

EC Meeting held at Rochdale on the 28th November 2009 - Report

The EC met in the Rochdale Transport Club, Rochdale prior to the L&CPU PDI Knockout Competition.

The first item on the agenda concerned **Communications** - the make up of the Newsletter and the provision of a more urgent 'Press Release' document giving a summary of the discussions and decisions that took place in the EC Meeting.

It was felt that the Newsletter could become a more social electronic 'Focal Points' and would be sent to the clubs as and when enough content was received.

The 'Press Release' Document should be compiled by John Smith in his role as Communications Officer and should be sent out to the clubs, after approval by the Management Committee, within two weeks of the EC Meeting.

An edited version of this would also then be added to the website one week afterwards.

The suggestion of a **Big Day** was then discussed. It was decided that we should look to arranging another one and to this end a sub committee will be formed to carry this out.

It was felt that we should keep to the original format of having a number of speakers on a particular theme rather than maybe pay a hefty fee for a single 'headline' speaker.

The suggested theme was possibly 'A Big Day of Landscape Photography' and we would be looking to find venues for the event to go on towards the end of 2010.

If anyone knows of a suitable venue then please contact the L&CPU Secretary.

Under **Correspondence** we have received a request from a club wishing to hire some of the L&CPU frames for an exhibition.

Also received was a request for us to support Southport PS in gaining PAGB approval for their Open Exhibition. The Art Gallery in Southport has been due to close for major refurbishment and has been therefore unable to take bookings for exhibitions. This refurbishment has kept being put back and so, because of this uncertainty, the Society has had to try and make other arrangements to show the prints and the projected images.

We were sad to hear of the death of a Past President of the Union and our former Archivist, Gerry Logan. A letter of condolence to his family will be sent and we are to look into producing an article on him for a future Newsletter.

The **Treasurer** then produced an up to date Balance Sheet and answered any queries the committee had. The ceasing of the provision of a cheque account by one of our bankers has caused somewhat of a problem. This will be sorted out within the next couple of weeks.

Under '**PAGB Matters**' Gordon Jenkins reported on the new rules for the Inter Federation Print and DPI Competitions – it now states '*Images which have been accepted in any previous Inter-Federation Competition will not be accepted. This includes images which are so similar to previously accepted images as to be virtually identical*'

This rule will not apply to the Inter Club Print Championship at Deeside or the Interclub DPI competition at Warwick.

He then went on to tell the EC about the Trustee Insurance which the PAGB are wanting all clubs to have – the main benefit of this is to provide indemnity to the individual trustee (committee member in the case of photographic clubs and societies).

For this to work all the clubs affiliated to the PAGB would have to take part and to this end the L&CPU EC have decided that we will pay the amount required for each club within the Union.

This may mean a slight increase in the L&C subscription next year but it was felt that this cover was not just desirable but necessary.

Competitions. A new laptop is to be purchased to do the scoring at the competitions and also a suitable one for projecting the images at a higher resolution.

The competition rules are now on the website. The discussion then moved onto the judging days. The problem with having this in May is that there are the two bank holiday weekends. The committee decided to try and hold both competitions on the same day – Saturday 15th May – but the problem is to find a suitable venue. The requirements for this are that prints should be able to be stored there for a week before the competition, that we should be able to have a blacked out projection room, also a room for the print judging and a couple of other rooms to sort out the prints and for PAGB and Folio print selection. If any clubs know of such facilities that are available on that date, then can they let the committee know as soon as possible otherwise we are looking to have a split site judging using two venues.

The L&CPU are to host the November 2010 Print Adjudication at the Wilmslow Guild on the 27th/28th November. It is anticipated that tickets will be on sale nearer the time once the entrants have had the first chance at these. Further discussions then took place on how the PAGB event should be organised and what was required of us.

Because of the PAGB event, the L&CPU Knockout will most probably be held on the 22nd November – to this end we are looking for a club to host this event.

Next year's Annual **Exhibition** will be held from July to August at Kirkby Library – they would like the Exhibition to be on show for as long as possible and discussions took place between the Folio Officer, the Exhibition Officer and the Competitions team as to how this could be achieved.

There had been a lot of good comments made on how the Exhibition was hung last year and Tremaine intended to do this year's the same way.

Folios was the next item on the Agenda and following the receipt of a letter from a club asking why we alter dates it was pointed out that the rata dates for 2010 had been available on the website since August and it was only now that this club was questioning them. Concern was expressed about the distances that sometimes had to be travelled now that some clubs have chosen not to take the folios or to have them in a different form. This will be looked into.

There followed a discussion on the **Archive** which is stored in the County Records Office in Manchester. Certain questions were raised – how do we add to the archive and what criteria should we use? Also what do the do clubs want from the archive and a suggestion was made that maybe we might include say 10 pictures from the archive into the Annual Print Exhibition each year? Maybe our archive lists could be accessed through the L&CPU Website?

This brought us on to the **Website**. This was being updated more frequently, has become easier to navigate, and now has highlighted items.

It was felt that we should have a priority of News within the website sop that the L&CPU news was always the first. Also discussed were the different ways of analysing who visited the site and it was suggested that maybe the EC should visit the site regularly and look at the questions being posed on the Forum and maybe occasionally answer a question or two.

Under **Any Other Business** the cancellation of the Pre -Assessment for the PAGB was mentioned. There was initially a lack of interest but then, once the event had been cancelled, of course then there was a demand for it!

It was felt that maybe this could be added into the selection sessions for the PAGB Club Print and PDI competitions which may be held on the AGM day.

There was a suggestion that we should ask the Royal Photographic Society to advertise some of our events on their website as we seem to be doing quite a lot of advertising of their events on our website!

It was hope that in the near future we would have available as set of guidelines for new Officers of the Union.

It had been reported back to the PAGB that we had some difficulties in mounting the recent PAGB Print Exhibition due to the new frames.

The Archivist wishes to take photographs of all the current EC at the AGM.

Some thought should be given regarding the rules governing Co-opted members and the length of time that they could be co-opted onto the L&CPU Committee. At present there aren't any apart from that the Committee can co-opt members as they feel necessary. This matter will be looked into and proposals brought to the January meeting.

The 2009 PAGB PDI Exhibition is available to the clubs – please contact John Smith to request a showing.

There being no other business the meeting closed.