

## Deeside Camera Club AGM

July 3 2013, 7.30 pm at Aboyne Academy

**Present:** Marie Paterson, Geraldine McGowan, David Hendry, Lucy Telford, Harry Scott, Sarah Watson, Gretchen Perks, Suzanne Edge, Jean Bell, Rory Sheldon, Ian Halliday, Roseanne Porter, David Packer, Aidan Bell, Chris Bell, Bob Naylor, Maggie, Sarah.

**Apologies:** John Farrington, Frazer Rennie.

**Minutes of last AGM:** Accepted.

**Chair's Report:** We are currently standing at 43 paid-up members. With regard to attendance rates, the most popular night was the Paradox assignment judging night and the least popular was the Photoshop technical night although there was some snow which may have contributed to poor attendance. The average attendance per evening is 18.

The fixed programme seems to work well with practicals, technicals, assignments and critiques.

There does seem to be a shortage of good speakers so this will need to be addressed for the coming season. John Rutherford was singled out for special mention as being a good judge – encouraging and good-humoured.

DCC will not be participating in NEOS this year but another exhibition outwith the NEOS period has been suggested.

Very pleased to say that Deeside won the Deeside/Donside competition again this year.

The Chair also gave thanks to David Hendry for all his work on the Club website and to Harry Scott for putting in so many hours and so much work for us all.

**Treasurer's Report:** Claire (ex-Treasurer) has kindly audited the books for us and everything balances now. The closing balance stands at £2,319.

We have now paid for our insurance as a Club and this will be due again in January 2014.

**Revised Fee Proposals** – we have been looking at the way/amount our fees are currently paid. At present we pay a one-off annual fee of £10 and £2.50 (for non-concessions) per evening attended. This results in our club being around twice as expensive as other similar camera clubs if one attends regularly. Collecting the fees weekly is time-consuming and also means that, in effect, regular attendees are subsidising others who cherry-pick when they want to attend. It was suggested that a higher one-off payment and no weekly fees may encourage people to attend more in order to get their money's worth because at the moment a regular attendee pays as much as £100 per year. Other camera clubs have an annual one-off payment of £50. This could be lowered to £20/year for concessions (students/unwaged/retired) There were various discussion about how much a concessionary member might pay ranging from £20 to £40 and, indeed, what might constitute a concessionary member. It was suggested that there should be one rate for all apart from students and the unwaged. This is something the new committee must decide upon. Some members felt that a one-off payment of £50 might be too much, so there was a suggestion of splitting it into two payments of £25 to give greater flexibility.

It was suggested that new members should still get a free first evening, thereafter paying £5 per evening for 5 evenings (£25) and then the remaining balance of £25 after Xmas, on a pro-rata basis.

**Elections:** Chair – David Hendry, proposed Marie, seconded Sarah.

Vice-Chair – Sarah Watson, proposed Gretchen, seconded Harry

Secretary – Lucy Telford, continuing in post

Treasurer – Geraldine McGowan, continuing in post (although Geraldine has had to pull out due to back problems so we are currently looking for a volunteer to take over)

Competitions Secretary – Suzanne Edge, proposed Marie, seconded Harry

Website Co-ordinator – Rory Sheldon, proposed Marie, seconded Ian  
Ordinary Members – Chris Bell, proposed Harry, seconded Ian  
David Packer, proposed Harry, seconded Geraldine  
Jean Bell, proposed Geraldine, seconded David

**Any Other Business:** Regardless of any new fee proposals put in place by the new committee, the signing in each evening will continue as this is necessary for health and safety reasons – knowing who is in the building in case of fire etc.

Practical nights seemed to be the most popular attendance-wise and the least popular were outings. Only 40% of members come more than 50% of the time which flagged up some interesting questions – for example, why have so many concessionary (older) members stopped attending? Social time during the evening is an important way to let members mix and chat and get to know one another. A 15 minute coffee break may not be long enough to make new members feel welcome. Would it be better to have the break at the end of the evening and for a longer duration? It was suggested that we could have an official meeter and greeter. Meeting in the foyer is also important so that new members don't feel awkward. An idea was proposed for a welcome pack for new members to include a survey so that the club can get valuable feedback and find out what people really want.

**Coffee Break:** Thanks to Marie Paterson for, once again, providing us all with lovely food and amazing cakes.

**Awards: The Royal Lochnagar Distillery Award.** Following a successful visit to the Royal Lochnagar Distillery (organised by Ian Halliday – thanks Ian!), all images made that evening were voted on by the distillery staff members and the Distiller's Choice were as follows:

In 3<sup>rd</sup> place: Ian Stutter  
In 2<sup>nd</sup> place: Harry Scott and Marie Paterson (joint)  
In 1<sup>st</sup> place: Bill Powrie.

Well done to all!

### **Photograph Of The Year.**

In 3<sup>rd</sup> place: Ian Halliday  
In 2<sup>nd</sup> place: Frazer Rennie  
In 1<sup>st</sup> place: Harry Scott

Congratulations all!

### **Photographer Of The Year (Novice Section)**

In 3<sup>rd</sup> place: Bob Naylor  
In 2<sup>nd</sup> place: Jean Bell  
In 1<sup>st</sup> place: Chris Bell

Congratulations all three!

### **Photographer Of The Year**

In 3<sup>rd</sup> place: John Farrington

In 2<sup>nd</sup> place: Geraldine McGowan  
In 1<sup>st</sup> place: Harry Scott

Well done everybody!

A big thank-you to everyone who has contributed over the last year and an especial thanks to Marie Paterson who has done such a great job as Chair over the last two years.

Lucy Telford  
Secretary  
July 2013