Minutes of Annual General Meeting held at the Acklam Green Centre

Tuesday 25th May 2023

Committee members in attendance: Francis Annett, Irene Berry, John Dilworth, Stephen Harrison, Brian Jobson, Kathleen Jobson, Hugh Melvin, Lyn Newton, Richard Price

In addition to the committee, 24 members were in attendance. In total 33 members signed the attendees register.

2 members attended via Zoom

1. Approval of minutes of last AGM

Members formally approved the minutes of the last AGM held on 31/05/22 which had been previously circulated. There were no matters arising.

2. Chair Person's Report

John Dilworth delivered his Chair's Report, reviewing the changing scene as more members chose to return to physical meetings. He highlighted too the flexibility and accessibility Zoom gave members, adding that this would continue to be an integral part of what Gallery are able to offer.

John thanked members of the committee for their important work, and also members who had generously given up their time and shared their expertise with us all. He encouraged all of our members next season, to use the different avenues such as competitions and members' showcases to share their work, even if they have never done so before.

Chair's Report circulated with the Minutes

3. Treasurer's Report

Stephen Harrison presented the financial statement for the 2022-23 season which was circulated to members prior to the meeting.

He reported that there was an income of £3615.23 and expenditure of £3826.81 giving an overall loss over the year of £211.58. The end of year balance is £3878.91. The loss was due to increased bookings for physical meetings.

The club currently has 58 members.

Stephen also gave special thanks to Bill and Ann for letting members celebrate their 65th wedding anniversary with them. £216 was raised on the evening for the Parkinson's UK charity.

Stephen confirmed that the accounts had been verified by Keith Collins.

Points raised:

Bob Irvine queried why, in 2019-20, a deficit figure of £1425.60 appeared in the Tea accounting line. As this was before Stephen's time as Treasurer, he was unable to answer but said he would investigate further.

Finance Report circulated with the Minutes

4. Membership Fees for 2022/23

Stephen proposed that as we were now returning to a fuller physical programme of meetings, there be an increase in membership fees from £40 back to the pre-Covid fee of £45.

In a show of hands members unanimously voted for a £45 membership fee for the 2023-2024 season.

5. Internal Competition Secretary's Report

John Dilworth reported that the club had returned to normal with both prints and pdis now being accepted.

The number of members entering competitions, including some new authors, remained exactly the same as last year. 41 members (70%) entered at least one competition and 28 members (32%) entered on three or more occasions.

John confirmed that at the request of members, a second open competition will remain in the programme this year together with a mix of staples including portraits, nature and 'scapes along with two new topics and showcases to stretch members' imagination and creativity.

He also confirmed that the club would return to PDI image sizing of 1600x1200 pixels for landscape images, 1200 pixels high for portraits and 1200x1200 for square format images.

Internal Secretary's Report circulated with the Minutes

6. External Competition Secretary's Report

Richard Price reported that the 2022-23 external competition season had begun with Gallery hosting the NYSDPA Inter-club competition in November 2022. He thanked Francis Annett and all the team for the hard work they put in to ensure the event was a success.

Richard outlined the other two external competitions Gallery had entered – the NCPF Inter Club Competition and the NCPF Annuals Competition which had recently taken place.

He thanked Gallery members who had entered into the spirit of photographic competitions and submitted entries, the feedback from judges being very useful in helping members to improve their photography . He encouraged all members of Gallery to think about entering next season. Richard also thanked the members who help select competition entries.

Finally, Richard congratulated member John Devlin who won a Gold Medal in the PAGB Inter-Federation competition in 2022 for his Mono Print "Last of the Dinosaurs".

External Secretary's Report circulated with the Minutes

7. Data Protection Policy Report

Francis Annett reported that there had been no reports of any breaches or matters of concern regarding Data Protection, and that the members' data base was only accessed by a small number of Gallery officers to ensure confidentiality.

8. Review of Programme 2022-23 Season

Irene Berry reported that the hybrid system of physical meetings and Zoom offered us opportunities to work with other clubs to share costs and to secure good speakers. It also enabled us to save the cost of room hire on Zoom evenings which helped to keep our costs reasonable. She reported that this system would continue next year. This year had seen members enjoy eight good presenters and interclub exchanges with

Hartlepool and Whitley Bay.
Irene thanked a number of Gallery members who had shared their work over the year

and also Graeme Clarke and David Gray for organising the Knockout evening and Dennis Weller and Mike Kipling for the Bingo evening.

9. Election of Officers:

The following officers and members were elected to the committee:

Chair - John Dilworth Proposed - Graeme Clarke Seconded - John Devlin Vice Chair - Irene Berry Proposed - Jo Stevens Seconded - Sue Devlin Proposed - Dennis Weller Seconded C Alexander Jones Secretary - Lyn Newton Proposed - Irene Berry Seconded Olivia Costello

10. Election of Committee:

Francis Annett Brian Jobson Kathleen Jobson Hugh Melvin Richard Price

Proposed - Mike Berry Seconded – Mike Kipling

11. Programme for 2023-24 Season:

Irene Berry reported that the 34 week season would continue to offer a hybrid programme with physical meetings at Acklam Green, together with 7 speakers shared via Zoom with Halifax, and 3 solely booked for Gallery.

She reported that she had booked 7 judges, all of whom would come to the Acklam Green Centre to judge.

There were also planned presentations by members and interclub evenings with Hartlepool and Halifax.

She was pleased to announce that it was a varied and interesting programme.

12. Competitions and Showcase evenings for 2023-24 Season:

John Dilworth outlined in brief the programme for next year which will include the following competitions:

- 2 Open
- 1 Portrait
- 1 Natural World
- 1 Scapes
- 1 Thank you for the Music
- 1 Beauty of Buildings

Points Arising:

Keith Collins asked when members would receive this information. LN said she would send it out shortly together with the external competition dates so members could use the summer recess to collect images.

13. Summer Programme Outline:

Richard Price told members that the first of the Summer Outings had already happened, with 10 members visiting Beamish on Sunday 21st May enjoying an excellent day. The organisation for the Manchester trip for the 11 members who have opted to go, is well under way with hotel accommodation and train tickets booked.

Also at the planning stage are trips to the Yorkshire Sculpture Park where members from Halifax might join us, the Edinburgh Fringe, Whitby, Staithes, and the North Yorkshire Railway.

More information will come out shortly and will be put on the website.

As there was no other business the meeting was declared closed at 8.30 pm.

Please note that the Minutes and all reports will be available on the website in the Members' area.

AGM report

I'm just back from a holiday in Turkey. Lovely country, by the way, lovely people and where you can strut around like a Ralph Lauren model if you wish (or if you prefer Gucci, Calvin Klein, Versace, etc.) for about £20.

I'll try not to keep you long.

I've been a Gallery member for about five years now so to find myself a Chair was something unexpected. I have become the "new arrangements" Francis referred to last year and I'm rather proud of that.

However, this role is mostly on the administrative end of our activities. I'm very grateful, therefore, to Francis Annett and Mike Berry for being available to do the "stand up" at the beginning of our weekly Club nights.

The biggest change this past year is the move from the Trinity Centre to the Acklam Green Centre. Things changed during the pandemic. We are now where we are.

In this post-Covid period, members are beginning to return in numbers to our club nights. It's not been a straightforward transition, but I think we've gradually refined our approach and are achieving the right sort of balance.

It's just a shame that designers of conference room seating at any venue you care to name don't bother to start from the premise of comfort in their creations - presumably that's because they'll never, like us, have to use them!

Who here will forget Ann and Bill's 65th birthday bash? There's another immense celebration coming up, we wish them well and look forward to celebrating with them again.

Zoom is here to stay, of course, and it does allow a dozen or so members who would otherwise be unable to join our club and also, from time to time, if your other commitments prevent you attending in person. The wider access to speakers is a bonus too.

I'm grateful to Paul Newton for his advice and expertise in gradually improving our IT and sorting out wrinkles to provide an efficient and effective Zoom experience.

It goes without saying that a full, interesting, balanced, and inspiring programme is at the heart of our 34-week season. Irene Berry puts that together; finds the judges for our competitions and liaises with the other clubs we collaborate with.

I hope you've enjoyed our growing collaborations. The reciprocal visits have become an interesting and important part of our programme and I look forward to that continuing.

Irene is standing down in that role after next year (she has, as you would imagine,

already got 23/24 pretty much sorted out) but is staying on as Vice Chair. That's great for me, the club, and the support she will give to the incoming programme organiser(s).

I want to thank you, Irene, on my behalf for your support and encouragement but mainly on behalf of the whole of Gallery Photogroup for the conscientious effort and enthusiasm you have put into your role and your valuable time in doing so.

Stephen Harrison has the books - and a very good job he does too. You could say he really excels at it. Or perhaps not. Thank you, Stephen.

Our other committee members Kath, Brian, Hugh, and Richard (who also took on the external competitions remit with Francis and puts together the summer programme) provide valuable support and let's not forget, help to organise things, and to bring a collective experience and memory of all things Gallery Photogroup when collective decisions are called for.

It's easy for us all (often themselves included) to under-appreciate the help and support they give. A heartfelt thank you to them all. They're also very accomplished photographers by the way.

I've also learned this past year that there are quite a few members - some long term, others not - who contribute presentations, their expertise, and make their time, knowledge, and encouragement freely available to improve all of our photography. They also give subtle guidance and put forward ideas. We are a fraternity, after all.

I'm sure you know who I'm talking about so on everyone's behalf. Thank you.

The centre of gravity for all things Gallery Photogroup, though, is Lyn Newton. I think you already know where I could go with this but just let me say, you can run an organisation without a boss, but you can't run it without a secretary - and in our case in Lyn's safe pair of hands. Thank you.

Finally, with slight trepidation that I've not covered everything I need too, I hope you find being part of Gallery Photogroup is good value and of interest as well as inspiring your photography to new levels.

It's an enormous pleasure and an honour to be involved as Chair and I'm grateful for the opportunities you have given to me.

Referring back to my trip to Turkey, I met the Chair of the Marmaris Camera Club. Theirs is of a similar scale to us and does much the same things. It reminded me that there are a lot of us (togs) about, all over.

I'm also reminded of the importance of photography in a dangerous and changing

world but also one full of marvel and bursting with beauty. We have the opportunity to tell our stories, capturing and sharing our social and natural history and as an outlet for our creativity and artistry.

There's room for plenty more of that, so please think about it for next season.

There's a lot of scope in the programme to show your work in showcases, challenges, from outings and in competitions as well as on our social media.

So, if you've been holding yourself back a bit, next season might be the time to show us all the talents you have, with your camera of choice and in the style of your choosing.

I'm looking forward to it.

John Dilworth

Chair 2922/23

Gallery Photogroup Financial Report - June 1st 2022 to May 31st 2023

Overall

We had an overall income of £3615.23 and overall expenditure of £3826.81 giving an overall loss of £211.58.

We started the year with a balance of £4090.49, which, when taking off the £211.58 loss, gives an end balance of £3878.91

Membership Income £2170

6 Members didn't renew their subscription, we attracted 5 new members giving a total membership of 58 members of which 1 is a life member.

Weekly meetings

The Gallery is making a good recovery from covid and is now meeting most evenings in person and using zoom. So we now have room hire costs, but on the plus, we are getting an income from both tea money and the "bonus ball"

Room Hire was £1227.46 for 26 evenings plus 1 meeting room.

Income from the Bonus Ball was £345.81, paid out in prize money £161. Giving us a £184.81 profit.

Income from the tea money was £110.20 and we spent £25.84 on refreshments. Giving us a £84.36 profit.

Speakers costs £285

We managed to keep speaker cost low by sharing some speakers with Halifax.

Competition costs £242.08

Made up of £205 Judging fees and £37.08 courier fees.

Charity £216

Special thanks go to Bill and Ann for letting us celebrate their 65th wedding anniversary with them. We raised £216 for the Parkinson's UK charity.

Miscellaneous

Items for this are made up from the NYSDPA competition and lecture.

Gallery Photogroup Financial Report - June 1st 2022 to May 31st 2023

	Income	Expend	net 22-23	net 21-22	net 20-21	net 19-20	net 18-19	net 17-18
Membership subscriptions	2170.00		2170.00	1905.00	1875.00	2530.00	2202.50	2250.00
Weekly Draw	345.81	161.00	184.81			337.00	306.20	342.00
Stationery				-8.84				
Tea Money	110.20	25.84	84.36	-8.70		-1425.60	-1649.20	-1450.10
Donation					72.00		60.00	
Charity	216.00	216.00	0.00		-145.00	-46.00	-35.80	-17.00
Room Hire		1227.46	-1227.46	-340.50		-323.00	-595.17	-410.00
Speakers		285.00	-285.00	-390.00	-475.00			
Judges/Competition Fees		242.08	-242.08	-85.00	-40.00	-245.35	-174.13	-58.51
Insurance (equip PAGB, PLI NCPF)		3.00	-3.00	-229.64	-210.04	-61.00	-156.00	-205.67
Fees; PAGB, NCPF, NYSD.		188.50	-188.50	-123.00	-60.00	235.93	-121.48	-154.66
Programme printing (misc)						-50.00	-64.00	-139.00
Web Site, Software		203.87	-203.87	-143.88	-143.88		-36.93	-67.14
Expenses		8.50	-8.50	-15.00				
Equipment (incl repair)		132.66	-132.66			-15.00		-53.39
Christmas event							-46.00	78.00
Presentation Evening, Trophies		20.00	-20.00	-24.00	-12.00		-145.00	-191.00
Exhibition				-28.46		-53.41	-27.10	-210.83
Admin							-25.20	-7.22
Misc	761.22	761.22	0.00	-95.58		-50.90	154.10	-55.00
Catering for events		232.00	-232.00					
Bank								
Provision/Accruals	12.00	119.68	-107.68	-145.00				
Totals	3615.23	3826.81	-211.58	267.40	861.08	832.67	-353,21	-349.52
Cash Flow from operations 2022/2023			-211.58					

ACCOUNT RECONCILIATION

	Total	4090.49
	Cash	55.35
opening balance	Bank a/c	4035.14

Cash Flow from operations 2022/2023

	Cash	335.84
closing balance	Bank a/c	3543.07

Statement of Assets	22/23	21/22	20/21	19/20	18/19	17/18
Current	3650.75	4180.14	3532.06	2623.98	1773.46	1701.14
Uncleared(+)/ Unpresented(-)	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	-150.00	0.00
Cash	335.84	55.35	11.35	58.35	76.30	86.46
Provision(-) / Accruals(+)	-107.68	-145.00	0.00	0.00	-171.00	-188.10
Total	3878.91	4090.49	3543.41	2682.33	1528.76	1599.50
Equipment	800.00	800.00	900.00	950.00	1107.00	1820.00
Trophies (3 glass)						
Stock at resale value						
Total	4678.91	4890.49	4443.41	3632.33	2635.76	3419.50

Treasurer: S Harrison Verifier: Keith Collins

Report of the Internal Competitions Secretary for year 2022-23

Once again, here's a summary of the competition season September 2022 - May 2023.

I think we can say we have returned to something like a 'normal' programme, with both prints and DPI's following the pandemic.

The number of members entering competitions, including some new authors, remained exactly the same as last year. 41 members (70%) entered at least one competition and slightly less 28 (32) entered on three or more occasions.

In total there were 222 (178) entries in our seven competitions with 435 (343) images submitted. That's a consistently high level of entries and, even with prints included, it compares well with last season with a solid core of members submitting their work.

A more complete summary follows on page 2.

It's still my great pleasure being able to see all the images submitted and I think you will agree the overall standard has been excellent once again. Our judges might (or might not) always be right but well done everyone and hopefully you find their feedback constructive, helpful and inspiring.

At the request of members, we introduced a second "Open" competition and that will remain in the programme this year. We retain a mix of staples (such as the Open 1 and 2, Portraits, Nature and 'Scapes) along with two new topics and "showcases" to stretch your imagination and creativity.

We also returned to returned to PDI image sizing of 1600x1200 pixels Landscape, 1200 pixels high Portrait and 1200x1200 pixels in the square format.

Thank you to all our members for your efforts to get your entries to me in a timely fashion and also correctly formatted and sized. It helps a lot and means our judges have both PDI's and prints within two to three days of the closing dates.

Again, I really hope the "Members' Showcases" will be as popular and as attractive next season as they appear to have been this. They increase the number and scope of images we share and are an opportunity for those who don't want to enter competitions. They also add a wider range of themes to expand and stretch the boundaries of (y)our photography.

Recipients of the 'Image of the Year' and 'Photographer of the Year' will be revealed at the AGM. IOTY is judged by members and POTY determined by points accumulated from competition placings and commended images.

Being Competitions Secretary is always interesting and rewarding. I'm once again looking forward to the new season and a fresh set of your images.

Good luck and good health for the new season.

John Dilworth Internal Competitions Secretary May 2023

Gallery Photogroup – Internal Competitions Summary 2022-2023

Open Competition #1 27 th October 2022						
Prints	20	Entries	13 Members	Winner	Bob McAvoy	Old Sea Dog
PDI	48	Entries	29 Members	Winner	Irene Berry	End of Days
The People You Meet						
25 th October 2022						
Prints	12	Entries	8 Members	Winner	John Dilworth	Long Covid Stare
PDI	33	Entries	19 Members	Winner	John Dilworth	Living Legend
Black & White/Mono						
22 nd November 2022						
Prints	21	Entries	11 Members	Winner	Keith Collins	Black &White Stripes
PDI	48	Entries	29 Members	Winner	Dennis Weller	Next One is Mine
Studies in Still Life						
8th February 2022						
Prints	0					
PDI	53	Entries	19 Members	Winner	Lyn Newton	Please Don't Drink
Open Competition #2						
8th March 2021						
Prints	19	Entries	10 Members	Winner	Chris Hawking	Heather Burning Sunset
PDI	44	Entries	26 Members	Winner	Lyn Newton	On the Shoulder of Giants
"Scapes" Competition 28 th February						
Prints	12	Entries	7 Members	Winner	Kath Jobson	City Reflection
PDI	41	Entries	24 Members	Winner	Lyn Newton	In the Deep Dark Woods
World of Nature & Wildlife 28 th March 2022						
Prints	0					
PDI	84	Entries	29 Members	Winner	Mike Kipling	Scottish Red Stag Deer
(2022/23 summary based on 7 G	Competitio	ons)				(2020-21)
Total Number of Total Number of Number of men Number of men	of PDIs ent	ered have en				84 (0) 351 (343) 47 (0) 175 (178)

Appendix 1 - Proposed Gallery internal competition themes 23-24 season

Dates 2022/23	Criteria
10/10/23	As always, just what it says on the tin!
OPEN 1	
07/11/23	A living human subject (not animals or pets), Subject or group of
People Portraits	subjects must be prominent in the frame. Character studies posed,
	candid or composite that tell his, her or their stories; families formal
	and informal and also environmental portraiture indoor or outdoor
	integrating the subject(s) with their activity, situation or location.
05/12/22	Images that interpret the topic, subject(s) or theme of 'music'.
Thank you for the Music	Instruments, performance, events, song titles, album covers, in
	culture, etc. literal, creative, or abstract that capture a moment, a
	mood or feeling. The Baton is yours
23/01/24	Show us what pleases you about buildings, construction, details,
The Beauty of Buildings	style, dereliction, demolition, lines, patterns or the fall of light on
	structures in cityscapes in any architectural form or setting. People
	can feature in the scene but not as main focus.
20/02/24	Again, as we say, "just what it says on the tin"
OPEN 2	
12/03/24	Landscapes, seascapes, waterscapes, city/streetscapes, skyscapes,
'Scapes	day or night all where people do not dominate.
23/04/24	Bugs, Birds, Beasts, Broods, Behaviour, Flora and Fauna (big or
The Natural World	small), Weather and Sky. Naturally occurring subjects to
	predominate, (No pet portraits and not made or caused by people)
	and including landforms, and celestial bodies.

This gives the broad scope and meaning of these themes in the programme, although an enquiring photographer may find other, broader, definitions

MEMBER'S SHOWCASE EVENINGS

Informal Club evenings where all members are welcome to share their images.

DATE	TOPIC
3/10/23	Summer Programme – an opportunity to show our images from the various outings
14/11/23	Mono Evening: Mono/B&W in all genres
16/01/24	Images of your Year – show us (up to 12) of your favourite images of the past year
24/04/24	Let's Get Creative: Shoot from your boots, look up high, get close, kneel, pan, tilt, zoom, twist,
	ICM, Bokeh, multiple exposures, still life, fine art, pin hole, panels, composites, light painting
	The only limit is your imagination
	Note: 12/03/24 It's a Knockout

External Competitions Report 2022 – 23

The External Competitions for 2022 – 23 kicked off with The Gallery P.G. hosting the North Yorkshire & South Durham Photographic Association (NYSDPA) Inter-club competition in November 2022. This, of course, entailed a lot of organising and I thank Francis Annett and all the team for the hard work they put in to ensure the event was a success. I contacted Stephen Fowler from the NCPF to see if he could suggest a couple of judges for us and he replied that he would like to come and carry out the judging of the Prints section himself and he would present his results live on the night. Diane Seddon agreed to judge the PDI sections and would also be live on the night via Zoom. The evening went well although there was a hitch in connecting with Diane's Zoom link.

Wensleydale came 1st overall, much to the delight of the contingent from the Dale, Northallerton were 2nd, Richmond 3rd and Gallery 4th with Steve Owens gaining a Highly Commended for his Bluebell Print in the Individual section. Nine clubs within the NYSDPA entered the competition.

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The Northern Counties Photographic Federation (NCPF) Inter-club competition was held in February 2023 with Gallery coming 8th in the Prints section and joint 2nd with Alnwick in the PDI section. Tynemouth P.S won the Prints section and Northallerton the PDI section. 22 clubs entered this competition.

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The final external competition of the season was the NCPF Annuals, held in April and Gallery members watched the results last week. Our Group entered a total of 77 images into the competition – 19 Mono Prints, 28 Colour Prints and 30 PDIs.

In the Inter-club section: -

Colour Prints winner was Morton P.S. with Gallery 14th out of 21 clubs entered. Gallery had 2 Highly Commended entries from John Birch (Mountain Hare) and Irene Berry (Arizona)

Mono Prints winner was Keswick P.S with Gallery 7th out of 22 clubs. Gallery had 4 H.Cs in this section from Irene Berry, Lyn Newton, Mike Berry, and John Devlin.

PDI winner was Keswick P.S with Gallery 20th out of 28 clubs. Gallery had 3 Highly Commended in this section from Irene Berry (x2) and Mike Berry.

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In the Individual section: -

Mono Prints - Gallery also had Highly Commended entries from John Devlin (x2) and Lyn Newton

PDIs – Gallery had H.Cs from Colin Hugill and Ian McDiarmid.

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I thank all from The Gallery P.G., who have entered into the spirit of photographic competitions and submitted entries. The feed back from judges is very useful in helping us to improve our photography and I encourage all members of Gallery to think about entering next season.

I also thank all the folk who help select our competition entries – not an easy task when you don't know which way the judges are going to jump!

Finally, Congratulations to John Devlin from Gallery P.G. who won a Gold Medal in the PAGB (Photographic Alliance G.B.) Inter-Federation competition in 2022 for his Mono Print "Last of the Dinosaurs" – very well done John!

Richard Price

Gallery P.G. External Comp. Sec.

19th May 2023