

**Chelmsford Camera Club**  
**Annual General Meeting for the year 2024 – 2025 to be held**  
**at Broomfield Football Club**  
**At 19.30 on Thursday 22nd May 2025**

**Present:**

Alan Chapman  
Alan Waplington  
Andrew Pickess  
Bas Patel  
Brian Purdy  
Clare Price  
Colin Birch  
Colin Galley  
David Bishop  
Kevin Bishop  
Mike Crack  
Mike Leonard  
Mike Rose  
Trevor Sadowski

**1. Apologies for Absence.**

Apologies were received from:

Ian McDonald, Jenny McDonald, David Purkiss, Tom Plucinski, Garry Carter and Liz Croxson and belatedly Alec Fraser.

**2. Approval of the minutes**

Acceptance of the minutes of last year's AGM were proposed by Kevin Bishop and seconded by Andrew Pickess. The minutes were unanimously approved.

**3. Matters arising from those minutes.**

**a.** Business cards for members – Meeting approved CB to order 1000 cards and they will be given out with the new programs.

**Action: CB - Complete**

Business cards were provided for the members after the last AGM, CB told members they were available to be collected as and when. This action is now closed.

**4. Treasurer's report and presentation and approval of the annual accounts (Appendix 2)**

Mike Crack stated that he had sent out an email with the annual accounts and had not received any questions.

He explained that the finances had received an unexpected surplus as the numbers of members hadn't reduced as expected. Therefore monies could be spent in areas which benefited members i.e. engraving of trophies, free SIG contributions, decrease in the cost of all inclusive membership and more money for speakers, resulting in a small deficit.

**Chelmsford Camera Club**  
**Annual General Meeting for the year 2024 – 2025 to be held**  
**at Broomfield Football Club**  
**At 19.30 on Thursday 22nd May 2025**

CB thanked MC and acceptance of the annual accounts was proposed by Mike Rose and seconded by Alan Chapman, the proposal was accepted unanimously.

5. **Officers' Reports:** (Proposed by the President that the reports be dealt with in their entirety and then voted upon.) This year all of the Officers' Reports have been emailed to members in advance so that they can read them prior to the AGM and have any questions they wish answered (Appendix 1).
6. **Voting on Officers' Reports:**

CB asked for a proposer for these reports. Trevor Sadowski proposed acceptance and David Bishop seconded the proposal. The proposal was accepted unanimously.

7. **Chairman's Report**

It is hard to believe that my first year as Chairman is already coming to an end. The year has gone so quickly. The club has continued to provide a varied programme of speakers on subjects which have included Creative, Landscape, Medical, Sports, Travel, Wildlife, Underwater Photography and Smartphone Photography. Hopefully this variety has provided something for all club members. It was nice to see that three of these presentations were given by our own club members, namely Nicola Riley, Peter Lake and Ray Lawrence.

It is good to see from the Treasurer's report that the club's financial situation has now fully recovered from those dark covid years. The steady decline in membership which we have seen over the last few years has finally been halted and we have seen a small increase which is encouraging for the future. The committee will continue to look at ways of attracting new members. If anyone has any ideas on recruitment, please let one of the committee members know, so we can discuss them at a committee meeting.

This season we have had success in external competitions, winning the Photofold battle for the 5<sup>th</sup> year running and winning the Braintree Shield for the first time since 2022. I would like to thank the selection committee for the time and effort that they have put in to achieve these successes.

My first year started with our annual Photo Trek competition which was changed to remove geographical restrictions and required all entries to be taken on a mobile phone. This resulted in a doubling of the number of entries and we will therefore repeat the same format this year. In March this year we had a great presentation on Smartphone Photography by Jet Lendon which attracted a good turn out and members were seen to buy some of the little 'accessories' she had on offer, so I have high hopes for this year's competition.

Last year we held an exhibition at the Art Place in Chelmsford town centre which we hoped might attract new members. Unfortunately, to our knowledge this event did not lead to any new members joining the club. As the Art Place now require a fee on top of taking commission from any print sales the committee has decided not to hold an exhibition at the Art Place this year.

**Chelmsford Camera Club**  
**Annual General Meeting for the year 2024 – 2025 to be held**  
**at Broomfield Football Club**  
**At 19.30 on Thursday 22nd May 2025**

Over the past year I have witnessed the amount of work that goes into running a club of this size and to the high standard to which we have become accustomed, So I would like to thank all my fellow committee members for all their hard work and support they have given me over the past 12 months. It has been an unprecedented year for judges / speakers cancelling at very short notice which has caused extra work for Colin Birch who miraculously managed to find replacements with less than 48 hours' notice. This has enabled us to keep to our published programme, so we all owe Colin a very big vote of thanks. Thanks also to the non-committee members whose efforts may not be seen but help to keep the club running. These include Alison Johnson, Mike Rose and Ray Lawrence who have assisted Dave Purkiss and Ian McDonald on the selection committee. Also, Jenny McDonald who every week buys the milk, biscuits and supplies which we all enjoy whilst chatting to our friends about photographic technique or commenting on the evenings judge or speaker.

Whilst on the subject of refreshments, we have come very close to not providing refreshments on several occasions due to a lack of volunteers. It is only due to a few kind people who have repeatedly stepped in at the last minute that we have been able to supply refreshments. Therefore, can I please appeal to you to volunteer next season so that we can continue to provide refreshments at every meeting. When on refreshment duty, can you please endeavour to arrive early to prepare things before the meeting starts. If you are not sure on what to do, just ask and help and guidance will be provided.

Although there are no formal meetings during the summer break, we do have two social events planned. The first is at the Chelmsford beer festival on Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> July. Please don't be put off by the fact it's a beer festival, there are other alcoholic and non-alcoholic drinks available, along with food stalls if you want something to eat. It's really quite civilised, so come along for an enjoyable evening of chat with your friends. The second social evening is at the Cricketers Arms in Danbury on Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> August. An email with further details of these events will be sent out shortly.

Lastly, may I wish you and your families an enjoyable summer and hope that you get plenty of great images wherever your travels take you and hope to see all of you back here next season.

Mike Leonard  
Chairman, Chelmsford Camera Club

CB thanked Mike Leonard.

8. **Year 2025/2026 subscriptions:** The committee proposes that the 2025/2026 subscriptions will remain as follows. Annual membership £35 for all members, no concessions or Family membership, normal Thursday entrance fee of £3. The all-inclusive membership will be £125 (from £140)

Proposer and seconder are not required as this was proposed by the Committee  
The proposal was accepted unanimously

**Chelmsford Camera Club**  
**Annual General Meeting for the year 2024 – 2025 to be held**  
**at Broomfield Football Club**  
**At 19.30 on Thursday 22nd May 2025**

9. **Membership Renewal:** Existing members are requested to rejoin by the end of the summer break as we would like to be able to offer places to new members in September. MC will be writing to all of you very soon with the necessary bank details for joining and information about GDPR.

10. **President's remarks.**

Mike has covered the Club's year so I would like to give a vote of thanks to him as Chairman and to the committee as a whole who have worked so hard to ensure everything has run smoothly. A special thank you goes to Clare who is stepping down as Secretary after six years of sterling service. Tom Plucinski has kindly offered to take over and Clare will continue on the committee as New Members Secretary.

I often mention distinctions so I would like to encourage everyone to think about going for either PAGB, RPS, FIAP or BPE awards. The EAF is putting on an Advisory Day near Cambridge on 31st August for those considering going for a PAGB award. You can take along images for advice or just go along to see what quality of image is required. For those interested, go to the EAF website or have a word with me for details. Alan Chapman is the most recent member to achieve his CPAGB and he has agreed to show us his images after the AGM.

Finally, have a good summer, take lots of pictures, don't forget the PhotoTrek and I hope to see you at the Beer Festival.

11. **Election of the President.**

At this point in the meeting, Mike Leonard took over control of the meeting and asked the members for a proposer and seconder to accept Colin Birch as our president. Andrew Pickess proposed acceptance and Brian Purdy seconded the proposal. Colin Birch was unanimously accepted as president.

12. **Election of Officers and Ordinary Committee Members.**

The proposed Officers and Committee members are as follows:

Chairman	Mike Leonard
Vice Chairman	Tom Plucinski
Secretary	Tom Plucinski
Treasurer	Mike Crack
Programme Sec	Colin Birch
Competition Sec PDIs	Kevin Bishop
Competition Sec Prints (League)	Ian McDonald
Competition Sec Prints (non League)	Graham Chorley
External Comp Sec	David Purkiss
Web Master	Andrew Pickess
Social Media Sec	Alan Chapman
New Members Sec	Clare Price
Equipment Officer	TBA

**Chelmsford Camera Club**  
**Annual General Meeting for the year 2024 – 2025 to be held**  
**at Broomfield Football Club**  
**At 19.30 on Thursday 22nd May 2025**

As this doesn't exceed the maximum number of committee members, I propose that the whole committee is re-elected together.

The members unanimously accepted the proposed committee.

**13. Auditor**

I would like to thank Barry Collin for his invaluable work in auditing the accounts for the previous seven years. Barry has now stepped down from his role and Trevor Sadowski has agreed to take this on. He has audited this year's accounts and we should now elect him formally to the position.

CB asked for a proposer for a new auditor. Mike Crack proposed acceptance and Alan Chapman seconded the proposal. The proposal was accepted unanimously.

**14. Answers to members' written questions**

**Question 1 from Trevor Sadowski**

In the past we had some good talks from people via Zoom, this allowed us to go further afield.

I wonder whether that is still on the cards, maybe we could do that as a sig, learning new techniques or how tos on printing, editing, mounting etc. even photographers from much further afield perhaps?

**Answer 1**

We had quite a lot of talks over Zoom with people at home during the pandemic but now we have limited that to one or two a season, JP Stones from Mexico a few weeks ago, and I have booked Ashley Franklin from Derbyshire for a talk in December. We decided that we should always meet in person on a Thursday to maintain the club atmosphere, but the remote talks are less satisfactory than ones given by a visiting speaker.

Particular techniques are covered on Practical Evenings once each year and there is the occasional speaker who will go into much more detail; for example, I have booked a talk on printing next season.

A SIG approach could be a way of doing more but we need to bear in mind that attendance for these is much lower than that on a Thursday. I think this needs a bit more thought on the practicality of doing this so the Committee will consider this further.

**Action: CB**

**15. AOB – None**

Meeting finished at 8.09

**Chelmsford Camera Club**  
**Annual General Meeting for the year 2024 – 2025 to be held**  
**at Broomfield Football Club**  
**At 19.30 on Thursday 22nd May 2025**

**Appendix 1**

**Social Media Report 2024-25**

The club Facebook Page and Group have been running for three seasons. Most of the posts are sharing the high scoring images from club competitions, however, the aim was to provide club members a safe online place to share their images, information about photography venues etc. and generally extend the social reach of the club beyond one evening a week.

This season 19 members (down from 22) have used the Group. It would be appreciated if those who find value in the Group could encourage others to join and participate, like all social media endeavours, the value is greater when more people contribute.

As a reminder, Facebook is completely free and the distinction between the Club's Page and Group is below;

The public Page is available for all of Facebook to view and therefore allows the Club to promote it's events, speakers, and to display the Prints and PDIs that score top marks in the Club's competitions. The Page has lead to membership enquiries and speakers promoting their talks.

**The private Group contains the same information that is posted to the Page and extends the social reach of the club. Members are able to post images and discuss all manner of photography related subjects. Only club members are able to join the Group via an invitational link.**

**All members re-joining the club for the 2025-26 will receive an invite to join the Group, if you would like to join prior to this then please reach out to me (Alan Chapman) on a club night and I will happily send you and invite.**

**Programme Secretary's Report 2024-25**

This season went well with a variety of speakers, a members' evening and a practical session. We had a flurry of cancellations towards the end of the season but managed to overcome them so that everyone still had an enjoyable evening. We expected to lose an evening due to BFC hosting their German exchange club but in the end that didn't happen.

We have an increase in the budget for the coming season, so that helps with increases in speakers' fees and gives us a few more options. It was good to have Andy Skillen lined up for a talk at the end of March, but he was one of the cancellations when he caught Covid. However, he has been rebooked for November, so we still get to see him. That was one talk I advertised around local clubs, so I have a list of ten extra attendees for November. The new programme should be published in June in plenty of time for next season.

**Colin Birch**

**Chelmsford Camera Club**  
**Annual General Meeting for the year 2024 – 2025 to be held**  
**at Broomfield Football Club**  
**At 19.30 on Thursday 22nd May 2025**

**PDI Secretary's Report 2024-2025 Season: Kevin Bishop**

**PDI League Competition**

As before, entries to each competition were generally restricted to the first two preferences from each member, except for level 3 which attracted only a small number of entries. The average image count for each competition was just under 70, slightly down on last season's average. The exception was the PDI 5 Themed competition which attracted 3 images from each of the 30 members who entered. This was an increase on last season's count.

As usual, the members' best score from each competition was recorded and the 5 highest of these scores totalled to arrive at a final league position. The results for each level are as follows:

**Level 1**

Winner	Alan Chapman	100 points
Runner-up	Ian McDonald	99 points
Third Place	Brian Purdy	98 points

In accordance with League Competition rules, two members will be relegated to level 2 for the 2025-2026 season

**Level 2**

Winner	Ray Lawrence	100 points
Runner-up	Rita Thornloe	97 points
Third Place	Graham Chorley	96 points

Five members that have scored over 94 points will be promoted to level 1 for next season.

**Level 3**

Winner	Ash Bishop-Smith	95 points
Runner-up	Luke Seeley	17 points

One member will be promoted to level 2 for next season

**Themed PDI Competition 5**

The themed competition took place on 20<sup>th</sup> March 2025, judged by Dr. Julie Hutson ARPS DPAGB.

30 members entered, providing one image for each of the three themes; Song Title, Isolated and Closeup. The results were:

Joint Winners	Brian Purdy
	David Bishop
Third Place	Mike Rose

**Print Competition Secretary's Report – Ian McDonald**

**Chelmsford Camera Club**  
**Annual General Meeting for the year 2024 – 2025 to be held**  
**at Broomfield Football Club**  
**At 19.30 on Thursday 22nd May 2025**

Firstly, I would like to thank all those that have helped and supported me this season, especially Mike Rose and Colin Birch, it really is appreciated.

**League Competition**

16. Level 1 was won by Jenny McDonald with 99 points. Tom Plucinski was second with 98 points. Ian McDonald and Brian Purdy shared third place with 97 points.  
There were two demotions from Level 1.
17. Level 2 was won by Gary Carter with a perfect score of 100. Colin Galley was second with 96 points. Trevor Sadowski, Liz Croxson and Graham Chorley shared third place with 91 points.  
Gary Carter and Colin Galley are promoted to Level 1.
18. Kevin Bishop came first in Level 3, with 95 points, and is promoted to Level 2.

**The Mono Print Competition for the Dennis Clarke Memorial Trophy**

35 prints were entered for the mono competition this season, slightly less than last year. First place went to Colin Birch with Steve Marriott second and third.

**The Burley Cup (panels of three)**

There were only 8 entries for the Burley Cup, less than last year. Brian Purdy was first, with Bruce Gray second and David Purkiss third. The panels entered by Alan Chapman and Liz Croxson were both Highly Commended.

**Panels of Two**

There were only 6 entries, from 5 members. First was Brian Purdy, with Alan Chapman second and David Purkiss third. The entry submitted by Colin Galley was Highly Commended.

Lastly, I would like to thank all those who have entered prints this season. It is of some concern, however, that the number of prints entered is lower than last year. This worrying trend has resulted in some competitions, such as the Panel of Two, being badly supported and barely viable. The Annual Awards (prints) was entered by only nine members (out of a total membership of 70), with a total entry of only 104 prints (as opposed to the more than 150 that was anticipated). I would therefore encourage members to support our print competitions, to ensure that we can continue to deliver our full programme next season.

Ian McDonald  
Print Competition Secretary

**CCC External Competition 2024-25 Summary**



**Chelmsford Camera Club**  
**Annual General Meeting for the year 2024 – 2025 to be held**  
**at Broomfield Football Club**  
**At 19.30 on Thursday 22nd May 2025**

Here are the competition results for external competitions entered during the 2024-25 season.

**The selection committee comprises of :-**

David Purkiss  
Ian MacDonald  
Mike Rose  
Alison Johnson  
Ray Lawrence

**Competitions**

**14<sup>th</sup> October 2024 - Colchester 8x8 - Judge Jonathan Vaines**

1 Colchester	150
2 Ipswich	145
3 Chelmsford	143
4 Maldon	143
5 Gt Notley	138
6 Clacton	135
7 Halstead	129
8 Harwich	129

A commendable 3<sup>rd</sup>

**28<sup>th</sup> October 2024 - Benfleet Battle - Judge Julie Hutson**

1 Benfleet	374
2 Chelmsford	353

**16<sup>th</sup> February 2025 - EAF Print Championship**

**We came 13<sup>th</sup> out of 23**

**20<sup>th</sup> Feb 2025 - Photofold Battle - Judge Andy Smith**

1 <sup>st</sup> Chelmsford	423
2 <sup>nd</sup> Photofold	421

Chelmsford were the winners

Image of the evening Vesturhorn, Iceland by David Purkiss

20s were scored by :-

Ash Bishop-Smith with Tranquillity  
David Purkiss with Vesturhorn, Iceland

**4<sup>th</sup> March 2025 Braintree Shield Mono Print Competition - Judge Harold Mousley**

We had an excellent result Chelmsford were competition winners with Clare Price picking up image of the evening with Moulton Barn, Wyoming

**16<sup>th</sup> March 2025 - EAF Print Competition**

We came 8<sup>th</sup> out of 17 with 166 points

All in all a reasonably good season with 2 outright trophy wins and a 3<sup>rd</sup> place plus 2 images of the evenings.

**Chelmsford Camera Club**  
**Annual General Meeting for the year 2024 – 2025 to be held**  
**at Broomfield Football Club**  
**At 19.30 on Thursday 22nd May 2025**

**Appendix 2**

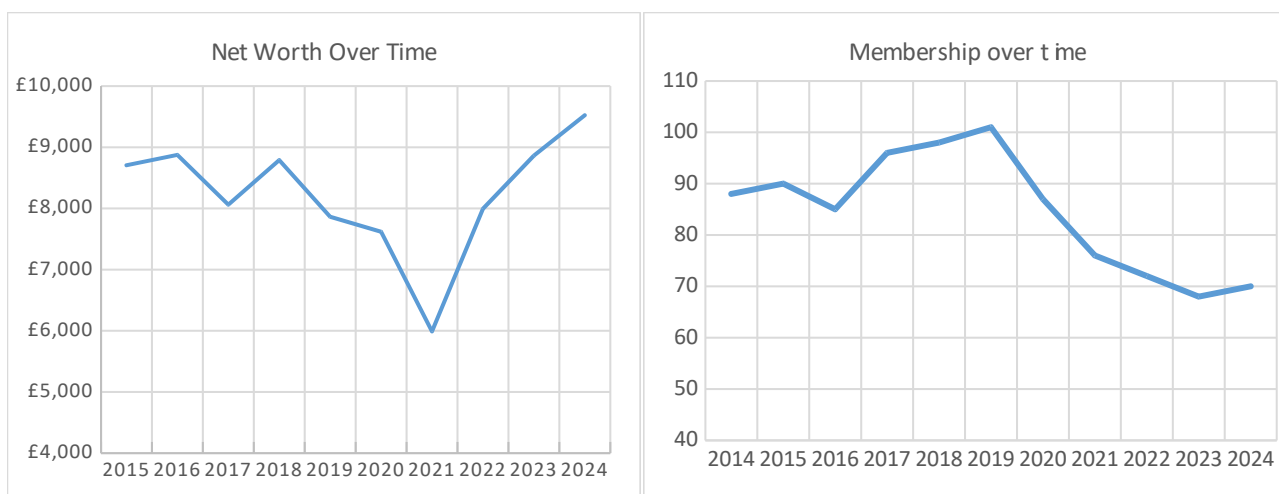
**Treasurer's Statement for AGM**

The total sum in our bank and cash accounts is £9524  
The Income & Expense summary shows a surplus of £660

Membership is 70 – 2 up on last year

We budgeted for a small deficit this year, based on the assumption that membership would continue to fall. However, the increase in membership (6 left and 8 new members joined) resulted in a significant increase in income from fees and attendance. This is because the members who left had low levels of attendance, and the 8 new members, understandably, attended frequently.

Because of the healthy bank balance and the surplus this year, we plan for a deficit next year. We will achieve this by making adjustments in areas that will benefit members – eg. Increased expenditure on speakers, no charge for attending SIGs, paying for trophy engraving from club funds, offering a discount for All Inclusive membership.



Mike Crack  
Treasurer  
2 May 2025

-

**Chelmsford Camera Club**  
**Annual General Meeting for the year 2024 – 2025 to be held**  
**at Broomfield Football Club**  
**At 19.30 on Thursday 22nd May 2025**

**Chelmsford Camera Club**  
**Income & Expenses for Year Ending 31 March 2025**

<b>Income</b>	<b>2023/24</b>	<b>2024/25</b>
Membership fees	2180.00	2232.50
Attendances - Club Night	3503.00	3843.00
Attendances - SIG/Beginners	193.88	16.00
Raffle Collection	542.00	565.00
Less Raffle prizes	222.30	373.95
Bank Interest/Charges	42.19	43.66
Panel of 6 Comp (4Cs)	102.20	
Misc Income	55.00	40.88
BBQ	60.42	
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>6456.39</b>	<b>6549.99</b>
<b>Expenses</b>		
Venue Hire - Club Nights	2859.02	2996.00
Judges Expenses	581.90	556.25
Speakers Expenses	811.00	834.00
Insurance	96.00	147.16
EAF, PAGB etc	165.00	174.80
Weekly Refreshments	244.23	250.96
Christmas Social	75.71	126.43
Equipment Purchase/Maint/Repair	64.05	
External Competitions	195.54	132.49
Other Expenses	90.60	234.82
Website	181.84	177.59
Postage, Stationery, Printing	32.72	20.01
Programme Printing (A4 Flyers)	46.78	44.41
Zoom subscriptions	143.88	155.88
Cups/Engraving		38.00
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>5588.27</b>	<b>5888.80</b>
Surplus/-Deficit for the year	868.12	661.19
Balance at start of year	7995.52	8863.64
<b>Balance at end of year</b>	<b><u>8863.64</u></b>	<b><u>9524.83</u></b>
Bank Current a/c end of year	4659.14	2921.78
Bank Savings a/c end of year	4003.61	6557.38
Cash in hand	200.89	45.67
	<b><u>8863.64</u></b>	<b><u>9524.83</u></b>

Hon. Treasurer: **M. Crack**

