

**Brighton and Hove Camera Club
Annual General Meeting
Methodist Hall, Portland Road, Hove
Tuesday 24 May 2011**

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

Minutes (DRAFT)

The meeting opened with a showing of images from the previous week's competition submissions.

1 Welcome and Apologies

David Gerrard welcomed the attending members and apologies were noted from Norman Atkinson, Bill Wisden and Anthony Hunt

2 Minutes of the AGM of 4 May 2010 and Matters Arising

The minutes were accepted as a true record of the meeting and Bob Webzell confirmed that he had audited the club's accounts. It was noted that the rationalisation of the Library had not yet taken place but was in hand and would be completed this summer by David Gerrard and Anthony Hunt.

3 President's Review (120th Report to Committee)

David Gerrard presented his report ...

"I was hoping that as I've only been President for half the season that I would only have to give half a speech, but unfortunately not. Anyway I will try and keep it brief....

The idea of this report is to give an overview of the Club's year. To that effect I think we have had another excellent season in our new larger hall. The hall has better access and unrestricted viewing. Although the pillars in the other hall were a pain they were useful to hang our display equipment on and so our main challenge this year was to replace the display equipment and to work out how to suspend the lighting. Steve Boyle has been brilliant in making our easels and also working towards a solution for the lighting. I would also like to thank Grant Finney for helping with the lighting as well.

This year we have tried to provide a varied programme and move away from the traditional Camera Club speakers (old men in cardigans as Claude always refers to them). Just to recap on some of the more "non-traditional" speakers, we started with Simon Roberts fresh from his Election project but also welcomed back Miss Aniela, who together with LomoKev

represented the new “young turk” approach to photography using the medium of Flickr. We will continue this varied approach to the programme next season and I know Rod Orrell has been working hard on this all season.

Speaking of people working hard I have to mention a few people who make this Club work:-

Rod Orrell for putting together our Winter Programme.

Tony Bowall for supporting me in my first year as President.

John Francis who sorts out our finances.

Tony Crowther who has taken over the job of Club Secretary.

John Hazard, Nick Eastham & Paul Kondritz who get here early every week in order to set up the projection equipment and take it down again.

John Hazard (again) and Rich Cutler who look after our website.

Anthony Hunt who has worked really hard in the role of Front of House.

This means getting here every week at 6.30, putting out chairs, getting the easels up from the basement and constructing them, checking the stock in the kitchen etc. and then putting everything away at the end of the season whilst we are all down the pub.

Norman Atkinson who does so many things around the Club, besides his role as Membership Secretary, including turning up from Littlehampton (on a bicycle!) for all our Thursday sessions at the English Language Centre.

Ann Graham who has run the New Member’s Group for the last 6 years and is now handing over to Audrey Marshall and Jean Gerrard.

Peter Charnaud, Bill Brandt & David Wilsdon who organise all our image competitions.

Bill Wisden, Trevor Gellard, Steve Boyle & Tony Bowall who run the highly successful Distinctions evenings.

Chantal Lonsdale, Claude Lester and now Maggi Tillotson who organise our exhibitions at the Koba Bar.

Jerry Webb and Tony Crowther who do all the Club’s publicity.

Leo Jago who organises our Summer Programme.

Chantal Lonsdale and John Hazard who organise the annual Treasure Hunt.

Everyone who has come along and run our Thursday workshops.

And everyone who has given their time to helping the Club.

I sincerely hope I haven’t missed someone off this list which is always the danger in reading out names.

THANK YOU ALL

We started the season with a membership of 150 and the first few meetings caused us some concern over the numbers in the hall. We were certainly exceeding 100 people at some of the early meetings, but, as always, the numbers tailed off through the season and have stabilized at around 60. This seems to be a perennial problem that, for whatever reason, the numbers tail off towards December and remain steady after that. We were even able to invite everyone on our waiting list to join after Christmas and we have ended the season with a membership of 162.

Our New Members’ Group is another source of puzzlement to us. Each year the makeup is different. This year we have had a very experienced group of photographers in the New Member’s Group – which has made some of our more basic workshops somewhat redundant.

We try to cater for what members want so I would like people to tell me if we are doing anything wrong or not doing something we should. Please either confront me or send me an e-mail.

One thing we like to do is brag about our successes and to this end I have put a list together of everything I am aware of. Again if I have missed you off I do apologise.

Southampton 2011

David Gerrard
Maggi Tillotson
Tony Bowall
Bob Webzell

RPS Members Print Exhibition 2011

Trevor Gellard
Jean Gerrard
Colin Miller
Maggi Tillotson
Bill Wisden

RPS International Print Exhibition 2011

David Gerrard

RPS Visual Art Group Exhibition

Bill Wisden – Gold Medal winner

London Salon of Photography 2011

Colin Miller
Tony Bowall
Trevor Gellard
David Gerrard

RPS Licentiatehip

Alison Buchanan
Norman Atkinson
Karen Siggs
Andre Jolley

RPS Associateship

Nick Eastham
Katariina Jarvinen
Colin Miller

AFIAP (Artiste of The International Federation of Photographic Art)

Bob Webzell

The way in which we display our work has changed over the years and we have moved away from the concept of an annual exhibition. The idea of a rolling exhibition started with our tenure at the Old Market, and when the building was sold last year we were fortunate enough (with help from Claude) to get the space in the Koba Bar – right in the middle of Brighton. We hope that this arrangement can continue next year and beyond but this is down to all of us to support the exhibitions and continue to produce the excellent work that

is making the exhibitions such a success.

Finally I would like to make a plea to everyone who has come along this season and enjoyed it. We need helpers! We can't expect the same people to give up their time year after year so we need new blood to come forward and offer help, whether it is the projection team, front of house or running our workshops.

If we can have a larger pool of helpers it does allow the others to take the occasional week off without the Club falling apart – so please think about it and let me know if you are willing to help on a regular basis. In particular if you do put your name down for something, such as door duty or teas please let us know if you can't make it. “

4 Proposals for Changes to BHCC Constitution

Two proposals for changes to the club constitution were presented to the membership by the club secretary. Nominators and seconders were sought for each and they were then voted upon. Both proposals were passed without opposition or abstention. The proposals were the following.

4.1 Proposal to change Section 6 Elections Part [B]

Current text: “Candidates must be nominated and seconded by at least two Club members. Completed nomination forms must be sent to the Secretary at least twenty-eight days before the date of the Annual General Meeting. The candidates must sign the nomination forms indicating their willingness to serve. A candidate for the Presidency must have been a Club member for at least three years including the year of the election and been a member of the Club's Committee for at least a period of one year.”

Proposed text: “Candidates must be nominated and seconded by at least two Club members. Completed nomination forms must be sent to the Secretary at least twenty-eight days before the date of the Annual General Meeting. The candidates must sign the nomination forms indicating their willingness to serve. A candidate for the Presidency must have been a Club member for at least three years including the year of the election and *have been actively involved in the management or organisation of the Club* for at least a period of one year.”

Acceptance Proposed by: Claude Lester; Seconded by: Bob Webzell

4.2 Proposal to change Section 8 Subscriptions

Current text: “The annual subscription per member will be decided by a majority vote at the previous Annual General Meeting, with proportional adjustment to any concessionary rates. All subscriptions are due and payable by 1st October of that Winter season.”

Proposed text: “The annual subscription per member will be decided by a majority vote at the previous Annual General Meeting, with proportional adjustment to any concessionary rates. All subscriptions are due and payable by 1st *September* of that Winter season.”

Acceptance Proposed by: Colin Miller; Seconded by: Claude Lester

These changes will be made to the Constitution and be effective immediately.

5 Nominations

The committee sought nominations for three posts, the President, the Secretary and one Elected Member. By the deadline for these, one nomination had been received for each post.

5.1 Nomination for President: David Gerrard (currently Acting President)

Nominated by: Chantal Lonsdale

Seconded by: Phil Robinson

5.2 Nomination for Secretary: Tony Crowther (currently Acting Secretary)

Nominated by: Maggi Tillotson

Seconded by: Karen Siggs

5.3 Nomination for Elected Member: Paul Stillman

Nominated by: Norman Atkinson

Seconded by: John Hillyard

All nominees were elected without opposition or abstention.

6 Confirmation of Officials for 2011/2012

President	David Gerrard ARPS
Vice President	Tony Bowall FRPS
Life Vice Presidents	Bill Wisden Hon FRPS Stan Gillam ARPS David Valdes Steve Boyle ARPS
Treasurer	John Francis LRPS
Secretary	Tony Crowther
Committee Member	Colleen Slater ARPS
Committee Member	Jerry Webb LRPS
Committee Member	Paul Stillman
Front of House	Anthony Hunt LRPS
Distinctions Advisors	Bill Wisden Hon FRPS Trevor Gellard FRPS Tony Bowall FRPS Steve Boyle ARPS
New Members' Group Convenors	Jean Gerrard LRPS Audrey Marshall ARPS

Competitions Convenors	David Wilsdon ARPS Peter Charnaud ARPS Bill Brandt
Website	John Hazard Rich Cutler ARPS
Publicity	Tony Crowther Jerry Webb LRPS
Exhibitions Convenor	Chantal Lonsdale Maggi Tillotson ARPS
Winter Programme Convenor	Rod Orrell LRPS
Summer Programme Convenor	Leo Jago
Projection	John Hazard Paul Kondritz LRPS Nick Eastham ARPS
Workshops Convenor	Paul Stillman
Archive	Gerry Nevill LRPS
Membership Secretary	Norman Atkinson LRPS

7 Treasurer's Report

John Francis presented the accounts to the meeting and made the following observations.

- ⤴ Due to an increase in membership, the sum collected through subscriptions was higher than the previous year. John noted that the numbers permitted in the Methodist Hall for Tuesday meetings was capped at 120 so there was a limit to how many new members could be accepted.
- ⤴ The sale of equipment referred to in the accounts was mainly redundant picture frames.
- ⤴ Rental expenditure was higher than previously, mainly due to extra workshop bookings only partially covered by door charges. Rents were likely to increase next year and this may demand a review of charges.
- ⤴ In addition several lecturers fees were higher than we had been accustomed to; this would be true for some of the lecturers booked for next season.
- ⤴ Exhibition costs were shown separately rather than being subsumed in administration as previously.
- ⤴ Capital expenditure was also shown separately. We required a new display system when we moved to the larger hall and decent lighting. This project has been long drawn out but promises to work well. Storage boxes had been purchased to protect

the new picture frames from damage.

- ✦ In accordance with the club constitution the accounts will be audited after the year end when they are complete and Bob Webzell has agreed to do this again.
- ✦ We propose that the club subscriptions remain the same this season as last,
 - £47 per member
 - £79.50 for joint membership

Acceptance of the accounts was Proposed by Ken Matthews and Seconded by Claude Lester

8 Competition Results

Entry Group Print Competitions

1 st	Penny Brix
2 nd	Sue Scaping
3 rd	Paul Stillman

A Group Competitions

Speciality Prints

1 st	Heather Buckley
2 nd (Joint)	Claude Lester and Mike Warren

Projected Image

1 st	Jerry Webb
2 nd	Paul Kondritz
3 rd	Norman Atkinson

Print Competition

1 st	David Gerrard
2 nd	Rob Friel
3 rd	Bob Webzell

8 Pairings for “Mystery Portraits”

A draw was made of members putting their names forward for the Summer portrait project. The following pairs were drawn.

Nigel Rose	+	Gerry Nevill
Penny Bailey	+	Jean Gerrard
Jerry Webb	+	Denuta Simmons
Lesley Hurst	+	Rob Metler
Norman Atkinson	+	Chantal Lonsdale
Maggi Tillotson	+	Andre Jolley
Tony Crowther	+	Grant Finney
Phil Robinson	+	John Luke
Jo Dodds	+	Sylvie Paulsson
Heather Buckley	+	Penny Brix
Damon Hart	+	Colin Miller

9 Treasure Hunt Awards

The Treasure Hunt was based on the book/movie "Brighton Rock" by Graham Greene

		Winning Group	Runners-up
1	Ghost Train	5	2
2	Bus	3	4
3	Pub	4	6
4	Deck Chairs	1	5
5	Playing in Hotels	2	3
6	Bank Holiday Tripper	6	1

Picture of the Day voted for at AGM was by Group 2

10 Paris Trip

An audio-visual presentation assembled by Heather Buckley from images captured by members of the club who travelled to Paris to investigate its photographic opportunities was shown and much appreciated. This was followed by the announcement of the poll for best Paris picture. The winners were,

1 st	Colleen Slater
2 nd	Steve Boyle
3 rd	Mehrak Bag Hernejad

11 AOB There were no other issues raised and the meeting was concluded.