



ST IVES

PHOTOGRAPHIC CLUB

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MINUTES OF 2024/25 AGM

Time and Date: 8.00 pm; 29th April 2025

Attendees:

Office and Committee Members:

Role	Name
President	Graham Shirra
Communications Officer/acting Vice President	Brian Sibley
Honorary Treasurer	Peter Wills
Honorary Secretary	Jennifer Horn
Programme Secretary/Membership Secretary	Nicky Cope
Equipment Officer	Jonathan Sayer

together with the following Club members:

Debbie Hall, Moira Shirra, Tom Lane, Ian Montgomery, Tony Cole, Sarah Bassett, Mark Hudson, Stu Hames, Josh Bird, Nigel Sandbrook, Steve Eeley, Kim Human, Marc Human, Gary Dean and Ivan Barrett

Apologies for absence were received from: Louisa Christie, Stan Mace and David King.

1 Minutes of last AGM of 23rd April 2024

Minutes produced by Steve Laws last year were formally approved by the members. Approval proposed by Tom Lane and seconded by Brian Sibley.

2 Matters Arising

No matters arising

3 President's Report

Graham presented his report. [See Appendix A.](#)

Gary Dean told us that Chris Coakley had been a very active member when he lived in St Ives. He had travelled the world and always had a good story. He didn't enter many competitions but always gave enthusiastic assistance to the club. In 2018 his health started to deteriorate and when he moved to Hilton to be near family was less active but remained a supporter.

4 Treasurer's Report

Peter presented his report. [See Appendix B.](#)

In view of the anticipated bank charges, Jonathan asked if we should consider moving the account away from Lloyds, and anyway the local branch has now closed. As most banks do make similar

charges, Peter suggested considering the Nationwide Building Society. This is something the new treasurer should investigate.

5 Competition Secretary's Report

As Louisa was unfortunately unable to attend the AGM, Nicky reported on her behalf.
[See Appendix C.](#)

There were no comments.

6 Election of Club Officers

As no members came forward to act as **Vice President** the position remains vacant.

The following were elected as club officers by a vast majority vote of those present:

Honorary Treasurer	Nigel Sandbrook
Programme Secretary	Nicky Cope
Internal Competitions Secretary	Louisa Christie
External Competitions Secretary	Gary Dean

The following Club Officers were elected at the AGM on 23rd April 2024 for the period stated in the Club Rules of 3 years:

President	Graham Shirra
Honorary Secretary	Jennifer Horn

7 Election of other Committee Members

The following Committee Members were elected by a vast majority vote of those present:

Communications Officer	Brian Sibley
Equipment Officer	Jonathan Sayer
Membership Secretary	Nicky Cope

Note that Nicky Cope has been covering the position of membership secretary and is willing to do part of the job in 2025/6 but only if the amount of work involved can be reduced as she is already busy acting as Programme Secretary and assisting with internal competitions.

The position of **Internal Competition Assistant** is currently vacant; both Nicky and Louisa feel that it would be good if more members could become familiar with the necessary software to run a competition so that there will always be someone available on the night if Louisa and Nicky are both unavailable, whether that person becomes a committee member or not.

8 Proposals

Proposal C.1 Membership Fees

Graham and Nigel discussed the rationale behind proposing that the standard membership fee remain at £60 but both the present treasurer, Peter, and the newly elected treasurer, Nigel, thought that, in view of this year's loss, an increase by a small amount to £65 would be better than making larger losses and having to make a much larger increase in subscription in a few years. A general discussion followed; Tom Lane was in favour of a rise rather than having to economise as we need to be able to afford good speakers to attract and retain members; Jonathan suggested increasing Interprint entry fees as an alternative/additional way to increase income.

The proposal that ordinary membership be increased by £5 to **£65** was put to a vote (proposed by Nigel, seconded by Tom) – this proposal was approved by the vast majority of those members present.

The proposal C.1.1 that e-membership be increased by £5 to **£15** was put to a vote - this proposal was approved by the vast majority of those members present.

Brian explained that the reason behind the proposal C.1.2 **that the name “student membership” be changed to “young persons’ membership” and the definition to “under 21”** was that we need to encourage new and younger members to join the club; this proposal was approved by the vast majority of those members present.

Proposal C.2 Competition scoring: the proposal that Rule 6 of the club competition rules remain as “All images, in all competitions, are marked out of 10 with half marks permitted” was approved by the vast majority of members present.

(Note that “all” means all internal competitions and does not include Interprint which is scored out of 20 as is common in the EAF region.)

9 AOB

9.1 Participation in print competitions –

Members were asked how to encourage more people to enter competitions. There was a general discussion in which Nigel suggested that we have active demonstrations on club evenings. It was important to reduce barriers to entry and give new members confidence to join in. Jonathan suggested the club purchase a quantity of standard sized mounts (with apertures suitable for prints produced on an A4 printer) and sell these on to members; this would save members cost due to quantity savings and make a small profit to add to club funds. Or possibly buy a printer but Gary said the club used to have a printer, but it was hardly ever used. Practical workshops might help. Steve Eeley offered to bring some paper he had found at home surplus to his needs. Gary said he is always prepared to help if asked. The suggestions will be considered by the committee.

9.2 Age of entries of photographs in internal competitions –

Sarah explained that she suggested photos should be no more than 2 year’s old to keep entries fresh however Graham replied that, although the club would always encourage people to submit reasonably recent work, any fixed period such as 2 years has disadvantages: when does it run from - date of competition, or start of season? from date image was taken, or from when image was processed in Photoshop (other software is available ...)? There's a school of thought which says that with advances in software, and increases in one's competence at using the software, it's worth going back to consider images taken some years ago and which you didn't consider worth doing anything with at that time. In the case of a composite image, such as Louisa does, presumably every element has to comply? What about Dave Jordan's talk about Venice, where he has a library of images taken in previous years simply to provide textures for future years? It is almost impossible to police - metadata can be manipulated, and in the case of composites is pretty meaningless anyway.

For such reasons, PAGB and EAF don't impose age limits on images

It was pointed out that an age limit of 5 years had been had been proposed a few years ago but was rejected by club members by a large majority.

10 Subjects for next year’s trophies

10.1 Presidents Trophy

Graham announced that next season’s subject is **Shadow(s)**.

10.2 Annual Competition Categories

Graham said that Louisa had chosen the following subjects for the annual competition: Creative, Landscape, Natural History, Architecture, Macro and Street Photography..

10.3 Members are especially encouraged to enter photographs taken during 2025 or 2026 for the President’s trophy and the annual competition although whether or not they do so will be taken on trust.

11 Thank you to Graham Shirra

Brian thanked Graham for his excellent work during his first year as president.

The meeting closed at 21.50

Jennifer Horn
Secretary St Ives Photographic Club
29th April 2025

Appendix A

SIPC PRESIDENT'S REPORT 2024/25 – 29th April 2025

1. Thank you to everyone for your support during my first year as President of the Club.
2. Strong points:
 - 2.1. Membership reasonably buoyant despite increase in subscriptions this season.
 - 2.2. Good support for competitions, particularly PDI, including from newer members. We'll discuss prints under AOB.
 - 2.3. Members chip in to help set up and clear away, both on Club nights and special events
 - 2.4. Annual Exhibition and Interprint were well-supported, comparable with last season, though there's always scope to try to do more.
 - 2.5. For the first time in several years, we submitted work to the EAF Exhibition (thanks to Steve Eeley for co-ordinating this). 4 members had images accepted, congratulations to Nicky on achieving a HC
 - 2.6. At the EAF Print Championship, Tom Lane got the award for "Best Print".
3. However:
 - 3.1. Despite those 2 individual successes, we haven't done very well in external competitions – we don't seem to have the "strength in depth" of some other clubs. But ... merely taking part sends a message to speakers and judges that we are one of the more active clubs in the region.
 - 3.2. Some Committee members are still multi-tasking – more support is always welcome.
4. Appropriate to reflect on 2 people who passed away during the year:
 - 4.1. As mentioned at Interprint, Mark Pink died on 10th November 2024. He moved away from the area a good few years ago, but he was one of the creators of the very first Interprint in 1983, and donated the trophy which bears his name; he also donated the Cup which is awarded each season to the most outstanding new member.
 - 4.2. Chris Coakley died on 21st February this year. Not so active in recent years, but remained an e-member. Gary Dean will say a few words.

Graham Shirra

Appendix B

Treasurer's report from 1/4/24 to 31/3/25

Major Expenditure:

Rent: £927.00

Speakers and Judges: £817.35

External competition and Exhibition: £470

Major Income:

Subscriptions: £2397.00 an increase from £2003.00 last year.

Interest on savings account: £424.93

Interprint: £239.82

We have gained and lost a few members and current numbers are 53 Members including 10 e members and one student.

The bank has started charging us £4.25 a month = £51.00 a year, and it now costs us to pay cash into the bank so these will be an extra cost in the coming year. We made a loss of £350.80 and I am suggesting the subs be increased to £65.00 and the e members to £20.00

Bearing in mind we have a summer program so something most weeks throughout the year this is still very good value. I look forward to seeing you all over the summer.

Peter Wills.

St. Ives Photographic Club Account Summary 2024/2025

Code	Income Description	2023/2024	2024/2025
101	Subscriptions	2003.00	2397.00
102	Visitor Fees	52.00	43.00
103	Refreshments	5.00	0.00
104	Raffles	86.00	0.00
105	Donations	33.00	1.96
106	Exhibitions	0.00	263.34
107	Club Equipment Hire	195.00	75.00
108	Annual Dinner	509.00	406.00
110	Interest from Savings Account	337.64	424.93
111	Miscellaneous	0.00	0.00
112	Unpresented Cheques	0.00	0.00
113	Awards for All Grant	0.00	0.00
114	Tookeys Prints	0.00	42.50
116	Summer Outings	0.00	0.00
117	Members Print Orders	0.00	0.00
	Interprint Surplus	303.26	239.82
	Total Income	3523.90	3893.55
Code	Expenditure Description		
201	Premises Rent	1030.40	927.00
202	Speakers and Judges	573.00	817.35
203	Refreshments	18.40	0.00
204	Raffles	0.00	0.00
205	Trophies	283.30	318.00
206	External Competition/Exhibition	583.13	470.00
207	Club Equipment Maintenance	0.00	0.00
208	Annual Dinner	492.00	528.00
209	Equipment Purchases	0.00	309.36
210	Post and Stationery	38.80	7.49
211	Miscellaneous	63.12	26.21
212	EAF and Insurance	235.50	260.66
213	Social Events	0.00	137.00
214	Tookeys Prints	26.53	0.00
215	Internet, Zoom, Mailchimp	494.11	695.22
216	Summer Outings	0.00	0.00
217	Members Print Orders	0.00	0.00
	Total Expenditure	3838.29	4496.29
	Income Over Expenditure	-314.39	-602.74

St. Ives Photographic Club Balance Sheet 2024/2025

2023/2024		2024/2025
1477.27	Cash in current account	635.97
0.00	Cash in deposit account	401.65
14175.93	Cash in Cambridge Building Society	14600.86
365.54	Cash in hand	29.46
0.00	Provision for outstanding debtors	0.00
0.00	Less cheques unrepresented	
16018.74	TOTAL CLUB ASSETS	15667.94
	PROFIT/(LOSS) FOR YEAR	-350.80

Appendix C

Competition Secretary's Report 2024/2025

Internal Competitions

I have prepared this report on Louisa's behalf. She sends her apologies for not being here today, but her husband is very unwell at the moment, and he is obviously her first priority.

I am sure Louisa would want me to thank everyone who has helped her with competitions this year. Jonathan for his amazing technical support in a year when the computer and screen had a bit of a falling out! Jennifer for being our print handler, and Angela and Debbie for recording scores. The process only works with team help and so thank you to everyone who has helped.

Entries were down from last year, with some competitions such as the President's and the George Dellar being particularly poorly supported. Entries in the monthly competitions were down from last year, but it was very encouraging to see a number of new members submitting images. I would like to encourage everyone to have a go next season – it is a great stage for your work, and a good way of receiving feedback. And you do have to be in it to win it!

For the first time this year, we trialled a scoring system out of 10, with half marks allowed. I feel that this was a big success and really helped to spread out the score board, albeit that the top of the Monthly DPI was so tight that we actually had a tie for the first time ever!

The Monthly DPI competition was won by Gary Dean and Nicky Cope with a score of 109.5 points. Second was Louisa Christie with 108 and third Steve Eeley with 94.

The Monthly Print competition was won by Tom Lane on 110.5 points, with Louisa Christie second on 109.5. In third place was Gary Dean on 103.5.

The Quartet DPI competition was won by Louisa Christie, with second place going to Graham Shirra, Sarah Bassett, Nicky Cope, Gary Dean, Paul Hodson and Jennifer Horn. Third place went to Angela Lucas and Nigel Sandbrook.

The Quartet Print competition was won by Louisa Christie with Nicky Cope in second place and Gary Dean in third.

The George Dellar Trophy was won by Nicky Cope, with Louisa Christie in second place and Brian Sibley and Steve Eeley in joint third.

The President's Challenge was won by Louisa Christie with Nicky Cope and Steve Eeley in second place and Brian Sibley in third.

The Annual DPI Competition was jointly won by Nicky Cope and Stephen Attwood both on 37 points, with Gary Dean, Louisa Christie and Debbie Hall in second place on 36 points. Stan Mace and Steve Eeley came joint third with 35.5.

The Annual Best DPI image was won by Debbie Hall.

The Annual Print Competition was won by Gary Dean on 38 points with Tom Lane in second place on 37.5 and Louisa Christie in third on 35.5. The Annual best print image was won by Louisa Christie.

On the same evening we held the Monochrome Trophy and this was won by Tom Lane.

Congratulations to all the winners!

None of this would be possible without the entries from members, and the judges who give up their time and often travel some distance to be with us.

Nicky Cope on Behalf of Louisa Christie

April 2025