

Report on the 30th April meeting of the L&CPU Executive Committee

The members convened at 10am in the morning at Bebington to receive, unpack, sectionalise, randomise and finally repack into boxes the 2170 print entries into the Annual Competitions.

Following a short lunch the EC meeting took place.

After **Apologies** for Absence were recorded and the **Minutes** of the 12th March meeting approved it was down to **Actions** arising from those Minutes.

Speaker System - it was still felt that any system we purchased had to be 'future proof' and that we should ensure that it was good quality and also that it fulfilled all our requirements. It was decided that we should hire a system to cover the forthcoming 'Delegates' Meeting' and then review the matter.

Slide Competitions – this would be revisited when the results of the Questionnaire were known.

Proxy Vote Form – This has now been put on the website.

Police Powers – this matter was still ongoing and would be reported on at a future meeting.

Plagiarism – This matter is still under discussion within the PAGB who advise:

1. If a club detects such problems and they are internal, then only the club need take action. However, if the problem has gone external, say to Federation level, the club should take action and inform the federation the full circumstances.
2. If a Federation detects a problem and the problem is internal to the Federation then the Federation should take action and only refer the matter to the PAGB if the problem has gone outside the Federation to PAGB level.
3. If the PAGB is the first to detect a problem then the circumstances of such problem will dictate whether the club, Federation or PAGB should instigate any action necessary.

The L&CPU sub-committee who were tasked with looking into this have not, as yet, managed to have a meeting – it needs to meet soon.

Boxes are being obtained for the **new prints that are being put into the L&CPU Archive**.

Two people are to be invited onto the **L&CPU Roll of Honour** this year. They have both accepted.

The Treasurer reported that our finances were in a healthy state due in part to our overall membership going up from 3745 to 3907 despite losing two of our member clubs. The PAGB do not benefit in the same way as their subscriptions are collected on a per club basis.

The **PAGB mileage rate** that Lecturers and Judges are allowed to charge is to rise from 22p per mile to 30p per mile plus petrol when the new handbook comes out in September. Clubs are asked to note this increase.

At the **PAGB AGM** in April **Peter Cheetham became the PAGB President**.

It was agreed that the **pre-qualification for applicants wishing to go for their Awards for Photographic Merit** should now just be that they have to be a member of a club within a Federation although it is hoped that applicants will seek mentoring to ensure that their work is up to the required standard.

There was a discussion on the **Photographers Card** – it was agreed that the wording for this should be put onto our website and a copy be sent to the Association of Chief Police Officers for their comments. Clubs can use this wording to produce their own card for distribution to their membership.

The **Competition Secretary** reported that the **PAGB have asked Federations to supply them with digital files for prints** entered into the Annual PAGB Inter-Federation competitions. He pointed out that this would cause a problem due to the short timescale between the selection from our Annuals in May and the closing date for entries to the PAGB in early June. The Folio Secretary, Jon Allanson, volunteered to photograph the entries since contacting the authors was out of the question in the time available.

The **two competitions held on the same day as the AGM** had gone off satisfactorily however there was a slight problem in that there was no catering available before the final round of the PDI competition and so the delay seemed much longer than it actually was. This will be addressed in future years.

If more clubs are encouraged to take part we might have to move to another day to hold the competitions – this will be looked into.

It needs to be made clearer within the rules of the competition at the Big Day that we wanted work new to the L&CPU – this was announced on the website.

The **Annual Competition entry** has just come in with 2170 prints – 640 Mono, 530 Nature and 1000 Colour.

In the projected section we have received 2799 images – 785 Mono, 1266 Colour and 748 Nature.

There were also 23 slides. The future of slides will be discussed when the outcome of the **Questionnaire** is known.

Unfortunately due to certain circumstances there were not as many '**Drop Off**' points this year and that put a much greater load on some of the others.

Detailed discussions followed on the arrangements for the **judging days**.

The **Lecturers and Judges Secretary** reported that letters were about to be sent out to all those on the L&CPU Lecturers & Judges list to check for any **amendments** that need to go into the new Directory.

A note is to be put on the Website asking if there is a demand for another **Judging Seminar**. If there is sufficient demand then it will take place in October or November.

Folios It is suggested that, by agreement with the authors, three top prints should be taken out from the Folios and put into the L&CPU Archive.

There have been problems where the folio delivery address supplied on the Annual Return was either out of date or incorrect Will club Secretaries please ensure the current correct address is supplied.

Exhibitions – There was a discussion as to whether we should produce a printed Exhibition Catalogue this year. Compiling and distributing the catalogue took up a great deal of time and the information it usually contained was now made available on the website. It was therefore agreed that a simple list of acceptances will be provided this year at the Exhibition and an electronic catalogue will be provided for download from the website. The electronic version will also contain results of other competitions during the year.

Archive – 12 boxes of prints have now been photographed and the project is ongoing.

Website – The inclusion of a list of which clubs have entered the Annual Competitions has obviously had an effect as we have had more clubs taking part possibly because club members have reminded their Competition Secretaries that they ought to take part!

The Big Day was felt to be very successful with lots of positive and appreciative emails received.

The problems we noticed were:

- that the Syllabus Secretaries' Market place didn't really happen
- the badges were being given out at the same desk as the Competition prints were being taken in – we propose to have a different drop off point next time
- that competition prints should not be handled except by the judges.
- there was a need to use a public address system in both theatres.

We have had one adverse email suggesting that the L&CPU must make the event more attractive with less specialised speakers and aim for a greater number attending. We ought to 'aim high' and have a venue capable of holding 1000 people with lots of events taking place!

The one good point that was made was that we ought to look into being able to pay for tickets on-line and then collect the tickets on arrival. A member of the EC has been actioned to set up a PayPal Account linked to the L&C website which might be used for a number of payments to the L&CPU, including the purchase of tickets. A small fee could be introduced for using PayPal, to offset their charges.

Overall it was thought that the Big Day this year was a good day out enjoyed by around 300 people.

Questionnaire

This has now gone out to all clubs - Grange were the first to complete and return theirs the day after it arrived!!

Arrangements were then discussed for the **Delegates Meeting** which is being held on the 18th June at the Astley Community Centre in Astley Village, Chorley - PR7 1NP.

Because the **Annual Exhibition** will be split between two venues, Astley Hall and Café Ambio and both close at 5pm it is suggested that attendees allow time to visit one or both of them to see the prints prior to the meeting.

We have now recruited 7 people who have kindly offered to act as **Mentors** for those preparing to go for a PAGB Award for Photographic Merit. They are: Gwen & Phil Charnock, David Butler, Colin Smith, Christine Widdall, Gordon Jenkins & Bob Dennis. A mentor will work individually with a candidate up to the time of their adjudication.

There is a free **Prospective Applicants Seminar** being held on the 25th September in Chorley – **but if you are interested and wish to attend, then you need a ticket**. The morning session will be for advice and in the afternoon there will be a general appraisal of attendees work. **Contact Bob Dennis for further details**.

It was also suggested that maybe people might want to go and watch the **November adjudication** which is being organised by the NWPA and held at the Electric Mountain in Llamberis.

Under '**Any Other Business**' it was reported that, because of the ease that images and sounds can be obtained through the internet, the PAGB and RPS are currently looking at the **Audio Visual rules** bearing in mind that they are photographic organisations. It was pointed out that the RPS have given out distinctions to printers and other technicians in the past and maybe they ought to be looking at awarding distinctions to the 'producers' of sequences.

The **Competition Secretary** pointed out that as he is scheduled to become the next President of the Union – we should be looking for someone to take over the Competition Secretaries role!! Tremaine Cornish expressed a tentative interest.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 4.45pm