



CHAIRMAN'S REPORT TO ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 15 September 2020

May I begin by thanking Sue for the Finance Report, and her work throughout the year keeping track of our funds.

I would also like to thank our Steering Group members for all their work over the past year. Doris and Kirsteen have stood down and I thank them for their hard work. We have 3 members who have volunteered to join the Steering Group and I look forward to working with them and the fresh ideas they will bring to our Steering Group meetings.

The Club year got off to a good start in October last year with a night shoot at Felixstowe Viewpoint. It was well supported and some great results were achieved.

November saw the Tripod Competition not quite so good for many reasons, coming second again being one of them (let's try harder this November).

Also, in November the Book Titles competition stimulated your imaginations and some great images were entered.

December's Christmas Social evening went well to finish off the year.

January we were entertained by Julian Claxton with his presentation "Give a child a camera" a fascinating project and the Club raised £139.67 + a big box of donated cameras etc. for his charity project.

February saw a great print competition 'Dusk till Dawn' we had lots of entries of high quality, and sadly this was our last physical meeting.

In March the presentation by Alan Sarsby was cancelled.

April and May were spent in 'Covid Limbo', realizing it was not going away soon we Zoomed ahead with virtual meetings. Water Reversal, Oil & Water, Garden Photography, the Exposure Triangle / Circle of confusion and the Abstract presentation by Joan & Barry was superb. It got many of us going on the image sharing site with our creations and we are improving with these meetings as we get better at planning and presenting in a virtual environment.

Judging our own competition images was quite successful but the next competition judged by Barbie Lindsey was brilliant, enjoyed by all who joined in (or watched afterwards) both entertaining and educational.

Our virtual exhibition was well supported with entries and has had 177 views on YouTube, this also raised the Club profile by getting us back into the free magazines again. Sadly, not as much fun as a weekend in the Longshed presenting prizes and enjoying wine & nibbles plus meeting lots of visitors.

What's next for Woodbridge Camera Club?

October brings us 2 meetings, first a Zoom tutorial on using layers in picture editing. The second is a presentation by local photographer Justin Minns. "Landscape Photography - A Learning Curve" not to be missed !!! We will be sharing this with our friends at Fram & Wickham and hope it's the way forward to get better speakers into the club program.

2nd November brings "The virtual Tripod Trophy".

17th November - Abstract Competition on Zoom Judged by Frank Blyth from Lowestoft PC.

In December we plan at least one Zoom meeting but unfortunately no Christmas Social event. (Unless it's online) This gives our new steering group time to work on the program for 2021.

A difficult year for the club? Yes

Are we still meeting, taking photographs and sharing? Yes

Support Club events and we will continue a full program of meetings, but these may not be back at the Quay Church for some time. The reality of legal compliance could be beyond our desire to meet and we will wait until legislation permits and members are confident to resume normal meetings.

This concludes my report for a very strange 2020.

Robin Garrod Chairman