

APRIL 2008 BULLETIN



Indian gypsy woman smoking a Hukka by Françoise Steel

EDITORIAL

By the time you receive this Bulletin we will have opened our Annual Exhibition at Gibbard Gallery, Harlow. The exhibition of the very best of EAF members' photography will be open until 24th May. It will be well worth a visit and will give you an appreciation of the standard you need to reach to gain acceptances.

Another event not to be missed is the EAF Club Print Championship being held on 8th June at Chamberlin Hall, Bildeston, Suffolk – commencing at 1.15pm – pay on the door. I have had plenty of your letters for this issue of the Bulletin. Please keep them coming in as more are needed to make the future issues more interesting.

Below is the first article by Naomi Saul as President of the EAF, but our thoughts are with her and Eric at this time following another operation on Eric's joints, which will keep him off his feet for the next few weeks. We wish Eric a speedy recovery.

The next EAF Bulletin will be published at the beginning of September. Let me have your contributions by **10th August.**
Barry Freeman ARPS DPAGB

PRESIDENT'S PREAMBLE

**Naomi Saul ARPS EFIAP DPAGB
APAGB BPE4***

“The Camera is an instrument that teaches people to see without a camera” - Dorothea Lange

As I pen this, it is difficult to believe that Easter has already passed and made sure it's early place in the calendar this year will not be forgotten, by giving many of us a covering of

The 'Beyond Group' - has done the EAF proud by coming joint 6th in the 1st Great British Club competition, organised by the PAGB. There were 88 clubs competing for the prestigious title of 'Best Club' and not surprisingly 'Wigan 10' were awarded this honour, closely followed by the usual list of top clubs. It was the 1st digital competition of its type.

The 'Beyond Group' entered in the 'BIG CLUB' section despite having a membership of just 15. They wanted to compete at the very top level. They were represented by 11 of their members.

Congratulations must go to one and all.
Barbie Lindsey

snow and icy winds, but at least now, there is a return to “Spring” in the air.

It is a great honour to have been elected as your President for the next two years and I look forward to meeting as many of you as possible whilst in office. It is important that the faces of the Committee are recognised by Members, so that all know who is representing you.

We are the largest Federation in the Photographic Alliance of Great Britain (PAGB) having 116 Member Clubs, with approximately 3800 individual Members. I would therefore like to take this opportunity to thank all the members of the Federation Committee who voluntarily and freely give so much time and effort to ensure that the various activities of the Federation run smoothly. We are very fortunate to have the facilities of the inter Club competitions, a large Exhibition and other events, organised and run **on your behalf. Please try to ensure that**

you support and attend these – they are done for you. Photography is of course a hobby and although serious, must be fun too. As a Federation we are not at the top of the league but I am delighted to say we are known as a very warm, friendly and welcoming group – something of which we can all be very proud, and long may it continue.

The Exhibition is now approaching fast – I hope as many of you as possible will try to see the selected items. Sadly, we cannot show any more than 200 prints – so with a total entry of over 1500 again this year, many good prints have to be passed over by the Judges – but don't forget there is always another year to try again. This year sees the introduction of an extra category, with the inclusion of digital images and I am glad to say this now brings the number of "projected images" entered back to the 1000 figure, with slides still well represented (almost 400 submitted – just a few less than last year).

The next issue of the Bulletin will not be until September/October and although I hope to see many of you at the Exhibition opening, the Print Championships on June 8th at Bildeston, or at your Club meetings, I wish you all a happy and productive few months of photography.

CLUB DIRECTORY

Amphill & DCC

Change of meeting venue of above club to:-
Millbrook Village Hall, Sandhill Close,
Millbrook, MK45 2JD

Brentwood & DPC

Secretary's email address of the above club has changed to: mikebromley790@btinternet.com

Caston CC

Change of Secretary of the above club which is now:-
Elaine Stubbings
Richmond Barn Farm, Saham Toney,
Thetford, IP25 7EP
Tel. (01953) 883101
Email: elaine@castoncameraclub.org.uk

Chigwell CC

Change of meeting venue and time.
The Victory Hall, Hainault Road, Chigwell,
Essex, IG7 6QZ
1st Friday in month at 20.00

Hornchurch PS

Change of Secretary for the above club
Alan Peters,
77 Randall Drive, Hornchurch, Essex,
RM12 6TA
Tel (01708) 472301
Email: vanda.peters@tiscali.co.uk

King's Lynn & DCC.

Change of Secretary at the above club
Mike Brindle, LRPS
The Orchard, Hall Lane, South Wootton,
King's Lynn, PE30 3LQ
Tel: (01553) 672825
Email: klcameraclubsec@brindle.plus.com

Saxmundham & Framlingham CC

Change of Secretary at the above club:-
Andy Matheson
1 St. Edmunds Close, Bromeswell, Suffolk,
IP12 2PL
Tel. (01394) 460441
Email: andy.matheson@gmail.com

HANDBOOK SECRETARY

Alan Turner ARPS DPAGB APAGB

Would all lecturers and judges please remember to advise me of any changes to their entry in the PAGB Handbook and also advise me of any changes to their email addresses? I will be preparing copy for the 2008 – 2009 EAF Judges and Lecturers Directory during the autumn for publication in September/October.

EAF JUDGES & LECTURERS **DIRECTORY**

ALTERATIONS

Liz Hatten ('B' Panel judge) has been promoted to the 'A' Panel.

Colin Southgate ('B' Panel judge) has been promoted to the 'A' Panel

Malcolm Hardie ('C' Panel judge) has been promoted to the 'B' Panel

Terry Smallbone ('C' Panel judge) has a new address: 21 Eastcote Grove, Southend on Sea, SS2 4QA.
Tel: 01702 307931.

ADDITIONS

Don Thompson (Lecturer) has a new print lecture "Don's gone digital"

CORRECTIONS

Mike Fuller ('C' Panel judge) Address should read: 96 Central Avenue, Canvey Island, Essex, SS8 9QP

As you know our Annual Exhibition is sponsored by Jessops - They pay us in Jessops vouchers - We have three £50 vouchers, which we will discount to EAF members at £45 each. Please contact either Barry Freeman or Eric Saul for details.

TREASURER

Firstly, my thanks to all those Clubs who sent their Subscriptions in good time. For better or worse, so far as the Public Liability Insurance is concerned I have to ensure that the premiums are in the Brokers hands before 31 January and this does entail, these days, far more work than in the past. Unfortunately there are some Clubs (usually the same ones each year) who do not meet the deadline despite my reminders. Whilst on the question of Insurance **it is essential** that a copy of your programme is forwarded **to me as soon as it is available** to comply with the terms of the Policy **and thus ensure you are covered**. A few Clubs are not taking out cover of £2,000,000 the figure suggested as a minimum by the Brokers, as the Courts in the event of a claim are always very generous with other people's money!!

In spite of the ever increasing cost of fuel, your Committee are doing their utmost to keep travelling costs down by car sharing wherever possible. Unfortunately it does mean that the charges made by Lecturers and Judges are increasing, although I do know that many of us do charge less than the figure set by the PAGB, which is 22p per mile plus the cost of fuel.

So far this year, the finances of the Federation are running along as I would expect and hopefully when the year ends I will be able to recommend that Subscriptions are held for a further year – lets hope!

Eric Saul ARPS. EFIAP. DPAGB.
APAGB. BPE3*.
Hon. Treasurer

PAGB Executive Member Daphne Hanson CPAGB APAGB

The Annual General Meeting of the PAGB was held on Saturday 12th April 2008, attended on behalf of the EAF by the President, Mrs Naomi Saul ARPS EFIAP DPAGB, Eric Saul ARPS EFIAP DPAGB, Stan Searle APAGB, Mrs Sue Dobson CPAGB APAGB, Andy Hanson ARPS MPAGB APAGB and myself.

At the AGM the Treasurer reported that despite the publication of a new Handbook, PAGB funds had barely changed during the year, with total accumulated funds as at 31st December 2007 of £30,067. The PAGB annual subscription was increased to £27.00 effective as from 1st January 2009. At the end of the meeting each Federation was asked to make a three-minute presentation on a topic of their choice. Mrs Naomi Saul made a presentation on behalf of the EAF, together with other Federations who reported on their activities, especially with regard to digital competitions.

Following the AGM, the PAGB Executive commenced their meetings.

FIAP: 34 Distinctions have been awarded. In the EAF, EFIAP has been awarded to Bob Norris and AFIAP to Gordon Bramham. The 3rd FIAP Clubs' World Cup will take place, the closing date for entries 4th October 2008. The 29th FIAP Black & White Biennial will be held in Slovakia in August 2008 and from the 10 prints selected to represent the PAGB, two are

from the EAF: Ann Miles EFIAP and Eric Saul EFIAP on the chosen theme of "Tree".

PAGB Inter-Club Slide

Championship: This will be held at the University of Warwick on Saturday 12th July 2008. This will be the last Slide Championship as from 2009 it will be a Digital competition. Tickets have been increased to £7.50.

PAGB Inter-Club Print

Championship: This will be held at Connah's Quay, Flintshire on Saturday 25th October 2008. Tickets have also been increased to £7.50.

Inter-Federation Print & Projected Image Competitions:

The Inter-Federation Print Competition will be judged on Sunday 8th June hosted by the Scottish Photographic Federation. It was noted that there should be more variety of subject matter selected for future Print & Projected Image Exhibitions.

The Inter-Federation Projected Image Competition will be judged on Saturday 11th October 2008 hosted by the Yorkshire Photographic Union. Slides and digital images will be copied onto CD for the PAGB 2008 Projected Image Exhibition.

PAGB Judges: Ian Bateman FRPS MPAGB of the Chilterns Association has been added to the Audio Visual Judges List.

Continued over

PAGB Great British Cup: This digital competition will continue this year with a closing date of 17th November 2008 for judging in mid-January 2009. Trophies will be awarded to the top 2 clubs and the top 2 individuals. The Rules will state not more than 6 Natural History images in each section. Results will be published by email and images shown on the PAGB Website and included in the Recorded Lecture Service. CD's of the 2007 competition will be sent to clubs in August 2008.

RPS: A CD is available from the Website outlining the requirements for gaining the Licentiate award at a cost of £5.

COMPETITION SECRETARY

The 2008 AGM and Slide

Championships took place at Latton Bush Centre, Harlow on 17th February. This was the last EAF Slide Championships as next year a Digitally Projected Image Championships will be held instead.

I would like to thank the EAF Executive and the Technical Team for their organisation and work done on the day that ensured the smooth running of the championships.

The number of clubs entered this year was the lowest ever at just 24. The EAF realise this decline and for this reason have changed the Championships to the Digital format from next year. We hope that will encourage more clubs to participate once again.

The task of judging the images went to Kate Platt ARPS, Don Byatt ARPS, MPAGB, EFIAP and John Chamberlin

APAGB, EFIAP, FRPS. The best slide on the day was awarded to 'At home, Vietnam' by Chrissie Gamble of Beyond Group. Kate Platt's personal selection was 'Newly emerged short-horned grasshopper' by Kay Thompson of Bishop's Stortford CC. Don Byatt chose 'Memories in the mist' by Ann Miles of Cambridge CC and John Chamberlin's choice was 'Chinese Whispers' by Trevor Burley of Chelmsford CC.

To see the top images log-on to www.eafphotoclubs.co.uk.

The winner of the EAF Slide Trophy this year was the Beyond Group, Ware & DPS were the runner up club and in third place, just one point behind was Chelmsford CC.

Each Federation of the PAGB may send two clubs to the PAGB Inter Club Slide Championships so this year the Beyond Group and Ware & DPS will represent the EAF at Warwick University Arts Centre on Saturday 12th July 2008. Tickets for this event, at £7.50 each, can be obtained by filling in the green PAGB Inter Club Slide Championship application form (or a photocopy) either via your club Secretary or direct from Mrs. Carol J. Cheetham, 6 Twentylands, Rolleston-on-Dove, Staffs, DE13 9AJ. Cheques to be made payable to the 'PAGB'.

Next year the EAF Digitally Projected Image Championships will take place on the same day as the EAF Print Championships on 15th February 2009 at the Latton Bush Centre, Harlow.

The next EAF competition is the **2008 Print Championships on 8th June** at The Chamberlin Hall, Bildeston, Suffolk, IP7 7EZ. The judges will be Alan Millward FRPS, MPAGB, Hon. PAGB, Barry Mead FRPS, AFIAP and Paul Keene FRPS, MPAGB, EFIAP/p. The two highest placed

clubs will be asked to represent the EAF at the PAGB Inter-Club Print Championships on Saturday, 25th October 2008 at Deeside College, Connah's Quay, Flintshire in North Wales. This is in addition to Cambridge CC who have an automatic entry, as they were 4th in the final last year.

Invitations and rules have now been sent to all EAF Club Secretaries. The closing date is 26th April 2008. So far (end of March), I have received 15 acceptances.

This is an all day event but there is a later start than in previous years. Prints should be handed in between 11am and 11.30am. The competition itself will start at 1.30pm.

Prints will be projected onto a large screen for spectators to view easily. The judges view and mark the actual prints.

Contact me by email at:

marilyn@thehamblins.org.uk

Telephone: 020 8350 3064

Post: 72 Trinity Avenue, Bush Hill Park, ENFIELD, EN1 1HS

Marilyn Steward

EVENTS SECRETARY

Since the Last "*Bulletin*" the "**World of Colour**" day at Harlow has taken place – were you there? – if not, you missed another excellent day of stimulating photography with valuable hints and suggestions from the Speakers. My sincere thanks go to **Ware & District Photographic Society** who were our helpers for the day. Whenever I needed a helper, for whatever reason, one or more members appeared, as if by magic and indeed were ahead of my needs with most items which certainly goes a long way to ensuring a successful day.

Our first Speaker was **Margaret Collis ESFIAP APAGB DPAGB ARPS,**

who kindly fitted us into her busy schedule as she is currently President of the **PAGB**, with a digital talk entitled "**The Joy of Photography**". Margaret took us with her on a recent visit to China as a FIAP delegate showing some of the sights, people, views and of course pandas. Then we moved on to some other favourite places, including Scotland - emphasising her love of landscape and travel. After Lunch John Webster **ARPS, MPAGB**, showed a stunning Audio Visual sequence of landscapes, following the dawn around the world and with accompanying music, so carefully chosen to fit the mood of the pictures. Although there was the sound of the music, it would have been possible to hear a pin drop in the audience!

Finally, the day came to a crescendo with **Jon Baker FRPS MFIAP EFIAP/g DPAGB** showing us "**Every Step a different View**" – more Landscapes from a true Master of his art, who showed us there are pictures to be found or made in most weather conditions – the skill is in finding them. Jon certainly did that, accompanied by his wife Sue – going out on cold days early and late and being rewarded with snow, ice and of course dawn and dusk light. With the added bonus of being able to capture the atmosphere of the moments for us to enjoy too.

The date of our next "**Prints for All**" is **2 November 2008** with the venue moved to the **Chamberlin Hall, Bildeston and Ipswich & District Photographic Society** as the hosts and our Speakers then are:-

Jack Bates FRPS MPAGB with a talk entitled "**Exposed**" Jack tells us, the subjects of his prints can be pictorial, humorous, exploratory, metaphorical or allegorical, presented either as single images or in panel sets. In this talk he

uses these as examples to explore and question some driving forces of our photography. Jack is a member of the Mirage group and a member of the RPS Licentiate Distinctions panel.

After Lunch, we have an afternoon with **Les McLean** a Master printer – covering “**Silver Black and White**” and “**Pure Digital**” Photography. Les has been described in the press as one of the most passionate photographers you will ever meet. Spend a little time with him and you cannot help but be swept along by his complete commitment to making photographs – ‘make’ and ‘making’ are words that Les uses, not ‘take’ and ‘taking’. He is dedicated and intensely enthusiastic. Les is renowned for his printing skills and still does demos, workshops and lectures and embraces both Darkroom and Digital printing – hence his two talks. Originally Les tells us he saw imperfections and flaws in digital printing that he was not prepared to live with so he printed silver and genuinely believed that digital would never be of a quality that would be good enough to attract him to use it in his lifetime. What he did not consider was the speed at which digital would grow and now realises that it is another medium that we as image makers can use to see, realise and produce images and offers something different from silver halide and accepts that now digital prints can match silver prints

Make a note in your diaries now, as this is another day not to be missed – Publicity material will be sent to your Club Secretary in early September.

Naomi Saul

Exhibition Secretary Report

This year's exhibition has now been selected. The exhibition opens with the award presentation in the Gibberd Gallery Harlow on Saturday 3rd May at 2pm and the winning slides and digital images will be projected at 2.30pm. The exhibition will run for three weeks and close on Saturday 24th May. We hope to have the Slides and Digital Images displayed on a monitor for the three weeks of the exhibition.

This year we received 510 mono prints; 925 colour prints, 390 slides and 700 digital images. The mono print, colour print and slide entry was similar to last year. We were pleased to see an excellent response to the new digital section.

The slides and digital images were individually projected and their titles read out. The three judges marked each image between 2 and 5, so the highest mark would be 15 and the lowest 6. The projected images Judges were – Ray Brightman DPAGB HonPAGB FRPS AFIAP from Sheffield; Graham Hodgkiss DPAGB ARPS APAGB from Worcestershire and Roger Force FRPS, DPAGB APAGB from Greenhithe.

The prints were judged in the same way as the projected images and the judges were – Mike Chambers ARPS, EFIAP, MPAGB from Sussex; John Cartlidge EFIAP/3, BPE3* from Staffordshire and Richard Walton EFIAP, FRPS, MPAGB, from Faversham.

EAF's 2008 Exhibition Awards

Best Monochrome Print – In the presence of beauty by Chris Gamble - Beyond Group.

Monochrome Print Selectors Awards – Hugh Milsom with two of Ann Miles' images.

Best Colour Print – Dune by Jane Goodall - Bottisham and Burwell PC

Colour Print Selectors Awards – Hugh

Milsom, Chris Gamble & Irene Froy.
Best Slide – Mountain Shepherd by Simon Shore from Swavesey CC

Slide Selectors Awards – Roger Hance, Paul Radden & John Gravett.

Best digital image – Sunrise at Belvedere by John Gravett - Shillington & DCC

Digital Image Selectors Awards – Judy Hodgson, Barbie Lindsay & Ann Miles.

Every year we find a new problem and this time we found that some members were using a low-tack masking tape to hold their

images together. The consequence of this method was that not only were the mounts falling apart, but the tape was damaging other prints.

On behalf of the Exhibition Committee I would like to thank all the members that worked so hard to make this year's exhibition possible.

I look forward to seeing you all on Saturday 3rd May for the exhibition opening day and presentations.

Malcolm Tinn LRPS, LBIPP



Photo of EAF 2008 Exhibition Judges - Left to Right: Roger Force – John Cartlidge – Graham Hodgkiss – Naomi Saul (EAF President) – Ray Brightman – Mike Chambers – Richard Walton.

PA AWARDS OFFICER

Andy Hanson ARPS MPAGB APAGB

By the time you read this, the Awards for Photographic Merit will have taken place at the Southampton Camera Club venue at Copythorne Parish Hall, Winsor on 26th/27th April 2008, hosted by the Southern Fed.

There are 11 entries from the EAF: 2 Credit Prints, 7 Distinction Prints, 1 Distinction Slide entrant and 1 Master print entry. I wish them all good luck, and I will report their progress in the next Bulletin.

The next adjudication will take place at Gateshead on the weekend of 22nd/23rd November 2008 hosted by Northern Counties.

This event is already full and there are as I write, 10 applicants on the waiting list for the April 2009 adjudication.

If you are thinking of applying for one of the Awards, may I suggest that you get your eligibility forms to me sooner rather than later to give yourselves time to get your applications in.

If you require further information please contact me:

Andy Hanson, PA Awards Officer, 16 Meadowlands, Burwell, Cambridge CB25 OHG.
Tele: 01638 741106 Email: hanson943@btinternet.com.

REPORT FROM THE JUDGES OFFICER

Following the successful Judges' Workshop in October last year a number of assessments have taken place resulting in several promotions to the 'B' panel of judges and one to the 'A' panel.

Plans are now well in hand for this year's event and once again we will be using the Standon and Puckeridge Community Centre. As there were more applicants for the New Judges course last year than places available we will run two groups for this section. This year we will hold another Intermediate Workshop for judges currently on the 'C' Panel who are keen to gain more experience and may be looking for recommendation to the 'B' panel. As it is only possible to cater for three groups at this venue it will not be possible to hold an Advanced Seminar for 'A' and 'B' panel judges this year but we hope to arrange this for 2009. I would be grateful if 'A' and 'B' panel judges who are interested in attending a course in the future would let me know as foreknowledge of requirements is helpful when organising events.

The Judges' Workshop this year will take place on 12 October and details and application forms are now available on the EAF website or from me by email to: Sue-Dobson@eafphotoclubs.co.uk or in writing to 45 Regent Road, Epping CM16 5DL – please enclose a stamped, self-addressed envelope.

Please make your application as early as possible as places are limited and at the time of preparing this report I have already received a number of requests for application forms.

Sue Dobson

EAF ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION

Did you know the EAF will be 100 years old in 2010?

The EAF Committee hope to produce a souvenir publication to celebrate the occasion

and we need your help.

Do you have access to photographs that were used in EAF Exhibitions in the past?

Is there an older statesman in your club who has memories of attending EAF events in years gone by?

In fact is there anyone in your club who can produce pictures or words about EAF events in the past 100 years?

If you can help please contact Sue Dobson by telephone: 01992 575505

or by email:

*Sue-Dobson@eafphotoclubs.co.uk
or any EAF Committee member*

Felixstowe PS

Celebrate their Diamond Jubilee!

Founded in 1948 & now in the year of 2008, covered 60 years as a Society. Early in 2007, it was decided that there should be a celebration of this important milestone in the Society's history.

The event was held on the 14th February 2008, in the presence of 50 members & invited guests, who were leading representatives of the Felixstowe History Society; The Felixstowe Museum; Felixstowe Old Peoples' Welfare Association & the founder members of the Beyond Group, Russ and Barbie Lindsay who started her photographic career in 1981 with Felixstowe PS, using a modest Ricoh compact camera & little knowledge of

photography. Barbie, as most of us know, is now a well-known photographic personality throughout the EAF & indeed nationally, with many photo distinctions to her name.

The evening began with President George Buxton outlining the beginnings of photography in Felixstowe at the turn of the last century, to the formation of the club in 1948, then on to the digital revolution & its progress through to the present time. Some 8mm footage was shown of local events in 1978, which included the damage to Felixstowe Seafront by the storm surge, which happened that year.

Following this item was our remaining founder member, Geoff Cordy (78) who was interviewed by our youngest member Catherine Godbold (16) on his personal memories of his 60 years with the club.

The next item was a digital projection showing historical photographs of Felixstowe and its people at the turn of the 19th Century, followed by pictures of various meetings, exhibitions and outings run by the club during its 60-year span.

To take us up to the tea break, about 20 or so conventional colour slides were shown depicting Felixstowe from

the Docks Viewpoint to the Deben Ferry. Included were slides of the sea wall being constructed in the "Dip" after the 1978 storm surge.

During the break, members & guests had time to look round the static displays of old equipment, photographs & photographic publications printed from about 1948 and beyond. The representatives of the Felixstowe Museum had brought some of their vast archived photographic library for inspection, in the form of several large archival preserved photograph albums. Many of the old prints were by a Mr Emeny, a well-known seaside photographer who operated in Felixstowe during the late 1800's and early 1900's.

The evening was concluded with the club entering the 21st Century and the Digital Revolution, depicted by a digital projection of the images we had entered for the Annual Cambridge Digital Competition 2008, together with 30 minutes of Digital Audio Visual presentations by various members.

Dennis Lumkin *General Secretary*



Photo by Jim Williams LRPS. From the left Tony & Gillian Hughes (Secretary FHS); George Buxton FPS President; Jenny Holland (FOPWA); Barbie & Russell Lindsay (Beyond Group); Richard Holland, (Chair FOPWA)

Letter from

Derek Leak DPAGB, *Lowestoft P & DIC*

Dear Barry

It is with some sadness that I attended the final EAF Slide Championship last Sunday on the 17th February 2008. The relentless surge of digital imaging has quite understandably been the reason for its demise and it is, of course, essential that the Federation reflects movements in the amateur photographic world.

Next year's replacement competition, which will be shown with a data projector, superficially would seem to satisfy most of our members. There is however, the problem of accurate image reproduction. As a lecturer and a judge who visits many photographic clubs in Norfolk and Suffolk, my experience with the projection of digital images has not been good. On only one occasion, out of perhaps 20, has the data projected image been satisfactory. This was the opinion of the authors, not the judge. In every other case there was incorrect colour reproduction, excessive contrast or burning out of white tones.

This state of affairs plainly does not do justice either to the photographer who has created the image or to the audience who has to suffer looking at it. In some cases the problem has been so bad that the competition being assessed has been rendered invalid.

It may be that club members are not familiar with the workings of their machines, but if it is just that, the problem is widespread. Most data projectors that clubs have purchased understandably are at the cheap end of the market. It is possible that these machines are just not up to showing fine art - for that is what it should be at its best. I understand that there are two entirely different technologies to compose the image used in data projection, "Liquid Crystal Display" and "Digital Light Processing" - and there is a third on the way, "Liquid Crystal on Silicon". There is an informative website

page on www.proiecorpoint.co.uk which explains the pros and cons of each system. Until this matter is satisfactorily resolved, I believe the only reliable way to guarantee that images are projected as the photographer desires is by transparency film and slide projection. The luminosity and delicacy of shade and tone from Velvia or Kodachrome is straightforward, cheap and easy to reproduce in this way.

There are still a few of us who are creating images on slide film entirely within the camera, with no intention of altering the final result, because we enjoy the challenge. The disciplines required to do this are no better or worse than those used by digital and print workers who wish to manipulate their images after the taking stage. They are just different.

While the EAF Slide Championship is a lost cause, I do hope that the East Anglian Federation will recognise this difference by continuing to allow transparency workers to submit slides to its Annual Exhibitions indefinitely.

Yours sincerely,
Derek Leak

***From: Eric and Naomi Saul an
Abridged Response to Derek Leak
DPAGB, BPE3*.***

It is indeed a shame that we have seen the demise of slide film over the past few years and as a Federation we do have to meet the needs of what has become a fast changing photographic world. To project via multi-media projection will cover the needs of all our Members, as slides can of course be scanned (yes – that too needs to be done well) and continue to be shown/used by Clubs for Competitions. The overall standard of "slide" championships has declined over the past few years due to the need to obtain slides from digital files in order to compete – or else use old stock, which is not the best. This has also resulted

in the number of participating Clubs reducing from about 35 to just 24 this year.

It is naturally very important that Clubs ensure their equipment is suitably adjusted for Competitions if it is their decision to embrace Members' current needs/demands and whilst cost is important, the availability of grants to assist with funding has helped many – more so than at the time “Slide Projectors” became the need (not so very many years ago!), when of course “colour” photography would never “take off”!. Even then, there were two types of projectors available – those only suitable for home use and the more powerful (dearer) ones that were needed for public use because of the additional “throw” required.

The similar situation applies to multimedia projectors. There are those cheaper ones that can be used at home, but mostly the ones available are designed for industry/educational use for projecting to a very large size in light conditions – allowing the picture to be seen, as well as the audience taking notes. Hence incidentally, the removal of the blackout blinds that were in 'situ' at the Latton Bush Centre, until recently. In “Club” photography situations the brightness of the display needs to be adjusted and that is where the learning curve comes into play. It is a steep one, as those who have been involved in using such projectors for some time have found. My own Club, Shillington & District Camera Club was one of the first in the area to obtain a Lottery Grant to purchase the necessary equipment, which was very expensive 5 years ago (the projector alone cost over £3000). That same equipment can now be purchased much more cheaply if it has to be replaced due to the advancement in technology. Very good projectors are now available for less than £1000!

With the aid of lottery grants it is not necessary for “most projectors that Clubs have purchased to be at the cheap end of the market” - whatever that might be.

However, many Clubs are still struggling along the learning curve as far as “set up” is concerned and much of the problem is actually due to the Laptop settings rather than the projectors. It is essential that Judges help those concerned by pointing out the problems – mostly caused by excessive brightness and suggesting that adjustments are made – if the Membership have not already called for it!. We have also judged many “projected image” competitions but have never come across a situation where the Competition had to be abandoned.

Turning away from the problems with projection, it is with some concern that I read the penultimate paragraph of your letter. We are all photographers “creating images” – whether on film or any other light sensitive material. Digital cameras are not just for taking pictures to be altered afterwards – many, if not the majority of us make very little change – pictures created entirely within the camera are still the challenge. Those with the knowledge of how to take a photograph will not be satisfied with anything that is not a good image – no end of subsequent manipulation will alter that - ‘luminosity and delicacy of shade and tone’ can still be achieved. Again it is down to experienced photographers to help and guide fellow Members, just as it always has been.

So far as retaining “slides” in the Annual Exhibition is concerned, the Committee will continue to review the situation annually – the decision actually rests with the Membership entries. Many Clubs have already had to abandon slide competitions due to insufficient entries and we too have to be guided accordingly. As the number of slide entries reduce it is very likely that they will need to be displayed via multi-media projection anyway, but time will tell

Yours sincerely,
Eric and Naomi

Email from Chairman of Brentwood & Dist. Photographic Society

Dear Sir,

Following Peter Elgar's letter in the October edition, I feel obliged to explain what happened at both the 2007 AGM and the ensuing Special General Meeting of the Brentwood and District Photographic Club.

At the AGM the President of the Club, Peter Elgar, who was chairing the meeting, raised the question of our minimum age rule, although this had not been tabled as an agenda item. The discussion which followed was emotional rather than rational. There was no proposer nor seconder to a specific motion.

At the next committee meeting of the Club I suggested that I investigate what issues might arise if we abolished the minimum age rule of 15, with respect to our public liability insurance and our responsibilities under any child protection legislation. A Special General Meeting was arranged so that members could discuss the minimum age rule properly.

The document which I produced for the SGM is set out below:

Children and Young People at the Club **Age of Members**

We are not obliged by our Public Liability Insurers to have a minimum age limit for members of the Club. However the brokers do make the following points.

People who attend the Club as a guest, e.g. prospective members or individuals brought along occasionally as guests should be regarded as 'associate members'. Anybody who attends the Club regularly, including children, must be a member of the Club.

Abuse Exclusion

___As of Feb 2007 our insurers will not cover any costs resulting from an alleged act of abuse.

'Organisations must accept that prevention of abuse is part of their duty of care for the children with whom they work, and amend their practice accordingly.'

In effect this relates to children and young people under the age of 16. The insurers refer clubs to a Home Office document, 'A Code of Practice for Safeguarding the Welfare of Children in Voluntary Organisations in England and Wales' (1993). A lot of advice arising from that document is available on the Web for organisations which deal specifically with young people and children. Since we are unlikely to have a significant number of young members it would probably not be necessary to produce a document outlining procedures to protect children. (I may be wrong here.)

Any problems are avoided if children are accompanied by their parents/carers etc.

CRB Checks

___Anybody working with young people and children under the age of 16 should be CRB checked. This would involve the Club in some expense. (CRB checks cost £30+ but have to be submitted via a registered organisation. Registration costs £300. We could use an umbrella organisation but they make a charge, typically £50. (I'm not sure if that includes the cost of the CRB.)

It would seem sensible therefore not to set up a young people's section of the Club, which I believe some members of the Club have suggested.

As far as I was concerned there were no major problems with respect to allowing younger children to join the Club. However when a vote was taken the majority of the 40 members present were in favour of retaining a minimum age rule although there was no consensus about what that age should be. Most of the members who spoke were in favour of a 15 or higher minimum age.

Since changes to our general rules have to be approved by an AGM or SGM, the committee had no choice but to retain the 15 year minimum age rule.

I should point out that we are not unfriendly towards children. Indeed Peter

Elgar's children have been coming to our Club since they were babies.

I would suggest however that members of photographic clubs who read this magazine ask their committee to check out where their club stands with respect to their public liability insurance, the implications for their club in terms of the document 'A code of Practice for Safeguarding the Welfare of Children in Voluntary Organisations in England and Wales' and crucially whether any members of their club needs to be CRB checked because of the nature of their club's work with children.

Yours sincerely,
Roger Winter

SETTING THE SCENE.

"Tonight we're pleased to welcome Mr X to judge for us. Ladies and gentlemen Mr. X". I guess that many of us have sat in an audience and heard those words said by a Chairman or Chairlady of a club where there has been a visiting speaker. But is it enough? In my view it isn't. It tells us nothing about the person who is to address the audience for the next couple of hours. We don't know where the judge or lecturer is from, whether they holds any photographic distinctions, or whether they are, or have been, the President of something or other or any other interesting facts about them. The audience is left completely in the dark.

A Chairman's role is very important. It sets the scene. Consequently a Chairman should try to arrive at a meeting with ample time to welcome the guest speaker or judge. The Programme Secretary should also have briefed the Chairman with a few notes about the guest before hand so that he is completely in the picture. I am aware that often before a meeting starts, club members try to get the Chairman's ear asking him to make this or that announcement about future events and activities leaves little time for the Chairman to speak to the guest. Nevertheless the Chairman should ensure, if he has not been

previously briefed, that he leaves himself enough time to meet and chat with the guest lecturer or judge before the meeting starts. It is always sensible to do this and ask the guest if there is anything he would like to be told to the audience about himself when he is introduced. This at least ensures that personal information is up to date and avoids the situation where a guest was an LRPS when the booking was made, but was now an FRPS.

I occasionally hear comments about judges and lecturers regarding their performances and I also hear stories about how clubs have behaved towards speakers and judges. An incident which sticks in my mind is one where the Chairman, in his introduction didn't know the judge's name until he was told by the judge and then said the subject to be judged that evening was "architecture" and the audience shouted out "No, it's "transport". The Chairman wasn't inebriated, just inadequately briefed and hadn't read his own club's programme. The Chairman was of course extremely embarrassed and apologetic as he probably felt such a fool. What had happened was that the judge was standing in for another person at very short notice because of illness, but no one had told the Chairman about the change. I know that story to be true because I was the judge standing in. But that's another story.

Stan Searle. APAGB

Post Codes for Club venues

A letter from Howard Denner - Lecturer

All Lecturers & Judges have at some time visited a Club for the first time in the dead of winter & in a blinding rain storm. At the same time it is not uncommon to discover that the Local Council has devised a fiendish one-way road system that is specifically designed to confuse those without local knowledge. The only way to find the venue on time is to drive slowly

Continued over

with the interior light on and the map on the steering wheel while peering over one's reading glasses through the misty windows as the horn-blowing locals hurtle passed along streets they know so well.

It is hardly surprising then that an increasing number of us are turning to that wonder of modern science, the 'satnav'. Now the easiest way to tell the 'satnav' where one wants to go is to enter the Post Code of one's destination. Yet how many Clubs do not include the Post Code of the venue in the information they send out?

The EAF Club Directory doesn't help much either. Run through it & see how few entries include the full Post Code of the venue. Nor does the pro forma Lecture & Judge Booking Request in the PAGB Handbook specify including the Post Code of the venue.

So come on Club & Programme Secretaries! You want us there on time - give us a hand, give us a Post Code!

Cambridge Camera Club Annual Interclub Digital Competition

The eagerly anticipated annual Cambridge Camera Club Interclub Digital Competition was held on Saturday 19th January, in which 32 clubs competed, travelling to Whittlesford, Cambridgeshire, for the afternoon's event.

The event was judged by Chris Palmer ARPS DPAGB APAGB AFIAP. Each club had an entry of 5 images, and Chris had the difficult task of scoring 160 images in rapid succession, giving incisive comments on each, with the winner, on a score of 41.5, being Clacton on Sea.

The Roy Pitman Award for Best Image was given for "Room with a View" by Phil Wiseman of Halstead & District Photographic Society

The whole day went very smoothly, the benefit of past experience helping a

great deal. A massive team of Cambridge Camera Club volunteers helped set up for the day, including preparing nearly 1000 sandwiches, and other tasty delights for the visitors.

A display of Cambridge Camera Club print work was on view in the hall's foyer, attracting a good deal of interest, and providing an interesting contrast to the superb digital images.

Clubs are already applying for next year's competition, which has now become an annual event on the region's calendar, much anticipated by Cambridge.

David Hone

Judges?

**A letter from Ian Kippax CPAGB
Secretary - Ely Photographic Club**

I hope this is not seen as another Judge bashing letter, it is not meant to be, because I have every admiration for those people who give up their time, for little or no remuneration. They travel the country dispensing wisdom and honest assessment of our images, an impossible and at times, thankless task.

My plea is for the EAF, through its Judges workshops and the assessment of Judges, to put a stop to what I regard as the *Photoshop phenomenon*. At the onset of 'Digital Imaging' most Judges were very critical of anything Digital, now there has been a volte-face and they are at pains to tell us how we can (or could) improve our efforts using Photoshop.

At a recent competition at our club, the judge used the word Photoshop over 84 times (I only started counting after the first few) whilst judging 32 prints, almost three Photoshops per print, incredible but true.

Can we please have 'Photoshop' added to the list, headed by 'nice', of words to be avoided and return to assessing the image as it is presented.