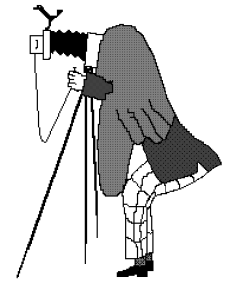


Focal•Point

**HARROW
CAMERA CLUB**

NEWSLETTER



NO: 119 JANUARY 2008

PREVISIONS

The annual PreVisions event took place at XRR in Garston on 9th December.

18 Clubs competed in the prints section. First equal were Field End and XRR on 114 points out of 120. Third was St.Albans on 112 points, with Harrow fourth on 111 points. Amersham was 9th. Floating Arum by Dave Martin was Highly Commended.

6 Clubs competed in the slides section, and Harrow was first on 105 points out of 120, with XRR second on 103 points. At least five of the six Clubs in the slides section have digital equipment, and XRR will decide later whether slides are included next year.

13 Clubs competed in the digital section. First was Oxford on 117 points out of 120. Second was Harpenden on 105 points, with Field End third on 102 points. Amersham was 6th.

JOTTINGS

Programmes for 2008 are now available.

Erratum. The Natural History Trophy for 2007 was won by John Draper.

NWFederation. Harrow lost to Amersham on completion of the first round, and we are not in the semi-final.

Engraving. Due to logistical difficulty, the trophies were not engraved before the AGM. Holders of trophies will be asked to return them for engraving shortly.

Dots in Digital File Names. We have a working fix for the problem where a dot corrupted the author name. Dots will now work, but are still not recommended in file names.

A NEW YEAR

Assuming you are awake after the excesses of the season, it is worth reflecting on the upheavals and achievements of 2007.

A year ago we had just been evicted from the failed Harrow Arts Centre. Through a lot of hard work by Committee members and others, we managed to find new premises; recover all the equipment we needed, and conversely decide what we could discard; get through some very hectic weeks; and settle down with a manageable plan of action for our meetings.

Although our attention was diverted, we did complete the buying of appropriate items from our Awards for All grant. We reported to the awarding body on time, and they have accepted our satisfactory completion.

Using the new equipment, we made an effective start on projected digital competitions in March, using the Set Subject Section as an example. Over the summer we evaluated software; developed a plan for the next stage; ran some training sessions; and digital now runs alongside slides in all our competitions. The future balance between slides and digital now depends on the members and how they want to show their work.

The only significant problem with our meeting room is the set of skylights. The 2008 Programme deals with this by selectively moving projected events to the darker months, in return for print events in the lighter months.

Last but not least, the Committee has devised a suitable event for our 75th Anniversary, which falls in March 2008.

75TH ANNIVERSARY

Consulting Club history records, we are reliably informed that a general meeting to found the Harrow Camera Club was held on the 21st March 1933 at the Coliseum Theatre in Station Road - a site now occupied by the Iceland supermarket. Charles Johnson is credited with first making the suggestion to found the Club, and his name appears annually on the front of our Programme.

The first annual subscription was 5 shillings (25p). By 1935 there was an Annual Exhibition, and by 1938 there were 100 members: a number not reached again (in the downwards direction) until the late 1990s. Meetings have been held in various places over the years: from 1968 at Harefield School, from 1982 at the first Arts Centre in Harrow Weald, and from 1988 at the second Arts Centre in Hatch End. Club members were extremely influential in the formation and running of both Arts Centres.

In 1993, the Diamond Jubilee was celebrated with an Exhibition and Supper in the Elliott Hall at the Arts Centre. For 2008, the Committee has decided on a sociable Supper without an Exhibition.

Tuesday March 11th. Members are invited to the 75th Anniversary event, a Supper, with Anniversary Cake, and 'Another Evening' with Phil Bryson. More details will be announced, but we will certainly need to know numbers for catering.

GAYTON ROAD LIBRARY

The Gayton Road Library site will not now be redeveloped as a Library and arts facility. Instead, the Library will be moving to Garden House (next to the Cumberland Hotel) in March/April. The policy is to retain all current Library facilities, including its exhibition space, which is likely to be equipped with new display boards. Garden House is a 'temporary' move, which could last five years, but maybe more.

We have an assurance that our existing print display panel can be accommodated, and the facility to show our prints will continue. Volunteers to show prints should speak to Judy Buckley-Sharp. The slots for February and March are available, and then later for after the Library move.

EVENTS

Tuesday 8th to Thursday 31st January. PhotoImages. Several members had acceptances at this event, which was judged by Vic Attfield on 13th December. The Exhibition of 125 prints will be on display at the Queens Park Arts Centre, off Walton Road, Aylesbury. It will be put up on the morning of Tuesday 8th January, and will be viewable until Thursday 31st January. The Centre is open Monday to Thursday all day, and Saturday morning: closed Friday.

Saturday 23rd February. North West London Federation. Final of the annual Competition, and judging of Best Print and Best Slide. 2pm at Wycombe PS, Micklefield Community Centre, High Wycombe, HP13 7PU. Entrance free, and raffle.

Tuesday 4th March. Quiz Night. Members are asked to invite non-members as their guests and to make up quiz teams. There will be a list to sign in due course.

Sunday March 9th. Chilterns Association Championship Day, with prints and slides to choose our regional representatives for the Warwick (slides in July) and Connah's Quay (prints in October) national events. Also the Strictly Digital event, which has been moved from May. 2pm start for this afternoon and evening event. At Drake Hall, Community Centre, Chiltern Avenue, Amersham, HP6 5AH. Entrance charge (probably £5) and raffle.

Sunday 13th April. Chilterns Association AGM (10am) and Digital Training Day (11am). At Amersham Community Centre, as above. Information about content of the training is not yet available, but the day will be free admission.

WEB GALLERIES

It is more than a year since the galleries on the Club's website were set up. If anyone has got any more/new pictures they would like added to the Club site, then please provide them on a CD to Mark Buckley-Sharp. Any digital size of file will do as they get standardised as part of making the web pages.

Meanwhile, the website continues to show all the latest information and digital imaging advice.