EAST ANGLIAN FEDERATION OF PHOTOGRAPHIC SOCIETIES



THE BULLETIN SEPTEMBER 2023

## EDITORIAL

Welcome to the September edition of the Bulletin.

This month we start with sad news with an obituary for Barry Freeman who died in June. Not only was Barry very active in Ipswich & DPS and the Suffolk Monochrome Group but also as an EAF Executive Committee member for almost 20 years. He was the Editor of the Bulletin until 2019 when he retired and handed the job over to me.

This month we also have news of some changes to the events that the EAF organises. The Annual Exhibition plans to take online entries and payments from 2024 and there are early discussions underway about future changes to the Print Championship. Finally in this edition we have our regular feature profiling one of our member clubs - this time its the turn of Hertford & DCC.

Whilst many clubs have gone back from Zoom meetings to getting together in the meeting hall, Hertford have embraced Zoom and now use that predominantly to hold their club meetings.

Enjoy the Bulletin.

Nick Akers ARPS BPE3\*

Cover photograph: 'Fairest of All' by Dave Balcombe ARPS DPAGB EFIAP BPE3\* from Norwich & DPS.

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## **PRESIDENT'S PIECE**

Welcome back after the summer break ("What summer?" I hear some of you ask). Hopefully, many of you will have managed to take a wellearned break away to charge up the batteries for the next few months. Some clubs will have already begun the 2023/24 season by now, with the remainder commencing by the end of September. Clubs face the annual challenge of attracting new members and finding new work to represent them in competitions. Hopefully, your members will have been able to amass a good selection of images during the off-season. By the time you read this we will have held another PAGB APM Advisory Day on 3rd September. Numbers were slightly up on last year as members applying for the PAGB Distinctions is slowly rising after two years of Covid issues.

In October the Federation will be running a new event. For 29 years the Essex Audio-Visual Group have run a regional A-V Competition. Now, with many of their members ageing (like most of us), they approached the Executive Committee to sound out whether we could take over running the event. As I (along with several members of Colchester PS) inaugurated the original event 39 years ago, I personally didn't want to see the event die as a regional competition, although there are several National and International Competitions held around the country. A-V may be a minority genre in photography but it is still an important one. So, with assistance from Dick Williams, Keith Leedham and Andrew Pickess from the Essex group, along with Colin Birch, Nick Akers and myself from the Executive, we will be running this event this year. It will take place at Foxton Village Hall on Saturday 14th October 2023, commencing at 9.45am. Full details are on the website if you wish to enter but you may only have a few days left to get entries in. You can, however, just join us as an observer on the day and see what it is all about. We would love to see some new faces.

So, what else lies ahead for the forthcoming season? Your Executive Committee has been working throughout the summer recess trying to find new ways of increasing the number of clubs entering the Championships in February and March and the Exhibition in May, which has decreased over the past few years. Our two new secretaries - Hugh Spence responsible for the Championships and Jim Bennett for the Exhibition, have had two intensive sub-committee meetings to discuss possible changes in procedures and have come up with several ideas which will, hopefully, promote interest from club committees and their members. These have been discussed at an Executive Committee meeting and changes to the entry system for the 2024 Exhibition have been agreed. Proposals for the Championships are still at an early stage and are under discussion. How nice it would be to get attendance at the Championships back to the levels of pre-pandemic! Presently we are only getting about 27% of total clubs entering the PDI and only 17% for the prints out of 105 clubs. We appreciate that many clubs cannot enter both Championship events in the same year and many clubs are just too small to attempt entering either of the Championships. However, we feel there are many more clubs which could make the effort to enter, so chivvy up your External Competitions Secretary!

The Exhibition is also due some possible longer term changes. Understandably, during and since Covid the level of entry has waned for several reasons. Now the world has openedup again we would like to hope that the entry numbers for 2024 will increase over those of the past couple of years. These future changes need to be approved by the Executive so, again, watch this space. Unlike the Championships, the Exhibition is not the club's choice of work, it is yours, the individual member. It must, however, be entered via your club. Information on both these events will be out in the autumn so you and your clubs will have plenty of time to hopefully submit an entry

and to also attend. The Exhibition venue has also come under scrutiny, as we acknowledge that Wingfield Barns is a superb venue, but sadly is way off the beaten track. Jim Bennett and his sub-committee are looking at possible different venues, but it is not an easy task to find a venue central in our federation with good access for footfall and a reasonable price. Any ideas would be very welcome. So, I ask you to support the work of your Executive Committee by entering and attending these major events put on for you, the members. I look forward to welcoming more of you at next year's events.

Vic Hainsworth ARPS DPAGB APAGB

## HON GENERAL SECRETARY

As I write this report I am surrounded by envelopes and piles of the latest EAF Club Directories waiting for sending out to club secretaries, judges and lecturers. By the time you read this they should have arrived. This is a good point to remind all those of you who do receive copies of the Directory that you should use the EAF Bulletin to check for any up-dates of details. The current Bulletin include a change of secretaries, details of which arrived too late to be included in the new Directory (see page 12).

I'm afraid I have to report that, due to the limitations of gmail, my email address has to change again. In future to contact me electronically please use:

sue@sueandmiked.plus.com not easy to remember, but it allows me to send bulk emails, and easily keep you all up-to date with Federation news.

#### Sue Dobson CPAGB APAGB

### TREASURER

Just in case it has slipped your mind, the new EAF bank details are as follows: Name: EAF Sort code: 30-99-50 Account: 61188660 Please make sure to update any payee details you have in your online banking. By the time of the next Bulletin, the old accounts will have been closed.

Colin Birch LRPS DPAGB BPE3\*

## HANDBOOK SECRETARY

As I have stated in my previous reports, the PAGB Handbook is moving to an online system.

I know that all of the EAF Judges are in the system and now all but a few Lecturers are also in the system, thank you to all of those who have added their details. Clubs will need to access the system, to do this I would ask that all who are involved with the booking of Judges and Lecturers start to familiarise themselves with the system.

As a start, I would suggest going to the PAGB website at www.pagb.org, hover over the services button at the top of the page and a drop down menu appears, click on CES: Entries and Admin System.

In the second paragraph down 'What is available in CES(+)' click on the blue 'HERE' button to access the 'How do I' information sheets which explain how to register and then access the system.

I will be publishing a new EAF Judges and Lecturers Booklet in the new year and would ask that all Judges and Lecturers respond quickly to the forms that will be sent in November.

Paul Radden DPAGB EFIAP/s PSA4\*

## WEBMASTER

The Slide Show on the Home Page displays the 44 award-winning images from the 2023 EAF Exhibition.

The Slide Show plays automatically with the images randomised but you can move your cursor over an image which will pause the slide show with that image displayed. There is also a link to a PDF document giving full details of each image (Title, Author & Distinctions, Club/ Society and Award received). The Home Page includes reports on the 2023 FAF PDI & Print Championships which include the four award-winning images (Best Image & Judges' Selections) in both cases. The same information is also available on the Championship Pages.

There is information for the APM Advisory Day in September, the EAF Audio-Visual Trophy event in October and the Judges Workshop in November. There are links to PDF versions of Posters for these events on the EAF Events Page.

I've redesigned the EAF Member Clubs Page, grouping the clubs by County, but the procedure is the same, click on the club name to go to the club's website or other web prescence.

It's the time of year when many clubs are starting their 2023/4 season. If you have posters for your presentations from visiting lecturers or for your club exhibition and would like your Club's event advertised on the Whats On/ Diary Page then send your poster to webmaster@eaf.org.uk

#### Steve Robinson

## OBITUARY BARRY FREEMAN ARPS DPAGB APAGB



Barry was well known throughout East Anglia as a landscape photographer, lecturer and judge. He was highly respected in each role and was particularly well known for championing monochrome photography, excellence in photographic printing and photographic art. He was an East Anglian Federation Executive Committee member, a longstanding Ipswich & DPS committee member, an RPS Creative Group committee member and founder of the Suffolk Monochrome Group.

Barry joined Ipswich & DPS (IDPS) in 1992 having been a member at Chelmsford since the 80s. At Ipswich he filled many roles and had been, until recently, a longstanding committee member. He served as IDPS President from 2000 to 2003. His other roles included: Selection Committee, External Competition Secretary and Exhibition Sub-Committee. For many years he helped with the handling, labelling and presentation of the print entries and produced the Exhibition catalogue. Until recently he looked after IDPS's extensive trophy collection and arranged engraving of these each year.

He edited the IDPS quarterly Bulletin from 2003 until 2014 and since then has produced an Annual Journal for the Society, the latest being this year, 2023. For a number of years he organised the monthly print competitions. In fact the rules for IDPS competitions were developed by Barry and continue in use.

His service was particularly remarkable in that he had to travel considerable distances to attend meetings. In addition to his work for IDPS he was always ready to provide expert advice on digital printing, monochrome printing, digital photography in general and infra-red photography. He actively encouraged and promoted the development of excellence in photography, emphasising the art of photography, regardless of equipment or technology. Many people have benefited from Barry's experience and advice over the years. Both Chelmsford CC and IDPS have reason to be grateful for Barry's engineering and wood working skills

as he built print easels, ingenious lightweight print stands, cupboards and notice boards. He was always willing to make and repair things for club use - a very useful skill to have had on tap!



Barry was very active supporter of the East Anglian Federation of Photographic Societies. He was a regular attender at events; was a lecturer on landscape and travel photography; and was well known in clubs around the region.

He joined the EAF Executive Committee in the year 2000 and took over the role of EAF Bulletin Editor from David Pearce in 2004 continuing until a few years ago.

He was a member of the EAF Exhibition Sub-Committee from its inception in October 2001 and although no longer a member, he remained an active member of the Executive team helping with selection day and set up day.

Barry was a well-known EAF lecturer on Colour, Monochrome and Infra-Red Landscapes, Print Panels and Travel photography.

Barry founded the Suffolk Monochrome Group (www.suffolkmonochromegroup.co.uk) in 2009 to foster the appreciation of monochrome photography and to encourage the development of this branch of photographic art within the Group membership. He led the group up until his death.

Barry also organised a Royal Photographic Society "Home" Group and was a very active member of the RPS Creative Group.

In 2013 he curated a "Historic and Contemporary Exhibition of Photography" for the Colchester and Ipswich Museum Service. This featured historic images and techniques from the IDPS archives, current University College Suffolk student work and a range of contemporary photographs from top local photographers. It was then one of the largest visual art exhibitions staged by the Museum Service in the former Ipswich Art School, now a public art gallery. It is hard to think of someone who served photography as well or for as long as Barry. He was unstinting in his work for Club, Region and RPS. He dedicated himself to promoting photography and photographic art and helped and advised many people over the years.

#### David Robinson ARPS

**Ipswich & DPS** 

# What are the benefits of EAF MEMBERSHIP for you and your club?



Membership of the East Anglian Federation of Photographic Societies (the EAF) is open to all photographic clubs in the East of England.

# The EAF is in turn affiliated to the Photographic Alliance of Great Britain (the PAGB).

Information on the EAF website and in the quarterly EAF Bulletin.

An opportunity for member clubs to attend the EAF AGM, and air their views on current photographic issues, and elect the Committee.

Access to EAF speakers and trained judges for use at your club meetings.

Advantageous standard terms for booking EAF speakers and judges.

Contact and administrative information for clubs.

Recruitment and training of volunteer judges for the use of member clubs.

Access to the PAGB Recorded Lecture Service.

Opportunity for clubs to enter the annual EAF PDI and Print Championships and for winning clubs to represent the EAF nationally.

New Audio-Visual Trophy competition for club members.

Opportunity for club members to enter the prestigious EAF Annual Exhibition.

Opportunity for club members to apply for the PAGB Awards for Photographic Merit (APM) and FIAP awards which are only open to club members affiliated to the Federations.

Help and advice for those club members interested in PAGB APMs.

Access for clubs to the public liability and trustee indemnity insurance policies negotiated by the PAGB for clubs.

The EAF takes its turn to host various PAGB national events.

## **CHAMPIONSHIP SECRETARY**

In the PAGB Inter-Club PDI Championship at Warwick our clubs were in the Plate competition, where Beyond Group achieved 2nd place, Peterborough Imaging Co-operative (PICO) came 9th and Cambridge CC came in 12th position.

For the PAGB Inter-Club Print Championship to be held in Blackburn on 21st October both Beyond Group and PICO are automatic qualifiers from the previous year and they will be joined by Colchester PS and Melbourn & DPC. We wish success to all of our clubs.

Next year the EAF Club PDI Championship will be on February 11th after the AGM and the EAF Print Championship will be held on 10th March. The intention is that we will use an on-line entry system to get entries from the clubs, but at present we may have to accept entries via the current system - either instead of or as well as the online system. Plans for future changes to the Print Championship to encourage greater club participation are at an early stage of discussion. When proposals are complete they will need the agreement of the Executive Committee. Watch this space.

Hugh Spence CPAGB EFIAP/b

## DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

**14th October 2023** Audio-Visual Trophy

5th November 2023 EAF Judges Workshop

#### 11th February 2024

EAF AGM and 2024 PDI Champion-ship

**10th March 2024** EAF 2024 Print Championship

#### 4th May - 19th May 2024

EAF 2024 Annual Exhibition



'Eyebug' by John Sandell of Hertford & DCC.



Formerly "The East Anglian Audio-Visual Competition"

Now organised by **THE EAST ANGLIAN FEDERATION OF PHOTOGRAPHIC SOCIETIES** ACCORDED PAGB PATRONAGE No. 2023-014



To be held on Saturday 14th October 2023 at The Foxton Village Hall, Hardman Road, Foxton, Cambs. CB22 6RN Commencing at 9.45am with the Gala presentation at 7.00pm.



Assessed by two top A-V judges Keith Brown, FRPS FIPF MPAGB EFIAP and Richard Brown, FRPS FIPF, FACI(M) EFIAP APAGB

Rules and entry forms will be available from 13th February 2023 on the EAF website - <u>www.eaf.org.uk</u> on the downloadable documents' page.

## **EXHIBITION SECRETARY**

We are planning some changes to the way the Exhibition works for this coming season. More details will be sent to clubs but the following is an outline of what has been proposed following various discussions and Sub -Committee meetings.

We are looking to change the way club members enter their images rather than via physical media like CDs. We are also going to ask that the image files for both PDI and print entries are transmitted electronically. This will still involve collation and initial screening by a club representative for members within a club, but the files will be transmitted via WeTransfer, or an equivalent online file transfer service. We will need to have entries made according to a preferred format, of course, but the files and lists of Titles, Photographers' Names and Distinctions will all be asked for electronically. The present system using a network of Collectors will still be used to gather the prints together for sorting and selection.

We are planning a few small tweaks to the rules to assist with this, so keep an eye open for the official entry packs which will be sent out to your club as usual in November. For the coming season, we will be holding the Exhibition itself at Wingfield Barns again - but this is likely to be the last time we do so. We are looking at proposals for a new venue

for 2025, so watch this space! For regular contributors, we're hoping that these changes will help make the process easier and more efficient from the entrant's point of view - and if you haven't considered entering before, please ask about the Exhibition at your club meetings and, of course, see the EAF Website for more details. Entering the Exhibition is a good way to see how your work compares with those from other clubs in the Federation. For the full experience, of course, don't forget to come along to the Exhibition itself in May and see the selected prints and PDIs displayed together. If you fancy getting more involved and would like to help with running the Exhibition, we are on the lookout for people willing to help with print collection and delivery across the region. If you think you can help with this, please get in touch.

#### Jim Bennett



'Dark Hedges' by Peter Fiddeman of Hertford & DCC - see page 14.

## **CLUB DIRECTORY CHANGES**

**Beyond Group** New Secretary: Jonathan Vaines.

**City of London & Cripplegate PS** New Secretary: Ian Major, secretary@cityandcripplegate-ps.org

Hoddesdon CC New Secretary: Rana Wiliams.

#### **Biggleswade & DCC**

Correction - corect email address is: secretarybdcc@biggleswadecameraclub.co.uk

**EAF Hon General Secretary** Sue Dobson - new email address: sue@sueandmiked.plus.com

As the Bulletin is published online, personal addresses and phone numbers have been omitted.

## JUDGES SECRETARY

It's not long before we run the annual workshop for new judges. Are you thinking about becoming a judge? If so, then book your place now. Judging can be very rewarding. Visiting our one hundred plus clubs providing critique and feedback on a range of images is a great experience. Clubs are very welcoming and you make contacts throughout the region and beyond. I have found that judging is enjoyable and fun plus you see some of the region's best images and the exposure to so much work improves your image awareness and appreciation. It's a great way of working on your own 'continual improvement'. The details and booking forms are available on the EAF website. I look forward to seeing you at the workshop on November 5th 2023.

#### Jonathan Vaines



'Snail Kite with Prey' by Robin Claydon ARPS DPAGB BPE3\* of Hertford & DCC. See page 14 for a club profile.



# Sunday 5th November 2023, 9.30am - 5.00pm for new judges and a refresher/promotion group for existing judges

Foxton Village Hall, Hardman Road, Foxton, Cambridgeshire CB22 6RN

> Application form available from Judges Secretary, Jonathan Vaines <u>email : JudgesSec@eaf.org.uk</u>

# CLUB PROFILE HERTFORD & DCC

Hertford and District Camera Club was formed over 70 years ago, in 1951, by a small group of enthusiasts frustrated by the trade restrictions and materials shortages of the postwar years. It initially met in Ware, as part of the Ware Institute, but soon moved to Hertford where it has remained ever since.

Early members were ambitious, and clubbed together in 1953 to finance an open and successful international exhibition. There has been an annual exhibition ever since, until the run was sadly interrupted by the pandemic.

From the 1970s to the 90s we had enthusiastic AV workers, using slide projectors and dissolve units, and the club's big public AV show 'Colour in Camera' ran from 1977 to 1991 – we were among the first to hire and fill



*Club visit to the London Colour Walk' by Peter Fiddeman.* 



'Black Browed Albatross with chick' by Robin Claydon ARPS DPAGB BPE3\*.

the whole of what is now the Hertford Theatre when it opened in 1979. Our members were among the early adopters of digital cameras and processing and 35mm slide competitions soon became a thing of the past. In 1982, one of our members started another club in the neighbouring town of Hoddesdon, which continues to this day.

Throughout all the changes the original aims of the club have remained the same: to provide a forum for people with any interest in photography to meet, discuss and help each other, coupled with a varied programme and so to stimulate and broaden their interest.

So what makes our club different from others in the region? There has been less emphasis than in some clubs in gaining distinctions, with only a handful of members doing so. We have maintained an entry level for competitions to allow time before new members need to consider competing in the advanced class, with the aim of making it easier for those new to club photography to have time to develop their skills. Like many clubs we moved online soon after the start of the first Covid lockdown. This proved very popular both with members and with nearly 200 different visitors, and gave the club a real boost. As things slowly got back to normal we returned to the hall for the 2021-2022 season with a programme running alternate weeks in the hall and online.

Following that experience we took the courageous decision – as Sir Humphrey Appleby might say – to



An image from the club archives, 'Recession in Whitehall' by John Sandell.

move almost entirely online, with only occasional meetings in the hall, and to switch from weekly meetings to a fortnightly pattern, which seemed a better fit with the needs and expectations of the current membership.

This has made it possible for members to meet online when, for various reasons, they are unable to travel. We have also gained distant members as far away as the North of



'Cartier in Motion' by John Sandell.

England, and a significant number of regular visitors. We also have a broader variety of speakers. In effect, we have re-invented ourselves as an online club, and with the experience of running in this format for a full season we are sufficiently encouraged to plan our new season, starting in September 2023, on the same basis.

So if you would like to join a small and friendly club that meets mostly online, perhaps in addition to your present club, why not give us a try? Visitors are always welcome too. Our latest programme is online at hdcc. org.uk/syllabus.



'Scratch that Itch Please' by Robin Claydon ARPS DPAGB BPE3\*.

### Peter Fiddeman

Hertford & DCC



'Felixstowe Pier at Dawn' by Peter Fiddeman.

# 2023 INTER-FEDERATION COMPETITION RESULTS

The EAF enters the PAGB Inter-Federation Competition and Exhibition every year, with images selected from the high scoring and award winning entries to our Exhibition held immediately beforehand.

This year the Inter-Fed was again for prints only and comprised three sections – Nature, Open Colour and Open Mono.

The EAF came 4th in the Colour Print section, 5th in the Mono and 2nd (Equal with MCPF and WCPF) in the Nature.

A good showing for the EAF in a close fought competition against 13 other Federations. Overall marks were very close at the top with just 4 points between 2nd and 1st places in the Nature, 7 points between us and the 1st place in the Mono and 14 points in the Colour sections.

From our entry we had 6 images accepted for exhibition from the Colour section, 6 from the Mono and 6 from the Nature sections. A total of 8 images were given awards – three certificates, three PAGB Ribbons and two Judge's Choice awards. Very well done to all those who had images selected for the competition and especially well done to all of those who had acceptances and awards from the judging!

#### Jim Bennett

EAF Exhibition Secretary

## CAMBRIDGE DIGITAL INTER-CLUB COMPETITION 2024

The Cambridge Digital Inter-Club Competition is scheduled to take place again on Saturday 20th January 2024 at the usual venue - Whittlesford Memorial Hall, Mill Lane, Whittlesford, Cambridge CB22 4NE. Doors will open at 12:30pm on the day as usual.

Our judge this year will be Barbie Lindsay MPAGB EFIAP/s FBPE AWPF from the Beyond Group.

Following their success last year, PICO will be looking to retain their crown whilst, hopefully, the other competing clubs will be trying to take it away from them.

The competition will take the same format as previously, with five categories for entries of Projected Digital Images - Mono, People, Landscape, Nature and Open. (Plus a sixth "Open" entry for use as a tie-breaker if needed).

Make a note of the date in your diary - clubs are already signing-up to take part - and come along for an entertaining afternoon of good natured competition, chatting and catching-up with friends from across the region and a large portion of cake washed down with a cup of tea! Full details are available through the Cambridge CC website : https://www.cambcc.org.uk or contact the competition coordinator - Jim Bennett via : digital@ cambcc.org.uk.