



### March is External Competition Time.

External competitions came thick and fast in March. Noel, Annette and Aamir had their work cut out to collect and select from a clutch of fine images. Perhaps the most important events are the two L&CPU annual club competitions. The first was for PDI's which was held on Zoom on Saturday 20th March, kicking off at 10.00am. Amazingly I counted ten of us, from NCPS, in the Zoom audience, out of a total of over 140. It was a bit of a marathon but eventually the results came out late afternoon. There are two sections, Open and Nature.

#### L&CPU PDI – Open

1st	Oldham	278 points
2nd	Chorley	271 points
3rd	North Cheshire	269 points

#### L&CPU PDI – Nature

1st	Chorley	142 points
1st=	Poulton-le-Fylde	142 points
3rd	Macclesfield	139 points
3rd=	North Cheshire	139 points

#### L&CPU PDI – Combined

1st	Oldham	415 points
2nd	Chorley	413 points
3rd	North Cheshire	408 points

Unfortunately, we finished third; first and second clubs go on to represent the L&CPU in the national competition. We missed by 6 points from 24 images. It's very do-able. My arithmetic could just about cope by using all fingers and recalling primary school 'goesinters'. All we needed for second place was a measly 0.25 points per image as 6 goes into 24 exactly four times.

This newsletter scribbler retired for tea at 4pm and then sat in front of the Zoom screen for yet more at 6.45pm for another external event. An inexpensive glass of white Burgundy helped. The evening competition was another regional event, this time across them there 'ills, the Pennines, run by Sheffield Camera Club. We have a special invite each year, as one of three guest clubs. Despite normally doing well, we get a regular invite to take part. All very hospitable it has to said. We came second on the night. All in all, a good day for North Cheshire.

The following Saturday, 27th May, saw the L&CPU second annual club competition, this time for prints. This competition had less club entries than the previous week's PDI competition. It was all over in 90 minutes and we came a very creditable third, again.

#### L&CPU - PRINT

1st	Chorley	148 points
2nd	Warrington	134 points
3rd	North Cheshire	131 points

Now, as Chorley earned a bye this year, as last year's finalists, we go forward to the 2021 PAGB Print Club finals - each region sends two clubs. The finals are normally held in October but nothing is finalised as yet. And then there was the Three Shires Challenge with Chapel and Leek, held on 15th April. We kept up our consistency and came... yes you've guessed it... third but this time out of three. Well, it's time we let someone else have a chance to win. It won't happen again.

#### Themed Internal Club Competitions

We decided not to run the Clubworker Print competition this year, due to Covid restrictions. So Rob, our Internal Comp Secretary, ran three 'themed' PDI competitions instead. The themes chosen were dereliction, emotion and spring. A 'composite image' just turned up, in what I like to think is my mind, of a very tearful tortoise/ninja turtle with a broken leg, making his way on crutches, with all the alacrity he can muster, through an old bombsite where daffodils are just coming into bloom.

There were some excellent images on the dereliction theme, some wandered too far from the remit, including yours truly. The second theme, 'emotion' prompted some excellent images, a pity that the judge on the night misunderstood a few of the entries, notably Noel's Champagne Moment; an image of football players celebrating having won the cup. Our judge commented on the snow in the photo - when it was clearly sprayed champagne. Andrew (W) won the emotion theme with a landscape - how does that work (?) and Simeon's wistful dog also scored 20. Other 20 scores were from Annette and Jackie.

One hugely positive outcome of these themed images is their popularity with our members. A very welcome genie has been let out of this particular bottle.

## The Duelling Hockneys.

Tuesday 13th April was another 'members' evening when our President and her other half showed us a collection of their not so well-known images. Some were personal favourites, some taken when they began their journey in the world of image making. The set up was simple. A quick two or three sentence intro on each image by the author and then a critique and score out of ten, from her/his partner. Annette and Rob promised not to just select their best images and were true to their word. Behind the knockabout banter and a spectacular score of ten out to ten by Rob to a penguin image of Annette's, there were plenty of wise words and useful comments.



10/10 for Annette's 'Coming Home'

We saw 15 images from Annette and 15 images from Rob in sets of tens and fives. Noel kept score and finally declared Annette the winner, perhaps helped when Annette showed a red card to an image which Rob, clearly did not take. There he is in the centre of one of his 'own' images; of a climbing group of pals, taken on his 65th birthday schlep up Ben Nevis.



0/10 for Rob. That's a red card in anyone's language. 'Rob's 65th. Summit of Carn Mor Deag en route to Ben Nevis'

A couple of take-aways from the night. It's reassuring to us mortals that two of our leading club photographers have taken images which can also bomb. The second is that whenever we ask members to put on a show of some sort, we can expect quality images and an entertaining evening. Paula's recent Zoom talk was a very recent example.

## Good luck Andrew

Did you know that Andrew Whettam's image, Wild Weather at Waterstein Head, will be in the exhibition for Scottish Landscape Photographer of the Year. It was taken in Feb 2020 on the Isle of Skye. In his own words "I quite like the way the V-shaped valley adds an extra dog leg to the line of cliffs on the left, but the main reason I was there was to shelter from the wind, which was blowing an absolute hoolie!"



Wild Weather at Waterstein Head – author Andrew Whetton

## Clubworker Night 4th May

To arrive at the Clubworker score the two scores for PDI and Themed PDI's are added together.

Here's a few images from the leader board.

Annette Hockney – 1st in the Clubworker Competition, 2nd in the Themed, 3rd in the PDI



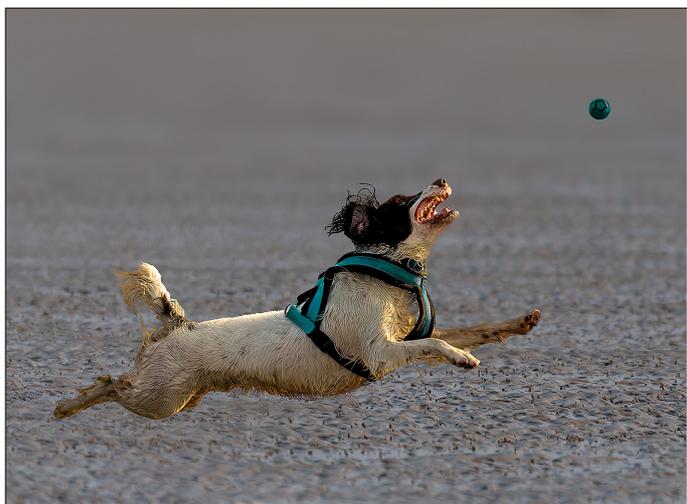
Harvest Mouse on Hawthorne – author Annette Hockney

Noel Patterson – 2nd in the Clubworker competition,  
2nd in the PDI, 5th in the Themed



*Gymnastic Leap – author Noel Patterson*

Aamir Sabzwari – 1st in the PDI competition (with a remarkable score of 119 out of 120 – room for improvement then?) 14th in the Themed, 9th in the Clubworker



*Chasing the Ball – author Aamir Sabzwari*

Simeon Briggs - First in the Themed competition, 7th in the PDI, 3rd in the Clubworker



*'Sorry about the sock' – author Simeon Briggs*

## **The AGM, 11th May 2021**

Two motions were passed at the AGM, both unanimous. The first concerned our annual exhibition. A sub-committee was set up by Noel to look into what was needed in the future and their report was circulated to all members before the AGM. The sub-committee's recommendations were agreed and the Exhibition for the 21/22 season will be held on 2nd, 3rd and 4th June 2022. (Thursday to Saturday inclusive). The Club is looking for an individual to join the committee and be responsible for organizing this three-day event with the support of all the members of the sub-committee (Bernie, Rob, Bruce and Noel)

The second motion to be passed regards future finances. Subs will now be £35 per year and meeting attendance will be £3. Zoom attendance will also be charged at £3 per meeting but members will be encouraged to buy a Zoom passport for all meetings for £15. Non-members attending Zoom will be charged £4. New members will be charged a pro-rata subscription depending on the month they joined.

*The new committee is as follows:*

<b>President</b>	Noel Patterson
<b>Treasurer</b>	Andrew Whettam
<b>Secretary</b>	John Depares
<b>Syllabus Secretary</b>	Bruce Kendrick
<b>Internal Competition Secretary</b>	Rob Hockney
<b>External Competition Secretary</b>	Annette Hockney
<b>Membership</b>	Julie Shoemith
<b>Webmaster</b>	Jerry Niman
<b>Without Portfolio</b>	Paula Martin
	Bernie Rowlands

## **Looking Forward**

**Themed PDI's for summer months.**

Let's hope the recent Covid relaxation works so we can get out and take some new images, instead of calling on our back catalogues. For those who want to keep their club work active during the summer months, we have three more themed PDI's coming up on the last Tuesday of May, June and July – that's May 25th, 29th June and 27th July. This will be a more interactive process involving our three 'certified' judges.... Jon, Noel and Rob. Deadline for entries will be the Sunday prior to the last Tuesday in the month. All on Zoom. Should be fun. Good luck everyone.

## **2021/2022 Syllabus**

This is now out to members. Take a good look – there should be something for everyone. For those with an inclination, it is worth googling the photographers involved, especially those from overseas and especially Kevin Judd. A master craftsman with the camera and the vine. He makes great images and fabulous wine.

*Brucie...*