



# NORTHERN COUNTIES PHOTOGRAPHIC FEDERATION

## Minutes of the 120<sup>th</sup> Annual General Meeting held on Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> March 2023 at Clara Vale Community Centre, South View, Clara Vale, Ryton NE40 3SY commencing at 2.00pm

### 23AGM/01 NOTICE CALLING THE 120<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The President, Alan Wilson, read the notice calling the 120<sup>th</sup> Annual General Meeting to order.  
All Delegates, Past Presidents and Retiring Executive Committee were welcomed at the opening of the Meeting

### 23AGM/02 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

**Past Presidents** – Stan Bewick, John Cooper, Alan McCormick, Joseph Duffy  
**Delegates** – Gerry Adcock, David Brown, Debra Taylor  
**Clubs** – Ashington CC, Cambois CC, Copeland PS, Gallery PG, Hexham PS, Keswick PS, Penrith CC, Sunderland PA, Ryton CC

### 23AGM/03 MINUTES OF THE 119<sup>th</sup> AGM HELD ON SUNDAY 03<sup>rd</sup> April 2022

*Acceptance was proposed by Alan Porrett and seconded by Richard Speirs and was agreed unanimously.*

### 23AGM/04 MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

There were no matters arising from the minutes.

### 23AGM/05 ELECTION OF NEW CLUBS TO THE FEDERATION

No nominations for new clubs have been received.

### 23AGM/06 REPORT OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE – Alan Wilson

The past 12 months as President have absolutely flown by with multiple lessons learnt regards our Northern Counties Photographic Federation and the people we volunteer with and depend upon.

The Executive and supporting sub-committees continue to work and evolve and I would like to say Thank-you to those who are leaving and a very warm welcome to incoming Executive and team members. We shall hear more details regards this "who's who" later.

The core Executive team provide the backbone of our Federations activities and we have utmost reliance on a few members who have accepted multiple roles. A risk with this is if an individual becomes ill, or personal circumstances change work output can easily fall behind. This happened to me last year with resultant delays to some presentations – to which I apologise for any inconvenience.

Risk of over-reliance can be reduced with designated "stand-ins." Easily understood job descriptions with details up to date and available to seamlessly transfer. To this end I am ensuring quality hardware and software is made available as necessary for the team along with creation of simple processes and guidance.

Ultimate answer regards too many task with too few hands, is of course to obtain new members for the Federation Executive and sub-committees. Your input could be vital in helping keep the team vibrant ensuring fun and satisfaction while learning on the job. Nomination forms are available, please speak to any committee member should you be interested. Margaret will happily take nominations, so don't leave it too late.

Although a few clubs have bucked the trend, the majority of clubs are working with reduced membership post-covid and we even have the imminent closure of the very long-standing Sunderland Photographic Association a club with a proud record dating back to 1888 - 135 years of history and I have recently been informed that Copeland PS are also closing their doors.

To aid our clubs I am delighted with formation of the Club Support and Development sub-committee team who are seeking to help any clubs that are struggling, while learning from and sharing best practice.

We have many other positives; help is available for those wishing to progress in photographic distinctions. Training for prospective new judges with refresher training for current judges and those associated with submitting work for their clubs will take place on 2<sup>nd</sup> April.

Our Club Championship competition was a success with some magical images and numbers of clubs entering creeping up while entries for our Annuals Competition are coming in, encouragingly with entries from some clubs who have not entered for many a year. Northern Focus e-magazine continues to spread the story of our region and beyond with celebration of success.

Although sometimes a challenge, we have a lot to be thankful for, a lot to be proud of and to look forward to within the NCPF, our photographic clubs and our chosen photographic hobby.

Thank you.  
Alan Wilson  
President NCPF

*Acceptance of the report was proposed by Jim Welsh, seconded by Phil Dunn. This was agreed unanimously.*

### 23AGM/07 TREASURER'S REPORT & PRESENTATION OF ACCOUNTS FOR YEAR TO 31/12/22 - Peter Yearnshire

First of all I would like to thank Warren Snowdon for auditing the NCPF accounts.

As in all financial matters I have to produce all accounts to him at the end of the financial year, I value any advice and take on board any recommendations for the following year.

At the end of 2022, there are 4 accounts for the NCPF.

- 1) Current Account
- 2) Reserve Account
- 3) Fixed Interest Account with Scottish Widows (Postal Account)
- 4) International Salon

I have responsibility for recording and ensuring that all accounts are managed to good effect, and as we do not have any overdraft facility I have to move monies in between accounts, as and when required.

All budgets have to be implemented and adhered to good effect, extracurricular, or non-budgeted events have to be self-financing as far as possible. This money has to be stretched to accommodate all of the activities, and the financial management of the organisation as a whole.

The Scottish Widows postal account will be closed in February 2023. The money from this account will be placed in the Current Account.

Following the hosting of the Salon event in 2022, a major decision was made **not to go ahead** with hosting any more Salon events. Financial matters were **not the main** obstacle in hosting the Salon event.

It was generally realised that the skill mix, as well as the commitment and manpower was not sustainable to continue in the present format.

The money from the Salon has now been transferred into the main current account. The closure of this account will happen in due course.

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As with all matters financial you cannot plan for all eventualities.

I am aware that there are variances in costs between events and competitions. This is mainly out of our control and usually comes down to cost of hiring premises and paying expenses for judges. This accounts for some of the variances on the year on year totals.

I hope this explains in some way the comings and goings of all the monies of the NCPF.

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One final thing, as a reminder:- It is **mandatory** that all clubs in the NCPF have Public Liability Insurance for their club. It is the responsibility of the Individual Clubs to obtain P.L.I. for their club. The PAGB have now arranged Insurance Services through HIVE. (Axa) This can be accessed, and paid for via the PAGB website.

All that said, Clubs can still purchase their Insurance services independently.

I will now gladly try to answer any questions from the floor appertaining to my role as Treasurer.

Peter Yearnshire  
NCPF Treasurer.

**N.C.P.F. AGM (2022)**  
**Balance Sheet (2021)**

**N.C.P.F. AGM (2023)**  
**Balance Sheet (2022)**

	<u>Expense</u>	<u>Income</u>	<u>Variation</u>		<u>Expense</u>	<u>Income</u>	<u>Variation</u>
Bal Carried Over – 2021	5542.81			Bal Carried Over – 2022	4654.34		
NCPF Fees(49 Clubs)	0.00			150.00			150.00
Club C/Ships	-10.00			0.00			-10.00
Presentation	-152.42			57.00			-95.42
Beamish	0.00			0.00			0.00
Annals	0.00			0.00			0.00
Publications	0.00			0.00			0.00
Judges Events	0.00			0.00			0.00
Webmaster	0.00			0.00			0.00
PAGB – AGM	0.00			0.00			0.00
Other	-5.95			0.00			-5.95
PAGB National Finals	0.00			0.00			0.00
Secretary	-104.50			0.00			-104.50
Area Meetings	0.00			0.00			0.00
Ex – Meetings via Zoom	-158.29			0.00			-158.29
Printing for Directory	-483.25			0.00			-483.25
Treasurer	0.00			0.00			0.00
Inter A/C Transfers	0.00			0.00			0.00
Presidents Expenses	0.00			0.00			0.00
Medals & Ribbons	0.00			0.00			0.00
Equipment Purchase 2021	0.00			0.00			0.00
Portfolio	0.00			0.00			0.00
Clubs PAGB Fees	0.00			48.00			48.00
Fed PLI + Management Ins.	-91.82			0.00			-91.82
Interest Payment from 3 Yr A/C	0.00			27.16			27.16
Executive Travel Expenses	-84.40			0.00			-84.40
Storage Facilities	-80.00			0.00			-80.00
<b>Totals</b>	<b>-1170.63</b>			<b>282.16</b>			<b>-888.47</b>
Plus Opening Balance							5542.81
<b>Final Bank Bal. @ 2018</b>							<b>4654.34</b>

NCPF Fees(45Clubs)	
Club C/Ships	
Presentation	
Beamish *	
Annals	
Publications – Postage *	
Judges Events	
Web Hosting Account *	
NCPF Expenses *	
Other - Engraving	
PAGB National Finals	
Secretary	
N/Tyne Area Meetings *	
Ex – Meetings via Zoom	
Directory/ P+P *	
Treasurer	
From Reserve A/C to Main A/C	
Presidents Expenses	
Medals & Ribbons	
Equipment Purchase *	
Portfolio	
Clubs PAGB Fees	
Fed PLI + Management Ins.*	
Interest Payment for Postal A/C	
Executive Travel Expenses	
Storage Facilities	
From Main A/C to Int. Salon	
<b>Totals</b>	
Plus Opening Balance	
<b>Final Bank Bal. @ 2022</b>	

**Equipment owned by NCPF- 2023(AGM)**

**(Depreciation value to end of 2022)**

**FOR AGM MEETING (March 26<sup>th</sup> 2023)**

List of Equipment	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
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			£	£	£	£	£	£
1	Vote Counting Machine (Number 1) Brown Case	Written off	-	-	-	-	-	-
2	8x8 Projector Screen	Written off	-	-	-	-	-	-
3	Tables	Written off	-	-	-	-	-	-
4	President's Insignia, Gavel and Block	Written off	-	-	-	-	-	-
5	Competition Trophies	Written off	-	-	-	-	-	-
6	Acer Ferrari 4006 WLMi Laptop	Written off	-	-	-	-	-	-
7	Toshiba Laptop Computer	Written off	-	-	-	-	-	-
8	Computer Linked Vote Counting Machine. (Number 3) RMC	Written off	-	-	-	-	-	-
9	Hitachi CP X265 Digital Projector	Written off	-	-	-	-	-	-
10	Canon Xceed Digital Projector	Written off	-	-	-	-	-	-
11	Transmitter for P/A System	Written off	-	-	-	-	-	-
12	Vote Counting Machine (Number 2) Black box	Written off	-	-	-	-	-	-
13	5 x DVD copier machine	Written off	-	-	-	-	-	-
14	Beamish Banner	Written off	-	-	-	-	-	-
15	Rear Projection Screen	Written off	-	-	-	-	-	-
16	Pradovit Colour Projector – 90 + 150 mm lenses, remote and cables	Written off	-	-	-	-	-	-
17	Pradovit Colour Projector 250 + 150mm lens	Written off	-	-	-	-	-	-
18	Public Address System	Written off	-	-	-	-	-	-
19	Laptop Computer	Written off	-	-	-	-	-	-
20	Portable Hard Drive + Hub Adaptor + Keypad	Written off	-	-	-	-	-	-
21	Brother Printer	Written off	-	-	-	-	-	-
22	Dymo Printer	Written off	-	-	-	-	-	-
23	Maplin Speaker System	Written off	-	-	-	-	-	-
24	Computer Extension Leads	Written off	2.99	-	-	-	-	-
25	Toshiba Senator Carry Bag	Written off	22.50	15.01	7.52	0	-	-
26	Hewlett Packard 17 – Laptop Computer	Written off	723.07	482.17	241.27	0	-	-
27	Computer leads for HP Laptop	Written off	5.25	3.50	1.75	0	-	-
28	Optoma DH401 Digital Projector	Written off	750.00	562.50	375.00	188.00	-	-
29	DVD Writer – ASUS SDRW 08DS-UOB 8 SPEED External	Written off	20.00	15.00	10.00	5.00	-	-
30	Laptop (HP 255 G6)	Written off	299.00	224.25	149.50	75.00	-	-
31	Optoma Projector Carry Bag	Written off	33.72	25.29	16.86	8.43	-	-
32	Advent AHDMDV115 HDMI Cables	Written off	39.98	29.99	20.00	9.99	-	-
33	Laptop Carry Bag	Written off	11.95	8.97	5.99	3.01	-	-
34	Seagate 2TB Exp Port External Hard Drive	Written off	64.99	48.75	32.51	16.27	-	-
35	Toshiba 1TB Portable Hard Drive	-	-	41.99	31.50	21.01	10.51	0
36	Chuiwi Herobook Laptop + Accessories – Cables etc.					360.08	270.06	
37	Several USB Sticks & Several portable hrd drives						326.26	

In May 2009 Executive Committee approved to 'write off' older equipment and to adopt recommendations from NCPF Auditor to adopt 4 year equal proportion depreciation values on all equipment.

Some of the 'written off' equipment is still used, items which are not fit for purpose will be disposed of as and when deemed to be obsolete by NCPF committee members.

**International Salon    Balance Sheet (2022)**  
**Expense    Income    Variation**

<b>Balance Carried Over - 2021</b>	<b>647.92</b>		
Hotel Accommodation/Judges	-754.00	0.00	-754.00
FIAP	-298.11	0.00	-298.11
GPU	-311.61	0.00	-311.61
PSA	-416.09	0.00	-416.09
Judges Fees	-920.45	0.00	-920.45
Webuilder	-45.00	0.00	-45.00
Postage	-90.55	0.00	-90.55
Sundries	-60.14	0.00	-60.14
Catering	-99.00	0.00	-99.00
Room Hire @ TPS	-180.00	0.00	-180.00
P. Stapleton	-100.00	0.00	-100.00
Labels	-14.35	0.00	-14.35
Medals	-58.95	0.00	-58.95
Ribbons	-91.62	0.00	-91.62
Engraving	-15.00	0.00	-15.00
Trophies	-58.95	0.00	-58.95
From Main A/C to Salon A/C	0.00	3000.00	3000.00
From Pay Pal Account to Salon A/C	0.00	2405.53	2405.53
<b>Totals</b>	<b>-3513.82</b>	<b>5405.53</b>	<b>1891.71</b>

Open Balance 1.1.22			<b>647.92</b>
Income - 2022			5405.53
Expense - 2022			-3513.82
Closing Balance – 31.12.22			<b>2539.63</b>

**Grand Totals Year on Year**

<b>Year on Year</b>	<b>31.12.18</b>	<b>31.12.19</b>	<b>31.12.20</b>	<b>31.12.21</b>	<b>31.12.22</b>
<b>Current Account</b>	3391.14	3777.45	5542.81	4654.34	2466.61
<b>Reserve Account</b>	2270.99	2275.55	2277.56	2277.80	1281.26
<b>Postal Account</b>	15232.41	15445.68	15445.68	15445.68	15445.68
<b>International Salon</b>	3722.51	1472.01	1108.00	647.92	2539.63

<b>Grand Totals</b>	<b>24617.05</b>	<b>22970.69</b>	<b>24374.05</b>	<b>23025.74</b>	<b>21733.18</b>
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Thank you – Peter Yearnshire

I have examined the accounts compiled for the Northern Counties Photographic Federation covering the year 2022.

These were prepared using the receipts and payments method without reserves and accruals.

I found all recorded transactions had appropriate back up in the form of invoices, receipts and bank statements.

There was evidence of monthly reconciliation's being performed.

Signed:- *W. Snowden*

Date:- March 1<sup>st</sup> 2023

Warren Snowden, Certified Internal Auditor.

*Peter explained in detail the movement of monies over the last year and answered all questions regarding the expenditure for the year. He reminded those present that this was his last report as Treasurer. He also said that Warren Snowden, The Auditor, was also retiring after this A.G.M. He emphasised that the Public Liability Insurance was MANDATORY for every club in the Federation. The storage fees to Tynemouth PS and Empire School of Boxing have still to be paid – 2 x £40.00. After the closure of the International Salon all money remaining in the account has been transferred into the main account. Peter explained that he will be handing everything over to the new Treasurer, Jill Chamberlin, in due course.*

*Acceptance of the report was proposed by Dave Coates, seconded by Jill Chamberlin This was agreed unanimously.*

## 23AGM/08

### REPORT - INTERNATIONAL SALON CHAIRMAN – JIM WELSH – REPORT BY ALAN WILSON

Alan read through his report.

Reference is made to Edition 94 of Northern Focus P23-25 which documents the 41<sup>st</sup> NCPF International Salon and its Likely Demise.

#### Summary

Small team planned and ran the 41<sup>st</sup> Northern Counties International Salon at Tynemouth PS club rooms, May 2022. Progress made with money spent when Chairman (and only experienced person on database), fell ill requiring surgery, worsening ill health had allowed some actions to fall behind. NCPF President (Jim Welsh) agreed to act as Chairman using his good name regards trust.

Decision – Go or No-Go: Go ahead.

A crash course on software and salon management for AW. New website created, PayPal confirmed, advertising commenced.

Judges booked, FIAP, PSA, GPU contest approval gained.

Entries received.

Smooth and enjoyable 4 days running competition with judges writing very positive reports to PAGB/FIAP.

Reports distributed to all entrants.

Reports distributed to FIAP/PSA/GPU

Medals and ribbons posted to entrants.

43-minute Digital Exhibition and 92 page Catalogue created – sent to all NCPF clubs Jan 2023.

#### Where we are now:

- PhotoComp Software will no longer be supported from December (other software available).
- Salon lost money c£1K due to excessively tight schedule and short entry window reducing entries. c1700 entries from 164 entrants. Break even estimated at c250 entrants.
- Many of the NCPF Executive are ambivalent regards running further Salons. A few are vociferously opposed to running further Salons.
- Jim and Margaret unable to support further Salon due to work commitments.

So: This leaves us with Likely Demise of our Salon.

Unless - someone re-invigorates and sells idea of restarting Salon to the Executive Committee, acknowledging the planning process required and year-round commitment. Were that person to become available they would have my backing along with support and written guidance of lessons learnt along with the small and now experienced team.

#### Suggested way forward:

Leave International Salon Chairman role open within NCPF for next 24 months (as vacant).

Any volunteer(s) to raise case with NCPF for re-start as 42<sup>nd</sup> Northern Counties International Salon – or perhaps as another name. If no takers: Close our Salon link at AGM 2025 Remove all references from Directory and documentation. *This was agreed by all.*

Thanks go to extended team who all had some involvement:

Jim Welsh, Margaret Welsh, Joseph Duffy, Joe Finlay, Lynda Golightly, David Brown, Alan Wilson, Peter Yearnshire, Howard Wilson.

*Acceptance of the report was proposed by Jim Welsh, seconded by John Smith. This was agreed unanimously.*

## 23AGM/09

### REPORT – COMPETITIONS OFFICER CHAIR – ALAN FORSTER COMPETITIONS SUB COMMITTEE REPORT 2023

Following the successful completion of the 2022 Annuals, John Twizell stood down at the 2022 AGM as Competitions Secretary after 10 years. John has overhauled and reorganized the arrangements for running the Club and Annual competitions so that everything runs in a smooth and orderly fashion. John has generously offered continuing support to the Sub-Committee should it be needed. It was agreed that John would remain a member of the subcommittee so that his knowledge and extensive experience was not lost. A huge vote of thanks is due to John for all of his hard work and dedication over the last 10 years. Thank you John.

The 2022 Annuals took place at Clara Vale over the weekend of 23/24 April. The full results of the individual award winners are available on the NCPF website.

The NCPF was represented at the 2022 Inter Federation Competition by Northallerton CC and Gosforth CC. The NCPF came 13th in the monochrome prints competition with 193 points, 14th in the colour prints competition with 191 points, and 13th in the nature competition with 178 points. Special mention must go to John Devlin who won the Gold Medal Award for his monochrome print, Last of the Dinosaurs.

The awards presentations for 2022 successfully took place on Sunday 20th November 2022 at Clara Vale.

The Club Championships for 2023 took place at Clara Vale on 12th February 2023 for both Print & PDI sections. The winning club in the Print section was Tynemouth PS with a total of 243 points followed by Saltburn PS with 240 points. Both Tynemouth PS & Saltburn PS will be invited to represent the NCPF at the forthcoming PAGB Print Club Competition. The image awarded the best Print in the competition was "A Walk on the Prom" by Henry Tennant of Tynemouth PS. The PDI section was won by Northallerton CC with 244 points followed by Alnwick CC with 234 points. Gallery PG also scored 234 points. Both Northallerton CC & Alnwick CC will be invited to represent the NCPF at the forthcoming PAGB PDI Club Competition. Alnwick came second as a result of the tie break rules being applied. The image awarded best PDI in the competition was "Off Hunting" by Bob Norton of Guisborough PG. Congratulations to the successful clubs/authors. A full set of results are available on the NCPF website.

Gerry Adcock is stepping down at the 2023 AGM from his role on the Competition Sub-Committee after seven years. Gerry has played a major role in organising both the Annuals and Club Championships, arranging invitations, the PDI competitions and organising the website. The Competition Sub-Group would like to put on record our thanks to Gerry for all of his hard work and dedication. Thank you Gerry.

Invitations for the 2023 Annuals have already been issued and the closing date is midnight on 3rd April 2023. The competition is scheduled to take place at Clara Vale over the weekend of 22/23rd April 2023.

Alan Forster  
Competition Sub Committee Chairman

*Howard Wilson thanked Alan Forster for taking over the role of Competitions Sub Committee Chairman and Alan Wilson for stepping in and taking over as Annuals PDI Officer otherwise the competition may not have happened.*

*Acceptance of the report was proposed by Phillip Dove, seconded by Phil Dunn and agreed unanimously.*

## 23AGM/10

### REPORT – BEAMISH REPRESENTATIVE – JOSEPH DUFFY

In Joseph's absence, Alan Wilson read his report.

#### NCPF Beamish Weekend 2022

The Annual Beamish Exhibition took place over the weekend of May 21st – 22nd 2022. 125 prints by NCPF club members from Blyth PS, Morton PS, Morpeth CC, Ashington CC, Sunderland PA and Whickham PC were on display. The winning image from the Beamish Trophy Competition 2021 by Graham Harland from Blyth PS was also on display and Joe Sheridan of Washington CC brought along his framed prints from his BA (hons) degree course in photography and media. There was also a small display of prints in tribute to the late Ann Swearman in honour of the work and dedication she had shown to photography for many years.

The Exhibition was given a new location this year as the Resource Centre is now in use by Beamish. Upstairs in the Masonic Hall, right in the town centre, proved to be a popular location with Beamish visitors.

A total of 960 people visited the exhibition over the course of the weekend with 4 prints being sold. Congratulations to the successful authors – it is always nice when somebody likes your work so much they are willing to put their hands in their pockets and buy it.

It was nice to see familiar faces both at the exhibition and out and about at the museum enjoying their photography and (hopefully) working on entries for the Beamish Trophy Competition.

Positive comments were received from photographers and visitors alike and the new venue worked well for the display.

The Beamish Exhibition provides a chance for NCPF clubs to showcase the work of their members, spread the word about the Federation and hopefully get some membership interest at the same time. Disappointingly, only clubs from the local area submitted prints for the display. It would be nice if we could attract interest from clubs further afield for next year.

I would like to end by saying a big THANK YOU to the volunteers, Jim & Margaret Welsh, Graham Harland, Joe & Susan Sheridan and Philip Duffy who manned the Exhibition over the course of the weekend, talked to the visitors and promoted our hobby. Without them things like this simply wouldn't happen.

The Beamish Competition was held on 05<sup>th</sup> November 2022 and the judge was Dawn Stobbart of Penrith CC. The results of the Beamish Trophy Competition 2022 are as below:-

1st Lavender Bag teamwork by Phillip Dove of Saltburn PS

2nd Going to be Late Again by Leslie Smith of Whitley Bay PS

3rd Rich Rat by Glyn Trueman of Morpeth CC

HC Beamish Exhibition 2022 by Jim Welsh of Blyth PS

HC Waiting for my Prince by Leslie Smith of Whitley Bay PS

HC Down the Lane by George Hodgson of Durham PS

Congratulations to the winners, and thanks to the 26 members who supported this year's Beamish Trophy Competition and hope to see your work in next year's competition.

A big thank you must go to Dawn Stobbart of Penrith & District CC for the hard work she put in to select the winners from the 52 images.

Joseph Duffy LRPS, CPAGB, APAGB

*Tracey Aynsley pointed out that Tynemouth PS and Winlaton CC also had work exhibited over the weekend. Alan Wilson said he would pass this on to Joseph and amend his report. Tracey then said that she thought that the displays were too close together in the room and suggested that the displays were reduced and spaced further apart. As this was the first time that she had been to the exhibition Margaret Welsh said that the exhibition was previously held in the Resource Centre where space was further restricted and the Masonic Hall was a great improvement. Her comments will be passed on for the next exhibition.*

*Acceptance of the report was proposed by Vera Singh, seconded by Jim Welsh. This was agreed unanimously.*

## 23AGM/11

### REPORT – REPRESENTATIVE TO THE PAGB – RICHARD SPEIRS

1. Since I returned to the role of NCPF Representative there has only been one face to face meeting of the PAGB on the 5<sup>th</sup> February at Warwick University. Sadly, due to health reasons I was unable to attend that meeting in person.
2. The AGM will be held at Warwick University on the weekend of 15<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup> April. Regrettably, due to a longstanding prior commitment that weekend I have had to offer my apologies.
3. At the February meeting the Treasurer identified that if 2023 expenditure was the same as 2022, there will be shortfall in funds. At some point this shortfall will need to be absorbed – e.g. do less events (awards workshops etc). He stated that the total deficit was £28k.

4. The Treasurer proposed that the submitted figures be accepted as is and Gordon Jenkins (Honorary Life Vice President) seconded the proposal. The Vote was Unanimous. The Treasurer commented that the 2024 Budget was using appropriation from sponsorship (but all the expected budgeted funds may not exist in reality). It was then proposed that the annual club subscription revert to £36 for 2024. This was seconded and the Vote was unanimous.
5. The Insurance Officer commented that Clubs had been complaining about the increased costs of insurance with the new broker. The Insurance Officer commented that they are paying for an all-risks policy not just the mandatory PLI that had been negotiated.

It was commented that The Hive form had an untick option for All Risks and MLI rather than a tick to accept.

It was stated that 630 clubs (880 out of 940 clubs were insured under Darwen Clayton) had taken out insurance with Hive.

6. The Awards for Photographic Merit are still popular with the April 2023 adjudication hosted by the Kent Counties Federation in Aylesford being filled. The November event, taking place in the North East Midlands is open for entries. There is the possibility of an AV Award event taking place this summer.
7. Warwick University will again be the venue for the Inter Club PDI Championship in July. Nomination forms to go out in next couple months. Nominations would be required by May. It was proposed that the Ticket Price be £15 but this will include entry prize draw. This was Seconded and Voted Unanimous.
8. The Inter Club Print Championship will take place on Saturday 21st October at the Croston Theatre of Westholme School Blackburn.

**Richard Speirs DPAGB, APAGB,  
PAGB Representative**

*Howard Wilson asked if the PAGB website was still under development as using the CES system is very complicated. Richard said that there was an overall guide being produced as the original system has been expanded to include competition entries and club information.*

*Tracey Aynsley asked if clubs were only on the PAGB System if they entered PAGB competitions. Richard said that this was not the case. The CES Registration system is set up for each club in the Federation to register their club details. Information will be sent out to the clubs advising them of the necessity to register on the PAGB CES System. Margaret added that she had tried to update the information on the system for Blyth PS and was only able to remove two names but wasn't able to enter any other information. She said that she also found it very difficult to understand. To answer the original question – Alan Wilson said that this 'no'. Richard said that he would report back to the PAGB with all comments made today. Alan Wilson added that the whole idea of the CES system was to get rid of the PAGB Handbook as the information goes out of date as soon as it's printed. It was also hoped that the PAGB system would enable the NCPF to stop producing the NCPF Directory. As the PAGB system is not functioning properly it may be necessary to produce the Directory for another year. Alan said we would need someone to take over this task. All volunteers are welcome.*

*Acceptance of the report was proposed by Gerald Chamberlin, seconded by Vera Singh This was agreed unanimously.*

**23AGM/12**

## **REPORT – EDITOR OF “NORTHERN FOCUS” – ALAN WILSON**

### **93<sup>rd</sup> Edition**

At 46 pages the 93<sup>rd</sup> Edition of “Northern Focus” was presented with two awards from the Photographic Society of America dated 30<sup>th</sup> September 2022.

Best Variety of Material.

Best Environmental Article (Wildlife Photographer of the Year - HC - seals) Mick Watson

### **94<sup>th</sup> Edition**

The 94<sup>th</sup> Edition of “Northern Focus” at 56 pages celebrated the magazines Golden Anniversary, featuring a write-up by our Honorary Life Vice President Stan Bewick regarding the very first issue and how it came about. The edition was attached as an addendum under its initial title of “News of the North” the name Northern Focus winning a 36 roll of film for a Mrs Margaret Kitchen for her suggestion in a naming competition.

### **EDITORS – 50 years**

1972 - 76 Stan Bewick  
1983 - 87 Doreen Palmer  
1995 - 00 Alan Porrett  
2020 - Alan Wilson

1976 - 80 Brian Turton  
1987 - 90 Adrian Butcher  
2000 - 12 Pat Porrett

1980 - 83 Trevor Walters  
1990 - 95 Anne Swearman  
2012 - 20 John Smith

### **95<sup>th</sup> Edition**

Due publication April 2023, after the AGM and prior to the Annuals Competition.

Will report AGM Summary as well as Club Championships and a wealth of other items.

As ever I request any photo related snippets, stories, hints-tips and news to be forwarded to myself.

Thank you.

Regards

**Alan Wilson**

**NCPF Northern Focus Editor**

*Acceptance of the report was proposed by Peter Yearnshire, seconded by Tracey Aynsley. This was agreed unanimously*

**23AGM/13**

## **REPORT – JUDGES SUB-COMMITTEE – JIM WELSH**

The current Judges' Subcommittee consists of Jim Welsh (Chair), Stephen Fowler (Secretary), Bill Broadley, Gerald Chamberlin, George Ledger, Keith Snell and Lynda Golightly.

We have continued to hold our Subcommittee meetings on zoom which gives us a much wider range of choice when replacing members who have completed their 7 year tenure.

As well as selecting the judges for the Club Championships and Annuals Competitions the Subcommittee have been busy organising a Judges Refresher & Recruitment Day which is scheduled to be held on Sunday 02<sup>nd</sup> April 2023 at Clara Vale Community Centre. The response by current judges, potential new judges and some competition secretaries has been very encouraging. For those of you who may still be considering attending, places are still available.

Feedback from Clubs and Judges using the Judges Comment Form is still the best way to inform the Judges Subcommittee of any complaints or compliments you would like addressed. The form can be found on the NCPF website under the 'Judging' heading and can also be found in the Northern Focus. Please consider using this form as your feedback is essential to the committee when considering judges promotions.

The Subcommittee would like to take this opportunity to thank all of those on the Judges' List for the excellent work done by them in providing a valuable service to our member clubs. Over the last year we have lost a fair number of good judges through retirement and personal circumstances. Our thanks go to those who have left the list and we are looking forward to welcoming the potential 'new recruits' after the seminar has taken place.

Finally, I would like to thank the members of the Subcommittee for their help and support over the last year, especially Stephen Fowler for the work he has done, and is still doing, organising the Recruitment Day.

**Jim Welsh LRPS, CPAGB, APAGB**  
**Chair, Judges Subcommittee**

*Trevor Walters asked if any new judges appointed after the Recruitment Day would be posted to the clubs a.s.a.p. Jim said that all Competition Secretaries are usually informed when acceptances have been received from potential new judges. Richard said that the Judges Comment Form is not just for complaints. It can also be used to send compliments. All comment forms are addressed by the JSC and are acted on if necessary. It also informs the JSC about judges who may require promotion.*

*Acceptance of the report was proposed by Alan Porrett, seconded by Lesley Hudspith. This was agreed unanimously.*

**23AGM/14**

**REPORT – DATA MANAGER (PUBLICATIONS OFFICER) – RICHARD SPEIRS**

Richard didn't have a written report but he reminded those present that in future Club Officials, Judges and Lecturers will be required to update their details on the PAGB CES System. Margaret Welsh added that in the meantime, the position of Publications Officer was vacant due to the resignation through ill health of Pax Garabedian. She said that in the short term she had volunteered to take on the production of the NCPF Directory for one year unless someone else is prepared to come forward and take over as Publications Officer. Margaret then said that if the PAGB CES System gets up and running and everyone can understand how to use it, the NCPF Directory will become obsolete but for one more year it still needs to be produced.

**23AGM/15**

**REPORT – PORTFOLIO SECRETARY – ALAN WILSON**

Following reports that not all clubs were distributing portfolios, contact was made with each club requesting details of current secretary and a "nominated person" who would take ownership of the presentations and ensure availability for clubs programme.

High Quality, Audio Visual MP4 presentations with instructions were distributed, free of any charge by "We-Transfer" to each of our NCPF Clubs featuring the 2022 Annuals Competition.

Narrated presentations were.

1. Prints: Awards and Alliance Entry and Selectors Choice at 1hr 12 minutes.
2. PDI: Awards and Alliance Entry and Selectors Choice at 1hr 4 minutes.

Additionally

3. Slideshow with 2022 NCPF Annuals Presentation Day as shown at Clara Vale with 284 slides was distributed to all clubs with suggestion for members evening, show and discuss.

Alan Wilson (AW) resigned from position December 2022, but has maintained documentation and additional distribution.

Southern Area Representative Phillip Dove LRPS, CPAGB has volunteered for role.  
AW will mentor as required.

Additional copies of these presentations remain available to clubs via [alanwilson445@msn.com](mailto:alanwilson445@msn.com)

Thank you.

Regards

**Alan Wilson**  
**NCPF Portfolio Secretary**

*Acceptance of the report was proposed by Vera Singh seconded by Howard Wilson This was agreed unanimously*

**23AGM/16**

**REPORT – MERIT AWARDS OFFICER – GERALD CHAMBERLIN**

Over the past 12 months I have had a steady number of people contacting me asking how they go about applying to get the PAGB merit award. Each enquiry is followed up with an informal phone call to the applicant about the awards and what is required before the application forms etc. are email to the applicant.

A number of people have received the application form and are still thinking about going for the awards and have not returned the application forms as yet.

Over the past year, Joan Shepherd from Gosforth CC gained her DPAGB in prints at last April's 2022 adjudication. Well done Joan. Phillip Dove from Saltburn PS gained his CPAGB in prints at last November's 2022 adjudication. Well done to Phillip.

There are two people from the NCPF in for their CPAGB this coming April 2023, one in prints and one in PDI's. Good luck to them and we all hope they will get there CPAGB. In the November 2023 judging we have only one person in for their award for a DPAGB in prints. Good luck to them and we all hope they will get there DPAGB.

I would like to think more NCPF club members will apply or return their application forms very soon for the November judging.

**Gerald Chamberlin DPAGB, EFIAP**  
**NCPF Awards Officer**  
**NCPF Vice President**

*Gerald explained how the entry system for the Merit Awards worked and directed everyone to the PAGB website. Tracey Aynsley asked if there was an opportunity for someone to come to the club and give a talk about the awards and how to apply for them. Gerald said that if anyone wanted him to come along to their club he would be happy to do so. Richard Speirs directed them to the PAGB website and the Recorded Lecture Service were they have some of the current acceptances for C and D. These can be accessed by clubs as a download for approximately £15.00. Gerald said that the best way to keep up to date with news was to sign up to the PAGB E-Newsletter which is full of useful information.*

*Acceptance of this report was proposed by Vera Singh, seconded by Jill Chamberlin This was agreed unanimously*

**23AGM/17**

**CLUB SUPPORT & DEVELOPMENT OFFICER – JOHN SMITH**

This is a very new subcommittee which consists of myself as Chairman, Debra Taylor, Alan Forster, Gerald Chamberlin, Gerry Adcock, Richard Speirs.

Since the NCPF Executive meeting on the 7<sup>th</sup> November 2022 a report was presented to this meeting to see if the NCPF could try and help, or do something, to encourage the clubs and societies, within the Northern Counties Photographic Federation. The idea was to help and support the clubs and try to help boost their membership. This was also to include giving meaningful and instructive input information with suggestions for inclusion for syllabus content without too much cost involved.

To try and meet this objective it was agreed by the NCPF Executive Committee to instigate the set-up of a sub-committee to search, suggest, inform and forward such aims to the clubs. The sub-committee would, by all means available, gather as much as possible and pass all ideas and information on to clubs to consider and enhance their syllabi. The object at all times to help clubs through this difficult time. The NCPF Club Support and Development Group was therefore formed with this aim in mind of bringing together ideas and strategies to help clubs maintain and increase interest and membership.

The sub-committee was duly set up and met for the first time on the 6<sup>th</sup> December 2022 in order to format and set out its direction of approach. Full authorisation, but responsible to the Executive, was given by the NCPF Executive Committee to proceed in way that we could accomplish the task ahead. The sub-committee felt an air of excitement with a good positive attitude of going full out to extract as much information, ideas and suggestions from as many clubs and members as well as far afield as other federations. All this would be taken into consideration, digested and disseminated to the clubs in an attempt to help them in any way possible.

To this end the sub-committee discussed how this should be done and how to best get the information to the clubs. This needed to be a two system between the clubs and the Executive. We need support from the clubs and the only way would be for the clubs to be actively involved with the Executive in this matter.

On the matter of communications. It was decided to compile a newsletter which would be short but containing relevant and good information for clubs to follow and that, hopefully, be an encouragement to them. The newsletter would be e-mailed to the club secretaries and individuals. All would be asked to contact as many others as possible to increase the circulation of the newsletter and to encourage the flow of ideas from all who have put a great deal of thought into this subject. A contact e-mail for all to respond to the Executive is available.

It is good to say, after a few alterations and glitches, our first newsletter went out in February 2023 and followed by the second in March 2023. The good news is that information is beginning to trickle through and the sub-committee now has some things to discuss and hopefully to disseminate to Federation Clubs.

Information from clubs and individuals is a must to make this a successful joint project. We cannot do it alone, and as said before, it is a two-way objective. We as a sub-committee will try our utmost to make this work but the success of the project depends upon you. Club officials, members, let us help one another to reach out to fellow clubs and members and get something going in this Federation.

John Smith,  
CSD Chair

*Jim Welsh asked if the committee had identified any problems so far. John said that not as yet but they are taking on board all information they receive. Jim said that as the Northern Area Representative he had a big problem identifying Competition Secretaries and Club Secretaries as they leave the job/club and the changes aren't passed on to the Executive. John said that if this is reported to the CSD committee they can discuss it and report it back to the clubs. He said that this is was a long standing problem that never gets resolved because clubs don't pass the information on to the Federation Secretary.*

*Acceptance of the report was proposed by Howard Wilson seconded by Vera Singh This was agreed unanimously*

23AGM/18

#### **WEBMASTER – GERRY ADCOCK**

Margaret Welsh said that the Webmaster had not submitted a report to the A.G.M. He tendered his resignation at the last NCPF Executive meeting, therefore, we are without a Webmaster. Gerry Adcock also said that he would continue to update the website as and when necessary until a replacement is found. Margaret went on to say that Gerry was not only the webmaster but played a big part in the digital organisation of the NCPF Competitions, This is another role that will need to be filled a.s.a.p.

23AGM/19

#### **ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTIONS REPORT – PETER YEARNSHIRE**

Peter said that the NCPF subscription would remain at £70.00 per club. The PAGB have proposed a fee of £36.00. This will be discussed at their A.G.M. in April and the final decision reported back to the Federations.

*Acceptance was proposed by Peter Yearnshire and seconded by John Smith. This was agreed unanimously*

23AGM/20

#### **ROLL OF HONOUR AWARDS**

Margaret Welsh said that there were no nominations for the Roll of Honour but at the last A.G.M. Howard Wilson asked if recognition could be given to those members who have received this award by allowing them to use the title Hon. NCPF after their names. This was discussed at the first meeting after the A.G.M. and the following resolution was proposed by the Executive Committee for approval at this A.G.M.:-

***For those who wish to do so, if they are on the Roll of Honour as of this A.G.M. you will be able to use the letters Hon. NCPF after your name. This is an honorary award given by the NCPF and has no photographic standing. This ruling will apply for all future nominees.***

Margaret explained that in the past, all that the nominees were awarded was a certificate. This ruling now means that any future nominees who are added to the NCPF Roll of Honour will be allowed to use the title Hon. NCPF after their name. In anticipation of the acceptance of the ruling, the President, Alan Wilson, had printed amended copies of the Roll of Honour Certificates to include the above title. He proceeded to hand out the new certificates to those recipients of the honour who were present. After completing this task Alan read through an impressive citation he had compiled with the help of Dave Coates. The recommendation for nomination to the Roll of Honour was for Jim Welsh LRPS, CPAGB, APAGB. Jim said he was greatly honoured to receive the award and had no idea Alan was talking about him. What an impressive CV he didn't know he had. Alan presented Jim with his Roll of Honour scroll.

*Acceptance was proposed by Alan Forster and seconded by Phil Dunn and agreed unanimously*

23AGM/21

#### **MERITORIOUS SERVICE AWARDS**

There were no nominations for this award.

23AGM/22

#### **PHOTOGRAPHIC DISTINCTIONS/AWARDS**

<b>APAGB</b>	Sheila Coates	Northallerton CC
<b>CPAGB</b>	Phillip Dove	Saltburn PS
<b>ARPS</b>	Margaret Whittaker	Alnwick & Dist. CC

Congratulations were given to everyone who had received distinctions.

23AGM/23

#### **VOTE OF THANKS TO THE RETIRING EXECUTIVE**

John Smith began by congratulating Jim on the receipt of his Roll of Honour Award. He said that when Jim first joined the Executive he told everyone that he couldn't talk but he hasn't stopped talking since!

John then went on to thank the members of the Executive who were retiring at this A.G.M. He gave special thanks to Peter Yearnshire who is stepping down as Treasurer and also Gerry Adcock who has stepped back from all of the committees he



has been involved with during his time on the Executive. Their input will be missed. He then thanked everyone who has served on the Executive over the past twelve months and all of the past Executive members who have given their time freely, some of whom were still working. There are many roles on the Executive and some members have taken on more than one task. There is always room on the Executive for anyone who would like to take on a vacant role. John asked the audience to show their appreciation for all the work done by the committee with a round of applause. John was thanked by the President for his kind words.

## 23AGM/24

### ELECTION OF OFFICERS AND AUDITOR

The nominations for the role of President, Vice President, Past President, General Secretary and Hon. Treasurer were all proposed by the Executive. A seconder only was required for these roles. An en-bloc proposer and seconder were required for the remaining Executive positions that had received nominees. The positions of Area Representatives were proposed by the respective clubs in each area. A seconder was required for these positions. The positions of Non-Executive Archivist and Equipment Caretaker only required a vote of either For or Against by the attending delegates.

A number of positions were vacant – Publications Officer, Webmaster, Competitions Secretary – PDI's, Club Championship Officer and 2 Elected Members. These vacancies were put to the floor but no one came forward to take on any of the roles. Margaret said that these vacancies needed to be filled to ensure the continued running of the competitions and Executive roles. Alan Wilson said that if no nominees for the vacancies can be found it may mean that the existing members will have to take on extra roles to ensure the positions are maintained. He asked that those present take this back to their clubs and emphasise the need for volunteers to come forward.

#### The following Officers were confirmed for 2023/2024

POSITION	NOMINEE	PROPOSED	SECONDED	FOR	AGAINST
President	Alan Wilson	Executive Committee	Dave Coates	Unanimous	
Vice President	Gerald Chamberlin	Executive Committee	Dave Coates	Unanimous	
Past President	Jim Welsh	Executive Committee	Dave Coates	Unanimous	
General Secretary	Margaret Welsh	Executive Committee	Dave Coates	Unanimous	
Hon. Treasurer	Jill Chamberlin	Executive Committee	Dave Coates	Unanimous	
International Exhibition Chair	Vacant				
Judges Committee Chair	Jim Welsh	Peter Yearnshire	John Smith	Unanimous	
Data Manager	Richard Speirs	Peter Yearnshire	John Smith	Unanimous	
PAGB Representative	Richard Speirs	Peter Yearnshire	John Smith	Unanimous	
Competitions Secretary - Prints	Alan Forster	Howard Wilson	Dave Coates	Unanimous	
Competitions Secretary – PDI's	Alan Wilson	Howard Wilson	Dave Coates	Unanimous	
Club Championship Officer	Alan Forster	Howard Wilson	Dave Coates	Unanimous	
Competitions Committee Chair	Alan Forster	Howard Wilson	Dave Coates	Unanimous	
Northern Focus Editor	Alan Wilson	Howard Wilson	Dave Coates	Unanimous	
Portfolio Secretary	Phillip Dove	Howard Wilson	Dave Coates	Unanimous	
Club Support & Development Chair	John Smith	Howard Wilson	Dave Coates	Unanimous	
Publications Officer	Vacant				
Beamish Representative	Joseph Duffy	Howard Wilson	Dave Coates	Unanimous	
Webmaster	Vacant				
Merit Awards Officer	Gerald Chamberlin	Tracey Ansley	Phillip Dove	Unanimous	
Elected Member 1	Trevor Walters	Howard Wilson	Dave Coates	Unanimous	
Elected Member 2					
Elected Member 3					
POSITION	NOMINEE	PROPOSED	SECONDED	FOR	AGAINST
N Tyne Area Representative	David Brown	North Tyne Area Committee	Richard Speirs	Unopposed	
Northern Area Representative	Jim Welsh	Northern Area Committee	Richard Speirs	Unopposed	
S Tyne Area Representative	Joseph Duffy	South Tyne Area Committee	Richard Speirs	Unopposed	
Southern Area Representative	Phillip Dove	Southern Area Committee	Richard Speirs	Unopposed	
Wear Area Representative	Debra Taylor	Wear Area Committee	Richard Speirs	Unopposed	
Western Area Representative	Gerald Chamberlin	Western Area Committee	Richard Speirs	Unopposed	
<b>Non Executive Posts</b>					
Non-Executive Archivists	Margaret & Jim Welsh			Unanimous	
Non-Executive Caretaker	Howard Wilson	Jim Welsh		Unanimous	
Hon. Auditor	Vacant				

There being no further candidates for office the above were ratified and duly elected.

At this point in the proceedings the Retiring President, Jim Welsh handed over the Chain of Office to the Incoming President, Alan Wilson. Alan then presented Jim with his Past President's Badge. Alan then took over the proceedings.

## 23AGM/25

### FORTHCOMING EVENTS

**ANNUALS** – 22<sup>nd</sup> & 23<sup>rd</sup> April 2023 at Clara Vale

Print boxes can't be collected until 5pm. Volunteers who would like to help to contact Margaret.

**WHICKHAM PC** will be celebrating 50 years in September 2023.

**NORTHALLERTON CC** will be celebrating 90 years in November 2023.

**TYNEMOUTH PS** will be holding their Annual Exhibition at Howard Street Club Rooms on 13<sup>th</sup> & 14<sup>th</sup> May 2023.

Alan Wilson said that each year a the Federations that are listed in the PAGB Handbook host the PAGB Merit Awards Adjudication. The NCPF will be the hosts of the PAGB Merit Awards in April 2026. As an introduction to the entry procedure we will be a holding a PAGB Workshop in November 2024. When the details have been finalised they will be sent out to the club secretaries to pass on to their members.

## 23AGM/26

### ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Howard Wilson gave an update on the health of Jane Black. He said that Jane is now in Princess Court Care Home in North Shields and is not in a good way. Her memory is coming and going but the longer he stayed with her the more she

responded to him. Howard said he would be going back to see her in a couple of weeks but if anyone would like to go and visit her they are quite welcome to do so.

Phil Dunn said that a long standing member of South Shields passed away last month. Stan Walls had been a member of the club for 68 years and held the position of Treasurer for over 55 years.

**22AGM/27**

**VOTE OF THANKS BY THE PRESIDENT**

The President, Alan Wilson, began by thanking everyone present for turning up and supporting the event. He said that photographs are being taken everywhere. Some people are using their mobile phones, which is fine. On the other hand, Wex have just opened up a new shop in Gosforth so there is still a lot of money being spent on photographic equipment. There is a huge amount of knowledge and enthusiasm in this room and hopefully this will be shared with club members. Alan said that at President, he would be happy to come to any club especially if it concerns club members gaining awards etc. He then wished everyone a safe journey home and looked forward to seeing them all again next year.

**22AGM/28**

**CLOSURE OF THE MEETING**

The President declared the meeting closed at 4.37pm

Signed .....

Date .....