



Northern Counties Photographic Federation

A Member Federation of the Photographic Alliance of Great Britain

<http://www.ncpf.org.uk>

Minutes of the Executive Committee Meeting held on Tuesday 20th February 2024 held at Clara Vale, Ryton.

The President, Alan Wilson, opened the meeting at 7.30pm

Present: - Alan Wilson, Gerald Chamberlin, Jim Welsh, Joseph Duffy, Margaret Welsh, Jill Chamberlin, Jo Knight, Phillip Dove, Alan Forster, Debra Taylor, John Smith, Trevor Walters, John Fare

24/02/01 Apologies for Absence: - Trevor Walters, Jo Knight, Joseph Duffy, John Fare, Debra Taylor

Incommunicado: - Jane Black, David Brown

Margaret said that she was concerned that David Brown had not attended a number of meetings and had not given his apologies. The President said he would contact David and remind him of his duties as an Area Representative.

24/02/02 The minutes of the meeting held on 15th January 2024 were approved and signed by the President.

Proposed by Alan Forster – Seconded by Gerald Chamberlin

24/02/03 Matters arising

There were no matters arising.

24/02/04 Correspondence

Margaret handed out copies of the NCPF Rule Book to those members of the Committee who had not received an updated copy. This is because we only have one face to face meeting per year prior to the A.G.M.

Correspondence has been received from John Fare regarding the outdated NCPF Facebook page. Gerald Chamberlin said that this had been discussed at the recent Western Area meeting and he had suggested to John that if he was prepared to take this on and is prepared to do it there was a vacancy for the Facebook Page Administrator. Alan Forster said that clubs with an up to date Facebook page have more chance of recruiting members. After discussion regarding the benefits of having an active Facebook page it was agreed that this would be raised at the next meeting and discussed with John.

24/02/05 Treasurer – Jill Chamberlin

Appendix 1

Jill read her report. She asked if the winners of the best print and PDI at the Club Championships still received £10.00 each. Margaret said that the Competitions Subcommittee had discussed this at a previous meeting and they now receive a certificate and memento instead. Jill queried the number of laptops currently on the Equipment List. Margaret said that she had given 3 of the laptops, except the Chuwi Herobook, to her contact who refurbishes and distributes them to senior citizens free of charge to help them to access the internet. The other 2 had previously been disposed of. Report accepted and attached.

24/02/06 Reports

24/02/06-1 Competitions Chairman – Alan Forster

Appendix 2

Alan F. read his report. He said that the Championships had been well attended, the results of which are in his report. He said that this was the first time that the new rules and spreadsheets had been used. He thanked Alan Parker and Phillip Dove for their input in producing the spreadsheets. Alan F. then said that at a meeting held yesterday the Club Championship rules and the running of the competition were discussed at length. Some small changes will be made regarding the entry of the same image in both sections of the competition. This will not be allowed in future to eliminate duplication of images. Another issue on the day was the entry of prints that were less than 50cm x 40cm in size. As this was the first time that the new rules had been applied the committee agreed to allow them to go through on the day but this rule must be adhered to at the next competition or the entry will be disqualified. Only one of the 4 clubs in question has been informed of this. Alan F. said he would be contacting the other 3 in due course. 11 emails have been received praising the way the competition had been run. He thanked everyone on the committee for their input with the rules and on the day of the competition.

Clara Vale has confirmed the booking for the Annuals on 21st & 22nd April 2024. All of the judges have been sent reminders along with their expected arrival times.

Jill asked if we would be paying the clubs £100.00 when they represent us at the PAGB Competitions. This was confirmed. Report accepted and attached.

24/02/06-2 Representative to PAGB – Richard Speirs

Appendix 3

Richard outlined the information in his report. Margaret said that she agreed with the PAGB decision regarding the Keswick question regarding the use of work by members outside of the Federation boundaries in NCPF competitions. Richard explained in detail the query from Keswick and a discussion regarding the boundaries of the NCPF took place. Richard said he would look into this. He said that the PAGB would be sending out guidelines in due course.

Report accepted and attached.

24/02/06-3 Merit Awards Officer – Gerald Chamberlin

Appendix 4

Gerald read through his report. The flyers for the APM Workshop Day has been sent out to the clubs and posted on the website. So far 17 applications have been received. The arrangements for the APM adjudication day are moving on steadily. The proposed price for the tickets is £15.00. Any profit made will be kept by the NCPF. Report accepted and attached.

24/02/06-4 Editor Northern Focus – Alan Wilson**Appendix 5**

Alan W. read his short report. Again, he said that the Northern Focus was ready to go after this meeting. Richard said that a number of people in his area are saying they haven't seen a copy since May. Alan W. responded by saying that he had taken on too many tasks and was addressing this. As he stated in his report, if anyone wishes to take over he will pass it on. Gerald asked if a sub editor would help him to meet the time frame. Alan W. said that if he could find a sub editor he would welcome this.

Report accepted and attached.

24/02/06-5 Judges Sub Committee – Jim Welsh**Appendix 6**

Jim read through his report. As reported previously Jim said he would be resigning as the Judges Chairman at the A.G.M. No one to date has come forward to take over. After speaking to Richard Speirs, Gerald Chamberlin informed Jim that he had agreed to step in for 2 years until Gerald had served his time as President. He ran through the judges selected for the 2025 NCPF Competitions. Approval was given by the Executive Committee.

Report accepted and attached.

24/02/06-6 Data Manager – Richard Speirs**Appendix 7**

As reported in Richard's PAGB Representatives report, the PAGB CES system has changed its name to the CMS system (Central Management System) as it now encompasses all online bookings, lectures and club details in one place. Judges and Lecturer's information only contains an email address. No other personal details are available on the site. He went on to say that if the NCPF adopt this system then only individuals can amend their details in line with Data Protection. The only details Richard can change are the Executive Committee members. If someone leaves he can remove them or add a new officer to the list. Jim Welsh asked how the judges in our area would be graded as A, B or C. He said that this would be necessary for booking club and Interclub judges for competitions. Richard said he would look into this. He said that all other Federations have ceased printing Directories. After discussion it was agreed by the committee that the NCPF would also cease producing the Directory. Richard is in the process of compiling guidelines to be sent out to all club secretaries, judges and lecturer's informing them that they must update their own details on the CMS System and how to do this. He asked Margaret if she would test it out when his draft was ready then send it to the Executive members for their input before sending to the clubs. This was agreed. Richard said it was also possible to extract a PDF document of all judges and lecturer's in your own Federation if you prefer to do so.

Report accepted and attached.

24/02/06-7 Publications Officer – Margaret Welsh

No Report.

24/02/06-8 Portfolio Secretary – Phillip Dove

No Report.

24/02/06-9 Club Support & Development – John Smith**Appendix 8**

John read through his report. He thanked Alan Forster, who is resigning from the subcommittee at the A.G.M, for his input during his time on the committee. Regarding the information in the next newsletter informing clubs about the PAGB Recorded Lecture Service, Richard said that the PAGB log the number of times a Federation uses this Service. If this increases for the NCPF after the publication of the CSD Newsletter we will be able to find out.

Report accepted and attached.

24/02/06-10 Beamish Representative – Joseph Duffy

In Joseph's absence Margaret read a short report. He said that information regarding the Beamish Weekend would be sent to Jo Knight for publication on the NCPF website. This will inform all clubs in the Federation how to submit prints for displaying at this event. Two volunteers had come forward for the free passes to help out over the weekend.

24/02/06-11 Webmaster – Jo Knight**Appendix 9**

In Jo's absence Margaret read out her report.

Report accepted and attached.

24/02/07 Area Reports**24/02/07-1 Northern – Jim Welsh****Appendix 10**

Jim read through his report.

Report accepted and attached.

24/01/07-2 North Tyne – David Brown

No report.

24/02/07-3 South Tyne – Joseph Duffy**Appendix 11**

Alan Wilson read out Joseph's report in his absence. Joseph also emailed Margaret to say that he would be standing down as the South Tyne Area Representative at the NCPF A.G.M. and had asked for a replacement at a recent South Tyne Area Competition held at Whickham. He said that two people had expressed an interest in this role.

Report accepted and attached.

24/02/07-4 Southern – Phillip Dove

No report.

24/02/07-5 Wear Area – Debra Taylor**Appendix 12**

Debra's report was read and accepted by all.

24/02/07-6 Western – Gerald Chamberlin**Appendix 13**

Gerald read his report. He informed the meeting that West Cumbria PG will be folding in March due to the ill health of the Chairman. He then informed everyone that the Western Area have agreed to donate their sound system to the NCPF. This was accepted gratefully. Gerald said he would try to get it over to us for the A.G.M. He then informed us that he is unable to get the Master of Print Exhibition for the Presentation Event but is working on something else.

Report accepted and attached.

24/02/08 Any Other Business

A.G.M. Arrangements – Margaret said that the notifications for the A.G.M. will be sent out by the end of this week/early next week. All Past Presidents, Executive Members and Club Secretaries will be issued with the minutes of the last A.G.M. along with all other relevant paperwork. A poster will be sent to Jo to put on the website. She requested reports from the Executive members. She said that there are a couple of vacancies that need to be filled. Gerald Chamberlin will become President and Alan Wilson will be Past President. Phillip Dove was proposed as vice President by Gerald Chamberlin. This was seconded and accepted by the Executive. Jim Welsh is retiring as Judges Subcommittee Chairman and Richard Speirs has been nominated to take over this position for 2 years until Gerald has served his tenure as President. This was also seconded by the Executive and accepted. As well as becoming Past President, Alan Wilson will remain as Club Championship and Competitions Officer as well as Editor of the Northern Focus unless someone else is nominated for this position. A replacement Competitions Committee Chairperson will be required as Alan Forster is stepping down from this role. A nomination may be forthcoming at the next Competitions Subcommittee Meeting. Phillip Dove will remain as the Portfolio Secretary and John Smith agreed to Chair the Club Support & Development Group. Joseph Duffy will remain as the Beamish Representative and Jo Knight will continue as the Webmaster. Gerald Chamberlin will continue in the role of Merit Awards Officer. John Fare and Alan Forster are nominated as Ordinary Elected Members. The Northern Area, North Tyne Area, Southern Area, Western Area and Wear Area Representatives have all been nominated and re-elected by their respective area clubs. The South Tyne Area Representative, Joseph Duffy, is standing down but has informed me that two members have declared an interest in the position. No nominations have been received as yet.

Jill Chamberlin said that as yet she didn't have an Auditor. After an informative discussion she was informed that the person nominated did not have to be an official auditor as long as they have the knowledge and capability to audit the books correctly. She said that they had two members in their club who would be suitable. Her report will include all expenses for the year and a copy of the equipment held by the NCPF. Margaret said that she had changed to Zoom payment over to the NCPF account but has left it as a monthly payment as the change over to a yearly account required a two year payment. Further discussions with Jill will take place before a final decision is made.

Meeting closed at 9.30pm

Signed..... Date.....

Next Meeting Date: Monday 20th May 2024 on Zoom at 7pm

Finance report**18/02/24****Subscriptions**

I have now received subscriptions from all 43 clubs 25 paid by BACS and 18 by cheque. Stockton Camera Club and Durham Photographic Society were after the 31 January date I requested payment by.

The PAGB subscriptions have been paid, £1,548.00 on 29/01/24.

Club Championships

The raffle raised £165 an increase of £47 on last year, thank you to Margaret for organising this. The judges have all confirmed they are not claiming expenses. I will need details if we are paying £10 to the owners of the best print and DPI as happened last year. Clara Vale cost £251.75 compared to £162.00 last year.

Savings Accounts

The £3,000 in the Instant Savings account has to date earned interest of £10.69. Interest on the £16,000 Fixed Term account is payable at the end of the term.

Insurance

The NCPF insurance is with Hive Insurance Services, the PAGB recommended insurers and was paid on 15/01/24. Copies of the policy have been sent to Margaret Welsh

Public Liability Insurance (Limit £5,000,000 any one occurrence)

All Risks Equipment Insurance (This option wasn't taken)

Management Liability Insurance (Federation cover £100,000)

Finances**Current balances in the bank**

Treasurers Account	2023-24	£1,084.65
	2024-25	£3,010.00

Business Savings Account	£3,010.69
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Fixed Term Savings Account	£16,000.00
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Jill Chamberlin
NCPF Treasurer

NCPF Accounts as at	18/02/2024				
	Income	Expenditure	Balance		
2023 NCPF Subscriptions	£2,450.00		£2,450.00	(46 clubs)	
(£770 in 2022 accounts)	£770.00		£770.00		
PAGB Subscriptions	£1,120.00	£1,472.00	-£352.00	(paid for 46 clubs)	
(£352 in 2022 accounts)	£352.00		£352.00		
2024 NCPF Subscriptions	£3010.00		£3010.00	(43 clubs)	
			£0.00		
Executive Committee		£648.46	-£648.46		
NCPF Directory		£371.13	-£371.13		
NCPF Website		£43.20	-£43.20		
Club Championships					
12/02/2023	£118.00	£236.68	-£118.00		
11/02/2024	£165.00	£288.87	-£123.87		
Club Championship					
Presentation Day	£70.00	£328.27	-£258.27		
Annuals Competition		£933.42	-£933.42		
Judges Training Day		£404.18	-£404.18		
Beamish Event	£100.00	£102.04	-£2.04		
PAGB Championships		£402.72	-£402.72		
Equipment		£331.47	-£331.47		
Equipment depreciation		£171.59	-£171.59		
(Value w/off over 4 years)					
Total Expenditure			£2,420.97		
Lloyds Bank Account Balances					
Treasurers A/C	2023-24	11/01/2024	£1,084.65		
Subs for	2024-25	11/01/2024	£3,010.00		
Business Savings A/C		11/01/2024	£3,010.69		
Fixed Term Savings A/C		11/01/2024	£16,000.00		

The last report for the Competition Sub Committee Covered the period up to January 2024.

Since then we have held two further Competition Sub Committee Meetings and have held the Club Championships.

The Club Championships were held at Clara Vale on Sunday 11th February and were very well attended by club members with standing room only. There were 23 entries in the PDI competition and 16 entries in the Print competition. These numbers are slightly higher than last year.

The PDI Competition was eventually won by Gosforth CC with Keswick PS in second place. Both clubs scored 253 points but Gosforth were awarded first place only after 10 rounds of the tie break rule. Gosforth CC and Keswick PS will be invited to take part in the next PAGB Inter Club PDI Competition.

The Print Competition was won by Keswick PS with 252 points with Saltburn PS in second place with 248 points. Both clubs will be invited to take part in the PAGB Inter Club Print Competition.

Many thanks to all clubs who took part in the competition and congratulations to Gosforth CC, Keswick PS and Saltburn PS on their success.

The Club Championships also saw the first use of the redrafted rules and the redesigned spreadsheets used to track entries and scoring. At the time of writing this report, the Competition Sub Committee has a meeting planned to review all aspects of the competition and to identify areas where we can possibly improve further. But without pre-empting the outcome of that meeting, there have been favourable comments about the clarity of the rules which seemed to have helped reduce the number of queries. The revised spreadsheets have also been a major improvement, greatly assisting the scorers and print sorters, enabling the 10 tie breaks to be carried out in a very short timescale - something that would not have been possible previously - and allowing the winning results to be announced to the audience at the end of the competition. They also allowed more detailed results to be posted on the NCPF website and to be issued to every club within 24 hours of the competition.

The redraft of the rules and revision of the spreadsheets was the culmination of many months of work by members of the Competition Sub Committee and Alan Parker of Saltburn PS who provided considerable expertise in respect of the spreadsheets. I would like to place on record my thanks to everyone involved in this work. I would also like to thank the judges for the competition and everyone who gave their time to assist on the day; they all contributed to a successful and enjoyable competition. Thank you!

Following the review of the Club Championships referred to above, the invitation pack for the Annuals Competition to be held on 21/22 April will be prepared and issued, and planning for all of other arrangements will be undertaken and/or finalised.

Alan Forster
February 2024

REPORT OF THE REPRESENTATIVE TO THE PHOTOGRAPHIC ALLIANCE OF GREAT BRITAIN TO NCPF EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE **20th February 2024**

I attended the PAGB Executive at Warwick University on the 4th February where several significant issues were discussed.

The number of affiliated camera clubs has been steadily reducing over the past few years, from 961 in 2021/22 to 890 in 2023. This reflects the number of clubs which have recently closed in the NCPF. For 2025 the PAGB Treasurer is basing the budget around a membership of no more than 850 affiliated clubs. To help address the shortfall in fees the Executive agreed to an increase from the current £36 to £39 for 2025, subject to this being approved at the AGM in April.

Overall, the PAGB is forecasting a deficit for 2024 of around £17,000, in small part due to the reduction in clubs but mainly down to reduced commercial sponsorship and the significant increase in costs associated with running events. The meeting agreed that in future certain regular expenditures will become "electable costs". In effect this means that if the funds aren't there they won't happen. This could affect events such as Distinctions Workshops, Seminars and attendance at the Photoshow in Birmingham. Future expenditure cuts and limits will be discussed at a subsequent meeting.

The eligibility of clubs to use work in PAGB competitions from members outside their Federation, the Keswick Question, was discussed in detail. Many delegates believe that using work from members outside of a club's Federation prejudiced other members. The meeting agreed that in future only work from members within a club's Federation could be used for any PAGB competition. The only exceptions being for previous long term members of a club who had moved out of the area but had continued their membership and participation in the club. It was further agreed that a "special exceptions" form would be produced enabling a club to put a case to the PAGB for having work from an out of Federation member.

Fees for Zoom judging was raised by several delegates who felt that several clubs were taking advantage to use judges for no cost. Agreement was reached that "reasonable costs" up to a maximum of £15 could be charged, as happens within the L&CPU. Any other charges, donations etc. requested by judge for Zoom events would need to be agreed with a club by prior contract.

I raised the question of Federations continuing to produce hard copy directories of judges and lecturers now that the CES system was more fully developed. The response was that the majority had or were stopping printed directories in favour of the national system. Some Federations have been using online only Directories for nearly 10 years. In recognition of its more comprehensive facilities the CES will in future be known as the CMS, Central Management System.

Members of this Executive are requested to decide what route the NCPF will adopt for its Directory. Currently many clubs have yet to enter anything on the CMS system and there will need to be a comprehensive education for clubs, judges and lecturers to enable CMS to operate to its full potential. Several other Federations have already done this and I have acquired useful details from the Scottish Federation which we should be able to adapt to our needs.

Richard Speirs

NCPF APM Officer Report 20th February 2024

Appendix 4

The last APM adjudication was held in November 2023 8 members of the NCPF were in for awards, but only 2 NCPF members gained an award.

Jane Morris Abson from Richmond CC was awarded a DPAGB.

Simon Robert from Keswick PS was awarded a DPAGB.

The next APM adjudication is in April 2024 with one member of the NCPF applying for an award.

The May APM workshop poster has been circulated to all NCPF clubs and to date I have had a number of requests from club members wishing to attend the workshop, to date 15 people have applied.

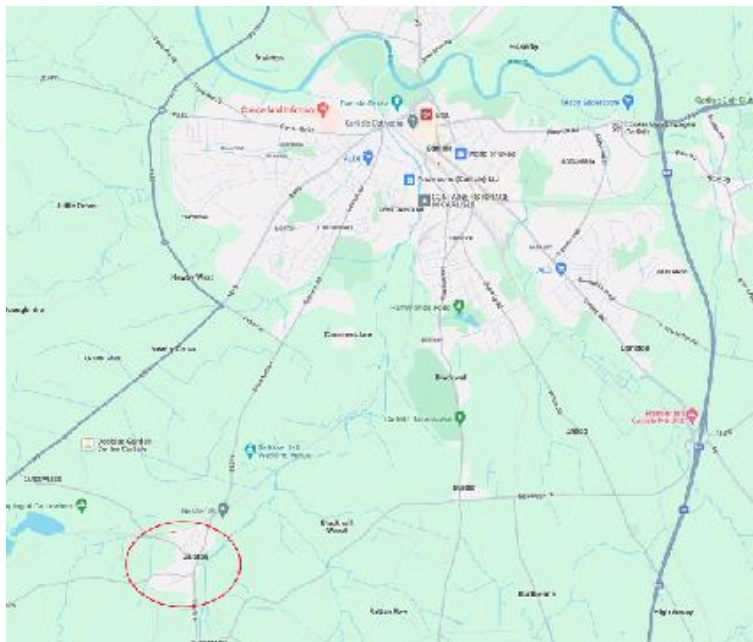
I have been making enquiries in the western area over the past year to try and find a location to hold the APM adjudication which the NCPF is hosting in April 2026. After a number of meetings and emails I can now reveal that Caldew School Dalston Carlisle will be the location for the APM adjudication 2026.

The school has everything we need to host the event, the cost to hire the school over the weekend is just over £2000 I have spoken and emailed the relevant members of the PAGB about the cost and they are happy for us to go ahead and formally book Caldew School.

By the end of this coming week I hope to have all the paperwork done and a 5% deposit paid. Caldew School has told me that the total cost is fixed with no increases.

The school is about 5 mile west of Carlisle and is easy access by road and rail and has a large car park.

Appendix 4



Northern Focus Editor Report – 20th February 2024

Appendix 5

Despite advising at previous meeting that NF was ready for publication, I thought t boring without any real up to date theme. Theme has been provided by Club Championships as an interesting topic with images.

Publication shall come after sub-committee review and this meeting

I shall continue to volunteer for role ofNorthern Focus Editor at next AGM but would be happy to stand down if anyone else is keen to take on the role.

Thank you.

Alan Wilson

The Judges Subcommittee met on 04th February 2024

A number of items were covered at the meeting.

Stephen Fowler's 7 year tenure comes to an end in March 2024. A replacement Secretary was needed and Lynda Golightly agreed to take over the role. She confirmed that she would be willing to take on this role and was duly appointed at this meeting.

As stated in previous reports, I am resigning as the Judges Sub Committee Chairman at the NCPF A.G.M. in March after serving on the JSC for over 12 years. After several discussions with the subcommittee, no one was able to take on the role. A decision to put it to the NCPF A.G.M. was taken unless a replacement could be found before then.

After this meeting Gerald Chamberlin contacted Richard Speirs and asked him if he would step in for 2 years until his term as President was over and he would be able to take on the role of JSC Chairman. Happily, Richard has agreed to do this.

Several comment forms have been received from Clubs and these were discussed in detail. The majority of comments were favourable.

As it was uncertain whether or not there would be a Chairman after March 2024 it was decided that the subcommittee would propose a selection of judges for the 2025 Club Championships, Annuals and the Beamish Competitions. The provisional selection is set out below.

CLUB CHAMPIONSHIPS

Dave Phillips

Alan Porrett

Keith Snell

Reserve: Richard Speirs

ANNUALS OPEN

Bill Broadley

Dave Coates (PAGB Judge)

Alan Walker

Reserve: Richard Speirs

ANNUALS ALLIANCE

Keith Snell

John Fare

John Tillotson

ANNUALS PORTFOLIO

John Williams

Peter Maguire

Peter Walton

ANNUALS BEGINNERS

Joe Sheridan

Reserve: Alan Wilson

BEAMISH

Alan Wilson

Reserve: Joe Sheridan

Approval from the Executive Committee is sought with the understanding that some of the judges may be subject to change.

An additional Recruitment Day for Judges is an ongoing discussion.

Jim Welsh LRPS, CPAGB, APAGB

NCPF Judges Sub Committee Chairman

REPORT OF THE DATA MANAGER**Appendix 7****20th February 2024**

As agreed at our January meeting I raised the use of the CES system in place of Federation Directories at the February meeting of the PAGB Executive.

The feedback from Federations is covered in this agenda under the report of the Representative to the PAGB at Agenda item 6.2.

Richard Speirs

Club Support and Development Sub-Committee Report

Appendix 8

The Club Support and Development Sub-Committee meet on the 7th February 2023 via a Zoom meeting. The committee discussed the positive feedback from clubs via the NCPF Secretary but nothing had come directly to the sub-committee in relation to the previous Newsletter. The fact that there was feedback was in a sense 'achievement' and that some clubs were taking onboard the suggestions given. Further discussion centred around club membership and if there had been any noticeable difference experienced by clubs this particular season. It was thought that we should introduce a survey just to see if the sub-committee's efforts were having any impact or that clubs were still struggling, this would be through the Newsletter and Website.

The website usage after the last newsletter had risen slightly but it was decided to keep on reminding members to subscribe to be able to receive the latest information from the NCPF.

Discussion on the PAGB Recorded Lecturers was raised and that this service could be of great help and a good source of material for club nights. Again, it was decided to publicise this in the newsletter.

The financial aspect of clubs was seen as a problem for them. Accounts were being closed, or banking charges incurred and it seem a good idea for the NCPF Treasurer, who agreed, to prepare an article about this for the next newsletter as well.

Discussion followed on "What Next". A very wide-ranging topic but an important one. How to get to club committee members? As usual this was a delicate objective. It was suggested we send target emails to members instead of the use of the newsletter. The discussion prompted the how, why and what of this method. It was decided to leave this for further discussion and to continue with the newsletter to be published before clubs end their season.

Articles to be included were Club Banking, PAGB Recorded Lecture Service and Membership numbers survey. The Newsletter to go out to clubs before the end of February 2024.

John Smith – Chair

Webmaster's Report – 15th February 2024

Appendix 9

Website traffic since my last report consists:

November 2023: 377 visitors and 1471 page views

December 2023: 443 visitors and 2214 page views (almost double the usual page views)

January 2024: 342 visitors and 1344 page views

There was no particular post or page which drew in more visitors during December. I can only assume the increased amount of page views was due to the Christmas holidays, with people having more time to browse the site.

The most viewed page in November was the Beamish Trophy results.

The most viewed page in December was the results of the North Tyne Area print competition.

The most viewed page in January was information on the APM workshop, closely followed by the invitation to enter the Club Championship.

The site has received visitors now from 11 countries. While people living in the UK make up the bulk of visitors, the site is also well used by residents of America and Australia.

Jo Knight

Webmaster

NORTHERN AREA REPRESENTATIVES REPORT 20th February 2024

Appendix 10

NORTHERN AREA MONO & COLOUR PRINT COMPETITION

The N A Print Competition was held on Wednesday 17th January 2024. The host club was Alnwick CC and the judge was Stephen Fowler.

The winning club was Ashington CC with an overall score of 214. In 2nd place was Alnwick CC with 213, 3rd place was Morpeth CC with 202, 4th place was Wooler CC with 198 and in 5th place was Blyth PS with 187. Amble PG and Cambois CC did not submit and entry for this competition. The scoring was very tight and Ashington CC beat Alnwick CC by only 1 point. Two prints scored 30 points. The image scoring 30 points in the Colour section was Cromer Pier by Keith Saint of Ashington CC and the image scoring 30 points in the Monochrome section was Night Street by Malcolm Roberson also of Ashington CC.

Ashington CC swept the board and were congratulated on their win and also for gaining the highest score for their members in both sections of the competition. The trophy was presented to the Print Competition Secretary, Gordon Hartill. Thanks were also given to Stephen Fowler for judging the competition. The event was well attended and the host club held a raffle and provided refreshments at the interval.

4 WAY INTERCLUB PDI COMPETITION

The 4 Way Interclub PDI Competition between Blyth, Cambois, Cramlington and Whitley Bay was held on Thursday 15th February 2024. The host club was Blyth PS and the judge was David Ord.

After a very tight competition, Blyth PS won with an overall score of 277. In 2nd place was Whitley Bay PS with 268, 3rd place was Cramlington CC with 265 and Cambois CC came 4th with 261 points. The image scoring 30 points was 'Enter the Dragon' by Alan Wennington of Blyth PS.

Blyth's President, Graham Harland, received the trophy. This is the 3rd year in a row Blyth has won this trophy, sharing it with Whitley Bay PS last year.

David Ord was thanked for his constructive comments throughout the competition and the event was well attended by all clubs. The host club held a raffle and provided an excellent buffet after the competition.

Jim Welsh LRPS, CPAGB, APAGB
Northern Area Representative

South Tyne Area PDI Competition

Hosted by Whickham Photographic Club 16th February 2024

The 6 South Tyne Area clubs: Gateshead CC, Hexham and District PS, Ryton and District CC, South Shields PS, Whickham PC and Winlaton CC all met at Whickham Community Centre with Whickham PC hosting the event.

It was terrific seeing a full hall with over 50 people present including representatives from every club. Our neutral judge Peter Maguire LRPS, CPAGB, EFIAP, BPE1 from Gosforth CC conducted the evening perfectly with considered judging commentary and remarks, emphasising good work with positive critique for each of the 60 images submitted.

Scores and positions:

1 st	Gateshead	248
2 nd	Winlaton	242
3 rd	South Shields	231
4 th	Whickham	229
5 th	Ryton	228
6 th	Hexham	222

Three PDI's scored the maximum possible 30 points.

"Fun in the Fret" by Leo Douglas of Gateshead CC

"Swan Lake" by Mandy Hedley of Winlaton CC

"Little Owl" by Paul Rogers of South Shields PS

Fun in the Fret being named as Best PDI by Peter.

A terrific spread was laid on by Whickham members, with many guests staying behind to chat and catch-up in a very happy atmosphere.

The Judge, Peter Maguire, handed over the winner's trophy to Bob Shanks, President of Gateshead CC.

The next South Tyne event will be the South Tyne Print Competition hosted by Winlaton CC on 19th November with Judge Bill Broadley of Blyth PS.

Wear Area Report – February 2024**Appendix 12**

Castleside & District Photography Club have confirmed that they will be hosting the Wear Area Battle in the autumn. This will be for one year only and then will move on to another club. The provisional date is the 25th November.

In addition, the date for the Stanhope/Castleside/Consett inter-club competition is the 15th October, hosted by Stanhope.

Debra Taylor

19th February 2024

Western Area NCPF Report - 20th February 2024**Appendix 13**

A meeting was held for all the western area clubs on Saturday 17th February 2024. All the clubs were present at the meeting.

We were informed that West Cumbria Photo Group would be holding their last meeting in March, due to the poor health of the chairman Tony Potter and the secretary moving out of the area the group has come to the end of the road. Nearly all the members of the group also belong to other clubs in the W/A. A discussion took place to see if a new group may be put together later in the year to replace WCPG.

The meeting was also updated about the APM workshops being held this coming May and the one to be held next April 2025 in the W/A. One club said they had not received any information about the workshop from the NCPF, it turned out that the club secretary had not inform the club nor did they know about the NCPF new website where they can find out all the latest news and info. They DO KNOW NOW.

The W/A competition will be hosted by Workington CC on the 7th December 2024 at the Victory Hall Dalston.

The W/A committee has agreed to offer the NCPF their PA sound system which has a wireless head mic and hand held mic, the system can be held by the NCPF in their store room. This equipment is not been used by the W/A as all W/A events are now being held at the Victory Hall Dalston which has a built in audio and projector system.

Gerald Chamberlin DPAGB, EFIAP

Western Area NCPF Rep