

Monmouth Photographic Club  
Annual General Meeting 2024 – 25 Season

Held at 19:30 hrs on Friday 16<sup>th</sup> May 2024 in Mitchel Troy Village Hall

Present

Sue Carter

Brian Challis

Janet Cox

John Crowland

Mike Gwilliam

Fintan Healy

Helen Lord

Steve Lord

Iain McCallum

Chris Morris

Terry Rees-Pedlar

Huw Roberts

Mike Roberts

Apologies

Elisa Best

Adrian Butcher

Victoria El Bay

Wendy Conway

Kim Denyer

Peter Farrar

Pat Hopkins

Keith Sharples

Lyn Sharples

Terry Wall

Arthur Winch

Nigel Winters

Lin Wyles

Peter Wyles

## Committee Reports

[Chairman's Report](#) – See Annex A

[Treasurers Report](#) – See Annexes B and C.

Membership for the season was 36 providing an income of £2775 to the club.

The cost of refreshments was noted as being very low; lower than last year. This can only be accounted by members providing food and milk not invoicing the club.

It was suggested that we start ring fencing a fund for the future procurement of a new projector. Whilst we have potential options such as the Village Hall projector, it doesn't provide the quality of display. John Crowland has indicated that he has a projector which could be used as an interim solution if the club projector failed. Further discussion on the projector to be made in committee.

Note the cost of a new projector is in the order of £5000.

[Competition Report](#) – See Annex D

The question of whether entries for DPI competitions be reduced in the event of a large number of entries has been discussed in Committee, and will be reviewed next season. The workload of the Competition Secretary can be high and consideration needs to be given on splitting between Internal and External may need review. Noted that the Five Print Challenge was very difficult.

The winners of the trophies for this year are:-

**Photographer of the Year** – **Terry Wall** who scored 97 points of a possible 100.

**John Crowland** and **Lyn Sharples** tied for 2<sup>nd</sup> place with 96 points each.

**Iain McCallum** was 4<sup>th</sup> with 91 points.

**The Mono Trophy** – awarded to the highest scoring Mono Print in the Annual Open Competition (trophy kindly donated by Brian Challis) – **Peter Wyles**.

<b>The Five Print Challenge</b>	1 <sup>st</sup> – <b>Lin Wyles</b> (98 points)
	2 <sup>nd</sup> – <b>Peter Wyles</b> (97 points)
	3 <sup>rd</sup> – <b>Jeanette Hill</b> (96 points)

Monmouth hosted the WPF Memorial Day in January at Bridges. A very successful day with a large number of affiliated clubs attending culminated in Monmouth winning the Gwynn Morgan Trophy.

[Programme Report](#) – See Annex E

The last years programme was successful, with a wide variety of internal and external speakers, both live and via Zoom. Use of Zoom enables presenters from further away to give presentations to the club without the high cost of expenses.

As part of the Treasurers Report, Sue Carter asked if there was a budget limit on the cost of speakers and how much they charged. Without Adrian being present it was difficult to provide firm answers, but it's believed he does have a budget and the costs of each speaker are assessed before booking. It was noted that there is a need to provide good speakers for meetings, and the better ones will inevitably have a cost. Without such speakers to provide a variety of interest and inspiration the club would not learn and eventually suffer. It's recognised that with the wide variety of interests of club members, speakers would not necessarily provide interest to everyone.

Whilst it would be good to have local clubs more involved, it has been tried and found difficult in practice.

It was suggested that Adrian provide a cost estimate for speakers in 2025 – 26.

It was also suggested that members need to provide Adrian with improved feedback on speakers.

Note that an important date for the club is Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> September when we will be visiting Gwynfa club, in response to their visit with 'The Gwynfa Roadshow' in February.

Fintan thanked Adrian for a very good programme for the year.

## Proposals

### Membership Fees

Proposed to maintain the current fees for the 2025-26 season.

Agreed

### Competitions

A proposal to make all competitions 'Open' and DPI was made by Elisa.

An additional proposal by John Crowland that an 'Only Mono' competition for the Brian Challis Trophy be introduced as an additional to the existing 5 internal competitions.

These gave rise to discussions with a wide variety of views. Within the limited number of members present, Janet Cox suggested that this needs wider discussion.

As the 2025 – 26 competition programme is already in place, there will be no change for this coming season.

These are:-

- Themed DPI- Intentional Camera Movement
- Open DPI
- Themed Print – Architecture
- Open Print
- Annual Open Print

The Competition Secretary to look at the potential for change for the 2026 – 27 season, and investigate options for voting for themes by the club membership. This was accepted on vote as a way forward.

Agreed

### Committee

John Crowland proposed that the size of the Committee needs reviewing (but see Voting for Club Officers section below). Following discussion no vote was taken.

### Five Print Challenge Rules Change

The change is to require images to be labelled with both the Category in which it is being entered, and with the title of the image.

This was voted and agreed unanimously.

Agreed

### Overseas Membership

The proposal for a new Club Membership introducing an Overseas Membership with a reduced subscription fee was discussed. Feedback from Nigel Welch who lives in France was positive being a good way to keep in touch and enable membership of a UK club.

An Overseas Member would be defined as 'A member permanently resident outside of Great Britain, who could not regularly attend live meetings because of the significant costs and inconvenience of doing so.' Overseas members would have access to Zoom Meetings and could partake in competitions. Should they be in Great Britain and wish to attend a live meeting they would incur the £3 attendance fee. A subscription for Overseas Members will be £25 / year reviewed with club Fees on an annual basis.

This was voted and agreed unanimously.

Agreed

### MPC to run an Area Competition

This was proposed by John Crowland as there is a gap in the WPF programme next year, for a competition involving local area clubs.

Through Bridges Centre the likely costs are:

Hire of the Agincourt Hall community rates.	£22 per hour x 8 hours	= £176
Tea Urn including cups and saucers.	£6	= £ 6
Trophies 5 wooden plaques	£67	= £ 67
Judge	£70	= £ 70
Total Cost		= £319

It is suggested we would invite South Wales Clubs and those locally close by to enter 4 prints.  
Cost of participation to be £20 per club.  
20 clubs taking part will generate £400.

This would require a sub-committee chaired by John Crowland reporting into the Club committee for go-ahead at each stage of financial commitment, as there would be some financial risks in the proposal.

It was decided that the concept goes for further consideration in Committee, and this was voted on that basis.

For 12

Against 1

Agreed

#### Chairman's Award

This year the Chairman's Award goes to **Janet Cox** for her involvement and contributions to the club overall during the year.

#### Voting for Club Officers

All nominations were unopposed.

Mike Roberts accepted the position of Treasurer on the basis that this would be his final year in that position.

It was agreed that there is no requirement for a dedicated publicity officer, but that all members should use any opportunity to improve the club through appropriate use of social and other public media.

It was also agreed that the position of a dedicated Training Officer on the committee be reviewed.

**Note that no nominations for Club Secretary were received either before or during the AGM. Without a Club Secretary the club cannot remain within the WPF and this will be significantly detrimental to the club's future.**

Position	Nomination	Agreed?
Chairman	Terry Rees-Pedlar	Yes
Treasurer	Mike Roberts	Yes
Secretary	No Nomination	
Programmes Officer	Adrian Butcher	Yes
Competitions	Keith Sharples	Yes
Webmaster	Lyn Sharples	Yes

The meeting closed at 21:45

Signed

Terry Rees-Pedlar

Club Secretary



## Annex A

### Chairman's Report

This is my third consecutive year as Chairman and therefore as per the club constitution, it is time to stand-down and handover the role to whoever is elected to the position when we get the election of committee members later in the meeting.

During the last year the club has strengthened and grown in every metric. In terms of:

- The number of members;
- The skill set and abilities of members;
- The club's standing in the WPF and the photographic community; and
- The club's financial position.

I do hope that this trend continues.

It is manifest that we have a great depth and range of talent in the club, and I for one am proud to be a member of MPC.

I wish to recognise the work of the committee and extend my thanks to all members of the committee for all their hard work and commitment to the club. Jointly and severally, you have done the club proud!

Naturally, I wish to give thanks to all the members, for their respective contributions to the club. Many of you have gone out of your way to contribute to the club's success and to make the club what it is today. For that I thank you all.

I look forward to the coming year and to what I hope will be another vibrant and successful year.

Fintan Healy, Chair

May 2025.

## Treasurer's Report – (2024-2025).

The accounts for the 12 months from 1st May 2024 to 30th April 2025 show that income totalled £3048.44 and expenditure was lower at £2865.93, which led to a surplus over the year of £182.56, an improvement on last year's deficit of £534.86. The assets in cash and bank deposits at the year's end totalled £884.31.

This modest improvement in funds is due mainly to the increase in the number of members which now totals 36, which with raffles earned the equivalent of three annual subscriptions!


The improvement is modest because expenditure has also increased in almost all areas. Whilst the MTVH rental has almost doubled, both WPF registration and speakers' fees have gone up by over 35%. Also the club is now paying bank charges of £4.25 per month, which will amount to £51 next year. The general improvement in funds has enabled the Club to purchase a PA System to improve the quality of all forms of presentation.

Mike Roberts.

15 May 2025.



## Annex C

MONMOUTH PHOTOGRAPHIC CLUB 					
Statement of account - 1 April 2024 to 30 April 2025					
INCOME	2024-25	2023-24	EXPENDITURE	2024-25	2023-24
Subscriptions	2715.00	1980.00	MTVH Hall hire	621.00	351.00
Billetto UK	24.96	35.00	WPF registration	255.00	187.50
MBS Interest	6.00	3.73	Insurance	235.66	212.29
Raffles	282.48		Domain Name Renewal	15.59	14.39
Cash sales		20.00	Photoentry	44.55	39.00
Donations	20.00	29.00	Website subscription	72.00	72.00
			Bank Service Charges	8.50	
			Speakers	1081.70	799.80
			Judges	202.50	194.00
			Competitions	75.00	65.00
			Refreshments	5.49	34.46
			Market stall fee	6.00	12.00
			Cable reel	12.99	
			Engraving		31.00
			Keys etc.		34.99
			Computer		539.96
			PA equipment.	229.95	
	3048.44	2067.73		2865.93	2587.39
Dinner Deposits	145.00		Dinner Deposits	145.00	
Dinner Payments	677.60		Dinner Payments	677.55	
Dinner gratuity	57.50		Dinner gratuity payment	57.50	
Skomer Payments	940.00		Skomer Payments	940.00	
	4868.54	2067.73		4685.98	2587.39
Assets			Surplus inc/exp	182.56	-519.66
Lloyds	482.85	483.77			
MBS	377.46	190.25			
Petty cash	24.00	24.00			
	884.31	698.02			

## **Competitions**

I volunteered for the in-house print competitions. Once I got over the surprise of being told I will be expected to handle all competitions, in-house (print and DPI), external competitions and the Five Print Challenge, I resolved to tackle this on a transparent basis with enthusiasm and commitment.

The first thing to do was book judges for all the club-based competitions. My criteria for this was proximity to the club as I knew I would have to deliver prints and send DPIs to these judges. Cost was also important as finance was a concern and had led to subscriptions being increased.

The most expensive was £25 and the lowest cost nothing.

Selections for external competitions were made in two instances by me but in all others by cooperation with members. Meetings were held in a local Bistro or members homes. I was very grateful for this cooperation, and I am sure it added to the member experience and helped improve the club's performance.

MPC has some very good photographers, and it was a privilege to work with you. In fact, the club has such outstanding talent that it stands on the edge of achieving even greater things and improving its standards of photography.

Season 2024 / 2025 saw an increase in entries to competitions with very healthy scores achieved by individual photographers.

Open Print 50 entries. 3x20, 7x19, 8x18.

Open DPI 71 entries. 5x20, 8x19, 14x18.

Boats Prints 46 entries. 3x20, 3x19, 3x18.

On This Day 40 entries. 3x20, 3x19, 3x18.

Annual Open Print 45 entries. 3x20, 10x19, 2x18.

5 Print Challenge. Winner Lin Wyles 98 points

Second Peter Wyles 97 points

Third Janette Hill 96 points

Joint Fourth Terry Wall & Wendy Conway 95 points

Sixth Fintan Healy 93 points

External Competitions were also very successful.

Stanley Chell 9<sup>th</sup>.

Past Presidents Trophy 5<sup>th</sup>.

Walter Morgan Trophy 5<sup>th</sup>.

**Gwynn Morgan Trophy 1<sup>st</sup>.**

Adrian Webster 2<sup>nd</sup>.

Only Mono 5<sup>th</sup>.

This set of results speaks for themselves and everyone who is a member of Monmouth Photographic Club can take pride in them.

This function has been all consuming and not a little stress full.

John Crowland.

Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> May 2025

**REPORT FOR AGM (16/05/2025) FROM PROGRAMME SECRETARY (ADRIAN BUTCHER)**

(Please note – the below is based on available details as at 03/05/2024)

**Report on Season 2023 – 2024:**

My apologies to all for not being able to attend the meeting.

There were 10 “live” presentations this season – 8 from external speakers, and 2 from our own club members. (Thanks very much to Lisa and John for providing really enjoyable talks for us). In addition to the live talks, we have had 6 Zoom presentations. We started on quite a limited budget this season, and I believe that the presentation standards have been equal (if not surpassing) previous seasons..... and we again had our “TV personality” in Bill Ward, who’s seems to have become a friend of the club, and who’s presentation was again spectacular! I would like to think that the content has been varied, and providing “something for everyone” – I hope the membership agrees.

As we have said before – continuing with the “Zoom presentations”, which arose during “Covid times”, have allowed us the continued benefit from being able to “spread the net wider” geographically for presenters, and of course we have also had the additional benefit of the Zoom discussion evenings, which are ever more popular. Added to this we can now also included overseas members in the audience.

Regarding expenditure – I must apologise that I am at writing this whilst on holiday in Italy, and I failed to bring the details of presentation fees with me. What I can say is that fees have generally increased this year, and seem to be on an upward curve into next year, however there are still speakers who kindly provide their services in return for a charitable donation. No doubt Mike will be providing more financial details, however I would suggest that, assuming we retain a similar level of membership next season, the costs are certainly manageable.

We have the upcoming trip to Pembrokeshire to look forward to – my thanks to John for the original suggestion for this event..... It promises to be a good one. I will send further information by email nearer the time, ahead of the trip.

**Looking Ahead to Season 2023-24:**

Please everyone put the date of 11th September in you diary if you can, for our trip to Gwynfa Club. Those that were here will remember the great show they put on for us, and it is our turn on 11th to reciprocate this. It is a Thursday – this being their normal club night. Six of our members have kindly volunteered to assist with a brief presentation (approx. 20 minutes each) for the trip, which is much appreciated. We will need to put together some form of a programme or structure for the evening – not sure if this can wait until the new season, or if we meet for a coffee over the summer to discuss.

The plan for 2025-26 is to continue with the twice monthly “live” presentations, which will include members, and the additional Zoom presentations and discussion evenings.

I would estimate that next season’s costs will – at best – remain similar to this season, but in all likelihood will probably be slightly higher.

Any suggestions for trips out next season, or for programme content, would be gratefully received.

I hope that the above provides sufficient information for everyone, but please let me know if there is anything I’ve missed, or if you wish to discuss anything.

Wishing you all a fantastic summer and looking forward seeing many of you in Pembrokeshire. For those unable to attend – see you next season!

Adrian Butcher – Programme Secretary.