

Woodbridge Camera Club AGM

19 September 2023

Charman's Report

Tonight's big question, how is the Club doing?

The good news!

Well financially that comes next in the Treasurer's report, but I know we are OK.

Membership is steady at around 45 but we inevitably lose members throughout the year as well as accepting new ones. We have a number of 'sleepers' members who pay subs without attending due to illness, work or family commitments, they add to our income for which we are grateful and we will continue to encourage them to join in when they are able.

Meeting attendance has been a little lower this year as members make the most of normality since Covid.

We had 9 Club meetings here at the Quay, of which 5 were competitions, 2 were speakers, 2 were practical sessions.

We had 9 Zoom meetings with 1 speaker.

Our success rate for Outdoor Shoots this year was low. Planned 3. Run 2, neither of which had favourable weather conditions. We can only try again next year. And speaking of this I need some volunteers to organise them, I have difficulty in pre-visitng sites on my own. (Explain Orwell /Christ Church Park shoot, and unavailability of SG members to attend).

Attendance. Average meeting attendance was slightly lower than last year.

Average of 15 for meetings in the Hall. 33% of members

Average of 17 for Zoom meetings. 37% of members.

And now the bad news!

We have had no new volunteers to help run your club, we have 2 SG members not re-standing for next year .

This puts us in a precarious position for the next AGM when at least 4 SG members will step down, we need new SG members to gain experience in the key tasks before the next AGM. If we fail to recruit SG members then inevitably the club as we know it will fold.

Please don't think that because you pay your subs you are entitled to a service. We all pay our subs, they just cover expenses. This isn't my Club, it's Our Club. We all have a responsibility to contribute our time and support. Without more support from you and the others who are not here tonight the next AGM will be the last. Clubs up & down the country are folding through lack of club officers and volunteers. Locally we have lost Wickham Market and Framlingham as functioning EAF Clubs. Think long and hard on this. I find it very hard not to blame myself but clubs all over the country are struggling.

And finally. May I thank SG members on the Clubs behalf for your hard work and services over the past year, it is greatly appreciated.