



## Newsletter, September 2020

This is a very brief Newsletter as the Club Reps' meeting in September should have brought all clubs up to date.

There was a good turn-out for our second Zoom meeting with the clubs, and it was great to be able to hear back from each of the Reps about what is happening in their club. Almost all had abandoned their planned programmes in favour of virtual meetings etc until at least the end of the year. A few were hoping to start physical meetings, but since then the new Covid-19 Rule of 6 requirements will have put these plans on hold. It now seems pretty clear that our current arrangements are going to have to be maintained until at least the end of March.

Membership retention during this time is a concern with many clubs, some reporting up to 50% drop in membership, while with others the drop-off has been minimal.

It was good to hear about new initiatives, such as where three clubs shared the cost of a top-class lecturer from the States, or having recordings of their meetings on their website for members unable to attend. We will always be interested in feedback from clubs about any new initiatives.

Also at the Reps' meeting, Ken Scott introduced the new guidance on Marking and Workshop images. These have now been published on the SCPF website, and are really required reading for anyone involved in photographic competitions. <https://southerncountiespf.org.uk/2020/09/new-judging-guidance-sept-2020/>

## Poole Camera Club

We were saddened to be advised of the dissolution of Poole Camera Club. Financial problems incurred due to falling membership, but being unable to fill key committee positions has left the club with no alternative but to close.

Having been going for almost 60 years, the club has been a good supporter of the Federation's activities, so the loss will be widely felt.

This just emphasises how dependent clubs are on a sustainable membership for funding, and even more so on willing volunteers to run the club (some of whom are deservedly listed in the SCPF Roll of Honour)

We sincerely hope that the members are able to continue their photography through another club, and offer the Federation's thanks to all those who have worked so hard over the years to keep the club running.

## PAGB Awards

There is no further update on the Awards, but it is worth noting that the PAGB's Mentoring service, introduced during lockdown, has now been made permanent. Details are in the latest edition of PAGB E-News.

## League Secretary's Report

**An urgent reminder that deadline for uploading entries to the leagues is 5<sup>th</sup> October.** Many clubs have not yet uploaded their PDIs as of 30<sup>th</sup> Sept, so there are just 5 days left ... even fewer by the time you read this!

Clubs who have not yet notified the League Secretary of the date and/or judge for their fixtures(s) are requested to do so as soon as possible. Please remember that the fixture window for the rounds is 1st November 2020 to 31st March 2021.

## SCPF Exhibition 2021: Open for Entries

As discussed in the AGM, the 2021 Exhibition will be for PDIs only. This significantly changes how the Exhibition will be run, as this year we plan to show the Exhibition on an online Gallery. We are presently evaluating the options for hosting this, following on from the successful examples already set by Winchester PS and Chichester CC (see below). In line with this, the Catalogue will also be a digital publication.

The Exhibition will be judged by Clive Tanner FRPS MPAGB APAGB.

Registration for the Exhibition is now open, via the link on the SCPF website. This year entry to the Exhibition is FREE and there is no limit to the number of clubs entering, so we're hopeful for a bumper entry. Once registered you will be able to upload your club's entry. To upload images, please use the same key-code issued to your club last year.

The closing date for entries is being extended to 18<sup>th</sup> October

John Hodge, Editor