Programme Secretary's Report

May 2023

The season started with our annual exhibition at the Atkins Gallery and the Wednesday of the second week we met at the gallery with an open invitation for anyone to attend. We also used this occasion to hand out the trophies to the winners from the previous season. The café at the Atkins Gallery stayed open for refreshments.

The first meeting back at our club room was the meet & greet designed to familiarise both members and any prospective new-comers with the forthcoming programme. This was followed by a talk from Mike Sharples MFIAP MPAGB FBPE ARPS EFIAP called "People, Places and Faces".

Next we had our regular visit from Andzrej Jablonski to provide a masterclass on judging for the benefit of members who have to judge our internal competitions.

Our first competition was the Secretary's Challenge and I booked Peter Gennard MFIAP EFIAP/d1 for that. That was followed by Round 1 of Photographer of the Year (POTY), an open print round. During the second half of the meeting one of our members, Rob Jones, gave us a very interesting talk on Solar Photography; this was followed the next week by a review of POTY 1.

For our next speaker I booked John Lewis who gave his talk "Composition for the Viewer".

The next POTY round was a Projected digital round with the theme "Triptych" and the second half was we had another member, John Denny, give us a talk on Water-drop Photography. As usual the next week was a POTY review.

Next we had an introduction to Rotolights given by Ian Loasby followed by our annual Cedar's Challenge, this year against both Lutterworth and Hinckley clubs, judged by Graham Walton DPAGB.

POTY round 3 followed and this was a Mono print round. For the second half of the evening we left the prints on display with author's names so members could chat about them. The review was the next week.

I then booked a talk by Nigel Spencer which was called "A Journey To The Arctic".

The following week we showed some educational videos, prior to the Christmas Break and after that we had our Social Evening which was once again at the Red Lion in Huncote where we were able to throw some skittles assisted by very good food.

Our first meeting of the new year was the annual Trevor Wain UK Landscape competition judged by Peter Gennard MFIAP EFIAP/d1 and then we had a talk on Underwater Photography given by a local dentist, Nick Moore who showed some stunning award-winning images.

For the next week we decided to give the members another chance to practice using studio lights and I booked a local model, Lydia, for that.

POTY round 4 followed and it was a PDI round with the theme “Abstract Nature” with the review evening the next week.

We next had our annual competition against Fosse Camera Club and due to the programmed judge having to cancel at short notice I enlisted the help of David Kissman CPAGB BPE2 from Keyworth and he proved an admirable substitute.

Round 5 of POTY followed which was a print round with the theme “History”. The POTY5 review was the next week.

I then booked Graham Walton DPAGB who gave us his talk “90 Shades of Graham”, a Mono Print demonstration.

The next competition was the Chairman’s Trophy which this year was decided to be a Print competition with the theme “Happiness” and that was reviewed the following week.

We then had our annual inter-club competition against Ashby Camera Club and for that I booked Mike Sharples MFIAP MPAGB FBPE ARPS EFIAP to be the judge.

Following that we had a workshop evening where workstations were set up covering post-processing in Lightroom and Photoshop, Camera handling, Still Life and practice with studio lights.

The next POTY round followed and was a PDI round of Mono images and the second half another of our members, Jez Sutton, showed us how he takes very large panoramas at European football stadiums

Our last speaker for the season was a departure from the norm in that it was not specifically about photography. It was an account of a trek through the Black Ice Pass in the Himalayas and was given by Robert Pettigrew MBE, a past chairman of the British Mountaineering Club. This proved to be an excellent presentation, well delivered.

POTY 7 was the next week and was a print competition with the theme “Urban Landscapes” and the review followed the next week.

The last competition of the season was our Image of the Year print competition and was judged by Ralph Duckett.

The AGM heralded the end of the season

Ian Waite