



Affiliated to the Federation Internationale de l'Art Photographique

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Correction

In the last issue I listed Tony Kinder, 12th in the GB Cup Photographer of the Year, for Wrekin Arts P.C. He is in fact a member of Leek PC who certainly punched above their expected weight.

Forwarding to others

The PAGB is very happy for you to forward this e-news to interested parties but please indicate to the recipient where it has come from. I get a small number of "removal requests" for people who are not on my list and don't know how e-news got to them.

THE LONDON SALON OF PHOTOGRAPHY

Entries are invited for the 99th International Exhibition celebrating its 100th anniversary since its formation in 1910 from the Linked Ring

Opens at the **SMETHWICK PHOTOGRAPHIC SOCIETY**
at 2.30pm on SATURDAY 31st July 2010
The Old Schoolhouse, Churchbridge, Oldbury.

OFFICIAL OPENING at COTTONS CENTRE, LONDON.
At 2.30 pm. SATURDAY 14th August 2010
Cottons Centre, Cottons Lane, London. SE1 2QG.
Closing date for entries April, 2010

[Entry form for 2010 now available](http://www.londonsalon.org) on Website www.londonsalon.org

Un-mounted prints now accepted from UK exhibitors



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Please forward e-news to anyone who would be interested and we would be delighted if you print it for your club notice board, etc.

Anyone who would like to receive e-news may register by e-mail to rod@creative-camera.co.uk
e-news editor - Rod Wheelans, 43 Lovers Walk, DUMFRIES, DG1 1LR tel :01387 257906

PAGB Executive Meeting 6 & 7 February 2010

There are three PAGB Executive Committee meetings each year and discussions are wide ranging over a great variety of topics. I think you might be surprised at the amount of time and effort expended on your behalf by members of the PAGB and Federation Committees. Here I have tried to offer some “highlights”.

Finance & Insurance

Following discussions concerning the budget forecast for 2011 including consideration of future meeting venues to reduce costs, it was decided that the treasurer and executive would, at the AGM in April, recommend an increase in the club annual subscription of £1 to a total of £29 per club. It was accepted that even with this increase, expenditure was likely to exceed income. A full-scale review will be conducted of other, possibly cheaper, venues for EC meetings.

Further information was provided about the proposed Trustees Liability Insurance which would protect all members of Federation and Club Committees should they be subject to legal action or claims for compensation from their members. (It HAS happened!). It was agreed that the Executive would strongly recommend to the AGM that we should enter into a Trustee Liability Insurance policy on behalf of all member clubs, the amount of premium (approx. £6 per club) to be recovered pro rata as an addition to club subscriptions. (See page 5 for further information)

It was reported that for a third successive year the Public Liability Insurance premium to clubs remains unchanged.

Awards for Photographic Merit

It was agreed that, in principle, we do not want awards applicants to wait more than 12 months before being included in adjudication. To facilitate this it was proposed that a one-day adjudication be held on either the 4th or 5th December 2010 in Dumfries or Carlisle, hosted by the PAGB rather than the local Federation. Costs will be kept to a minimum and the proceedings will be closed with no audience*. A firm decision will be made in the light of applications over the next 3 months. * It may be possible for some entrants to attend informally as observers.

PDI Competition Standards (see page 4)

The Technical Standards Committee tabled a document covering PDI Rules. The main difference from previous rules was the recommendation that submissions from authors should be in jpg only rather than tiff format and it was agreed that the PAGB would adopt and recommend this standard.

Inter Federation Competitions

A letter had been received from NCPF concerning the rule that “Images which have been accepted in any previous Inter-Federation Competition will not be accepted. This includes images which are so similar to previously accepted images as to be virtually identical”. The meeting voted in favour of the proposal that the rule should now read “Images, by the same author, which have been accepted in any previous Inter-Federation Competition will not be accepted. This includes images which are so similar to previously accepted images as to be virtually identical”. Images infringing this rule will be disqualified and any points that may have been awarded in the competition element of the exhibition will be deducted from that federation’s total.

FIAP

Following changes to the requirements for AFIAP and EFIAP a total of 76 applications were received by the PAGB in 2009. Of these, 31 were able to apply for AFIAP sooner than would have been the case a year earlier when the minimum time interval was 5 years. 7 applicants had a 4-year exhibition history, 9 had 3 years, 10 had 2 years and 5 the minima of 1 year. Notification has been received that Ireland is to host the 23rd Colour Print Biennial with a closing date of March 2010. The results of the 4th FIAP Club's World Cup were announced. Belgian clubs came 1st, 2nd, 4th, 9th and equal 10th. Argentinean clubs came 3rd, 5th, and 6th. An Australian club gained 7th place with Wigan 10 in 8th place and Smethwick PS in equal 10th place.

At the EC meeting of October 2009 it was decided to adopt the FIAP definition of the phrase "different salons" but, as the PAGB Handbook contained the initial FIAP definition that definition, would be in force until the next handbook was issued. However, after further discussion, it was decided that the PAGB should adopt the present FIAP definition forthwith and the new criteria would be posted on the PAGB website and published in e-news as soon as possible.

It is now agreed that the same Salon in different years constitutes a "different salon" for AFIAP and EFIAP applications

A letter had been received from the President of the EAF expressing concern that the PAGB have imposed additional criteria to the minimum set out by FIAP. Such additional requirements are permitted by FIAP and were previously encouraged. It was agreed that the requirement for an additional award should remain in place and that the President will respond to the EAF.

Inter-Club PDI and Print Championship

It was reported that the PDI Championship event would be held at Warwick University on Saturday 17th July 2010 with the judges being Malcolm Kus, Peter Rees and Chris Palmer. The Print Championship will be held at Connahs Quay on Saturday 23rd October 2010 with the judges being Rikki O'Neill, Leigh Preston and Ann Miles. The 2009 finalists have all been invited back to compete in 2010. The ticket price will be £10 for both events.

Photographic Alliance of Great Britain Awards for Photographic Merit in Audio Visual

CPAGB~Credit * DPAGB~Distinction * MPAGB~Master

Next Adjudication - Saturday 16 October 2010
at the Civic Centre, Braunstone Town, Leicester

Contact Peter Brown, the event organiser, for
details

t: 0116 278 3446 e: brownpeterd@tiscali.co.uk

Observers admitted - tickets £6.00

The PAGB Recorded Lecture Service now has a
sampler CD with sequences from successful
Credit and Distinction applicants
Hire the CD from Stephanie Cook. 01977 682857

PDI COMPETITION STANDARDS

There is a need to standardise PAGB rules for Projected Digital Image competitions and we have chosen a “lowest common denominator” approach, which is likely to minimise problems for both entrants and organisers. Whilst it is not the job of the PAGB to specify standards we recognise that our decisions will be seen by many as evidence of the right way to address these issues.

The Standards to be Applied for All PAGB PDI Competitions

1. Images should be submitted in the sRGB colour space.
2. Image dimensions and the projection software will be specified by the organisers of each competition and may well vary from competition to competition depending on the equipment being used. Dimensions will be stated as a width and height in pixels within which the image must be contained.

The PAGB have calibrated and profiled Canon Xeed SX7 projectors, which will be used, for all PAGB competitions and an image resolution of 1400 pixels wide by 1050 pixels high will therefore be adopted as standard until further notice.
3. File type must be jpg. (See jpg versus tiff below).
4. Image files will not be interfered with in any way by the organisers of the competition but this does not preclude the renaming of files. (Visible titles might be added to images later for inclusion in Recorded Lectures.)
5. Prior to the commencement of any competition, a test image, or images, shall be projected, using the same software that will be used for projecting competition entries, to ensure that the equipment is operating satisfactorily.

jpg versus tiff and why the PAGB will insist on jpg.

There continue to be strongly held differences of opinion relating to the relative merits of jpg and tiff for PDI competitions. The jpg compression process is indeed “lossy” – e.g. image data is altered during the compression process. However, the compression process itself is “intelligent” in that lower orders of compression are applied to more detailed areas of an image than to areas of great pixel similarity. Furthermore, the process allows for varying degrees of compression to be applied at the behest of the user. In practice, it is unlikely that anyone can see any difference between a high quality projected jpg and tiff variants of the same original file.

The resulting file size differences between the two file types are very significant. A tiff file from a 1400 pixels x 1050 pixels image is 4.2Mb whilst the equivalent jpg at Photoshop Level 12 compression is around 650Kb. This saving in file size has significant advantages for competition organisers; especially if entry via email/web upload is being considered which we believe will be increasingly the case. Arguments are raised with regard to the deterioration of an image with repeated “open and save” operations via the jpg process. This is a potential problem with indiscriminate use of jpg compression. However, there is no need for a competition organiser to open and re-save any digital file submitted by an entrant so the integrity is not at risk from this issue in PAGB competitions. With tiff files there is considerable room for error in saving the file if it contains layers or alpha channels or is in 16bit mode and this causes problems for the organisers. This is not possible with jpg.

Some people have claimed that they have been able to see a difference between projected tiff and jpg files but have submitted no evidence that would allow us to investigate their claims. It could be that the software employed for projection is creating problems or by the way in which it is used.

In short, we believe there are no compelling technical or quality reasons not to use jpg files and, for the organisers of some competitions, there are several advantages, in doing so.

TRUSTEE INSURANCE - WHAT IT IS AND WHY YOU NEED IT

The PAGB has negotiated a policy with their insurers, Darwin & Clayton, to provide "TRUSTEE" insurance for the PAGB, its Federations and its affiliated clubs. This type of insurance would normally cost a single club anything up to £250 per annum, but this policy will cover the PAGB and all its Federations and affiliated clubs (about 1,000) for a fixed figure of £6,000. The decision of the PAGB was that if this was to be workable as many clubs as possible must take it up, and that the premium should be added to the annual subscription of clubs at a rate of £6 per subscription. If the average club has 10 committee members, this represents a premium of 60p per committee member per year. We are advised that this cannot be reduced if not all clubs join the scheme, it will simply mean those clubs in it will need to pay more. If, say, only half of the affiliated clubs took it up then it would cost £12 per club per year.

TRUSTEE INSURANCE is different from PUBLIC LIABILITY INSURANCE which most clubs have.

Public Liability Insurance covers the club and its members against injury to a third party, or damage to the property of a third party. For example, if a member trips over a wire or cable, no matter how well protected, and the visiting lecturer's digital projector and laptop crash to the floor. Or it could cover payment for injury compensation if the visiting lecturer trips over the cable and breaks a leg.

Trustee Insurance Members of any club committee may be liable to pay for a claim made for many things covered under this policy. Legally, every committee member is a Trustee of the club and if any committee member is responsible for a **Wrongful Act** – either doing something he or she should not do or failing to carry out an action that he should have carried out, then each and every committee member is liable pay out on any claim resulting. The PAGB feels that this type of cover has become necessary because, in recent years, we have heard reports of claims being made in quite ordinary clubs. We do not know of any photographic club where this has happened but we believe there have been threats or implied threats causing distress and worry. Whilst claims are not very common, when they do occur they can involve many thousands of pounds..

This **Trustee Indemnity Policy** is designed to protect all Committee members including the PAGB Executive Committee, your Federation Management Committee and your Club Committee. Full details of the policy cover have been made available to Federations. Frankly it is a legal document difficult for a lay person to understand but Royal Sun Alliance have reported claims under this type of policy for Racial Discrimination, Misuse of Trust (Club) funds, Slander, Defamation, Loss of Documents, Loss of Property, Breach of Authority and Dishonesty of a Trustee. Of course, we all think it unlikely that this could happen in our clubs but the risk is potentially catastrophic for club trustees.

This Policy excludes losses that are uninsurable under the law such as taxes, penalties and fines. The maximum sum payable in an event of a claim is £100,000 per club and the will pay a maximum of £2,000,000 in any one year.

I am indebted to the NCPF who have produced a paper circulated to their member clubs. It included these possible examples.

Example 1. A club member in all innocence publishes an item on a club website or newsletter that is later subject of a libel claim, then the responsibility for settling any damages would fall not on him but equally on each and every committee member.

Example 2. The club needs a Treasurer and accepts the offer of fairly new member to take up the post. As is quite normal no check is made on that person's honesty. The volunteer Treasurer then absconds with the club funds. If any club member wishes he could sue the committee for negligence. (We have seen reports that this has actually happened to a club in the UK)

Example 3. A sailing club had been unable to finance vital maintenance of a wharf or pier and, as a result, substantial loss was caused to a third party. The actual damage costs were covered by PLI but the club found themselves subject to a claim for consequential loss, such that the individual members of the sailing club committee might each be bankrupted. (From newspaper reports).

Obviously we are not lawyers or insurance experts and this advice is given on the understanding that the PAGB and its Federations take no responsibility for the success or otherwise of any claim under this policy.

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Anyone who would like to receive e-news may register by e-mail to rod@creative-camera.co.uk
e-news editor - Rod Wheelans, 43 Lovers Walk, DUMFRIES, DG1 1LR tel :01387 257906