

# Western Counties Photographic Federation

## Annual General Meeting

### **Minutes, Officers Reports & Diary Dates**

**Saturday 11th October 2025**

**11am to gather, meeting starts 11.30am**

Clyst St Mary Village Hall, Clyst St Mary, Exeter EX5 1AA

### **Agenda**

1. Welcome and opening remarks
2. Apologies
3. Minutes of the AGM 2024 – available on the WCPF website
4. Matters arising, not covered elsewhere on the agenda
5. Financial statement
6. Executive Committee reports – these will be circulated to clubs and made available on the WCPF website.
7. Election of Executive members
8. Any other business

Afternoon Lecture - 1pm £5 cash please  
'Immersion'

By Marko Duckta

Marko brings 25 years of photographic mastery, with a portfolio that spans collaborations with Vivienne Westwood and Rolls-Royce. From high-fashion moments to compelling editorial portraits, his work is as diverse as it is distinctive—and his eye for detail has earned him a place as a respected WCPF judge.

This talk delves into the bold evolution of his practice through his current PhD research at the University of Gloucestershire. It reveals how the challenge of making an original contribution to knowledge has radically transformed his perception of landscape photography—and offers an exciting glimpse into how he plans to push these boundaries even further.

## President AGM 2025

As always a big thank you to all the exec members (and those that supported them) for a good year where all our activities ran well with no major mishaps – down to everyone doing a great job.

This has been a year where some clubs have struggled with membership while others have grown in numbers and image quality. Please do not hesitate to ask the exec for help, we are always willing to contribute if we can.

With Sue O’Connell taking over the coordination of the judging seminars it is appropriate to ask her to join the Exec.

Due to other commitments Linda Meaton will step down from the publicity role. Chris Marsham will be leaving the area and will be leaving the exec. Helen and Stephen Jones have stepped down from their exec role due to health issues.

Many thanks to Chris, Helen, Stephen and Linda for their efforts over the years

So our nomination list for the exec is (unless further nominations are received):

Pedro Landers	President
Peter Fry	Vice President
Helen Moore	Secretary
Russell McGowan	Treasurer
Peter Fry	PAGB Representative
Ann Owens	PAGB Awards
Bill Aven	Directory
Nick Bodle	Webmaster
Dennis Knowles	Archivist
Liz Webb	Publicity
Sue O’Connell	Judge Training
Ian Bateman	AV
Ralph Snook	ICC Ralph Snook
Sandie Cox	Kingswood / Lanes
Lorraine Robins	Knighthayes
Pedro Landers	Members’ Exhibition
Sue Bishop	Travelling Print Exhibition

At the Council meeting I said I would look at making the constitution a more approachable document without changing its requirements. While possible I have concluded that the effort required is not justified by any gains, so I am dropping this effort.

AI continues to be discussed in several venues. I believe that our competition rules have been reasonably appropriate but we have made a few tweaks to clarify our stance – key is the requirement that the photographer can justify everything in an image as presented using an unmodified file created by them by a photographic process. Adding an AI generated elephant in that phone box is obviously not permitted, blending your elephant image with your phone box image is, even if you use a “smart” replace tool to smooth over some of the joins. Replacing a person in the background is fine if the replacement looks like the rest of the background. Given

the rapidly changing capabilities of all the image processing tool suites we have tried to remove reference to any specific suite/tool.

Given the ongoing improvements in computer image creation we need to think about how we adapt to the new environment – do we continue to completely exclude image generation or do we create competition/exhibition classes that include more generated content? This is something we need to discuss!

## WCPF – TREASURER’S REPORT

### EXECUTIVE MEETING – 12 AUGUST 2025

Attached are accounts for the year ended 30 June 2025. I have revised the layout to show more clearly areas of net income or expenditure from our various events. They show a surplus of £1,126 overall from which we have made a provision for a potential liability to Bovey Tracey Golf Club of £1,000 leaving a surplus of £126. These figures include sponsorship of £1,000 from Fotospeed and a donation of £235 from the disbanded Calne Club. I am unsure as to the ongoing sponsorship position with Fotospeed and would ask for some advice re this matter.

I have collected all of the WCPF and PAGB annual subscriptions from the 79 member Clubs of the Federation having lost three Clubs from last year. Photographers with Disabilities decided to disband in December 2024 and Ivybridge & District and St Agnes elected not to re-join.

This financial year the competitions show Kingswood Salver made a small deficit of £116 compared to a deficit last year of £499, the Inter Club Championship made surplus of £396 compared to a deficit last year of £418, Knighthayes Trophy made a deficit of £28, the AV competition made a surplus of £121, the judging seminar a surplus of £11 and the Members Exhibition a reduced deficit at £974 compared to last year at £1,028.

The only other major expenditure was the replacement of one of our laptops at a cost of £960.

The bank balances at 30 June 2025 were as follows:

Operating account	£ 1,583
Deposit account	14,651

We need to decide on subscription levels for 2026 to advise at the AGM. 2025 charges were £27.50 for up to 25 members and an additional £1.10 per additional member.

Russell McGowan

*Treasurer*

[treasurer.wcpf@gmail.com](mailto:treasurer.wcpf@gmail.com)

4 August 2025

## THE WESTERN COUNTIES PHOTOGRAPHIC FEDERATION

### Income and Expenditure Account - Year ended 30 June 2025

	£	£	2024	
			£	£
<b>Income</b>				
Subscriptions (79 Clubs)		3,141.60		3,340.91
Interest		242.55		233.88
Fotospeed sponsorship		1,000.00		-
Donation - Calne		235.00		-
		<u>4,619.15</u>		<u>3,574.79</u>
<b>Competitions and Events</b>				
Kingswood Salver				
Income	485.00		465.00	
Expenditure	(601.24)	(116.24)	(964.45)	(499.45)
Inter Club Championship				
Income	2,522.00		2,257.65	
Expenditure	(2,126.14)	395.86	(2,675.98)	(418.33)
Knightshayes Trophy				
Income	-		-	
Expenditure	(27.82)	(27.82)	(158.50)	(158.50)
Audio Visual Competition				
Income	360.00		543.00	
Expenditure	(239.37)	120.63	(294.79)	248.21
Judging Seminar				
Income	360.00		249.00	
Expenditure	(348.78)	11.22	(243.00)	6.00
Members Exhibition				
Income	3,039.00		3,439.52	
Expenditure	(4,012.86)	(973.86)	(4,467.95)	(1,028.43)
Net Income		<u>4,028.94</u>		<u>1,724.29</u>
<b>Other Expenditure</b>				
Annual General Meeting	(331.00)		(580.40)	
Council Meeting	(290.74)		(475.40)	
Executive Meetings	-		(117.90)	
PAGB Competition Grants	(500.00)		(672.46)	
PAGB Awards	-		(15.00)	
Insurance	(304.21)		(293.57)	
Web site costs	(33.60)		(486.00)	
Zoom licence	(155.88)		(143.88)	
Capital expenditure - Laptop computer	(960.27)		(71.22)	
Treasurer's expenses	(140.00)		(227.29)	
Bank & paypal charges	(187.08)		(68.80)	
		<u>(2,902.78)</u>		<u>(3,151.92)</u>
<b>Surplus (deficit) for period</b>		<u>1,126.16</u>		<u>(1,427.63)</u>
Provision for Members Exhibition hall hire		(1,000.00)		-
<b>Transfer To (From) reserves</b>		<u>126.16</u>		<u>(1427.63)</u>

# THE WESTERN COUNTIES PHOTOGRAPHIC FEDERATION

## Balance Sheet at 30 June 2025

	£	2024 £
Opening reserves	15,108.50	16,579.51
Transfer from Income & expenditure	126.16	(1,427.63)
Unresolved difference	-	(43.38)
Closing reserves	<u>15,234.66</u>	<u>15,108.50</u>
Represented by -		
Bank current account	1,582.87	2,661.04
Bank deposit account	14,651.79	12,409.24
Paypal account	-	-
Cash	-	38.22
Provision for Members Exhibition hall hire	(1,000.00)	-
	<u>15,234.66</u>	<u>15,108.50</u>



Russell McGowan  
Treasurer



21.8.2025

Phillipa Rabitts LRPS  
Examiner



Peter Weaver LRPS, CPAGB *ALAB*  
Examiner

21.8.2025

## **AV Secretary Report for Exec Meeting on 12<sup>th</sup> August 2025**

### ***AV Competition***

The 2026 AV Competition will be held on Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> April 2026 at Woodbury Village Hall. The judges will be Edgar Gibbs FRPS DPAGB AV-AFIAP, and Linda Gibbs DPAGB AV-AFIAP from the Welsh Photographic Federation. The plan is that they will appear 'live' on screen via Zoom, but there is a chance that they will travel down in person.

The 2025 AV Competition is available as a download for clubs to show in their winter programmes. A link can be requested by emailing [av.wcpf@gmail.com](mailto:av.wcpf@gmail.com)

Ian Bateman FRPS MPAGB AV-EFIAP APAGB

AV Secretary

## **Directory Secretary's Report 2025 WCPF AGM**

New forms have were sent out on the 2<sup>nd</sup> September to all clubs to confirm who your committees are and more importantly to let us know who requires access to the 'Members Area' of the WCPF website.

The forms were sent out to in both MAC & Word format to use with your chosen systems.

It is your responsibility as club rep to inform us of any changes through the year, as your club may miss out on hearing about WCPF events etc.

If you have changed position, please pass the form and this report to your incumbent.

A reminder will also be sent to all WCPF Judges & Lecturers for them to be sure their details are up to date.

Whilst our Webmaster Nick Bodle will have already stated, owing to DATA protection we annually require all users to re-register following the WCPF AGM.

Generic email addresses are not accepted for this purpose but are perfectly fine for all other club use.

For any directory enquiries please contact me on the email address below.

Bill Aven

[directory.wcpf@gmail.com](mailto:directory.wcpf@gmail.com)

## **Report from Interclub Championships Secretaries.**

As previously reported The Corn Exchange has been booked for Sunday 8 February 2026 and the same arrangements have been requested for 2026 so we will again be able to set up the print stands behind the seating to display the prints as well as using the small room as before.

The three judges will be, Louise Hill, Sue Sibley and Aleks Gjika

The Selection will be held on 25<sup>th</sup> January 2025 at Bristol Photographic Society's Club Rooms (as previously) with all selection taking place on the one day.

The "Small Club" tick box will remain on the entry form to avoid the problem encountered historically but with this addition it was overcome in 2025.

PAGB Patronage has been granted and the medals/ribbons have been received.

All entry opening and closing dates are in the WCPF diary and details are on the ICC Competition page. A reminder will be sent to clubs in September when all clubs should be meeting again.

A reminder needs to be sent out for the return of trophies also a reminder to be sent out November time to all the clubs so they can sort entries in good time before the closing date.

Sandie & Ralph

From Ann Owens,

### **Report for Executive Meeting August 2025**

The recent announcement by Rod Wheelans that the November Adjudications at Kingston on Thames has had to be cancelled due to a lack of entries, was a huge disappointment for all.

A very hard decision to have been taken, and even harder to accept for those who had been planning and looking forward to the November PAGB's adjudications.

Whilst still relatively new to this role, I had thought applications from within the WCPF seemed rather thin? I presume this must have been the case nationally?

However, these events simply cannot be run at a loss, unfortunately. There are options being offered to anyone already signed up.

They can opt to be transferred to the 2026 spring Adjudication hosted in Cumbria, in which case payments will be retained.

Another option would be to withdraw completely, when a refund a fee will be organised.

Those wishing to have a refund should contact me for more details.

A new service, still at the planning stage, may be an online Advisory Service.

It's anticipated only PDIs would be appraised. The logistics of handling prints is thought to be too problematic.

I strongly advise anyone interested in the potential of such an advisory service to subscribe to the PAGB eNews where details will be explained as and when finalised.

Access past issues here - <https://www.pagbnews.co.uk/newsletter-archive>

A great read in any case, with up-to-date news about what's happening in the world of photography, which also includes wonderful, inspiring images!

And it's FREE!!

Ann 

**Publicity Officer Report:**

Although the opportunity for clubs to use the WCPF publicity page for advertising their events, only two clubs have utilised this option so far this year.

**Events Reported:**

The opening to the Members Exhibition. At Magelake Hall, Uffculme.

The Judging Seminar at Wicklea Academy in Bristol

The Bob Faris Memorial at the BAWA Leisure Centre, Filton, Bristol.

All well-attended events.

It is proposed to combine the role of administrator of the WCPF Facebook page with the Publicity Officer position, as these roles logically fit together.

I, unfortunately, have to resign from the WCPF Executive due to other commitments with Bristol Photographic Society. However, I will continue to be involved with the WCPF Judging Seminar.

Linda Meaton

Publicity Officer

## **AGM - WCPF Webmaster Report 11<sup>th</sup> October 2025**

There is not much I can say as things are very quiet at the moment as we are in a summer break with most of our clubs. The Website is up to date with all the information I have been given. I do appreciate our committee look at it periodically to ensure there isn't something I have missed.

Most enquiries I get are around access to the members area as it does not appear that the club secretaries or club contact are not passing on to Bill a list of their clubs committee and access will only be given if Bill has that list and it is up to date. This is even when Bill has sent out a number of emails reminding those club contacts. There is an increasing number of committee changes throughout the season in some clubs and this causes frustration when we block access until we have been notified that they are indeed a committee member. All of this is to comply with the data protection and that we do not have a long list of people in the members area that should no longer have access to it.

After our AGM everyone will be deleted from the members area except WCPF committee and those requiring access will need to reregister. I will also add a line on the sign in form to make them aware that they need to reregister. Bill will be sending out a new forms for the clubs contact to notify him of their clubs committee so we have an updated list.

I would also like it documented that I thank Sheila Haycox for the help she gave me when I had an issue around the number of pages I could use as I had come to the limit of what WIX would allow. This has now been resolved and I have got around this with Sheila's help.

Nick Bodle  
WCPF Webmaster.

## **KINGSWOOD SALVER SECRETARY'S REPORT AUGUST 2025**

Most of the work for the Salver had already been done by Helen and Stephen before I stepped into the role. So my thanks go to them for booking the hall and judge/speaker.

A note has been sent out to clubs advising them of what is happening and that keeping the competition alive for the future rests with the clubs. Hopefully they will be working on the project over the summer.

I plan to send an email to all the clubs at the beginning of September as a reminder that images will be required at the AGM in October.

The Judge/Speaker will be Les Loosemore ARPS; DPAGB; AWPf

A request for the return of trophies etc needs to be sent out.

Sandie Cox

Kingswood Salver Secretary

## Members' Exhibition Secretary 2025 AGM

This year's Members' Exhibition attracted 228 entrants entering 2337 images with approximately a third entered as prints. The final exhibition consisted of just over 500 images with 194 prints. Uffculme was a reasonable venue but a little away from the centre of the region. Also it proved to be a little more difficult to steward, many thanks to those who helped with key holding!

Planning for next year's Members Exhibition has started. I have the selectors booked – they are:

Jenny Hibbert MPAGB EFIAP/g AWPf

Jean Brooks EFIAP/b

Glyn Edmunds APSA EPSA EFIAP/g ARPS APAGB DPAGB ABIPP AMPA

PAGB patronage has been obtained.

Chris is not able to guarantee the use of his house for the 2026 selection so I have made the decision to alter the format a little to try to keep the costs down. I will host the selection meeting in my house – the space is fine for selecting both prints and digital images. I have booked rooms for the selectors in the B&B associated with the village pub. I will do a collection run to pick up the prints from the AESs. I will get local camera club members to do the print handling so the AESs don't need to travel – there were rather a lot of people at last year's selection weekend.

John Tilsley, Ann Owens and Pam Sherren have stepped down as AESs this year, Stephen Jones will collate the Area 7 prints and either Sue or I can collect the Area 2 Prints (but as both of us are one the outer edges of the area I have asked the local clubs if someone better placed would like to do it). Julie Kibler has agreed to cover Area 4

I feel it would be appropriate to increase the cost of entry slightly with the base cost going from £8 to £10 for the first class but holding the incremental cost to £3 per additional class.

The 2026 exhibition will be held at Stover Country Park exhibition area just outside Newton Abbot, not far from the old venue at Bovey Golf club and even closer to the A38. The dates are May 2<sup>nd</sup> to May 11<sup>th</sup> 2026 - Presentations on May 2<sup>nd</sup> at 2:00. This gives us two weekends and the week in between so a reduction from previous years.