

**01 Chairman's Report****Philip Smithies**

I'm now approaching the end of my (nearly) two-year term as Chairman of the best club in Kent and am very privileged that this should coincide with the club's 50th Anniversary. It's been extremely hard work – almost a full-time job, in fact – but immensely rewarding.

**CHANGE OF VENUE**

This time last year we were facing an increase of charges from Hayesbrook which, over the course of the club season, would have resulted in additional costs to the club of £2030. After a long and difficult search, we found the current – and much more pleasant – venue: Weald of Kent Grammar School. As I remarked in my "Chairman's Reflections" in the latest edition of Grain, both the school and the club have benefited from the move.

**NUMBER OF PRINT ENTRIES IN OPEN COMPETITIONS**

Over the past few years, the number of members entering Open Print Competitions had declined considerably. This year, numbers are up slightly.

SEASON	2015/16	2014/15	2013/14	2012/13	2011/12	2010/11	2009/10	2008/09	2007/08	2006/07
NUMBERS	36	33	42	52	49	48	48	38	45	44

The purchase of the new print stands gives everyone the opportunity to see high-quality prints close-up to appreciate their innate superiority over projected images. However, and for no obvious reason, this season Open Print Competitions are the worst attended meetings (Open PDI Competitions are the best attended).

**NUMBER OF PRINT AND SLIDE ENTRIES IN NON-OPEN COMPETITIONS**

You will see from the tables that follow that entries for both prints and (especially) slides in non-open competitions are significantly lower than PDI entries. The numbers for slides were so low that the only non-open slide Competition which could be held was the Record Competition. It only attracted just four entrants. Perhaps the time has come to scrap all non-open slide competitions?

**WEBSITE / FACEBOOK / FLICKR**

As I said last year, the design of the TCC website limits the changes that can be made to it. It seems that quite a few many members rarely if ever look at it. It's a great pity that so few people have provided images for their own individual gallery on the website. It's easy to do: simply email Paul a dozen or so images (resized as you would for a competition) and he will create a gallery. Currently, only nineteen members have their own gallery and it would be good to see more people's work represented. The Facebook page is visited by a fair number of people, but only a handful of people make use of the Flickr site.

**MEMBERSHIP, ATTENDANCE AT MEETINGS and INVOLVEMENT**

Overall membership is only 88, but the records show that membership has often fallen in the past and then recovered. For example, in 2001/2002 there were 86 members; in the following season, membership jumped to 98. I don't think the club is likely to collapse in the near future but decreasing membership and attendance makes this increasingly likely, as happened to East Grinstead and Isle of Sheppey. I wonder if camera clubs have suffered from that fact that so many people prefer to share and discuss images on-line and that maybe camera clubs' days are numbered. Other clubs have similar problems and no real solutions.

Overall attendance at meetings is disappointingly low (averaging 44) and has been declining for a number of years. The MIPS challenge evening saw only thirty-one members attend: possibly the worst attended meeting ever. Even the Will Cheung evening saw only fifty club members attending. The worst-attended meeting of the 2011-2012 season saw 44 attendees; this season 44 is the average attendance. A highly esteemed club like ours can attract big names for judging and talks – so why is attendance so poor? Over one-third of you have attended less than ten times this season. Perhaps you could tell us why

In the KCPA, Alan Lomakin tells me that "poor attendance at meetings does seem to be a problem with many clubs and has been for many years. It seems some members just go for specific interests such as competitions or tuition nights. This makes it hard for programme secretaries because they just can't please everyone." Our current membership is almost identical to Hailsham and Maidstone and they both report similar average attendances.

Lack of involvement by members is something of a problem. For example:

- Only eighteen people filled in the \*questionnaire issued at the start of the season
- No one has come forward to take over the Mini-Outings
- The PDI and Print Portfolios have both folded
- Only a tiny number of people help with setting up in the evenings – and a few don't put anything away either!
- Only thirty people attended the annual dinner
- Attendance at subgroups overall is very disappointing

I could go on...

\*The questionnaire revealed that half the respondents wanted the number of competitions left unchanged; half wanted the numbers reduced. Comparison of our programme with other Kent clubs suggests that we have a rather higher percentage of competitions. Please let us know what you think.

Malcolm Hedges' words keep echoing through both my mind and Alan's: "Tonbridge has always been a competitive club". Competitions do provide an opportunity to see members' work; most members have at some point entered competitions even if they don't do so now. Even though judges can sometimes be insensitive and make fatuous remarks, they often they provide useful and insightful remarks which, if acted on, can lead to real improvements in our photography.

**TABLE 1 Average attendance at meetings**

EVENT	Average attendance (members)				
	2015-2016	2014-15	2013-14	2012-13	2011-12
PDI Open Competitions	48	51.8	59.8	60.0	60.0
Print Open Competitions	41.8	52.2	53.8	58.4	60.6
Natural History Competitions	36	49	47	52	61
Record Competition	43	50	50	43	59
Portrait	44	43	44	49	60
Talks	42.6*	49.4	56.8	53.5	59.0
In-house	43.3*	49.3	51.7	40.5	54.3
Average	44*	49.9	52.0	53.1	57.5

\*As of 28 April 2016

**TABLE 2 Best and worst attended meetings**

<b>2011-12: Best and worst attended meetings</b>		
Best attended	71	The Owd Man and me
Worst attended	44	Ladies v. Gents / AV Evening
<b>2012-13: Best and worst attended meetings</b>		
Best attended	65	2 talks + 2 Comps in first seven weeks
Worst attended	38	MIPS
<b>2013-14: Best and worst attended meetings</b>		
Best attended	63	PDI # 4
Worst attended	42	Print of the Year / Talk: In my mind's eye
<b>2014-15: Best and worst attended meetings</b>		
Best attended	59	Print # 5
Worst attended	41	Talk: Speed and Motion
<b>2015-16 Best and worst attended meetings</b>		
Best attended	55	PDI# 4
Worst attended	31	MIPS Challenge

- 1 Attendance is down again this season, averaging 44. These figures exclude the AGMs (51 last year) and Presentation Evenings (whose figures are unavailable). Low attendance figures obviously impact on income.
- 2 Open PDI competitions are by far the best attended meetings with, surprisingly, Open Print Competitions this season being the worst attended.
- 3 Over a quarter of members attend less than ten times per season.
- 4 The worst-attended meeting of the 2011-2012 season saw 44 attendees; this season 44 is the average attendance. However, back in the 2003-2004 season, average attendance was only 43.
- 5 Overall membership is only 86, but the records show that membership has often fallen in the past and then recovered. For example, in 2001/2001 there were 86 members; in the following season there were 98 members. In 2008/2009, membership slumped to 73 but two years later had reached 100.

(Table 3 follows)

## COMPETITION ENTRY NUMBERS SINCE 2010-2011

**TABLE THREE** – showing numbers of *members* entering competitions since 2010-11

COMPETITION	YEAR	2015-2016	2014-2015	2013-2014	2012-13	2011-2012	2010-2011
PDI (Open Competition)		42 <sup>a</sup>	42	44	50	42	43
Print (Open Competition)		36 <sup>b</sup>	33	42	52	49	48
Slides (Open Competition)		9 <sup>c</sup>	10	8	7	9	8
PDI of the Year		23	22	DNE	DNE	DNE	DNE
Print of the Year		18	22	DNE	DNE	DNE	DNE
Record – Total no. of entrants		20	21	10	15	14	14
Record - PDI		18	14	10	12	12	11
Record - Print		8	11	7	11	10	11
Record - Slide		4	6	0	2	3	4
Portrait – Total no. of entrants		20	17	8	15	14	14
Portrait - PDI		18	15	DNE	DNE	DNE	DNE
Portrait - Print		12	7	8	15	14	13
Portrait - Slide		0	0	0	0	0	1
Natural History – Total no. of entrants		14	11	14	18	18	24
Natural History - PDI		11	8	10	15	16	17
Natural History - Print		10	7	10	13	17	18
Natural History - Slide		0	1	0	1	3	4
PDI Sequence entrants (Sequences)		13 <sup>d</sup>	13 (19)	DNE	DNE	DNE	DNE
Print Panel entrants (Panels)		6 <sup>d</sup>	9 (12)	NR	NR	NR	NR
Slide Sequence entrants (Sequences)		3 <sup>d</sup>	4 (5)	4	4	5	6
Small Print		NR	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR
Outing – Total no. of entrants		20	17	NR	NR	NR	NR
Outing – PDI		15	14	NR	NR	NR	NR
Outing – Print		8	8	NR	NR	NR	NR
Outing – Slide		0	0	0	2	3	3
AV Competition (Entrants)		10	13	13	DNE	DNE	NR/DNE
ADUR Electronics PDI Trophy		10	7	NR/DNE	NR/DNE	NR/DNE	NR/DNE
ADUR Electronics Digital Print		11	8	13	NR	NR	NR

NR = Not Recorded

DNE = Did Not Exist

Notes:

a: of whom four were ineligible for an award due to insufficient entries

b: of whom seven were ineligible for an award due to insufficient entries

c: of whom one was ineligible for an award due to insufficient entries

d: only one sequence per member

### TUESDAY SUB-GROUPS

Over the season from September to the end of April, the AV Group had made £3 profit, EYI had made £2; Distinctions/ID had lost £37 and Tondig had lost £56. These groups are a major asset to the club and enjoyed and found useful by those who attend so it is very disappointing that they attract such a small proportion of the membership. The future of the groups is under discussion.

### IN-HOUSE EVENINGS

There were three this season (2 Chambers' Evenings and one AV Group evening) and it is clear from the comments received that people who attend enjoy them immensely. I am extremely grateful for everyone who volunteered (or whose arms I occasionally had to twist!) for providing us with superb entertainment and showing us – as if we didn't know – the wealth of talent in the club. However, despite the high "Approval Rating", the average attendance is below the club average. Why?

## DEATH OF KEITH NOAKES

Keith had been terminally ill for nearly a year so his death in February was not altogether unexpected, although earlier than had been anticipated last summer. Eloquent tributes have been paid to him in Grain reflecting members' respect and affection for him.

## AND FINALLY...

May I take this opportunity to wish my successor, Alan Cork, the best of luck when he takes over as Chairman. He can be assured of the full support of the exceptional committee with whom it has been my pleasure and honour to work. Thanks to everyone who allowed me to use their photos to illustrate this document. Please bear in mind that it's not possible to reproduce your pictures to the same high standard as the originals.

## MY IMAGE OF THE YEAR

I'll finish my report as I did last year with my personal favourite image of the season: "Allegory of International Banking Crisis" by Alan Cork – and I still don't understand the title!



## 02 Secretary's Report

Marilynne Hill

Firstly I must apologise for not being able to attend the AGM especially as I am usually the one reminding members that it is their club and their chance to have their say on matters that affect them and exhorting them to attend.

I think probably the biggest change for the Club this season was the move from Hayesbrook School to the Weald of Kent and what a great move that has been. Not only was it financially beneficial, in comparison to the charges that Hayesbrook would have applied, but the premises and most of the facilities are undoubtedly better. Parking is an ongoing problem, albeit one that I can put up with for the sake of the other benefits that the move has brought. I would like to thank to everyone who came up with suggestions for alternative venues and who checked out their suitability and what it would cost.

This season we lost another long-standing member of the Club, Keith Noakes, who died after a lengthy illness on 20<sup>th</sup> February this year. Keith's was always the voice of reason on the committee, able to see both sides of a discussion and able to exert a calming influence when discussions became heated. In addition to his role as Treasurer he was also Slide Secretary and his enthusiasm for slides was probably one of the reasons that kept this medium active in Tonbridge Camera Club when other clubs were dropping them. He will be greatly missed.

At the end of the 2014 - 2015 season our membership stood at 100 but 20 members did not renew and it looked as if membership was going to be very considerably down on last season. Fortunately we gained 2 new members at the start of the season and a further 7 during the year, although we suffered a loss in February when Keith died. Currently we have 88 members with potentially more joining next season following requests for information about the Club at our Exhibition.

Earlier this year I sent out a global email entitled 'Kiss, Slap, Kiss' which requested feedback as to why the attendance at the MIPS Challenge Competition was so low and why so few members entered the KCPA Annual Exhibition. I would like to thank everyone who responded.

The analysis of the responses is summarised below:

Reason Given	MIPS (%)	KCPA (%)
Prior Commitment	15	0
Absence	15	20
Personal Reasons	15	10
Competition Fatigue	15	10
Not Interested in Competitions	15	20
Other	24	20
Cost	0	20

Unsurprisingly, as you can see there was no overall consensus and numerous reasons were given. Prior commitments, absence, personal reasons and those that I have classified in 'other' are not really reasons that could be addressed by the committee. Neither is cost as this was only given as a factor in lack of participation in the KCPA Annual Exhibition. However competition fatigue could be influenced in a number of ways, one of which would be a reduction in the number of competitions. If this was carried out it would enable more talks or practical evenings to be scheduled which could have a positive effect on those giving 'not interested in competitions' as a reason.

The new committee will need to give further consideration to low attendance and participation as it is not just confined to MIPS and the KCPA Annual Exhibition and would welcome suggestions from members on ways to improve these matters.

Finally if anyone thinks they would like to join the committee we can accept nominations from the floor.

### 03 Treasurer's Report and Adoption of the TCC Accounts

**Muffi Forbes**

This being my first season as Treasurer, I trust I can live up to the reputations of previous Treasurers. Included in this report is a copy of the audited Balance Sheet for the year ending 31st March 2016 and an Income /Expenditure Analysis.

The bulk of the information is taken from the Annual Accounts which run from 1st April to 31st March the following year. Therefore, there are approximately 5 weeks of activity from the previous season that are included in 2015-2016 - the Outing, Presentation Evening and Meetings, etc. which will account for any discrepancies.

I know that many of you would like to see a reduction in both Subscriptions and Door Fees. However, having monitored the figures carefully, I will explain my reasons for wishing to keep these as they are for next season.

	Season 2015-16	Proposed 2016-17
Full Membership	£47.00	£47.00
Joint Membership (2 at same address)	£78.50	£78.00
Junior (under 18)	£7.50	£7.50
Full time Student / Unemployed Person	£17.00	£17.00
Full Country Membership	£31.50	£31.50
Ordinary Country Membership	£17.00	£17.00
Door fees	£2.00	£2.00

Although there are numerous categories in both Payments and Receipts, I do not intend to go through these line by line but have kept specific analysis to the schedule on the next page.

I will say here, that there is an overlap regarding Miscellaneous and Admin which can be seen in the Summary Sheet and I suggest from next season that these two categories are amalgamated.

There is no need to dwell on the details relating to the move at the beginning of the season, suffice it to say that I feel an explanation is required for the major ones, i.e. Membership, Door Fees, Tuesday Evening meetings (Income) and Meetings, Teas, Tuesday Evening Meetings, Room Rental.

Subscriptions this season resulted in 88 members compared with 99 in 2014-2015, and with an extra £2 on the Door Fee TCC received an additional £821.44. The only 2 groups on Tuesday Evenings which had high enough attendance to make a profit were "Enhancing your Images" and the AV Group.

Regarding the Expenses schedule, it can be seen that we paid out £45.63 less in the Meetings category in 2015-2016. These costs are almost 100% for Judges and Presenters. You will also note that the cost for Teas was reduced by £462.31 this season. I know many of you have been distressed by the lack of specialties and chocolate biscuits but it was necessary. The cost of Room Rental was £759.50 more for the Thursday evenings with an additional cost of £117 for Tuesdays.

Moving on to the last point, which is a serious issue for TCC and relates to the Tuesday evening groups, only two groups as mentioned above made a profit, albeit small ones. I will mention here that for the Distinctions and Image Group, although 2 rooms are used, these are, in fact, charged at the same cost as the other groups, i.e. £30 an evening so in reality each group is only charged £15. It is depressing, therefore, that these groups still make a loss.

So, please consider coming to the Tuesday nights next season. They are extremely informative, very enjoyable, and I should like them to continue.

Category	Received		
	2014-2015	2015-2016	
Subscriptions	3,887.50	3,508.00	-379.50
Door Fees	1,593.65	2,794.59	1,200.94
Enhancing your images Group	144.00	228.00	84.00
AV Group	278.00	293.00	15.00
Distinctions Group	98.75	54.00	-44.75
Image Discussion Group	138.75	113.00	-25.75
TONDIG	210.00	200.00	-10.00
	Paid		
	2014-2015	2015-2016	
Meetings	1,470.87	1,425.24	45.63
Teas etc	716.51	254.20	462.31
Room Rental	1,120.00	1,879.50	-759.50
Enhancing your images Group	256.00	292.00	-36.00
AV Group	271.00	262.00	9.00
Distinctions Group	128.00	157.00	-29.00
Image Discussion Group	128.00	157.00	-29.00
TONDIG	262.00	294.00	-32.00
Subs and door fees	5,481.15	6,302.59	821.44
Meetings and Room Rental	2,590.87	3,304.74	713.87
	<b>2,890.28</b>	<b>2,997.85</b>	<b>107.57</b>
Enhancing your images Group	-112.00	-64.00	
AV Group	7.00	31.00	
Distinctions Group	-29.25	-103.00	
Image Discussion Group	10.75	-44.00	
TONDIG	-52.00	-94.00	

So, to finish, although the loss on the Summary Sheet of £385.60 is substantially lower than the £1,285 loss last year, we still have the outing and other expenses to cover before the season ends, which, together with the analysis above, is the reason why it is necessary that subscriptions remain the same for next season.

## Cost Centre Analysis

Cost Centre	Received	Paid	Balance	Comments
Subscription	£ 3,508.00		£ 3,508.00	86 members 2015/16
Door Fees	£ 2,794.59		£ 2,794.59	43/44/46/47/49/AGM/PE/to 31 March 2016
Dinner	£ 792.00	£ 800.00	-£ 8.00	Refunds due to illness caused slight loss
Advertising Revenue	£ 25.00		£ 25.00	for programme
Meetings		£ 1,425.24	-£ 1,425.24	Expenses paid to judges / presenters - offset against door fees
Teas etc		£ 254.20	-£ 254.20	Includes £36.40 re Presentation Evening
Room Rental		£ 1,943.50	-£ 1,943.50	Re Thursday Nights - Paid to 31 March 2016
Insurance		£ 765.42	-£ 765.42	still awaiting receipt of £139 payment to KCPA
KCPA & External		£ -	£ -	
Equipment & Repairs		£ 558.73	-£ 558.73	inc. New cable and projector repair
Grain	£ 1,065.00	£ 1,094.00	-£ 29.00	
Exhibitions	£ -	£ 1,001.66	-£ 1,001.66	some costs include previous year.
Prizes & Trophies		£ 365.00	-£ 365.00	Includes £36.40 re Presentation Evening
Enhancing Your Images Gp	£ 228.00	£ 292.00	-£ 64.00	Inc. Room hire Apr/May 2015
AV Group	£ 293.00	£ 262.00	£ 31.00	Inc. Room hire Apr/May 2015
Distinctions Group	£ 54.00	£ 157.00	-£ 103.00	Inc. Room hire Apr/May 2015
Image Discussion Group	£ 113.00	£ 157.00	-£ 44.00	Inc. Room hire Apr/May 2015
Admin costs		£ 292.06	-£ 292.06	Admin and Misc. Costs appear to overlap when balancing "received/paid"
Misc	£ 165.57	£ 247.32	-£ 81.75	inc.£90 paid to G. Bunyon re London Walking Tour , P. Penrith web-hosting
Outing	£ 692.00	£ 483.00	£ 209.00	Refund J. Butler, K. Noakes due to illness
TONDIG	£ 200.00	£ 230.00	-£ 30.00	Inc. Room hire Apr/May 2015
Gavin's Day - 16/05/15	£ 392.00	£ 185.00	£ 207.00	All monies received from J.Butler (paid to Hall and M.Hill (food)).
Boxes and frames	£ 1,697.18	£ 1,891.81	-£ 194.63	inc. 6 extra frames for club
Auction	£ -	£ -	£ -	
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>£ 12,019.34</b>	<b>£ 12,404.94</b>	<b>-£ 385.60</b>	<b>Excess of payments over receipts</b>
			£ 8,183.62	balance as at 31/03/2015
			<b>£ 7,798.02</b>	<b>Balance as at 31 March 2016</b>

### Tonbridge Camera Club

#### BALANCE SHEET YEAR ENDING 31st MARCH 2016

##### General Account

Balance 1st April 2015 **£8,183.62**

Less Excess of Payments over Receipts **£385.60**

**£7,798.02**

##### Cash Balances

Current Account **£1,552.50**  
 Deposit Account \*\* **£6,017.91**  
 Cash - Treasurer **£227.61**

\*\* Deposit a/c includes £688.21 re the unspent balance of a £2k legacy from Gerry Howlett]

**£7,798.02**

Elizabeth A. Forbes - Hon. Treasurer



I have examined the above Summary of Accounts and the attached Receipt and Payment Accounts relating to the affairs of Tonbridge Camera Club for the year to 31st March 2016. I confirm these to be in accordance with the Treasurer's records and explanations given to me.

  
 Barry Bone - Auditor  
 21st April, 2016

## 04 Print Secretary's Report

John Butler

I haven't got a lot to say in this report as I have only been doing the job over the last few months.

One of the things that has struck me since taking over is the drop in the number of entries that the print competitions are attracting.

Previous times when I have done this job, the entries for an evening's competition was well up into the 70s and 80s whereas nowadays, it would seem that we are lucky to get 60. Are you the members, trying to tell us something?

Probably, the most disappointing event for me was the 'Print of the Year' competition when we had to send out an S.O.S. to allow members to submit another entry to make an evening's entertainment. Very sad as this is one of the top competitions for the season when the club get the opportunity to see the best of the best pictures.

Possibly, the purchase of the new stands may help as the members will now have the opportunity to see all the pictures on display throughout the evening.

Thankfully, John Lewis will be taking over from me for the next season and I am sure that John will make a very good job of organising the prints next season.



Print Outing Competition  
Trinity College  
by Mick Dudley



Print Open Competition Group A  
Shabby Chic  
by Steve Peet



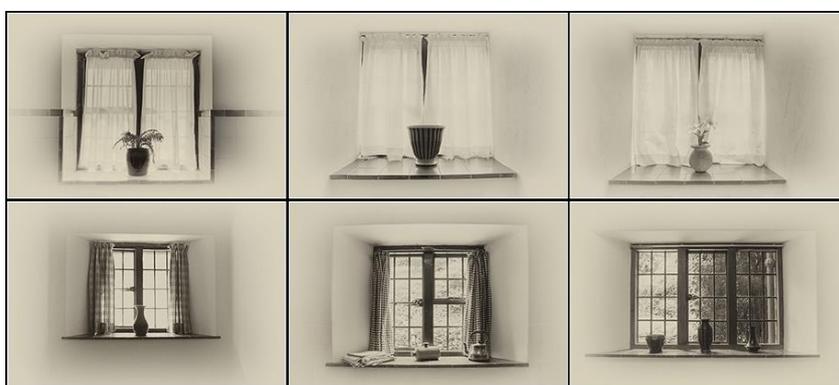
Print Record Competition  
Ringle Crouch Green Windmill  
by Dave Brooker



Print Portrait and Print of the Year  
Sad Old Eyes  
by John Lewis



Print Nature: Puffin in flight by David Godfrey



Print Panel Competition: Windowsills by Pam Sherren

## 05 PDI Secretary's Report

**Ann Paine**

This is my first season taking over from John Lewis as PDI secretary. It was agreed I would do all the background work i.e. checking image sizes, colour space, titles etc. then prepare the projector software, Dicentra, ready for the competitions. I did state at the beginning I would not project as my eyes are not the best and I find it very difficult to see the small text and icons on the projector. I will be looking into trying to have the display on the screen of the laptop and on the projector at the same time so I haven't got these problems to contend with. I have a wonderful back-up team to help with the projecting and any problems that I need help with, Dave Brooker, Alan Cork and Richard Brown.

It was quite a learning curve as originally we started off learning ICPro but after several discussions decided to move to Dicentra. There have been several meetings between myself, Richard, Dave and Alan before the first competition was held – Outing competition. John Lewis kindly prepared and projected this competition so we all had an idea of what was required to run the competition successfully.

I always have some issues with some of the entries i.e. titles, sizing, colour space and sent to me directly rather than the PDI secretary address but these are usually quickly remedied by contacting the members and having them re-submit their corrected image or myself sending through a copy of the images to Dave, Alan and Richard if originally sent to me directly. I do make a point of contacting everyone, once the entries are correct, via email to say their images are correct and ready for the competition so everyone entering the competitions are aware their entries have been received and checked.

The projector has been serviced (arranged by Dave) this season, reason being some members were saying it was displaying images too dark and not focusing correctly. After the service the engineers did want to investigate further with Canon but we felt after testing the projector, the service seemed to correct any problems and the projector seemed to be focusing 100% better than before. The cost of the service was £90. It was agreed at committee meeting the projector needed to be serviced at least once every two seasons if not every season.

Philip and John Lewis dealt with the entries for the Exhibition so I had no involvement with this.

The MIPS challenge entries were prepared for the competition and projected using Mac Preview as they could not be entered into the Dicentra software due to the manner in which they were titled. This was a great success as Dave kindly entered the images in advance on the Mac (I am not a Mac person) and I projected with Peter Ditchett sitting next to me so I could display the images at Peter's speed giving him adequate time to enter the scores on his laptop.

Open Competitions		PDI 1	PDI 2	PDI 3	PDI 4	PDI 5	
GROUP A	Images	36	36	36	36	35	Winner: Tony Hill
GROUP A	Entrants	72	72	72	72	70	
GROUP B	Images	4	5	5	5	4	Winner: Steve Oakes
GROUP B	Entrants	7	9	10	10	8	

<p><b>Outing Competition</b> 17th September 2015            One Group 15 entrants 42 images            Winners:            Highest Overall score: Roger Wates            Best Image: Spiral Staircase at St John's College by Graham Bunyan</p>	<p><b>Record Competition</b> 14th January 2016            One Group 18 entrants 51 images            Winners:            1st – Tony Hill            2nd – Pam Sherren            3rd – Alan Cork</p>	<p><b>Portrait Competition</b> 18th February 2016            One Group 17 entrants 48 images            Winners:            1st – Lol Beacham            2nd – Richard Ames            3rd – John Lewis</p>
<p><b>PDI of the Year Competition</b> 7th April 2016            One Group 23 entrants 46 images            Winners:            1st – Mick Dudley            2nd – John Hunt            3rd – Alan Cork</p>	<p><b>PDI Sequence Competition</b> 14th April 2016            One Group 14 entrants and 14 sequences            Winners:            1st – Colin Burgess            2nd – Colin Hurley            3rd – Dave Brooker</p>	<p><b>Natural History Competition</b> 28th April 2016            One Group 10 entrants 30 images            Winners:            1st – David Godfrey            2nd – Alan Cork            3rd – John Hunt</p>

**Important Post-Script:** It has come to light that one person's entries were not included in the Natural History competition on 28<sup>th</sup> April 2016 for which I am truly sorry. Unfortunately I did not receive the entries. Please, please remember if I do not send you an email with confirmation of receiving your images within three days of you sending them to the pdisec address then I haven't received them and you need to contact me immediately via my personal email address [ann.paine.c@gmail.com](mailto:ann.paine.c@gmail.com) or telephone [01580-879316](tel:01580-879316) to resolve the situation.



PDI Outing Competition  
Spiral Staircase at St John's College  
By Graham Bunyan



PDI Open Competition Group A  
Ambre  
by Tony Hill



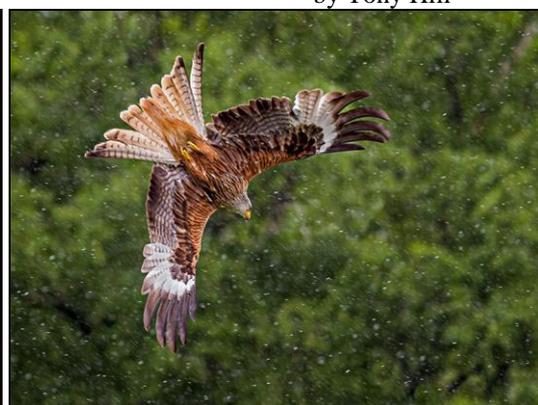
PDI Record Competition  
Clown Doll  
by Tony Hill



PDI Portrait Competition  
I'm Mandy Fly Me  
by Lol Beacham



PDI of the Year  
Backlit Poppies  
by Mick Dudley



PDI Nature Competition  
Diving Red Kite  
by David Godfrey

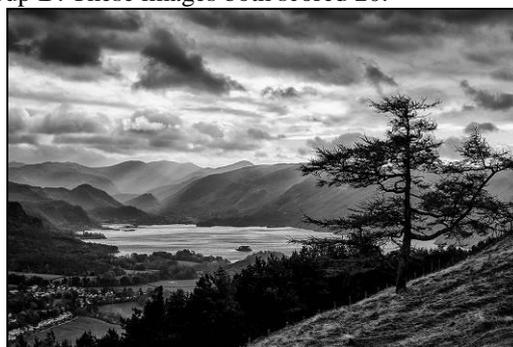


PDI Sequence: Robin the rich to give to the poor by Colin Burgess

Steve Oakes won both the Open Print and Open PDI Competitions in Group B. These images both scored 20.



Lunch Hour at Spitalfields (Print)



Derwent Water from Latrigg (PDI)

**06 Slide Secretary's Report**

**Malcolm Hedges**

This year the Slide Competitions were much in-line with last seasons with just a few exceptions. With one fewer member entering and little support outside the main open competitions.

In the open competitions nine members entered the first three competitions, submitting 34 entries. In Competitions 4 and 5 eight members submitted 32 entries, making a total entry for the season of 86.

The Record competition was the only 'special' slide competition to attract sufficient entries to take place. Any competition which attracts three or fewer entrant will not take place. The record competition attracted 11 entries from 4 members.

The Exhibition had 28 acceptances from 8 members. There was a problem with the cleanliness of the exhibition submissions, which needs to be addressed for next season.

It has been obvious over recent years that slides have been on the decline, with just a few dedicated members submitting. However, all the time that there are members who are interested in entering slides we should do all we can to encourage and accommodate them. However, it up to those members to support these competition and so keep them alive.



Overall winner was Dave Brooker. This is his "Hastings Fisherman"

**07/08/09 External Print/PDI/Slide Secretaries' Report**

**John Butler/Peter Ditchett**

This last season has been quite a busy season with the club entering four external competitions as well as the PAGB. Cup in Nature and Open competitions.

The highlight of the season for me was winning the Ross Cup after a lapse of 5 years. The win also came as a complete surprise even on the day and throughout the event as in the first place, whilst I was reasonably happy with our entry, I did not think it was strong enough to win. This was emphasised at the break when we were aware that a couple of our pictures had been held back for awards but other clubs had got more pictures held back than we had. It seemed that the policy the Carole and John Lewis and I had

adopted which was trying to avoid pictures that we thought would score low rather than going for one or two stunning pictures and making up the rest was very successful as I was absolutely stunned when Tonbridge C.C. were announced as the winners. My thanks to John and Carole for their help in the selection of our panel.

Following on our success with the Ross Cup, we then went up to Orpington Photographic Society for our annual Christmas Battle. With this competition, we had a mutual agreement that we would only have one entry from any one person and also to try and give some of the newer members images a try out which proved very successful. TCC were winners in the end by quite a clear margin. We all had a very enjoyable evening as the idea was that we got the competition over fairly quickly so we could all enjoy a very sociable chat with our host and enjoy a glass of wine with some mince pies.

We were also invited by the Epsom Club to participate in their annual 'Epsom Challenge' competition in which we have competed in the past and been fortunate enough to win on one or two occasions. This competition consisted of 5 prints and 5 PDI's and after a very evenly fought contest, we eventually emerged as runners-up.

The final external PDI competition is the M.I.P.S. Challenge which is organised by the Mersea Island Photographic Society and consists of two groups of 5 or 6 clubs who fight it out over 6 rounds judged by a judge selected by the host club. The top three clubs of each group then go on to compete against each other in a 'Grand Final' judged by another independent judge and the winner is declared the Champion Club. This last season the competition was a little controversial to say the least as the organisation was taken over by a new person who changes the method of scoring slightly because there were only 5 clubs in one group and 6 in the other. This method did not prove to be very satisfactory and hopefully, the competition will revert back to the old system of scoring for the next season. Even more controversial as far as I am concerned was the judges' scoring in the final round where one of our images which had scored consistently with 9, 9.5, or 10 only scored a 6 in the final round.

However, that is photography and if we enter, then we have to grin and bear it and go in to the next competition. That's life!

The next season will be my last as external competition secretary and if all goes to plan, then, the selection of images for external competitions will be done by two separate people: one for prints and one for PDIs which will hopefully, be a little more easier to manage.

I have enjoyed this season very much and my thanks must go to my fellow selectors: Jenny Clark, Mick Dudley and Peter Ditchett.

Without these people's input, the club would not have achieved the success that it has. Peter in particular, has helped me with all the technical side of the job by uploading images and being the contact person to whom all the correspondence was sent.

My grateful thanks to all of you for all your help.



"Memories" by Jenny Clark was TCC's best-scoring image and one of only ten county-wide which was awarded 20.



TCC's Ross Cup Entries

## Tonbridge photographers snap their way to success in county competition

By Kent and Sussex Courier | Posted: November 01, 2015

By Louise Berwick  
louise.berwick@courier.co.uk



2/8

SCARY: Mick Dudley's entry.

Comments (0)

A group of Tonbridge residents have snapped their way to success in a hotly-contested county competition.

Tonbridge Camera Club took first prize at the Kent and East Sussex Ross Cup Championships this month, snatching the winning spot from Sevenoaks and Eastbourne while fighting off 34 other clubs.

And now the group will be on their way to the nationals, to compete against county champions from throughout the UK.

The group, which is open to people of all ages, has about 70 members, ranging from absolute beginners to those with decades of experience.

The win was a major success for the club, who have not managed to nab the top spot since 2011.

"Clubs from across the region were invited to submit eight prints to represent their club, which were judged by Caroline Colegate from the southern region," club spokesman John Hunt said.

The club knew it had a good shot at a place in the cup championships but had no idea its portfolio was good enough to get the top spot," he said, adding: "It's always a bit of a gamble, because it's really down to the judge's personal preference."

The long-running competition first started in 1951, and Tonbridge scooped their first win in 1969.

Mr Hunt said this year marked the 20th win of the cup for the club. The highest-scoring photo for the group was taken by Jenny Clark, who was awarded the maximum available score of 20 points.

Mr Hunt said the accomplishment was recognition of the dedication the club members had for their photography passion.

"It is a very active club, we have talks by people who are specialists in specific genres and we go on day trips and outings."

### The Courier's Report

## 10 Image Discussion Group Report

Paul Penrith

### Group Objective

To provide less experienced club members with reactions to their images, without the formal process of entering competitions, by offering advice on composition and technical details in a relaxed environment.

### Report

The group cannot operate without the time and consideration volunteered by experienced club members acting as the discussion leaders. This season they were John Butler, Peter Ditchett, Keith Evans, Malcolm Hedges and Nick Ryan. Thanks to them, group attendees have received advice and suggestions to enhance their photographic style, and the rest of the group have enjoyed seeing a wide range of images which we would not otherwise have seen.

Thanks are also due to Marilynne Hill for arranging refreshments for this group as well as the Distinctions group.

This season the group has had a fairly small core of attendees, and on a couple of occasions has almost had insufficient images to fill the discussion time available. It would be nice if a few more members could attend; it's only one evening a month, and we do need to cover the cost of room hire. Any club member is welcome to attend, and can optionally bring images on a memory stick (about 6 images, with a few more in reserve) or prints (mounted or unmounted).

## 11 Enhancing your Images Group Report

Ann Paine

We moved to room H6 Weald of Kent College. It has had its share of problems over the season, the biggest problem was not enough room to store small jpegs for members to use or to save. After talking to Kyle he has now rectified this so I can at least put six small jpegs in each member's folder. We have one big issue to overcome now and that is the actual physical ability of the computers when doing more advanced techniques in Photoshop. One easy session involved moving a balloon over to another image and at that point the computers grunted and it took an age when trying to put the balloon into position. Consequently people bringing their own laptops are not very happy when they have to wait for us on college computers to catch up. I can see a time when this group can only advance when people are using their own laptops and not relying on the college's low spec computers. I for one have got a new laptop coming complete with connectors for the projector etc. so I can try and run the course proficiently also to be honest I need a new laptop with connectors for my own projector.

I started the new season with two groups, newcomers the first hour of the session and advanced second hour of the session. This idea didn't really work as the newcomers were trying the advanced techniques and then calling me over to help. Obviously I want to help where I can but if so far behind I cannot spend excessive time with them. I did point out that if you are so far behind please just observe what I am doing and as I send full notes through to each member a day or two after the session they can then try the technique in the comfort of their own home at their own pace.

We have covered several techniques over the sessions the last two sessions covering all aspects of layer masks, adjustment layers and smart objects. Our last session of the season in May will cover ACR and if time allows two fun techniques which can make their photobook covers look professional or their AVs.

The member numbers have been up on other years and can prove to be real lively sessions. Consequently there has been no additional costs for TCC as we have broken even this season.

## 12 Distinctions Group Report

Marilynne Hill

This has been a very mixed year for the Distinctions Group as individual members have been very successful but attendance has dropped to at an all-time low. In terms of achievements, 4 members gained distinctions. I would like to congratulate Annik Pauwels, June Porterfield and Alan Cork who all got their CPAGB Distinctions (Credit level of the Photographic Alliance of Great Britain) and Colin Smith who got his LRPS Distinction (Licentiate of The Royal Photographic Society)

In terms of attendance it has been a dismal year with oddly enough the final meeting of the season being the best attended. On more than one occasion there was just me and a member wanting to have work critiqued which led to a member of the Image Discussion Group joining us to help out and we then joined the Image Discussion Group for the second half of the evening. Once there was just me and a member with no images for critique so it was either 'go home' – not an option for me as I make the teas, or join the Image Discussion Group which we did and at least it augmented their numbers which were also low that evening. Oh for the heady heights of last season when numbers attending actually reached double digits.

It is quite clear that the Distinctions Group cannot continue to operate like this. Although the committee are fully supportive of the Tuesday groups and indeed view them as an asset to the club it is not financially viable for the Distinctions Group to carry on with such low attendance. Moreover it is demotivating for both the organiser and any attendees. This problem has been discussed by the outgoing Committee and it was felt that combining the Distinctions Group with the Image Discussion Group would be a viable option which could help secure their future. The Distinctions Group could be held on an ad-hoc basis as and when people needed help with Distinctions and as the 2 groups are only charged a single room rent for both groups it would be possible for the Distinctions Group to adjourn to the other room if necessary. This obviously needs further discussion with the two Group Leaders before the start of the 2016 – 2017 season but I would welcome members thoughts on this matter, particularly that of combining the two groups.

## 13 AV Group Report

Philip Smithies

The eight meetings this season have been fairly well-attended, with an average of 16 people per meeting.

All of September's meeting, and the first half of the meetings in October, November, January, February and March were devoted to members' AVs. The second halves of most meetings in these months was given over to well-received talks by Don Foster, Dave Brooker, Richard Gandon and me. Lol Beacham gave a short talk on some of the techniques which can be used to enliven AVs. Hailsham Photographic Society showed us some of their "Colour Show" AVs in December; in January, Don Foster and I showed "AVs I wish I'd made", two of which were made by Melanie Chalk and Frank Page who both attended.

On Thursday March 24th, we held another successful Thursday AV Group Evening.

In April we held the Annual Internal AV Competition, judged by Bob Brisley.

1st	Magical Mystery Tour: Trip to Liverpool	Philip Smithies
2 <sup>nd</sup> (+ Best Photography)	Cape Shanty Towns	Pam Sherren
3 <sup>rd</sup>	My Little Problem	Don Foster
Highly Commended	England	Philip Smithies
Highly Commended	Whose Garden?	Pam Sherren



Screen-shot of part of winning AV

In association with WoK's PTA, the AV Group will hold a "Sound and Vision" event on Friday 29th April to which club members, school staff, parents and students, as well as outsiders are invited. A selection of the club's very best AVs will be shown. Don Foster prepared the "menu" and acted as projectionist. Thanks to John Butler for arranging for a selection of prints to be displayed.

Thanks to everyone listed above but especially to Don Foster for preparing magnificent on-screen menus, for his invaluable support throughout and for allowing us to use his equipment – especially his superb 1920 x 1080 projector – and acting as projectionist at each meeting. Many thanks also to Marilynne Hill for providing and serving refreshments.

I hope that more people try their hand at making AVs. To encourage this, the first part of the meeting on September 13<sup>th</sup> will be spent demonstrating ProShow software, with full supporting documentation also being provided.

There is much information about AVs on the TCC website (<http://www.tonbridgecameraclub.org.uk/clubinfo/AVGroup/AVprog.php>), including an updated guide to creating AVs using ProShow software <http://www.tonbridgecameraclub.org.uk/clubinfo/AVGroup/ProShowGold%20V5.pdf>.

#### 14 TONDIG Report

Carole and John Lewis

John Lewis and I agreed to take over the facilitation of TONDIG meetings on **21 January 2016**. The next meeting had been scheduled in the programme for **Tuesday 26 January** so we had very little time to enlist anyone else to lecture. As a result, I spoke about the basics of Photoshop Layers in the first half; it was intended to be a short overview but there were so many questions that John had to cut his more detailed talk about Layers, Adjustment Layers and Actions in Photoshop shorter than he had planned. However, he provided notes afterwards giving more details and explanations.

Unfortunately we couldn't attend the following meeting on **Tuesday 23 February** because we had already booked to attend a photographic workshop in Devon and Cornwall. However, John arranged for members to work on a RAW image (provided by Steve Oakes) and then to take their prints to the meeting, which Richard Brown led for us.

We arranged that the meeting on **Tuesday 22 March** would be a lecture on drone photography to be given by Rob Bain; unfortunately he cancelled at the last minute and we had to work quickly to save the evening.

We had already sent a request out for suggestions for future meetings and fortunately, although only 2 people replied, the suggestions were acted upon. Volunteers were enlisted: Philip Smithies illustrated table top photography and focus stacking in the first half of the evening and Alan Cork spoke about macro photography in the second half.

**Tuesday 26 April 2016:** Tony Hill had already booked Darren Woolway to judge the Adur Trophy competitions and Darren later confirmed to us that he would still be able to attend. There were 22 prints and 20 PDIs. The PDI section was won by Carole Lewis (38 points) with David Godfrey second (36 points) and Mick Dudley third (34 points); the Print section was won by Les Welton (40 points) with Tony Hill second (37 points) and Pam Sherren third (36 points). 19 attendees enjoyed Darren's comprehensive evaluation of all the entries.

**Tuesday 10 May 2016:** This has been booked for Rob Bain to present his lecture on drone photography in the second half of the evening; hopefully he won't cancel again. During the first half there will be a discussion about mirrorless cameras.

John and I would like to thank all the members who have worked on behalf of TONDIG during this season.



Kitchen Maid by Carole Lewis (PDI)



QE2 Bridge by Les Welton (Print)

**15 Circulating Portfolios Report**

**Denys Clarke (PDI) / Brian Whiston (Prints)**

**PDI PORTFOLIO**

Sadly only after one year of running the circulating digital folio, ill health, combined with the fact that the original request for image submissions resulted in nothing being submitted, meant I was unable to drive the group forward.

Therefore this season there has been no competition and I have tendered my resignation for this group; maybe some time in the future I may get involved once I am fitter.

**PRINT PORTFOLIO**

Lack of participation means this group no longer runs.

Chairman's Note: Although it is disappointing that both groups have folded because of non-participation, remember that the Image Discussion Group is available for same purpose...

**16 ANNUAL OUTING REPORT 28<sup>th</sup> June 2015 to Cambridge**

**Joan Gow**

We left by coach at 8.30am on a Sunday morning from Hayesbrook School. The weather forecast stated that at midday there would be light rain for an hour or so BUT on arrival it was pouring and the rain never stopped until the afternoon! So we got rather wet to say the least!! Luckily some were prepared with macs and brollies.

So we braved the rain and visited some of the colleges, gardens, museums, the Botanical Gardens and Art galleries. One of my favourite colleges was Trinity with the Great Court, which was the setting for the famous race in the film Chariots of Fire. It is the largest of all the Oxbridge colleges and was founded by King Henry VIII just weeks before he died.

The best-known college in Cambridge is the magnificent Kings College along with its chapel which is world-famous because of the annual broadcast, since 1928, of the Christmas Eve Festival of The Nine Lessons and Carols.

Some of the colleges have particularly lovely gardens, especially Clare which was accessible from the Backs, (the land between the six riverside colleges and Queen's Road). Even in the pouring rain, it was spectacular.

Of course there were the Punts on the River Cam. Although most of us didn't venture on one until the rain stopped in the afternoon. A great way to see the colleges as one slowly meandered underneath the many bridges, including the Bridge of Sighs and the wooden Mathematical Bridge. So we were able to take photographs without too much camera shake.

Some members visited one of the world's great museums – the Fitzwilliam's which has a wonderful collection of paintings, drawings and prints. Other collections include sculpture, silver textiles, glass antiquities and coins. Nearby is the Fitzbillies Restaurant, which is famous for its Chelsea buns. They were delicious. There were plenty of restaurants and pubs for lunch. One being the Mitre and the food was really good.

Many thanks to Keith Noakes who kept me up to date with the monies etc. and Mick Dudley for taking the group Photo in the rain!

Let's hope next year the weather will be more congenial! The destination for 2017 has not yet been decided but we do know that we won't be leaving from Hayesbrook School but from our new location – The Weald of Kent Grammar School, Tonbridge!



**2015 Outing to Cambridge** 1=Brenda Whiston, 2=Liz Turton, 3=Helen Mossman, 4=Lol Beacham 5+6=Gordon + Jenny Clark, 7=John Lewis, 8=Carolyn Holton, 9=Carole Lewis, 10=Brian Whiston, 11=Don Foster, 12=June Porterfield, 13=Carmel Yearwood, 14=Muffi Forbes, 15=Steve Peet, 16=Terry Day, 17=Philip Smithies, 18=Denys Clarke, 19=Jacky Bunyan, 20=Ian Capie, 21=Mike Shave, 22=Roger Wates (with the hat) and Mike Hart, 23=Malcolm Hedges (with Lesley Hedges on his left), 24=Colin Burgess, 25= (partially hidden) Len Kemp, 26=Richard Brown, 27=Graham Bunyan, 28=Brian Barkley, 29 = Mick Dudley (with David Belcher on his right), 30=John Butler, 31=Joan Gow, 32=Sarah Stoneley and 33=Annik Pauwels

## 17 Mini Outings Report

Denys Clarke and Graham Bunyan

Although Graham and I relinquished responsibility for mini-outings at the last AGM, we arranged visits during the summer of 2015.

It was interesting to see the success of the images taken on the events

Saturday 9th May 2015: Romney Marsh (Fairfield Church) then onto Dungeness – an enjoyable day starting damp but improved as the day went on well attended and provided some good images

Sunday 14th June 2015: Kentwell Hall (Suffolk) – Step Back in Time – Superb day very well supported and provided some very good images one of which turned out to be the best print of the year. Many people fancy going back.

Saturday 11th July 2015: Rowfant Polo Club Sussex Ladies'/Gentlemen's trophy – cancelled due to the polo club cancelling the event sad. Must try to organise another visit.

Sunday 16th August 2015: London Street Art Walking Tour – Well done Graham organising the event, well supported great guide provided lots of inspiration and knowledge of the area.

Saturday 6th Sept 2015: Visit to Sir Winston's Churchill residence Chartwell (National Trust) – Great way to end the season plenty of people good weather thanks to all who gave their time helping others.

Still waiting for someone to step in and take the reins.

Chairman's Comment: Unfortunately, no one stepped in to take over from Denys Clarke and Graham Bunyan so mini-outings no longer take place. What a terrible shame. Thanks to both of them for all their hard work and commitment over the years.

**REFRESHMENTS AT TCC MEETINGS ON THURSDAY EVENINGS.**

The arrangements for the Teas/Coffees went well this year without too much hassle. Although some members did it more than once. Muffi was a great help by getting in the Milk and Biscuits. I always send them a reminder with the list of procedures.

**ANNUAL DINNER AT THE NEVILL GOLF CLUB TUNBRIDGE WELLS**

This was a great success with 24 attending. Quite a number dropped out because of sickness etc. Considering this was our 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary, it was disappointing that the numbers were low. The food was very good as usual; from the caterers Purple Pumpkin. Carmel Yearwood organised the competition which was interesting. The venue next year will have to be somewhere different as we only got in without paying the £150 for the room, as a friend was a member of the Club. Unfortunately he has retired.

**EXHIBITION EVENING.**

All the arrangements were fine. I brought an adequate no of bottles of wine, soft drinks and glasses. Presented the Mayor with a bottle wine and the Mayoress with a Bouquet. Michael and Pat Hart assisted with serving the wine etc. An enjoyable evening.

With regard to new members I always try to speak to them at the Thursday meetings and I suggest that the committee members do the same, especially if they are sitting on their own.

Sarah Stoneley is assisting me with the above duties for next season

**19 Grainmakers' Report****Keith Evans**

Since our 2015 AGM, members of the Tonbridge 'Grainmakers' team have given presentations at four local clubs:

November 2015: Seven Sisters CC and Maidstone CC;

January 2016: Gravesend CC

March 2016 East Grinstead CC.

Bookings for the 2016-17 season are at Carshalton, Faversham and Guildford, and here at Tonbridge on 15 December.

Our digital team of 'Pixelmakers' has an engagement at Seaford Photographic Society on 13 May – a first for TCC, though 'Grainmakers' have visited in the past.

Members taking part in 2015-16: Brian Barkley, Keith Evans, Paul Penrith, Nick Ryan and Brian Whiston. As always, new participants would be welcomed.

**20 Webmaster's Report****Paul Penrith**

Web activity continues at a good level with over 700 sessions a month from about 450 users during the last season. Most of the action occurred in March as the competition rounds reached their climax.

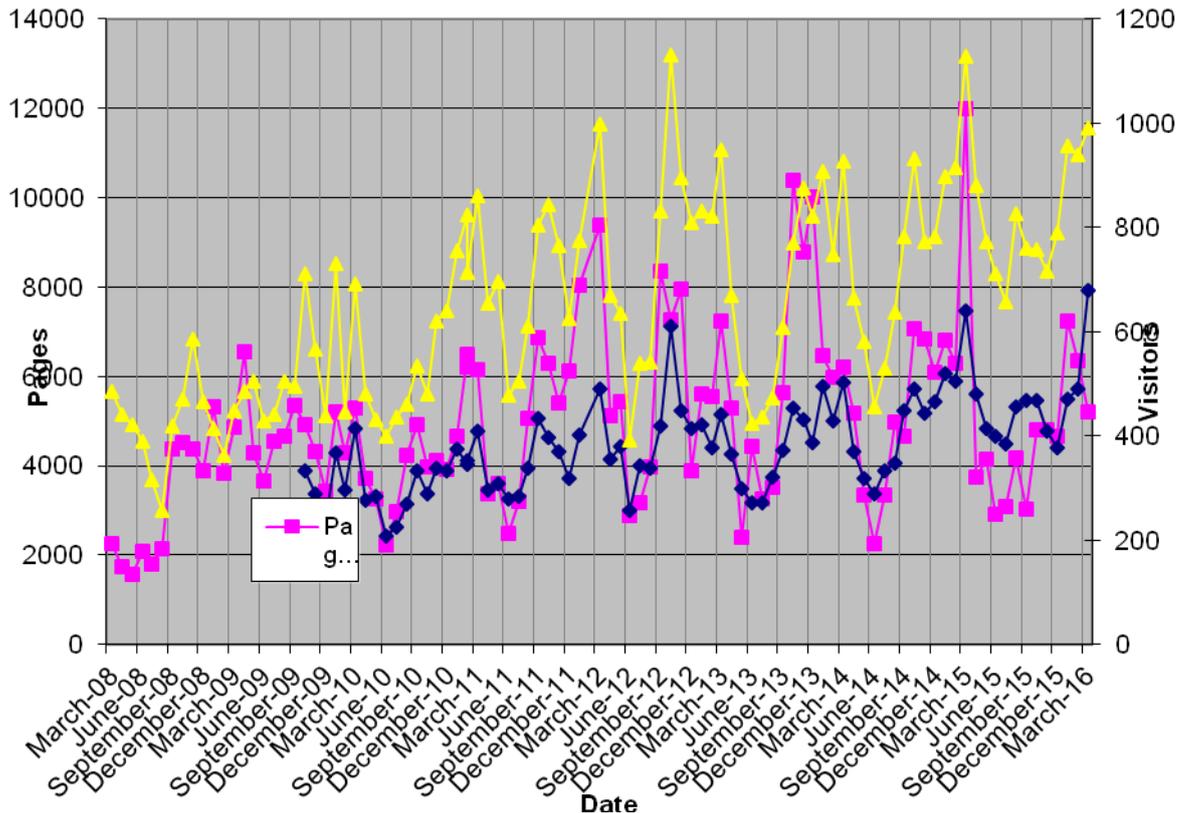
Last year the club committee approved the increased charge for extra disc space on the web server to hold the increasing number of competition and gallery images. We now pay £50 for the server, £2.50 for the site name, and £11.80 VAT per year in order to publish the club's activities.

Updates to the site have included:

- All competition results,
- All PDI competition images,
- Some print competition images,
- A Who's Who gallery of member's faces,
- Updated AV preparation guidance,
- Two new tutorial pages; Camera Automation and Accessories.

Also a site restructure to conform to new coding standards for the latest browser versions on mobile devices and new computers.

## Webstats



### 21 Publicity Report

**John Hunt**

50th ANNUAL EXHIBITION AT THE TONBRIDGE CASTLE. 18-25 MARCH 2016

We have received some good media coverage in the Courier for the exhibition in the main section with pictures and report and some useful day to day coverage in the local section on a variety of events.

The exhibition provides a focal point of interest for the general public and the attendance was good particularly at the weekend. To encourage more members to join maybe we need to consider another way of attracting members with an event in the High Street or perhaps a leaflet promoting the club and all it offers for distribution through appropriate outlets. Could the annual outing be on offer to the public as a way for potential members to sample an activity?

I will be preparing a write up and photo of the winners of the year and something on the KCPA exhibition when the entries are known.

### 22 Grain Editor's Report

**Carole Lewis**

As usual there have been 2 editions of Grain this season:

#### **GRAIN 118 Autumn Winter 2015**

There were 58 pages costing £522

Advertising revenue for 11 adverts was £460, so a deficit of £62 (compared with £107 the previous time). There was the usual variety of articles from club members, a camera review from a past member and a tribute to Deryck Ford.

#### **Grain 119 Spring Summer 2016**

As this is the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Tonbridge Camera Club, this edition is mainly a retrospective, including some memories of TCC from current members, some memories from previous members, a brief history of Photoshop and a review of some articles in the previous issues of Grain, which was first produced in 1972. There is also a tribute to Keith Noakes.

However, Grain 119 is still a work in progress, so at the time of writing I can't say how many pages there will be or how much it will cost. I have 9 adverts provided already, which should bring in £410. Unfortunately, I cannot get a response from Park Cameras despite numerous emails and phone calls, so I'm guessing that their support will not be forthcoming. This will be a loss of £50 but they have supported us during the previous 15 editions over the 8 seasons that I have been Editor, so we can be grateful for that. As far as I know we are the only camera club that has enjoyed such support from this national company.

Hopefully, by the time of the AGM, Grain 119 will have been printed ready for distribution.

I believe that this year season's programme was a successful combination of competitions and talks. It is always difficult to cater for everyone's demands, but we endeavour to do so. Competitions still form the backbone of the programme and are among the best attended, although in general attendances have been down this season.

Among the highlights were some very enjoyable evenings from both visitors and members. I pick out just a few of the highlights, which included Dave Mason's street photography was both visually and verbally entertaining. Clive Tanner gave a valuable insight into Record photography, the panel he showed gained him his MPAGB. Ken Scott, Chris Palmer, Slawek Staszczuk all gave illustrated talks. Our star evening with Will Cheung, despite being held in an alternative venue, was both well attended and very entertaining.

Gavin Hoey's evening was, as always, educational, entertaining and inspirational. What an asset he is to the club.

We had a very good contribution to the programme from club members, with two Chambers' evenings and the AV group. These were some of the best evenings and show the talent that we have within the club.

Next season this pattern will continue with two Chambers' evenings and Tonbridge Grainmakers as well as the AV Group.

We have some new names coming to the club to show their work, among them Alan Ainsworth who has his work in galleries in both the USA and London. Darren Pullman will give us our talk on how to improve our images. Our star evening will be Guy Edwardes, who will be talking about "A Professional approach to outdoor photography". Matt Doogue, another professional will illustrate Macro photography and Jon Gray will be giving a demonstration on Portrait photography with a practical lighting demonstration.

There is a very limited space in our programme to print much information and to publicise the talks. So next season I will be sending our global e-mails with as much information as I can. Where possible I will include their webpage address so that you can review their work and so whet your appetite for the evening. I hope that this will help you to make a more educated decision as to whether to attend. I hope it will and that attendances will be better as a result.

Please don't hesitate to pass on any information on possible visitors to the club, which has happened this season and resulted in a more exciting programme.

I must also thank Annik and Richard for all their help, we work as a team, a new idea within the club, and it has been very successful.

## 24 Archivist's Report

Philip Smithies

I continued to work on the archives and sent out three PDF files in January, February and March to all emailable members a set of pictures entitled TCC 50th Anniversary Year - Archived Photographs Volumes 1, 2 and 3. What a pity that on so many of the older pictures there was often no indication as to where and when they were taken and some of the people on them.

Below is a summary of what exists in the archives. If you can help to fill the gaps, or if you have other pictures which may be of interest, please let me know:

### AGM MINUTES

In Archives: 1967 – 2004 (Hard Copies); 2005 – 2015 (Electronic copies)

### COMMITTEE MINUTES

In Archives: 1974 April 19<sup>th</sup> – 1982 February 26<sup>th</sup> (Hard Copies); 1990 August 17<sup>th</sup> – 2006 January 25<sup>th</sup> (Hard copies)  
2006 March 29<sup>th</sup> – date (Electronic Copies)

Missing: Everything up to April 1974 and everything between Feb 1982 and the end of the 1989/1990 season

### PROGRAMMES

In Archives: 1966/1967 – 2010/2011 (Hard Copies); 2005/2006 – 2015/2016 (Electronic copies)

### EXHIBITION CATALOGUES

In Archives: 1967 – 2004; 2007 – 2010 (Hard Copies); 2011 – Electronic "Word" document; 2012 – 2016 – Electronic .pdf document

Missing: 2005 and 2006

## GRAINS

In Archives (Hard Copies): 1 – 45; 47 – 60; 62 – 83; 88; 90; 92 – date;

Missing: 46; 61; 79; 84 – 87; 89; 91

## OUTING AVs

In Archives: 2007 (Winchester), 2009 (Maldon), 2010 (Kew Gardens), 2012 (Leigh-on-Sea/Southend). 2013 (Bosham and Chichester), 2014 (Bruges) and 2015 (Cambridge)

Missing: 2006 (Windsor) 2008 (Portsmouth), 2011 (Oxford)

## 25 KCPA Report

Alan Cork

For such a long-established organization the KCPA is in many ways going through a period of change. The President, Alan Lomakin, announced at the Delegates meeting that consideration is being made to the idea of switching the dates of the Diamond Jubilee and Ross Cup so that winners do not have to spend so long before they represent the KCPA at related PAGB Inter-Federation events. The Delegates meeting also highlighted increasing concern among some vocal Associates about the quality of and support for judges. While being robustly challenged by the Committee in the form of a letter from the President issued to Associated Clubs on 21 March 2016. Nevertheless changes, such as the mentoring scheme for Provisional Judges, are being more effectively promoted and taken up. A particularly good example of which we witnessed at the POTY/DOTY competitions evening with Andy Smith providing mentoring to Paul Parkinson. Importantly, he reiterated the point that it is up to Clubs to tell judges the format of competitions and scoring regimes. The role of the KCPA in connection with judging is laid out in the 'KCPA Judging Scheme' which is administered by the KCPA Judges Panel. Importantly, any decisions made by the panel have to be submitted to the KCPA Committee for ratification. The Annual Exhibition selection process was conducted over two days in April with three Tonbridge CC members helping out. This process was judged using the PAGB system scoring system with three judges, this year being Colin Westgate, Roger and Judith Parry. A similar system has been suggested for other KCPA managed events. Entry numbers were similar to last year [ca. 1000 each prints and PDIs] using the electronic submission system that requires authors to provide PDIs of all images submitted, including prints. Regrettably the audiences for the event were very small, and although the results have yet to be published the Exhibition, to be held at Creek Creative, Faversham, should be well worth visiting. The KCPA Constitution has been revised and a draft released to associates for comment. The comments will be collated and reviewed in the light of the recent revision of the PAGB Constitution and a final draft submitted at the AGM for ratification.

## 26 Exhibition Report

Alan Cork

Overall, some 48 members submitted images for selection by our judge Richard Walton FRPS MPAGB EFIAP BPE3\* in the Annual Exhibition. Over 200 prints were submitted by 39 members, with 150 being selected for display and 37 awards given [17 highly commended, 15 commended]. A similar number of PDIs were submitted by 38 members with 26 given awards [7 highly commended, 16 commended]. Some 40 slides were submitted by 6 members and 4 awards given [2 commended].

In a departure from previous years a considerable amount of thought and work was put into deciding how best to deal with the frailty of aging print panels. Two approaches were adopted, reducing the weight on panels and reinforcing them with new loadbearing black plastic supports, steel holders to attach the base of the panels and screws into the panels themselves to increase their rigidity. Weight reduction was achieved by removing glass plates from the frames and, while not popular with everyone, they halved the hanging weight and purchase cost of new frames.

The Annual Exhibition was organised pretty much along the lines of previous years. Work was broken down among a number of teams notably, assisting the judge to examine prints, PDIs and slides submitted to select award winners, panelling prints to create themed panels by genre and/or colour combination, transport of panels and related equipment to and from Paul Penrith's store in Crowborough and KCPA store in Detling, assembly and disassembly of panels, provision of refreshments at the opening ceremony, volunteers who supervised the Exhibition during opening hours, creation and maintenance of spreadsheets of images submitted and their acceptance, production of the Exhibition Catalogue, design and printing of poster, labels and the Catalogue. All these activities were efficiently conducted through the selfless commitment of club members to the task. The committee are extremely grateful to all involved with particular mention to Dave Brooker, Roger Wates, David Parkinson, John Hunt, Philip Smithies, Carole and John Lewis for their outstanding contributions.

In terms of lessons learned for future years:

1. Consideration needs to be taken to remove slides from the exhibition. Projection was very difficult at the judge's residence and very few judges will now entertain the idea of judging them. The standard of slides presented was considered to be much lower than the PDIs by the judge and slides are presented at the exhibition as PDIs.
2. The Exhibition Catalogue represents a considerable cost to the Exhibition, both in terms of its production by Dave Brooker and printing [ca. £250]. Given the limited use of the Catalogue by visitors it is suggested that either a pdf is prepared in future years for members' or scrapped altogether.
3. Overall numbers of attendees was comparable to previous years [approx. 400] despite some extremely effective publicity organised by John Hunt with articles in The Courier, Outdoor Photography and the poster on the KCPA website and associated outlets in Tonbridge. Importantly, several people visiting expressed a desire to join the club which is particularly important for our future. The A frames were not found until the end of the week which was a pity, but will be available for next year.

4. Provision of frames by the club to assist members: Seven frames were purchased by the committee giving a total of 11 available for future use. It is suggested that these frames are used to assist newer members who do not have access to sufficient frames to present their accepted prints. Ideally prints should be provided to the Exhibition Coordinator and he/she will frame and return the prints to the authors after the exhibition to ensure frames are not lost. Long-term members who have not made provision for frames will not have their images accepted for exhibition.
5. Concern was expressed about the need to provide a proper book for recording visitor numbers, voting forms to be remodelled to include the author of the print, better provision for assisting and encouraging potential new members.



Prints: Best Landscape  
Steam Rising From Bacterial Mat by John Lewis



Prints: Best Natural History  
White-Tailed Eagles in Aerial Spat by John Hunt



Print: Best Monochrome Horse Head by Richard Brown



Prints: Premier Award Hannah with Self Made Hat and Scarf by Annik Pauwels



Slide: Premier Award  
Under Attack by Peter Tulloch



Small Print Trophy: Delicate by Brian Barkley



PDI: Premier Award and Best Landscape  
Storm over Ullapool by Dave Brooker



Slide: Best Landscape  
The Aletsch Glacier by John Butler



PDI/Slide: Best Natural History  
Ever Watchful by Graham Bunyan



Print/PDI/Slide: Best Creative  
The Furies by Tony Hill

PDI: Best Monochrome: Ambre by Tony Hill (shown on Page 9)

## Tonbridge Camera Club showcases 50 years of the town at photography exhibition

By [Edenbridge Courier](#) | Posted: March 20, 2016

By Louise Berwick  
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winged warriors: A pair of white-tailed eagles do battle during an aerial spat

A GLIMPSE of life seen through a lens has been opened up to the public.

**Tonbridge** Camera Club opened a major exhibition at **Tonbridge** Castle on Friday to celebrate the group's half-century milestone.

The club, which has promoted photography in the town for 50 years, will display photos taken by each of its members, including some award-winning work from the borough's best snappers.

Camera club spokesman John Hunt said more than 400 images were submitted for the exhibition, and judge Richard Walton carefully went through every picture to whittle it down to just 150 pieces to be displayed.

"The club is renowned for its comprehensive programme of encouraging new members to participate and improve the quality of the photographs, with results that members have reached the finals of national competitions for wildlife and landscapes," he said.

"Some of these photographs are on display for the week."

Philip Smithies, club chairman, added: "This is our only opportunity to showcase members' work and to encourage visitors to join a thriving club with a great variety of activities."

The exhibition will be open each day from 10am to 4pm for a week, and visitors are encouraged to select a favourite to win a chance to take home a copy of their chosen snap.

### Report in Tonbridge Courier

## 27 Photographer of the Year Report

**Marilynne Hill**

The Photographer of the Year is the member in Group A who gets the highest aggregate marks for all entries in the open Print and PDI competitions giving a maximum score 400 from these competitions plus the marks from each of the Record, Portrait, and Nature (Prints and PDIs only) competitions, giving a maximum score from the set subject competitions of 360 and an overall maximum score of 760.

Following the decision taken by the Committee last year to include all eligible members in the Photographer of the Year Competition rather than just those who elected to compete, the number of possible participants this year was greatly increased. This was due to the fact that those eligible now comprised members in Group A for both prints and PDIs whereas last year it was restricted to those in Group 1 for both. However this has not led to a significant increase in participation. I regret that I did not actively promote this prestigious competition but none the less feel that this very demanding competition may no longer appeal to the membership and would welcome member's thoughts on this.

Whilst in theory it is possible for a round to be missed and still become Photographer of the Year, realistically this is very unlikely. This season only 2 members, Tony Hill and Pam Sherren, have entered all of the rounds. Pam's final score was 635 and Tony's was 666 thus making Tony "Photographer of the Year"