

President's Report 2025/2026

We have had a tremendous year of quality speakers and have run the usual 6 internal competitions: the essence of our club. Our thanks to Dave and Martin respectively for their sterling efforts. We have also introduced a few field events which proved popular.

We held a successful exhibition of our member's images in The Macclesfield Library in September 2025. We received many favourable comments. We have booked another slot, a little later in the calendar year, for 2026.

Club attendances have grown slowly to an acceptable level, when you consider our membership is now in the low twenties. We continue to focus on ways to improve our membership numbers but we should always bear in mind that we are no different to many camera clubs throughout the country who are facing similar, post-covid, problems.

Despite our low numbers we do produce quality images as is reflected in the external competitions we entered. See Paula's detailed report. Judges have also commented that North Cheshire sets a high standard of entries considering our low membership numbers.

We have 22 full members and 5 who are either Zoom only or in person only (not on Zoom). 19 members took part in our PDI internal comps – a more than decent figure but we, like all camera clubs, struggle when it comes to prints.

Going forward we do have to recognise the situation and adapt accordingly. I used my recent President's Night slot to address the issue of who we are, where we want to be and how we intend to implement some positive changes, some of which might appeal to new members.

Bruce Kendrick

Treasurers Report 2025-6

Below is a **Draft** breakdown of this season's accounts since not all costs are in yet. While we made a small loss of £50.88, the situation is somewhat worse since the expenses associated with the Cask Exhibition were in last year's accounts while the income of £230 is in this year's accounts. So, a more accurate reflection of the current activity would be a loss for the season of just under £300. This is largely due to lower on the night attendance fees and membership numbers. A full five year comparison will be available at the AGM but has not yet been compiled.

The club continues to have a healthy balance at the bank of around £3,350.

Noel Patterson

INCOME	
Subscriptions	1,385.00
Weekly entrance money and raffles	817.99
Other	230.00

Income Totals	£2,432.99
EXPENDITURE	
Venue hire	-789.89
Judges/speakers	-1,076.00
Other Exhibitions	-104.24
L&CPU + PAGB subs	-178.75
Equipment purchases*	-9.99
Insurance	-99.44
Website and Zoom charges	-173.77
Tea/Coffee etc	-51.79
Expenditure Totals	-2,483.87
Surplus/(Deficit)	-£50.88

Membership Secretaries Report 2025-6

Total membership continues to fall, although we continue to attract new members we are also losing them.

3 Life Members although Brian Bower sadly passed away this year.

22 Full members

5 Zoom or in person only members

Noel Patterson

Webmaster's Report

The new hosting company, Unlimited Web Hosting, had continued to provide a fast, reliable service.

We purchased an additional domain name, poyntonphotography.club and this is operational, taking browsers to the existing NCPS Website. We have decided not to promote this new name.

There was a delay updating the site with the results of the second Print competition, due to problems reconciling the scores in the leaderboard with the original competition results. This has now been resolved and a separate validation process introduced.

All meetings, outings, exhibition and external competition dates are now being maintained on the club's online calendar.

A contact form for people to comment on our Macclesfield exhibition using QR codes was implemented. We had several replies, but not an overwhelming number.

We continue to have occasional problems with the members' and friends' mailing lists, with messages being rejected by the receiver's email provider before ever reaching the mailbox. We have tried to minimise the problem by avoiding sending emails with large numbers of images and/or hyperlinks, and by getting BT Internet to 'whitelist' our domain, although this is by no means a solution. The underlying issue involves the sender's email provider, the receiver's email provider and Google (who host the mailing list software), and is therefore proving very difficult to resolve. If anyone has expertise in SMTP, DMARC, DKIM and SPF, please get in touch, as I'm getting out of my depth!

Mail sent to the Friend's mailing list is now automatically added to the Club News section of the website.

The site is fully up to date, and as we continue to get positive feedback about the site, I have no plans for any major changes. Any suggestions, however, would be gratefully received.

Any volunteers for a backup Webmaster?

Jerry Niman