print	5	12	8	8	Not recorded	Not recorded	Not recorded	Not recorded
Outing – Slide	0	0	0	0	0	2	3	3
AV Competition (Entrants)	9	10	10	13	13	Did not exist	Did not exist	Did not exist
ADUR Electronics PDI Trophy	12	18	10	7	Not recorded	Did not exist	Did not exist	Did not exist
ADUR Electronics Digital Print	10	11	11	8	13	Not recorded	Not recorded	Not recorded

Notes:

*Of whom four were ineligible for an award having entered insufficient competitions

**Of whom ten were ineligible for an award having entered insufficient competitions

04 Print Secretary's Report – Nick Ryan

This season has been most enjoyable and very active. Early concerns were raised about the falling numbers of print workers but the club rallied round immediately and organised special events and awareness that proved successful and jolly good fun. Naturally I would of course like to see even more members producing prints, and maybe this will happen, but even if it doesn't it's OK as we always have enough images to put on a good evening's entertainment.

Last October, Philip Smithies gave us a wonderful opportunity to display some of our best work when he brilliantly organised the KCPA Annual AV Competition. We were invited to showcase sixty images for the entertainment of our guests to remind them of the very high quality work we produce. I for one felt very proud to see all our images together being appreciated by significant members of the KCPA - well done to everyone! And that leads me to add that the prints stands have also added to the club's enjoyment; without doubt, a tremendous asset.

There is one point of concern that I must raise which is a disparity of overall image quality between the prints and PDIs entered in our open competitions, the PDIs are better, they are better pictures, more striking, and I want to see our print workers raise their game to at least match or beat the PDIs.

Another high point of the season, although not actually in my remit, was the Adur Trophy Competition for creative images. In the print section there were approximately thirty entries, and when these were all displayed on the print stand they were a very impressive sight. Paul Dunmall, our judge that night, commented that the standard of a significant number of the pictures was of national competition level, praise indeed! And don't forget, we can all learn from the judges, from each other, and especially with our excellent in-house training programmes.

With this in mind I'd like to mention our new members and how well they're doing, getting thoroughly immersed in the club and our competitions. I've noticed many improvements in their work which is most encouraging, well done chaps.

Finally, a very big thank you to everyone who helps to set up and breakdown at the end of our evenings. Your willingness to take part, do something, however small for the club, is the foundation of a successful and happy club, it brings us all together and helps us to help each other in every way. Thank you.

The season's results:

Outing Competition Best Image: View Across the Meadow by Graham Bunyan Highest Overall Score: John Butler	Record Competition 1 st : Keith Evans 2 nd : Alan Cork 3 rd : Pam Sherren	Portrait Competition 1 st =: Denys Clarke AND Tony Hill AND Paul Penrith AND Pam Sherren
Open Print Competitions: 1 st : David Godfrey 2 nd : Pam Sherren 3 rd : Roger Wates Most Improved: Jenny Clark Best New Entrant: Glenn Welch	Print Panel Competition 1 st : David Godfrey (Wild Green Monkey Family Portraits) 2 nd : Tony Hill (Fading Beauty) 3 rd : Carmel Yearwood (Fragmented Trees)	Natural History Competition 1 st : David Godfrey 2 nd : Alan Cork 3 rd : Tony Hill

Small Print Competition:

1st : David Godfrey: Bluebells and Resting Fly
 2nd: Philip Easom: Sunburst Dahlia
 3rd: Philip Easom: A Range of Flat Irons

Print of the Year Competition

Winners:

1st: Jenny Clark: Bending to the Inevitable
 2nd= John Butler: Common Terns having a Spat
 2nd= Jenny Clark: Thistledown)

OUTING COMPETITION



View across the Meadow (Best Image)
 (Graham Bunyan)



The Canoeist
 (John Butler – Highest Aggregate Score)

RECORD COMPETITION



Ham House (Keith Evans 1st)



Welsh Miner's Safety Lamp (Alan Cork 2nd)



Erin Scent Bottles (Pam Sherren 3rd)

PORTRAIT COMPETITION (four people tied for first place)



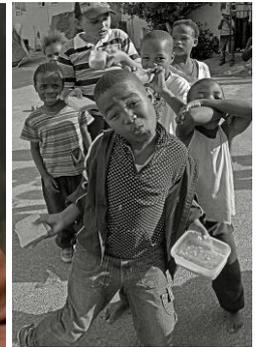
A look through a veil (Tony Hill)



Back in their old uniforms (Paul Penrith)



Master Alan (Denys Clarke)



Child in a Soup Kitchen Queue (Pam Sherren)

NATURAL HISTORY COMPETITION



Great Crested Grebe battles with its catch (David Godfrey – 1st)



Black-Headed Gull soliciting a meal (Alan Cork – 2nd)



Head of Common House Spider (Tony Hill – 3rd)

OPEN COMPETITION



Duel in the Woods (David Godfrey – overall winner)



Windswept Beach (Pam Sherren – 2nd)



Evening Heron (Roger Wates – 3rd)



First Light on Amaryllis (Jenny Clark – Most Improved)



Grey Crowned Crane (Glenn Welch – Best New Entrant)

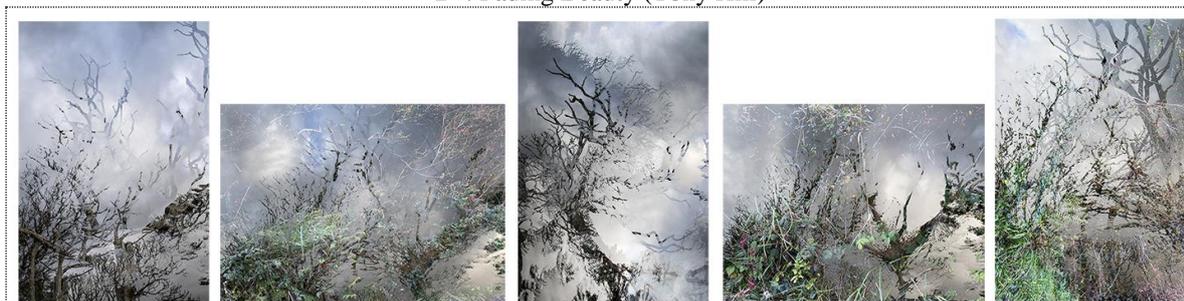
PRINT PANEL COMPETITION



1st: Wild Green Monkey Family (David Godfrey)



2nd: Fading Beauty (Tony Hill)



3rd: Fragmented Trees (Carmel Yearwood)

SMALL PRINT COMPETITION



Bluebells and Resting Fly
(David Godfrey – 1st)



Sunburst Dahlia
(Philip Easom – 2nd)



A Range of Flat Irons
(Philip Easom – 3rd)

PRINT OF THE YEAR COMPETITION



1st: Bending to the Inevitable
(Jenny Clark)



2nd: Common Terns having a Spat
(John Butler)



3rd: Thistledown
(Jenny Clark)

05 PDI Secretary's Report – Ann Paine

Overall the entries this season are very close in numbers to last season's entries. There has been an increase in new members' images being entered whereas a drop in numbers of other members through one reason or another.

Comparison between entry numbers since 2015/2016:

	2015/16	2016/17	2017/2018
PDI 1	40	39	35
PDI 2	41	39	35
PDI 3	41	40	40
PDI 4	41	32	36
PDI 5	39	33	31
PDI of the Year	23	19	18
PDI Sequence	14	9	9
Natural History	11	21	14
Outing	15	16	13
Record	18	19	15
Portrait	17	15	13

IMPORTANT: I need someone to join the team to assist with operating the projector next season: I don't want to run the risk of having to cancel events at short notice because of non-availability of projector operators.

The season's results:

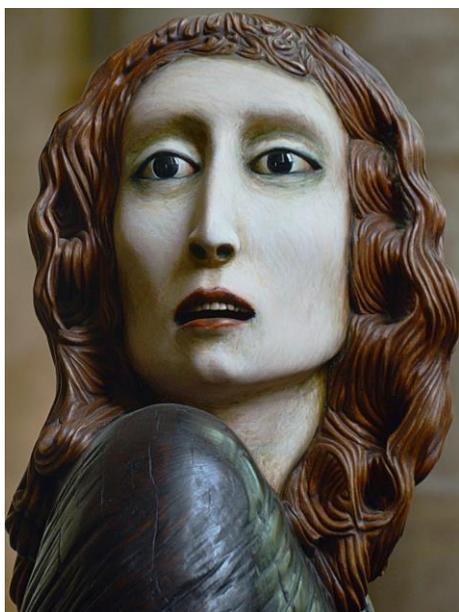
<p>Outing Competition Best Image: Sculpture in Salisbury Cathedral by Joan Gow Highest Overall score: Alan Cork</p>	<p>Record Competition 1st: Chris Rigby 2nd: Brian Whiston 3rd=: Alan Cork AND Philip Smithies</p>	<p>Portrait Competition 1st: Richard Gandon 2nd: Richard Ames 3rd: Denys Clarke</p>
<p>Open PDI Competitions: Winner Group A (The Newman Trophy): Pam Sherren 2nd and Highest Aggregate score: David Godfrey 3rd: Annik Pauwels Most Improved: Sonia Peek Best New Entrant: Philip Easom</p>	<p>PDI Sequence Competition Winner: 1st: Philip Smithies (Kew Gardens) 2nd: Dave Brooker (Winter over the forest) 3rd: Alan Cork (We Are All Machines. Discuss)</p>	<p>Natural History Competition 1st: Peter Tulloch 2nd=: David Godfrey AND Glenn Welch AND Sue Pennicott</p>

PDI of the Year Competition

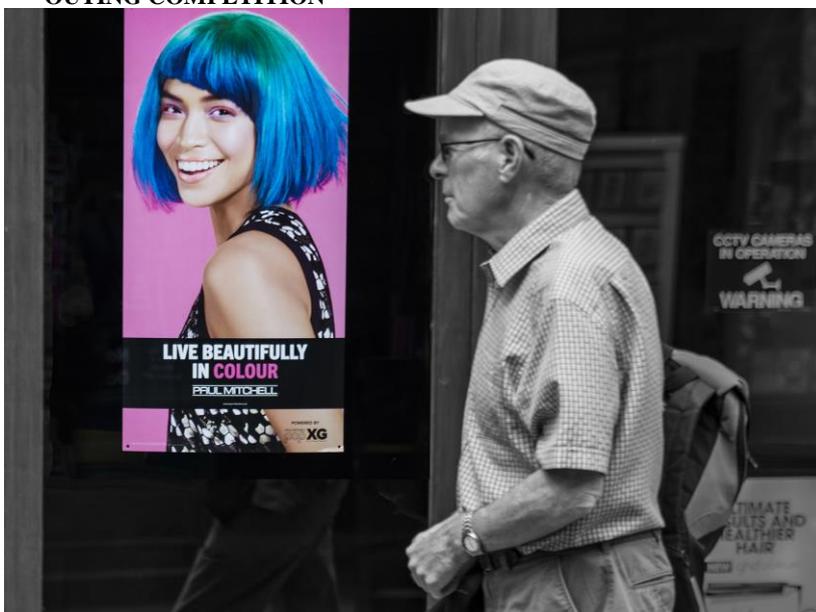
Winners:

1st: Philip Smithies (London St Clement Danes Church)
 2nd=: Glenn Welch (Puffin coming in to land) AND Peter Tulloch (Evening Flight South) AND John Hunt (Desperate Challenge)
 AND Alan Cork (Volucella Zonaria Feeding)

OUTING COMPETITION



Best image: Sculpture in Salisbury Cathedral (Joan Gow)



Highest Aggregate Score Live Beautifully in Colour (Alan Cork)

RECORD COMPETITION



Hardy Children's Monument Chilham Church (Chris Rigby – 1st)



Marble Carving Hythe Church (Brian Whiston – 2nd)



Liberty Store Clock, London
(Philip Smithies – 3rd=)



Constance Medallion
(Alan Cork – 3rd=)

PORTRAIT COMPETITION



The Pianist
(Richard Gandon – 1st)



Lisa
(Richard Ames – 2nd)



A Happy Mud Prop
(Denys Clarke – 3rd)

NATURAL HISTORY COMPETITION



Sociable Weavers
(Peter Tulloch – 1st)



The Predator's stare of a Black Kite
(David Godfrey – 2nd=)



Pheasant Plucker
(Glenn Welch – 2nd=)



Blackbuck
(Sue Pennicott – 2nd=)

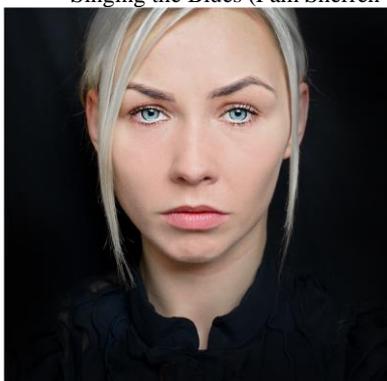
OPEN COMPETITION



Singing the Blues (Pam Sherren – 1st)



Passing Puffin (David Godfrey – 2nd)



Silent Heartbreak
(Annik Pauwels – 3rd)



Red Squirrel
(Sonia Peek – Most improved)



Will they ever stop?
(Philip Easom – Best New Entrant)

PDI SEQUENCE



Kew Gardens (Philip Smithies – 1st)



Moon over the Forest (Dave Brooker – 2nd)



We Are All Machines. Discuss. (Alan Cork – 3rd)

PDI OF THE YEAR COMPETITION



1st: St Clement Danes Church, London
(Philip Smithies)



2nd= Volucella Zonaria Feeding
(Alan Cork)



2nd= Evening Flight South
(Peter Tulloch)



2nd= Desperate Challenge
(John Hunt)



2nd= Puffin coming in to land
(Glenn Welch)

06 Slide Secretary's Report – Malcolm Hedges

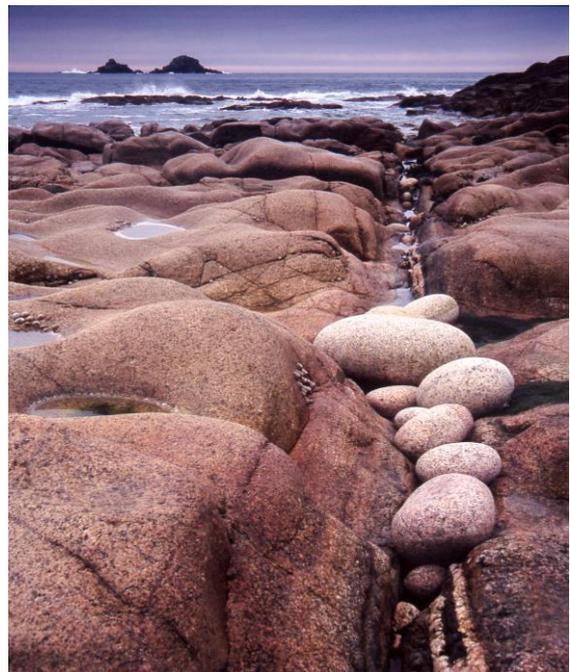
This season saw just seven members entering the open competitions, reducing to six after the third competition. We still have enough members entering to continue with the Open Competitions. However, if the number of entrants falls below four this will no longer be the case. Congratulations to Sue Pennicott, this season's Open Competition winner.

Only the five open competitions attracted enough entrants, so none of the other 'special subject' competitions took place.

I will happily continue as Slide Secretary for as long as enough members support the competitions. We are very much in the minority of clubs still supporting slides, so please continue to enter and give some thought to producing work for the other competitions.

Have a good summer and build up your slide portfolio

The Brisons (Cornwall) by Sue Pennicott



07 External Print Secretary's Report – Alan Cork

The KCPA Ross Cup was again held at Ditton Community Centre and with 33 clubs entering, numbers were slightly down on last year. Nevertheless, the judge Chris Palmer FRPS EFIAP DPAGB APAGB was presented with a difficult challenge in deciding awards. Tonbridge CC came a very reputable joint 3rd with 135 marks while Beckenham PS won the event with 141 marks and Canterbury PS came runners up with 138 marks, just 3 marks more than Tonbridge CC. Both represented the KCPA at the PAGB Inter-Club Competition in October 2017.

Selection for the KCPA Annual Exhibition was held over the weekend of 24 to 25 March 2018. In total 937 PDIs were entered and over 1,000 prints. Some 19 PDIs and 12 Prints were accepted from Tonbridge CC. Of those accepted, incredibly 18 were PDIs by Pam Sherren who was awarded a PAGB Gold Medal, two PAGB Ribbons, and 3 Merit Awards. Well done Pam! Peter Tulloch received a Merit Award for his PDI mono entitled 'Drifting Past'. Sadly, we did not gain any awards in the Print categories although eight Tonbridge CC photographers gained acceptances, including John Hunt who had four prints accepted.

08 External PDI Secretary's Report – Ann Paine

Orpington – 5th December 2017 – Judge Tony Bennett ARPS – Held at Orpington
TCC 1st with 350 points – Orpington 2nd with 331 points

Diamond Jubilee – 24th February 2018 – Judge Jay Charnock FRPS – Held at Ditton
TCC 6th place

GB Cup – Open – January 2018
TCC – 64th place with 150 points

GB Cup – Nature – January 2018
TCC – 47th place with 113 points

M.I.P.S – 5th February 2018 – 5th April 2018 – 6 rounds followed by Final

Overall TCC achieved better results this season than last:

Orpington challenge - A win for TCC

Diamond Jubilee - 6th place compared to 23rd place last season

M.I.P.S - TCC held 1st place in five of the six rounds, which was a great achievement, but unfortunately in the final the judge (Barbie Lindsey EFIAP/s, MPAGB, FBPE) didn't take a liking to our images and we finished joint 5th

09 Image Discussion Group Report – Paul Penrith

Group Objective

To provide less experienced club members with reactions to their images, without the formal process of entering competitions, by offering advice on composition, presentation and technical details in a relaxed environment.

Report

The group cannot operate without the time and consideration volunteered by experienced club members acting as the discussion leaders. This season they were John Butler, Keith Evans, John Hunt and Nick Ryan all of whom have been judges visiting other clubs. Thanks to them, group attendees have received advice and suggestions to enhance their photographic style, and the rest of the group have enjoyed seeing a wide range of images which we would not otherwise have seen. Thanks are also due to Marilynne Hill and Muffi Forbes for arranging refreshments for the group.

This season the group has had a good core of attendees with members of the Distinctions group joining us on occasions and sharing their opinions. It has been possible this season to show a few 'before and after' images to see the effect of changes suggested by earlier discussion meetings. We have had a wide selection of images some of which have been entered into club competitions. It's encouraging to see newer club members submitting their first entries.

It would be nice if a few more members could attend; it's only one evening a month, and we do need to cover the cost of room hire. Any club member is welcome to attend, and can optionally bring images on a memory stick (about 6 images, with a few more in reserve) or prints (mounted or unmounted). It has normally been possible to show all the images brought, but time has run out on a couple of occasions.

10 Enhancing your Images Group Report – Ann Paine

This season the members needed to bring their own laptops with Photoshop loaded as the school decided to change its software package from Photoshop to Corel. This caused some problems as the members would be using different versions of Photoshop but apart from showing the new features within CC I tried to make the exercises applicable to most versions.

After discussions with the school we were given a room (A2) close to the main door as members would need to be carrying their equipment in with them.

My worry was that if the members needed to bring in their own laptops whether there would be enough members to make the course viable. Alan felt the course needed to go ahead, regardless of figures, on the assumption it would build in figures over time. I have been pleasantly surprised as each month there have been between ten and eighteen members attending, including loyal members who have attended this course since I first started at least six seasons ago, but I do realise this is not enough to cover the cost of the room.

We have covered a wide variety of topics within Photoshop this season and I supply notes to help people when working through the exercises at home.

11 Distinctions Group Report – Marilynne Hill

The aim of the Distinctions Group is to encourage, advise and support members wishing to obtain qualifications or distinctions from national and international photographic organisations. These are principally the Royal Photographic Society (RPS) or the Photographic Alliance of Great Britain (PAGB) but advice can also be given about Federation Internationale de l'Art Photographique (FIAP) and British Photographic Exhibitions (BPE) distinctions. Getting a distinction is something that anyone in the Club can aim for and I think that those people who have attended the group in previous seasons have found it beneficial. Having a goal to work towards made them more focused and helped to improve their general level of photography. I also feel that the support and encouragement of the mentors and other attendees is equally important.

This has been another very mixed year for the Distinctions Group. In terms of attendance, there were no attendees at any of the meetings until the final one of the season on 17th April when 4 members attended and I am very grateful to Carole and John Lewis and to Tony Hill who came along to mentor the attendees. We now have 2 members actively pursuing a CPAGB Distinction and 2 others who are considering pursuing a Distinction. However, this is the first season for some time when I am unable to report any successes by members. None the less, I am more hopeful about the future of this group than I have been for some time and I hope we may be able to persuade more members to come along to this group next season.

I hope Cherry Larcombe's illustrated talk about Distinctions on April 19th will encourage people to think seriously about working towards obtaining a Distinction of some sort. Having judged at the club on numerous occasions, she was quite clear that there are many club members whose standard is good enough.

12 AV Group Report – Philip Smithies

The eight meetings this season have been well-attended, although slightly down on last year, with an average of 21 people per session (15 TCC and 6 non-TCC).

Most meetings have included members' AVs and mini-tutorials in part 1 although, disappointingly, this has not resulted in increased numbers of AVs being produced. In part 2, our guest speakers have included Bexley AV Group, Staplehurst AV Group, Dave Brooker, Richard Gandon, Alan Cork and me.

On Thursday May 3rd, we will be holding another AV Group Evening. This should have taken place in February but had to be postponed because of a last-minute notification by the school of an event taking place there.

On April 10th we held the Annual Internal AV Competition, judged by Roger Stevens.

First Place	A Visual Sample of Dubai	Dave Brooker
Second Place	Alone	Don Foster
Third Place	Wenhaston Doom	Richard Gandon
Highly Commended	The Farne Islands	Alan Cork
Highly Commended	To the Top of Europe	Philip Smithies
Commended	Classics	Brian Whiston
Commended	London Street Art Messages	Ann Paine
Best Photography	A Visual Sample of Dubai	Dave Brooker

Interestingly, the Audience Vote resulted in a tie with four AVs in equal first place: Farne Islands by Alan Cork, Only in My Dreams by Don Foster, London Street Art Messages by Ann Paine and To the Top of Europe by Philip Smithies.



A Visual sample of Dubai
(1st – Dave Brooker)



Alone
(2nd – Don Foster)



Wenhaston Doom
(3rd – Richard Gandon)

I do hope that more people try their hand at making AVs. It is becoming increasingly difficult to fill evenings as so little new work is available.

There is much information about the group on the TCC website:

<http://www.tonbridgecameraclub.org.uk/clubinfo/AVGroup/AVprog.php>,

including an updated guide to creating AVs using ProShow software:

<http://www.tonbridgecameraclub.org.uk/clubinfo/AVGroup/ProShowGold%20V5.pdf>.

See also Richard Gandon's outstandingly entertaining and informative AV about adding voiceovers/commentaries: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PxGLpcqjdgE&feature=youtu.be>. If you're interested in adding voiceovers, this presentation is not to be missed. Almost unbelievably, it has so far only received four online viewings.

If you're looking for sound effects, this will be of interest:

[BBC Sound Effects Archive Resource • Research & Education Space](#)

On 27th October, TCC ran the annual KCPA AV Competition at WoK which, apart from the heating not working properly, ran faultlessly.

I am extremely grateful to all those people in the club who so willingly, enthusiastically and efficiently helped out and played such a huge part in making the event so successful. Cathie Agates (Greeter) and Muffi Forbes) were on the main desk in the foyer, assisted by Chris Rigby. Colin Smith, Joan Gow, Cathie Agates and Annik Pauwels (who brought in some delicious home-made cakes) ably looked after the refreshments as people arrived, in the two intervals and at lunch. Nick Ryan, assisted by Dave Brooker and Alan Cork, organised a wonderful display of prints for people to enjoy including some of the simply stunning images which had been submitted to the Adur Trophy competition earlier that week. Colin Burgess, assisted on the day by Ray Crowle, undertook the massive task of organising the successful raffle. Liz Turton and Helen Mossman dealt extremely capably with ensuring trophies were collected and cleaned ready to be issued at the presentation. Unfortunately, Helen, who'd worked so hard behind the scenes, couldn't be there so on the day so Chris Rigby assisted Liz. Alan Cork held the whole thing together so well by acting as our Master of Ceremonies. Special thanks must go to two particular people: Dave Brooker and Don Foster. Dave Brooker not only produced a fantastic "flyer" advertising the event but also the most attractively-designed Competition Programme I have ever seen. Don Foster acted as projectionist and was responsible for the beautiful on-screen menus for the four sessions. During my holiday in mid-September, he ably held the fort and ensured that all the AVs submitted during this time were uploaded to the judges.

I must thank Tracy Hughes, Senior Vice-President of the KCPA, for her help, support and active involvement plus the team at Hailsham Photographic Society who so successfully ran the previous two competitions and who so willingly gave their help and support. I am also very grateful to the businesses and individuals who supplied prizes for the raffle and who were named on the back page of the programme.

The judges – Dave Wilcox DPAGB-AV and Dick Williams ARPS DPAGB-AV – are experienced and successful AV workers from the East Anglia Federation. They had a massive task as they had to view all of the sequences more than once and attend the event itself. They also very kindly agreed to provide brief written critiques for every entry which I hope the entrants found useful. The results proved that AVs with voiceovers are far more likely to be successful in external competitions than those without (even if they send everyone to sleep...).

Congratulations to TCC's two award winners: Don Foster with "Best Photography" for "Alone" and Alan Cork with "Highly Commended" for "The Story of Tea" and "Best Sound" for "The Farne Islands".

Financially, the event was extremely successful and raised over £600 for the club. The two reasons were:

- 1 The school waived its room-hire charges because of the work the club has done it for it attending and photographing events such as the Open Evening, Awards Afternoon, Dance Rehearsal and opening of the Sports Hall.
- 2 The raffle, thanks to Colin Burgess's huge efforts, made a profit of over £200.



(Pictures by Philip Smithies)

I am always interested in your thoughts about how the AV Group could be improved and suggestions for guests. I would also be interested in your thoughts about the use of video in AVs: increasing numbers of us are all in favour whereas a few others have great concerns about its use. I hope my tutorial earlier this season will encourage people to give it a try.

Finally, thanks to everyone who attends but especially to Don Foster for preparing magnificent on-screen menus, for his invaluable support throughout and for allowing us to use his equipment – especially his superb 1920 x 1080 projector – and acting as projectionist at each meeting. Many thanks also to Marilynne Hill for providing and serving refreshments.

13 TONDIG Report – Carole and John Lewis

John Lewis and I coordinated the meetings of Tonbridge Camera Club’s digital imaging subgroup, TONDIG, this season.

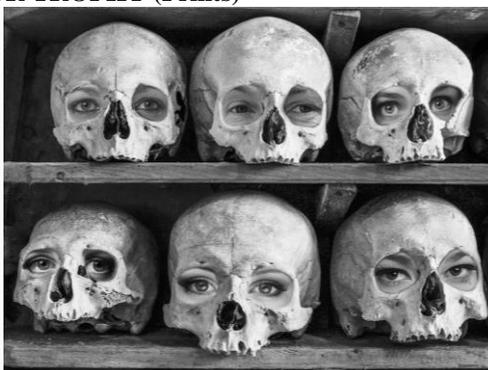
Tuesday 26 September 2017 was a ‘Members’ Evening’ where several members, including Colin Smith, Nick Ryan, Carole Lewis and John Lewis, brought prints along to show how using various papers can have very different effects on printed pictures. 13 Members attended.

On **Tuesday 24 October 2017** we held our annual Adur Trophy print and projected digital image competitions, judged by Paul Dunmall. Nick Ryan was the winner in prints and Ann Paine was the winner in PDIs. 24 members attended but £10 was missing from the door fees!

ADUR TROPHY (Prints)



1st: Power (Nick Ryan)



2nd Skullduggery (Carole Lewis)



3rd = Strantia, Convolvulus and a White Morpho (Alan Cork)

ADUR TROPHY (PDI's)



1st: Dancing in the Landscape (Ann Paine) 2nd=: Lady in Lavender (Pam Sherren) 2nd=: Thoughts of long ago (Tony Hill)

Tuesday 28 November 2017 was another 'Members' Evening'. In the first part David Godfrey gave an in-depth explanation of his approach to wildlife photography; he provided some extremely useful notes afterwards for attendees. After the tea break, Colin Smith explained about some of the 'phone apps' that he uses. 23 members attended.

On **Tuesday 23 January 2018**, following her well-received lecture last season, Sue Chapman visited us again, this time to talk about textures and how to blend them with other images to help members to prepare for one of the Challenges in April. 18 members attended.

On **Tuesday 27 February 2018** there should have been a Lighting Demo by Tony Hill but it had to be cancelled because of snow from the 'beast from the east'!

On **Tuesday 27 March 2018** Tony Hill gave the Lighting Demo that had been cancelled in February. 15 members attended.

On **Tuesday 24 April 2018** we held a fun challenge on 2 topics:

- 1) 'Movement'
- 2) 'Adding texture'

The competition was pre-judged by Carole Lewis. There was a small prize for the best final image in each category and an additional small prize from John Lewis for the image he considered to be the best of the evening. 22 members attended.

We showed all the images to the audience and they were invited to vote for their favourites *before* the judge's comments were read out so as not to influence them. This was an exercise to show that judges are not always right!

After all the judge's comments, plus comments from John Lewis, small prizes were presented to the winners.

The judge's winning images of the competition were as follows:

- 1) Movement: Ghosts of Prague by Jeremy Stock (below left)
- 2) Adding texture: Girl in blue by Cathie Agates (below right)



John Lewis chose his overall winner for the whole evening: "Orchids in motion" by Colin Smith from the 'Movement' category. But he decided that "Texture 1" by Tony Hill from the 'Adding Texture' category also deserved a small prize.

There were no prizes provided for the audience vote in anticipation of a split vote. In the event, the decisions were decisive victories for Ghosts of Prague by Jeremy Stock (Movement) and Bricks, Stone and Glass by Colin Smith (Adding texture)

The above is an account of meetings held before the date of this report.

The feedback from all meetings that we have arranged for TONDIG has always been very positive. John and I would like to thank all the members who have supported TONDIG during our time as joint organisers. If TONDIG continues next season we would encourage other members to participate. The group is usually fairly small and so there is a good social atmosphere.

Tuesday 8 May 2018 will be a follow-up to March's Demo by Tony Hill who will provide a model so that members can practise what they learnt in March's meeting.

Resignation

John and I gave notice to the TCC Committee in February 2018 that we will be standing down at the end of this season as joint organisers of TONDIG. We have run out of new ideas and feel that it is time for someone else to bring fresh input.

Note from Philip Smithies: John and Carole have done a fantastic job of organising this group. Unfortunately, no one has (yet) come forward to take over from them so it seems likely that this season will be the last for the group.

14 ANNUAL OUTING REPORT 25th June 2017 to Salisbury – Joan Gow

We departed at 8am from the Weald of Kent Grammar School on a rather dismal morning on a coach supplied by Hams Travel. Luckily we had Gideon our favourite and most efficient driver. As we approached Salisbury the weather improved and gradually the sun shone and lasted all day. On arrival, most of us enjoyed refreshments at one of the numerous tearooms, although some made their way to the pub!

There were so many opportunities for photography, including the beautiful 13th Century Cathedral, which has the tallest spire in the UK at around 225ft. I am not sure if anyone climbed the 332 steps. I certainly didn't. The artist Ana Maria Pacheco was exhibiting her latest sculptures in the Cathedral, entitled "Shadows of the Wanderers" They were made from polychromed wood and proved to be most unusual and fascinating works of art. We were allowed to take photographs in between the Cathedral services as long as flash wasn't used.

Many members enjoyed the Queen Elizabeth Gardens and Churchill Gardens alongside the River Avon and the interesting buildings in the city,

We visited Arundells, which had a beautiful garden and art collection. This was a home of the former Prime Minister, Sir Edward Heath. We also visited the National Trust's Mompesson House, an attractive Queen Anne town house with another lovely garden. This was featured in the film "Sense and Sensibility".

Mick Dudley kindly took the group photograph (below) under rather difficult circumstances as there was little room on the path and he had to step back into the road! But he survived and produced a good photo.

So, in all, it was a most enjoyable day out. I'm hoping the next outing to Boulogne will be just as successful.

Thanks to Lol Beacham for preparing the Outing AV which will be shown on May 17th and for which in due course a link will be advised to allow you to download your own copy.



(Mick Dudley)



(Brian Whiston)



(Lol Beacham)

Note from Philip Smithies: Unless someone comes forward to take on the job, there will be no Outing next season.

15 Social Secretary's Report / Members' Liaison – No post-holder

Annual Dinner

Not held

Note from Philip Smithies: Unless someone comes forward to take on the job, there will again be no Annual Dinner next season.

Refreshments at the Club on Thursday Evenings (by Philip Smithies)

The absence of a Social Secretary has meant extra work for Committee Members, especially Muffi. Without her efforts above and beyond the call of duty, we would have had no refreshments at all. She is the one who ensured we were provided with cups, milk, tea, coffee and biscuits – and all those who partake of refreshments owe her a huge debt of gratitude.

It really is a great shame that no one has been prepared to come forward to take on this aspect of the Social Secretary's role: it is neither difficult nor time-consuming.

The duties of the Refreshment Coordinator are:

- 1 Ensure that the two volunteers each week who run the refreshments understand what is involved (a document, "Duties for Tea and Coffee", describing the process is available).
- 2 Prepare the Tea Rota master sheet and ensure it is placed on the Greeter's Desk during the Thursday meetings. Note: it is NOT your responsibility to chase people.
- 3 If no one has volunteered for the following week's meeting, before the second part of the meeting, advise the Chairman; he will remind members that if no one comes forward, no refreshments will be served the following week.
- 4 Ensure that volunteers are emailed the document "Duties for Tea and Coffee" and that a copy is placed on the notice board / Greeter's desk
- 5 Ensure the stock of tea, coffee, biscuits (one per person per meeting) and cups is maintained.
- 6 Arrange for milk to be brought in for Thursday meetings.

It is also a great shame that so many people even refuse to participate in the tea rota (is once a season *really* so much to ask?) meaning that a few dedicated people do it as many as FIVE times a season. Amongst the reasons/excuses people give for not doing their fair share are:

- It's a woman's job
- I've done/do enough for the club
- If it's made compulsory, I'll leave the club

As Marilynne said in her report, next season there will be no Thursday refreshments unless someone comes forward to take charge.

16 Grainmakers' Report – Keith Evans

Since the 2017 AGM, our 'Grainmakers' print workers have made one presentation, at Faversham CC, and our AV Team has visited the clubs at Crayford and Parkwood.

One 'Pixelmakers' booking, at Greenwood CC in February this year, had to be postponed due to weather conditions.

Future bookings are at Greenwood in October (Pixelmakers) and at Battle PS in April 2019 (Grainmakers).

Through an oversight by the PAGB Handbook collator, our entry in the latest PAGB Handbook is incorrect. So would TCC members judging, lecturing or visiting clubs outside the KCPA (e.g. in Surrey, Essex and Southeast London) please make known this range of print, digital and AV presentations now available from Tonbridge CC, as found in the current KCPA Handbook.

17 Webmaster's Report – Paul Penrith

Web activity continues at a good level with over 1000 sessions a month from about 500 users during the last season. Most of the action occurred in March as the competition rounds reached their climax.

Updates to the site have included:

- Calendar of club activities
- All Competition Results
- All PDI and some Print Competition images
- Un updated index of Grain Articles

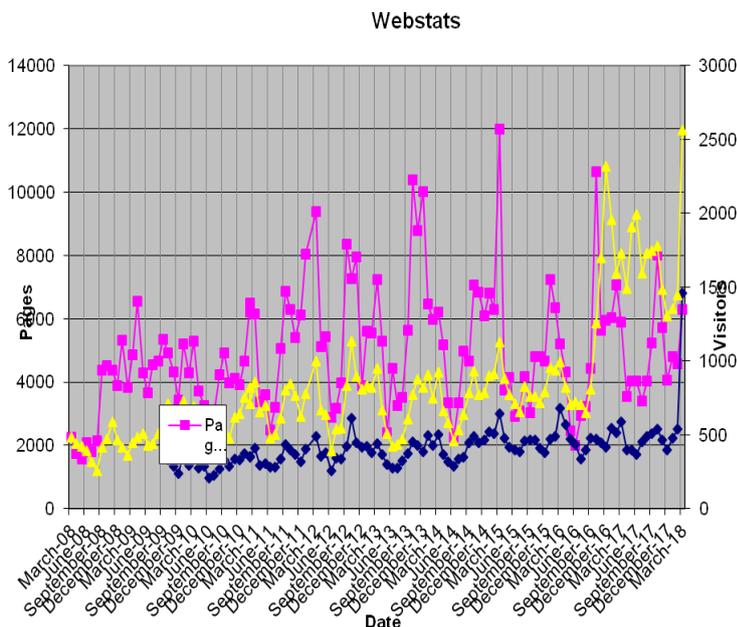
I can only update the website if I am supplied with news and images!

It is to be regretted that members have not supplied new images for their personal galleries on the site, or even updated the galleries that are there. Members' image files in competition format can be supplied by email or on a memory stick. There is plenty of space as the personal galleries of members who have left the club have been deleted.

The site is hosted by Easily.co.uk who charge the club £50 plus VAT per year for the service. There is a separate charge of £10.50 plus VAT to register our domain name for two years at a time. The recent renewal invoice (February) was for £72.58 including £12 VAT. I believe this represents good value compared with companies charging £25 per month (£300 per year) or more for hosting a blog site. Data on the site is held in a compact form and occupies just over a third of the current available allocation. The majority of the space is taken by the images, 1.67Gb of the 2.2Gb used.

There continues to be a steady pattern of requests for pages which do not exist on the site, particularly administrator pages, indicating attempts to corrupt the site by assuming the site uses common Blog maintenance software. All these hacking attempts have failed, and as far as I am aware the site has never been damaged.

The site provides a full history of the club programme and competition results from 2010 season to the present, with most of the PDI images and some of the Print entries (when supplied). Many (but not all) competition images contain 'EXIF' data showing when and how the base image was taken. This is shown under the image by scrolling down the image page.



Individual page use for March 2018 only showing the pattern of page use.

Note the main use is the Members Gallery, Competition images and Results, and the Club Programme. These counts exclude scans by known site scanning software (such as Google, Bing etc.).

Page URL	View count	Average size
/ (Home Page)	2710	2.30 KB
/tccmember/cimgpage.php	1341	1.09 KB
/tccmember/Results.php	412	3.37 KB
/Gallery/imgpage.php	349	912 Bytes
/Programme.php	185	6.22 KB
/tccmember/memnews.php	148	2.09 KB
/introduction.php	100	2.60 KB
/Gallery/thumbspage.php	98	3.42 KB
/Gallery/galleryindex.php	73	3.02 KB
/theclub.php	72	3.82 KB
/memlinks.php	69	2.52 KB
/news.php	65	3.38 KB
/tccmember/mementries.php	62	4.02 KB
/Exhibition Notice.php	58	2.83 KB
/externalevents.php	56	3.62 KB
/sponsorlinks.php	51	3.48 KB
/findus.php	48	2.52 KB
/othlinks.php	43	2.85 KB
/TCC Competition Rules.pdf	38	569.25 KB
/Beginners/menu.php	23	1.65 KB
/clubinfo/clubcomps/complist.php	22	5.76 KB
/Beginners/judging.php	19	7.27 KB
/clubinfo/grain.php	17	8.58 KB
/2018 Exhibition Catalogue.pdf	16	2.69 MB
/clubinfo/ImageGroup/slideprog.php	15	8.07 KB
/Beginners/comp.php	15	4.41 KB
/TCC Constitution 0507.pdf	14	96.48 KB
/tccmember/summer/summer.php	13	2.61 KB
/clubinfo/DigitGroup/digitalprog.php	13	5.28 KB
/clubinfo/AVGroup/AVprog.php	12	7.88 KB
/tccmember/muggallery.php	12	2.51 KB
/clubinfo/DigitGroup/tondigprog.php	11	4.75 KB
/tccmember/handin.php	10	1.90 KB
/clubinfo/DistinctGroup/distinctprog.php	9	6.24 KB
/tccmember/summer/outing notice.php	6	3.16 KB
/tccmember/sitsvacant.php	6	2.17 KB
/Beginners/view.php	6	2.27 KB
/Beginners/automation.php	5	4.15 KB
/Beginners/digital.php	5	3.14 KB
/Beginners/manipulation.php	5	1.97 KB
/In House.pdf	5	40.03 KB
/Beginners/autocontrol.php	4	3.79 KB
/Beginners/flash.php	4	3.51 KB
/In House.php	4	10.52 KB
/Beginners/controls.php	4	3.59 KB
/Beginners/basics.php	3	4.08 KB
/tccmember/Dinner poster.php	3	1.92 KB
/Beginners/cameras.php	3	3.07 KB
/Beginners/subject.php	3	4.67 KB
/tccmember/committprog.php	2	2.44 KB
/tccmember/printproc.php	2	2.53 KB
/clubinfo/extcomps/orpcomp.php	2	4.56 KB
//Programme.php	2	22.93 KB
/tccmember/summer/mini1.php	2	1.95 KB

/sitemap.php	2	15.31 KB
/clubinfo/clubcomps/comp43.php	2	2.99 KB
/tccmember/circprint.php	2	2.88 KB
/rosscup.php	2	6.75 KB
/tccmember/organisation.php	2	2.13 KB
/clubinfo/extcomps/tccintercomp.php	2	5.08 KB
/clubinfo/clubcomps/comp35.php	1	2.62 KB
/clubinfo/clubcomps/comp46.php	1	3.59 KB
/clubinfo/extcomps/compnational.php	1	2.04 KB
/clubinfo/AVGroup/ProShowGold V5.pdf	1	3.99 MB
/clubinfo/dimedia.php	1	2.80 KB
/clubinfo/clubcomps/comp10.php	1	2.72 KB
/Gallery/CC/	1	908 Bytes
/clubinfo/extcomps/compregion.php	1	2.11 KB
/clubinfo/clubcomps/comp29.php	1	3.32 KB
/clubinfo/visits.php	1	2.18 KB
/clubinfo/clubcomps/comp21.php	1	3.14 KB
/Beginners/Accessories.php	1	4.65 KB

To summarise:-

The site is usually entered via the Home page (2710 times),

Public area pages were requested 1465 times, of which the Programme page was requested 187 times, the Gallery thumbnails 98 times, and Gallery images 349 times.

Members' Area pages were requested 2023 times, of which the Results page was requested 412 times, Competition images 1341 times and Members' news 148 times. This suggests that some members have saved a link to the Results page in their Favorites to bypass the access via the Members News. The page showing the history of a member's competition entries was requested 62 times.

The Tutorial area pages were requested 100 times, mostly the pages on Judging and Your First Competition Entry.

The site is viewed worldwide. This is a sample of the top 10 country breakdown.

Country	Code	Pages	Hits	Bandwidth
Great Britain	gb	1157	4137	565.94 MB
United States	us	774	1753	195.72 MB
Russian Federation	ru	206	208	2.75 MB
European country	eu	69	160	15.61 MB
Unknown	ap	52	52	9.71 KB
Unknown	zz	45	194	25.21 MB
Uzbekistan	uz	43	43	0
Australia	au	27	27	283.98 KB
Canada	ca	10	35	862.38 KB
Germany	de	9	9	5.49 MB
Others		21	39	470.81 KB

18 Publicity Report – John Hunt

Publicity apart from the annual exhibition has been limited to occasional newspaper coverage in the Courier and Kent Messenger but both papers generally use whatever stories I send them.

I suggested last year that we try to identify a permanent physical site somewhere in the Tonbridge central area but no suggestions were forthcoming. However, I think it would be a good idea to have some permanent exposure in the town to keep the club visible to attract new members and a site really needs to be identified by a member living locally. Suggestions welcome.

19 Grain Editor's Report – Carole Lewis

For the last fully sponsored edition, GRAIN 120 Autumn Winter 2016, there were 120 copies of 54 pages costing £516.00. There was advertising revenue of £365 for 9 adverts, so there was a deficit of £151 (compared with a deficit of £250 for the previous large 78 page Anniversary edition).

This season there will have been 2 editions of Grain:

GRAIN 122 Autumn/Winter 2017

There was the usual variety of articles from club members and an article by professional fashion, studio and lifestyle photographer, Jon Gray. Unfortunately that edition also included tributes to Walter Coultrup and Ron Boud.

In the absence of a volunteer to liaise with our regular advertisers, the only advert was as a result of an overpayment of £50 from Mifsuds from the previous edition. So Issue 122 was printed abroad via the HelloPrint website to reduce costs. There is less choice of paper, binding and numbers of copies; in my opinion the colour reproduction was OK, if a bit saturated in colour, but the monochrome images were less satisfactory than with our previous 2 printers.

There were 100 copies of 56 pages at £179.95. However I negotiated a 5% discount, so the amount paid was £170.95, giving a deficit of £170.95 compared with £151 the previous time.

GRAIN 123 Spring/Summer 2018

This has been printed abroad via the HelloPrint website again. There are 56 pages.

100 copies have cost £188.95; I have been unable to negotiate a discount this time. There is no advertising so the cost to the club will be £188.95.

It is another colourful edition and there are 15 articles from 11 different members on a variety of subjects.

I have been the Editor of Grain for 10 years now but this will be my last edition. I hope there will be a volunteer or team of volunteers to take over to produce the 124th edition.

If, in the future, there was a member with experience in desktop publishing who would be willing to take over as Editor, I would be happy to offer advice. In addition, if someone was willing to liaise with advertisers to provide sponsorship, then I can pass on details of all the contacts that I have built up over the years.

Note from Philip Smithies: Grain has been one of the Club's great successes and is much admired both within and outside the club for the extraordinarily high quality of the contributions and production. It would be a terrible shame if, after a run of some fifty years, edition 123 were to be the last ever. Surely there must be someone in the club reading this who'd be prepared to take over the reins from Carole. At the time of writing, no one has come forward.

Is an electronic version the answer? It would be easier to produce (but would still need an editor), the costs would be non-existent thus enabling some £400 a year to be ploughed into the club funds to pay for new equipment, there would be no limit to the number of pages and the reproduction of the photographs would be far better (just compare how the same photographs reproduce in Grain 123 and in this document). On the other hand, there wouldn't be the satisfaction of holding a "hard copy" which would be more likely to be kept and referred to by individuals rather than be deleted and forgotten.

One member said in Grain 123: "...the mention of an electronic magazine doesn't even bear thinking about". What do you think? Bear in my mind: without one (or more) of you coming forward, Grain 123 will be the last ever.

20 Programme Secretary's Report – Malcolm Hedges

As the season draws to an end it is time to both reflect on what has gone and to look forward to the new season to come.

The difficulty with putting a successful programme together is trying to cater for and please every member. I don't claim to have achieved this complex task although I hope the programme contents have pleased as many as possible, some of the time.

While the competitions are the standard format, we try to make our talks as interesting, informative and entertaining as possible. We have achieved some variety this season with talks, a few examples being, Competing in Panels, Plug ins, an inter-active Judge's Eye view, Home studio photography, Escaping the straightjacket and some wonderful, creative Architectural Photography.

Unfortunately we were unable to deliver a talk on the latest papers by Richard Walton, due to his ill health. Very sadly Richard died a few weeks ago. He gave a great deal of time to both the world of camera clubs and the RPS. He will be sadly missed.

A talk entitled 'Caught on Digital' by Nenne Van Djik,FRPS, has also had to be substituted due to Nenne's ill health. We wish her well. We are so lucky that so many photographers are prepared to step-in at short notice to fill the vacant slots.

We have a full and varied programme for next season with some 'old' friends returning plus some new visitors. I hope that you find something that entertains and inspires you. One experiment that went down well and we planned to repeat was the interactive 'Judge's Eye view' by Paul Dunmall. Unfortunately for us, Paul has had a job promotion so he and Sonia have relocated to the Lake District.

Next season's programme will be delivered by our new Programme Secretary, Mick Dudley. He has carried out the task in the past very successfully so you are in good hands. I wish him well and hope that you will all support him as much as possible. Please remember it is your club so if you have any thoughts, comments or ideas regarding the makeup of the programme, please let him or the committee know. We mustn't just be consumers but also contributors if we wish to continue to have a successful club.

Enjoy the summer and we will see you all in September.

21 Archivist's Report – Philip Smithies

Previously, I listed all the documentation which was missing from the Archives but unfortunately, none of the missing items has come to light. It would therefore seem that both the physical and electronic archives are as complete as they can be up to and including the 2016/2017 season. At the end of this report is a summary of what exists in the archives. If you can help to fill the gaps, or if you have other pictures which may be of interest, please let me know:

As for the current season, copies of minutes of all committee meetings and the draft minutes of the AGM, the Annual Reports (this document), the programme, the Exhibition catalogue, the Outing AV and all competition PDIs have been/will be archived.

AGM MINUTES

In Archives:
1967 – 2004 (Hard Copies)
2005 – date (Electronic copies)

COMMITTEE MINUTES

In Archives:
1974 April 19th – 1982 February 26th (Hard Copies)
1990 August 17th – 2002 October 11th (Hard Copies)
2002 December 12th – 2006 January 25th (Hard copies only although some electronic versions may be around)
2006 March 29th – date (Electronic Copies)
Missing: Everything up to April 1974 and everything between Feb 1982 and the end of the 1989/1990 season

PROGRAMME

In Archives:
1966/1967 – 2010/2011 Hard Copies
2005/2006 – date Electronic:

EXHIBITION CATALOGUE

In Archives:
1967 – 2004; 2007 – 2010 Hard Copies
2011 Electronic Word document.
2012 – date Electronic .pdf documents
Missing: 2005 and 2006

GRAIN

In Archives (Hard Copies):
1 – 45; 47 – 60; 62 – 83; 88; 90; 92 – date
Missing: 46; 61; 79; 84 – 87; 89; 91

OUTING AVs

In Archives: 2007 (Winchester), 2009 (Maldon), 2010 (Kew Gardens), 2012 (Leigh-on-Sea and Southend), 2013 (Bosham and Chichester), 2014 (Bruges) and 2015 (Cambridge), 2016 (Ely) and 2017 (Salisbury).
Missing: 2006 (Windsor) 2008 (Portsmouth), 2011 (Oxford)

TCC 50th ANNIVERSARY BOOK



In 2016, I prepared the “TCC 50th Anniversary Book” – initially in electronic form only. In October of that year, it was produced as an A4 booklet at a special low price of £6.20, negotiated by Dave Brooker who also prepared the covers for the book and organised the printing and distribution. I am extremely grateful to Dave for the time and effort he spent on this.

The book is a completely updated version of the “TCC Millennium Book”, a club history by Allan Young and Barbara Baldock issued in 2000. It includes all the original text plus my account of the club’s history since 2000 up to 2016, with contributions by some recent ex-chairmen and with dozens of photographs – most never seen before – in its eighty-eight pages,

If you don’t have a copy of the electronic version and would like one (especially members who’ve joined the club since the book was first issued), please let me know.

22 KCPA REPORT – Alan Cork

This season has been unusually quiet for the KCPA. The President of the KCPA, Chris Shore FRPS MPAGB EFIAP BPE5*, presided over KCPA organised events and kindly officiated at the Opening Ceremony of our Annual Photographic Exhibition. The revised KCPA Constitution has been finally drafted and achieved broad support. The document should be ratified at the upcoming AGM. As last season, events were organised by a sub-committee to which there is currently no Tonbridge CC representation.

Our achievements in the KCPA Ross Cup and Diamond jubilee are discussed in my External Print Secretary Report. Tonbridge CC successfully hosted the KCPA AV competition this season and a full report of this event is provided in the previous edition of Grain [No 122, page 26-29], in Section 12 above with highlights mentioned in the Chairman’s report.

Selection for the KCPA Annual Exhibition was held over the weekend of 24 to 25 March. Four Tonbridge CC volunteers assisted the organiser, Tracy Hughes with the event. Despite the KCPA reducing the entry cost to £1 per print/PDI, the number of images entered did not increase significantly. However, reverting to a manual system for managing the images submitted did result in significant delays in results being issued and inaccuracies in data released.

The KCPA are hosting the PAGB Inter Fed PDI and Print Competition/Exhibition on 9th June this year in Pembroke Hall at the University of Greenwich Medway Campus. This should provide an ideal opportunity to see some top-quality images from around the country but note that it is a ticketed event so check the KCPA website for details.

23 Annual Exhibition – Alan Cork

Overall, some 36 members submitted images for selection by our judge Roger Reynolds HonFRPS APAGB FBPE in the Annual Exhibition. Almost 150 prints were submitted by 30 members, with 148 being selected for display and 39 awards given [15 highly commended, 19 commended]. A similar number of PDIs were submitted by 27 members with 34 PDIs given awards [11 highly commended, 18 commended]. Some 17 slides were submitted by 3 members and 2 awards given [1 commended, 1 Highly Commended].

All our invited guests, including the Major of Tonbridge and Malling, Councillor Roger Dalton, President of the KCPA Chris Shore FRPS MPAGB EFIAP BPE5* and Clive Tanner FRPS MPAGB commented on the quality of the work and excellent presentation of prints – the latter resulting from the hard work of our Print Secretary, Nick Ryan LRPS. The PDI and slide presentation was put together by Philip Smithies with his usual attention to detail. In an effort to achieve a higher profile for projected images, Dave Brooker has kindly donated a 42inch monitor to the club which will provide a stunning presentation of the images next season! It remains to be seen whether the Council will provide more chairs for people to view the larger images in relative comfort.





(All six pictures by Colin Burgess)

Over the course of the week 208 votes were cast for the most popular print. In total 76 prints received votes suggesting a wide range of appreciation for the types of photography on display. Nevertheless, the most popular prints were clear cut with over half the votes cast given to the top ten. In joint second place were Jenny Clark and Steve Oakes with ‘A window on Decay’ and ‘Café Society’ respectively and David Godfrey the overall winner with ‘Passing Puffin’. Well done David!

Overall costs were down to just under £500 compared to £762 and £958 in 2017 and 2016 respectively. Much of this saving was primarily due to the Exhibition Catalogue produced by Dave Brooker being issued as a PDF, saving an estimated £250 on printing and there was no cost associated with maintenance of panels this season. Our panels are old and despite extensive renovation last season by Roger Wates one was found to be unfit for purpose. The cost of replacement is high and so a rolling programme of replacement is advocated. This issue will need to be addressed at the AGM.

The Annual Exhibition was organised pretty much along the lines of previous years. Work was broken down among a number of teams namely assisting the judge to examine prints, PDIs and slides submitted to select award winners, panelling prints to create themed panels by genre and/or colour combination, transport of panels and related equipment to and from Weald of Kent Grammar School and KCPA store in Detling, assembly and disassembly of panels, provision of refreshments at the opening ceremony, volunteers who supervised the Exhibition during opening hours, creation and maintenance of spreadsheets of images submitted and their acceptance, production of the Exhibition Catalogue, design and printing of poster, labels and the Catalogue. All these activities were efficiently conducted through the selfless commitment of club members to the task. The committee are extremely grateful to all involved with particular mention to Roger Wates and David Parkinson for leading the assembly team comprised of Liz Turton, Nick Ryan, Philip Smithies, Mick Dudley, Colin Hurley, Kevin Yates and Colin Burgess for finding the time to help get the show on the road. Mike Hart kindly helped to keep the drinks flowing at the Opening Event and my particular thanks to Dave Brooker for preparing Exhibition labels, programme and posters in addition to managing the logistics of transporting our panels and those borrowed from the KCPA, together with other miscellaneous equipment to and from the venue.

EXHIBITION AWARDS

PRINTS: PREMIER AWARD	Premier Award PUFFIN WITH SAND EEL CATCH AT SKOMER ISLAND by David Godfrey
PRINTS: BEST LANDSCAPE Frank Coppins Landscape Trophy	Best Landscape WATERFALL AT LEEDS CASTLE by Les Welton
PRINTS: BEST NATURAL HISTORY Wendy Jenks Trophy	Best Natural History COMMON TERNS HAVING A SPAT by John Butler (shown earlier)
PRINT: BEST MONOCHROME Charles Adams Monochrome Cup	Best Monochrome RESIDENCES AT THE POND by Mick Dudley
PRINT: BEST CREATIVE	Best Creative WINDSWEPT BEACH by Pam Sherren EFIAP/p DPAGB BPE5* (shown earlier)
PDI: PREMIER AWARD	Premier Award THE LOCK OF HAIR by Annik Pauwels
PDI: BEST LANDSCAPE	Best Landscape MIST ROLLING IN by Ann Paine
PDI: BEST NATURAL HISTORY	Best Natural History PORTRAIT OF A WILD GREEN MONKEY by David Godfrey (shown earlier)
PDI: BEST MONOCHROME	Best Monochrome THE WAY OUT by Carole Lewis
PDI: BEST CREATIVE Ken Cope Creative Trophy	Best Creative JAPANES ACER by Mick Dudley
SLIDE: PREMIER AWARD Arthur Bodman Cup	NOT AWARDED
SLIDE: BEST LANDSCAPE	NOT AWARDED



Prints: Premier Award
Puffin With Sand Eel Catch At Skomer Island (David Godfrey)



Prints: Best Monochrome
Residences At The Pond (Mick Dudley)



Prints: Best Landscape
Waterfall at Leeds Castle (Les Welton)



PDI: Premier Award
The Lock of Hair (Annik Pauwels)



PDI: Best Landscape
Mist Rolling In (Ann Paine)



PDI: Best Monochrome
The Way Out (Carole Lewis)



PDI: Most Creative
Japanese Acer (Mick Dudley)

The following Highly Commended pictures are by members whose work is otherwise unrepresented in these reports.



Lavender's Blue, Lavender's Green
(Colin Burgess)



Downland Sunset
(Steve Oakes)



Fire (Terry Day)



Stairway To... (Peter Tabor)



Eastbourne Pier Reflections (John Lewis)



Hat and Shoes (Malcolm Hedges)

Lessons learned for future years:

1. The standard of the club entry was considered to be as high as ever and yet the number of members entering was significantly lower than last season [36 compared to 48 in 2016]; the reasons for this are unclear.
2. The opening Ceremony was held on the Friday afternoon which impacted on attendance and efforts will be made to ensure this is changed to an evening event next season.
3. Overall numbers of attendees were comparable to previous years [approx. 300]. Importantly, several people visiting expressed a desire to join the club which is particularly important for our future. Because the exhibition was early this year it is hoped that some of those will attend before the end of this season. However, efforts will also be made to issue the 2018-19 Programme to those who provided their email details and perhaps an invitation to attend the proposed Newcomers Day.

24 Photographer of the Year Report – Marilynne Hill

Achieving the distinction of Photographer of the Year should be the crowning achievement for a photographer and perhaps it was viewed this way many seasons ago but since I have been collating the marks participation has been very poor and it is obvious that this competition has lost its appeal. It is a very demanding competition and it challenges photographers as it requires participation in genres in which they may not normally compete.

The Photographer of the Year is the member in Group A who gets the highest aggregate marks for all entries in the Open Print and PDI competitions giving a maximum score 400 from these competitions plus the marks from each of the Record, Portrait, and Nature (Prints and PDIs only) competitions, giving a maximum score from the set subject competitions of 360 and an overall maximum score of 760. This season all members have competed in Group A.

Although all eligible members are now included in the Photographer of the Year Competition this has not led to a marked increase in full participation, by which I mean competing in all sections of the competition. Whilst in theory it is possible for a round to be missed and still become Photographer of the Year, realistically this is very unlikely. This season prior to the Natural History Competition only 3 members had entered all of the rounds so the Photographer of the Year will be determined by the results of the Natural History Competition. The 3 members in contention were Denys Clarke on 532 points, Tony Hill had on 553 points and Pam Sherren on 556 points. However neither Denys nor Pam entered the Natural History Competition which makes Tony Hill the winner of Photographer of the Year by default.

25 And finally...

I don't want to end on a negative note but there's no getting away from the fact that unless volunteers come forward to take on the various vacant posts, then next season:

- There will be no refreshments on Thursday evenings
 - There will be no Annual Outing
 - There will be no Annual Dinner
 - There will be no Grain
 - There will be no Tondig
-
- Looking ahead, the club will have to close at the end of the 2019-2020 season unless there is a vice-chairman to take over from Colin Burgess.

Philip Smithies 27th April 2018

N.B. Illustrated reports from 2013-2014 onwards are available on request