



Sevenoaks Camera Club

Affiliated to
The Photographic Alliance of Great Britain through The Kent County Photographic Association

Minutes Committee Meeting Friday 31st May 2024 : 7.00pm at Sandy Wyndham's house

Attendance : Derek Medhurst, Susan Wilkinson, Sandy Wyndham, Peter Jones, Roger Lee, Jean-Pierre Darque, Mick Dudley, Ann White, Rob Weighill, Peter Dillon (DM, SuW, SaW, PJ, RL, J-P, MD, AW, RW, PD).

Apologies : Tom Briody, Anne Roberts

1. Review of activities :

- a. Club members took photographs at Kentish Opera's Dress Rehearsal of Aida on 17th April.
- b. At the AGM the proposal to discontinue marking at Club Competitions was passed almost unanimously, so next Season competitions will not be marked.
- c. Various outings have been proposed over the summer :
 - 10th June - meet at Shoreham for a photography and pub evening. (DM lead)
 - 29th June - Kentwell Hall Tudor Midsummer, Long Milford, Sudbury, Suffolk CO10 9BA (MD lead)
 - meetings are also proposed on the evening of 15th July and daytime on 31st July.
 - RW is researching a visit to Brands Hatch - not yet finalised.
 - J-P has suggested visiting St Michael in East Peckham- a disused church open during the day from 10 am to 4 pm, and St Thomas a Becket church in Capel, also open from 10 am to 4 pm.
 - DM is investigating a possible expedition to photograph Swanley for the Darent Valley Community Rail Partnership.

The issue of Insurance was discussed and trip-organisers were reminded of their responsibilities to advise the club secretary of each outing prior to its occurrence, so as to comply with the policy terms and conditions.

2. Minutes of meeting of 6th April

These were accepted without amendment, and there were no matters arising. In the past the Chairman has printed and signed minutes, but it was decided that it was sufficient for the records to have the minutes on the website and also on the computers of members of the Committee.

3. Financial

TB, DM and SuW can Ok cheques and TB and SuW can authorise bank transfers electronically. DM will also get himself authorised for online banking. DM has paid for Zoom and is happy to use his account for the Club.

4. The Annual Exhibition : Set-up 13th August, end pm 24th August.

So far we have 32 print entries rising to 64 with promised ones, but fewer PDIs. **SaW will send out an e-mail reminder** of the closing date of 17th June for exhibition entries to all members on Monday 2nd June. She will include requests for stewarding at the exhibition.

The deposit to SVAF has to be paid by 14th June - TB has provided a cheque.

SaW showed the committee an outline for a flyer for the exhibition designed by a friend - it was approved in general, though essential information like the date needs to be more prominent, with less text. J-P has experience of distributing A5 leaflets in Sevenoaks shops. The flyer will be approved by mid July, with an A3 version in the library. We still have the banner for the library entrance.

The private view will be from 6 - 8 pm on Thursday 22nd August. We will have another meeting to finalise arrangements nearer the time.

SaW has a list of invitees various people will send them out and but the RSVPs will be returned to SaW.

It was decided that the judge should be asked to give out the exhibition trophies at the members evening. **SuW will get all the trophies engraved beforehand** (It was not finally decided whether the Season's trophies should be presented at the same time or at the first meeting of next Season.)

The A4 prints for the mezzanine have been requested, and will be asked for after 17th June.

A vote was taken at the meeting about whether we should continue giving certificates for the Exhibition and for competitions. Six people voted to abolish certificates and four abstained - **We will stop giving out certificates** unless the membership ask for them to be brought back.

5. Managing meetings - sharing rota :

DM will probably host Zoom meetings as he is the account holder.

DM will draw up a hosting rota from the list of those who are prepared to host.

Colleen is willing to continue doing the **Vote of Thanks rota** so she will carry on.

Ann will take over the refreshment arrangements from SuW next Season.

SuW will bring the things on the first night. After this **SuW will draw up a refreshments rota** when she has an up to date membership list.

J-P will send this to the committee as soon as possible (Done 1st June).

Ann will take over bringing the supplies and will keep the coffee, tea and some UHT milk in the Mencap Hall cupboard. Members will be asked to bring their own mugs.

Speakers : SaW will remind a week before the meeting, and provide details to the Committee member who is hosting : SaW will then thank the speaker the day after the evening.

PDI judges : SaW will provide details of the judge to RW and MD. One of them will remind the judge a week before the meeting and will thank the judge the day after the meeting.

Print judges : SaW will provide details of the judge to PD. PD will remind the judge a week before the meeting and will thank the judge the day after the meeting.

DM will host the first meeting of the season.

RW and MD will re-do the title page for DiCentra to make it more flexible.

6 The Programme for next Season :

SuW needs the programme so that she can let the Mencap Hall know when we will need it. (She tells Athene Fenn and Jackie Reader at this time of year.). The programme will be sent out as soon as the submission dates for competitions are checked and agreed.

PD suggested that the absolute deadline for print submissions should be the Monday of the preceding week from each competition (excluding non-meeting or

Zoom meeting Mondays), but the print box will usually be available in the hall for the previous two Mondays”

SuW will do a small printed list of hand in dates to remind members.

DM has made a check list for the host for the evening so that everything gets covered. Reminders of hand in dates should be included in the announcements.

J-P suggested that people could write-up meetings and perhaps put these on social media - so far SaW has possession of the Club Facebook page but not of instagram which is still with the former chairman. DM agreed that write-ups of activities by Brian Rawlins on the website have proved very popular. It was suggested that we could reserve an X site in the name of Sevenoaks Camera Club, though no-one had an X account and felt keen to do this.

The Google discussion group could be used more, and could have reminders of the outings over the summer.

It was agreed previously that What's App would only be used for individual special interest groups not for the whole club as it can be very intrusive if a group has many members.

When the programme for next season is ready, **SaW will e-mail it to all members**. She will get **printed cards ready for the exhibition** and meetings in September.

The **second meeting of next Season** on 9th September will be a Club Night at which the plan is to explain how to prepare entries for competitions. It was suggested we could have stations round the Hall for members to move around. Sizing of PDIs, mounting of prints and different choices of paper might be covered. We could use sub-groups of the committee to decide details of particular evenings.

The triptych competition will not involve a presentation with music as done in the past but will take a different approach.

At the AGM it was suggested that it would be good if competitions could be more interactive between members and the judge, or the winners could explain how and why they took their images. The committee meeting was clear that there was unlikely to be time for this, though the attitude of judges when asked not to score but just find 1st, 2nd, 3rd and imagination plus merits remains to be seen. They may feel more relaxed and interactive?

It was decided that print competition evenings should have all the prints up on stands at the start if there is enough space. That way all members can see every print from the start, and they will all be on view at the break. This will avoid delaying the break until the judge finishes commenting, and encourage member involvement.

It was suggested that people speaking about their prints - the winning ones if their makers were prepared to talk - could be incorporated into a Club Night, For example, there is a spare Club Night in November. We also have Club Nights in February and November, where several members have volunteered to demonstrate various photo techniques.

It was suggested that we could have an evening on the **use of film**. PD uses film regularly. Film is coming back in popularity to some extent. We would need to gauge demand.

7. **AOB.**

- a. It is necessary that if anyone leads a Club outing that it be published as such in minutes and should be notified to SuW so that it is covered by insurance.

- b. Contingency back up of key documents will probably be on Microsoft OneDrive as it has more storage than Dropbox, which is the alternative. DM will test to make sure that OneDrive will work for everyone.
- c. The Club should see if it is possible to have some publicity at Sevenoaks Station. TB knows the station personnel, so perhaps he can find out what might be possible.

Still to be decided or done:

Details of various **outings** over the summer including timings - members will be notified / reminded by e-mail and possibly on the Google discussion group.

The exhibition : We need another full committee meeting before the exhibition to allocate tasks for the private view and decide the Host. (Drinks/ nibbles / trophies etc.). This meeting would probably also consider the first few meetings of the Season. This could probably be organised either on 5th August or 22nd or 29th July.

The prints for showing in the Mezzanine and the vitrines must be requested and organised by the Exhibition sub-committee.

The print display will be organised by Pat as in previous years, and the PDIs by DM as they are shown on his TV.

SuW needs to know the winners as soon as the exhibition judge tells us, so that the trophies can be engraved. We also need to decide which trophies should be used for which competitions beforehand - perhaps a sub-group of the committee could do this.

SaW is finalising flyers and then the distribution will have to be decided.

SaW will need to get programmes printed before the exhibition.

The programme : We will need more detail to be decided for evenings that are not talks or competitions.

The meeting concluded at 9.20pm

31st May 2024