

Report on the EC Meeting that took place at Euxton on 3rd September 2011.

It was reported under '**Matters arising from the Minutes of the last meeting**' that Audrey Marsh has been presented with her Roll of Honour certificate at the opening of the Lytham Exhibition.

Adrian Lines of Wigan PS had accepted the invitation to be co-opted onto the EC.

Due to the extremely tight timescale, further discussions took place on how we might quickly obtain digital files for prints that go forward to represent the L&CPU at the PAGB Inter-Federation Print competition.

The first item under 'Governance' was the Election of a new **Competition Secretary** to take over when Henry Mullarkey becomes the L&CPU President in February. This is to be Gordon Jenkins APAGB.

Gordon's present position as the L&CPU **Treasurer** will be taken over by Norman Thompson DPAGB.

The 'Natural Justice' sub committee is to be reformed with its brief widened to be a '**Standards' sub committee** with a mandate to look into what sanctions might be applied for any breaches of L&CPU rules and other wider issues of "natural justice". They will then report back to the EC with their recommendations.

Christine Widdall reported on her on-going work in analysing the data from the L&CPU **Questionnaires**.

Whilst there is about 2-3 weeks work still to do, the analysis so far has thrown up some interesting facts.

A discussion took place on how we should best disseminate all this information back to the clubs.

It was decided that, rather than sending one printed copy to the club secretary, it would be sent as a pdf document which the Secretary could then easily forward to all club members. This should ensure that it speedily gains the widest distribution and that all the membership have an equal chance to read it.

Amongst the **Correspondence** were two letters from the Western Counties PF – one about the Awards for Photographic Merit and the other about the PAGB Annual Competitions. It was felt that in both cases there was no need for change and that we should not respond to the letters as they had not been sent out officially to all the Federations through the PAGB General Secretary.

A letter was received advising the EC of a possible rules infringement with a print that was on show in the Annual Exhibition. The L&CPU Competition Secretary is to contact the Secretary of the club concerned to investigate this and whilst this is taking place the print will be withdrawn from the folios.

The **Treasurer** then reported on the finances and requested that the EC members submitted their ongoing expenses as soon as possible.

First up in the **Priority Matters** were the forthcoming Mentoring Seminar and the suggestion that we might hold another Judges Seminar.

The **Mentoring Seminar** is to be held on Sunday 25th September in Chorley and at the present time 47 people have applied to Bob Dennis for tickets. Detailed arrangements for the day were then discussed and jobs allocated. If there is sufficient demand then we may offer to put on another **Judges Seminar** in late January 2012.

Under **Competitions**, arrangements were confirmed for the L&CPU **PDI Knockout** which is to be held at Poynton on Saturday 26th November. This will be preceded at 1.30pm with the November EC meeting.

The rules and entry form are now on the website ready for download.

It is hoped to hold the **Club Print and PDI Challenges** on Saturday 3rd March and a venue for this would be found. These competitions help decide which clubs should be invited to represent the L&CPU in the PAGB competitions at Warwick and Deeside

It was agreed that the **Young Photographer competition** is run as a separate competition with an entry of up to three images in both print and PDI. The photographer could also enter the main annual competitions – with of course different images.

It was suggested that to clarify the rules on '**Nature**' we use the PSA definition.

The next item was a report on the **Folios** given by Jon Allanson.

The folios have now all gone out with around 80 clubs taking all the folios and that the new Rota for 2012/13 is almost ready for publication.

He suggested that we might have to look at the make-up of the two rotas as they are now rather out of kilter with 50 clubs on one and 28 on the other. Whilst one has to be smaller to allow for the extra travelling time to the Isle

of Man and return it was felt that the situation needed to be looked into, of course taking into account historical local arrangements.

Tremaine Cornish, the Exhibition Secretary, thanked all who had helped put up and take down both the **L&CPU Exhibition at Astley Hall** and also the PAGB at Manchester Cathedral and especially Mike Lawrence for being a sterling workhorse & for his 'Video Tours', one of which was recently used to seal the booking of a future Exhibition, about which more later. Also to John Widdall who also worked above and beyond the call of duty. He expressed his appreciation to both and stated that it was a pleasure to work with this team.

The L&CPU exhibition went well with around 75 people viewing it on a quiet day and 200 on the busier days. A number of people enquired to the staff about purchasing pictures but only one was passed to Tremaine which he passed to the author and resulted in a sale. Perhaps this should be facilitated in the future.

A very large number of people viewed the PAGB exhibition at the Cathedral – there were some 26 pages of comments with visitors from at least 33 countries. A report on the success of the Exhibition has already been forwarded to the PAGB and acknowledged

The 2013 **PAGB Print Exhibition** is booked for the Howarth Art Gallery, Accrington - Dec 13 & Jan 14.

Extra boxes are required to fit all the prints into the enlarged **Archive**. It is hoped to obtain prints from a cross section of clubs and include a wide spectrum of subjects. Especially useful to have would be some of the documentary work that clubs are doing.

Work is proceeding on digitising the images and our Archivist, Garth Tighe is having training on the necessary database software. He has also managed to devise a method to allow him to successfully copy the 3.5" Lantern Slides. It is hoped that in the near future most images will be available to view on line in a searchable database. Accrington CC have asked Garth to put on a special Archive evening at their club on Friday 14th October.

John Royle reporting on the **Website** said that, as with 'Focal Points', the request for **Interesting Articles** had not received any response. He hoped that people might provide articles on say 'Mounting Prints' or 'How to prepare PDIs' and will make a more direct approach on this matter.

He is happy to publicise any club event or news item plus plug any book or CD provided that any profit from the sale of these goes to club funds or a recognised charity.

The **weekly email** is to advise clubs of what has been added to the website and a selection of items that the club Secretary might like to bring to the attention of the membership at the next meeting.

During the past month there have been some 13,307 page views and over 11,000 visitors.

Norman Thompson reported that **the next Big Day is to be held on Sunday 18th March 2012**.

Last year's event proved very successful and the location at Lancaster popular.

Two speakers have already been booked and he is busy chasing a further two. He is also on the lookout for sponsorship through various trade stands.

We now moved onto **Any other Business**.

Concern was expressed at **the number of events being held** on five consecutive Saturdays in February/March that the members of the EC were involved with. A suggestion was made that maybe the March EC Meeting could be held after the AGM...a decision on this will be taken at a later date.

Tremaine Cornish raised the general question of what is the policy regarding the use of Photographic Distinctions in all L&CPU Publications. After some discussion, where we were told about what distinctions other organisations do and do not recognise, a proposal was put forward by Diana Magor – 'That up to three distinctions could be used as chosen by the photographer.' This was followed by an amendment from Gordon Jenkins – 'That one of the 3 should be a PAGB Distinction and then 2 others.'

A vote was taken and the amendment was carried.

It was suggested that the members of the EC with a portfolio should provide information on the website so that newly appointed club committee members can discover what procedures they need to adopt to be able to access the service correctly.

It was noted that one Federation had found alleged irregularities within their accounts and their Treasurer has been suspended pending the outcome of enquiries.

The PAGB's insurers have suggested that maybe all clubs and Federations should think about having a CRB check on their Treasurer and that two signatures should be needed on a cheque (both done at the same time!) This might seem to be an over reaction but something that may become a requirement in the future.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 5.06pm