



SECTION 3: ACTIVITIES AND FACILITIES

The Club provides various facilities and engages in a number of activities which are summarised below. Other events take place from time to time which will be advertised on one or more of the Club website, the Club Facebook page and the Club notice-board.

Meetings – take place at 7.45pm on Thursday evenings in Room 5 of the Farnborough Community Centre. The season runs from September to May, with breaks for Christmas and Easter. Dates and speakers/events are shown in the annual Programme provided to all Members. Members are encouraged to arrive in good time for meetings, and to assist in setting up and clearing away afterwards. There is a half-way break for refreshments and the meetings close at around 10.00pm. Meetings may include the following:

guest speakers who talk on various aspects of photography, photographic methods and photographic techniques, usually with a presentation of projected digital images (PDIs), prints or slides. Sometimes speakers give an audio-visual (A/V) presentation of images with recorded sound. Speakers are usually expert photographers who are prepared to impart their knowledge for the benefit of members. Most seasons the Club will invite a keynote speaker, usually a very well-known photographer, and invite non-members to attend for a fee.

competitions in prints and projected digital images (PDIs), both within the Club and with other clubs. (Club competitions in slides were discontinued in 2010.) All Members are eligible to enter the Club competitions. Members are split into ability groups for some Club competitions, and there are trophies awarded annually to the winners of the Club competitions. For full details see Section 5. Competitions with other clubs may be informal, or are undertaken under the auspices of the Federation of which the Club is a member. Matches may be held at Farnborough or at other clubs in the area. For further information see Sections 6 and 7.

practical evenings when Members provide demonstrations of specific skills covering topics such as basics of photography, studio work, mounting prints, use of digital photographic software like Adobe Lightroom and Photoshop, and advice and guidance on attaining photographic honours from the RPS and PAGB. Suggestions for topics to be included should be passed to the Programme Secretary. These evenings may also include Member's lecturettes, which are short presentations of prints or projected digital images (PDIs), and which provide an opportunity for Members to display their own work and develop their presentation skills.

displays of images from national and international competitions.

the Annual General Meeting, held in the first half of each year with the purpose of reviewing the Club's progress, adopting the Club's financial accounts, electing the Management Committee, filling the voluntary positions and dealing with any issues raised by Members.

the last meeting of the season is the Final Evening when the winners in the Club's competitions receive their trophies and certificates. For this event, each Member brings a plate of food so that a shared buffet meal can be made available.

Contact: Programme Secretary



in December or January the Club organises a Christmas evening meal at a local restaurant.

Contact: Social Events Organiser

Facilities - the Club has a range of **Equipment** for use at its meetings. The Club owns a digital projector and computer laptop for the projection of digital images. The Club regularly calibrates the digital projector to ensure that images are projected with the correct colours, brightness and contrast. This equipment is used for digital presentations, demonstrations of digital imaging and for projected digital image (PDI) competitions. For print presentations and competitions there are several print display stands and a lighted display box, and the prints are also projected onto a large screen using the digital projector and a camcorder for audience viewing. In addition the Club owns a number of other items including projection screens, modern studio lighting equipment, a sound system for speakers and judges, and two sets of exhibition display panels. The Club no longer has a darkroom.

Contact: Equipment Officer

Studio –the Club arranges a series of studio sessions to enable Members to develop their portrait skills. The Club owns studio equipment which is set up in a room in the Community Centre, with a model, on an evening previously advised by the Studio Organiser. Some sessions are specifically aimed at providing initial studio tuition with guidance on exposures, lighting and obtaining the best poses. A small charge is made to cover costs. All Members are welcome to take part, but the number of members attending each session has to be limited.

Contact: Studio Organiser

Communications – the Chairman provides information on forthcoming events and other news items at the beginning of each meeting. Further details and other information for Members are made available on the **Club website** and the **Club Facebook page** (see below). The Chairman and other Committee Members maintain a list of Members' email addresses so that relevant messages on topics such as external competitions, photographic holidays and photographic suppliers can be forwarded to Members. In addition the Club **notice-board** contains information on issues such as competition results, items for sale, external photographic competitions, etc. The notice-board is maintained by the **Club Secretary**.

Print Box – a Club competition where the prints are judged by the Members taking part. Having sought input from the participants, the Print Box Secretary chooses 4 set subjects for each season, and for each round participants are usually required to supply a print for the set subject and another of their own choice. The box of prints is circulated to the participants who provide their comments on each print in the same way that a competition judge would and decide which, in their opinion, are the best prints. The Secretary keeps the score as the competition progresses. In addition to being an enjoyable informal competition, the Print Box encourages members to broaden their photographic skills in the taking of photographs of subjects they might otherwise not choose, and it also gives Members the chance to develop their ability in critically analysing photographs. All Members are eligible to participate. The basic rules for the Print Box are shown in section 5 and the full details provided on entering the competition.

Contact: Print Box Secretary

Outdoor Photographic Events – from time to time field trips and outings to places of photographic interest are organised and advised to Members. The Club may be able to derive



the benefit of group bookings and in these circumstances can provide such outings at a reasonable cost. Suggestions from Members for places to visit are welcomed.

Contact: Events Organiser

Website – the Club maintains a comprehensive website on the Internet at www.farnboroughcameraclub.org/. It contains the Club's history and activities, notices of forthcoming events, Club news including competition results, the current programme, this Handbook, a list of Officers, a map showing where to find the Club, a winners' gallery of images from the Club's competitions and a photo gallery that contains photographs by a number of the Members. It also provides a facility which allows visitors to the site to communicate with the Club by e-mail. In addition, the website contains links to the PAGB and its Federations, to other photographic sites and to some useful Internet shopping sites where photographic equipment and supplies can be purchased at very competitive prices. The site is regularly up-dated.

As well as being a useful tool for Members, the website is an excellent method of advertising the Club and attracting new members. Members are encouraged to contribute their photographs to the photo galleries so as to provide plenty of interest and variety. All photos for the photo galleries and any other suggestions or amendments to the website should be passed to the Website Manager who manages the site with the Webmaster – please refer to Appendix page 4–7 Addendum for information on preparing images for the website.

Contact: Website Manager

Facebook Page – the Club has a Facebook page called “Farnborough Camera Club” which is intended to act as a tool for advertising the Club to the general public and be a means of distributing news and information to its followers. It is also a useful way of reminding Members and others about Club events. Members who are on Facebook should search for the page and then “like” it to become a “follower”. They will then receive notifications of items posted to the page. Anyone can post to the Facebook page and Members are encouraged to post items of interest to other Members or of general photographic interest. The Facebook page is managed by the Publicity Secretary who has the ability to control the content.

Contact: Publicity Secretary

Expert Advice – among the Club's membership are experienced photographers having knowledge on most photographic topics. These include the use of the various camera functions, the taking of photographs in varying lighting conditions, the use of different lenses, and extend to the use of scanners, computers, digital imaging software and printers. Members seeking guidance on any aspect of photographic skills, the attaining of photographic honours such as LRPS or CPAGB, or the type of camera or scanner to buy should initially approach the Membership Secretary, and he/she will direct the enquirer to the appropriate Members who can help.

Contact: Membership Secretary

Exhibitions and Displays – the Club regularly organises displays and exhibitions of Members' work, usually prints, at various public venues. The objective is to raise the status of the Club in the local community and to attract new Members. All Club Members are encouraged to offer their prints for inclusion in these displays and to volunteer to assist and to act as stewards at these events.



The Club also holds an Annual Exhibition of prints at a local venue, usually opened by a local dignitary. Members of the public visiting the display are requested to vote for their favourite photo and the winning Club Member is presented with the **Exhibition Cup**.

Contact: Exhibition Secretary

The Club may enter panels into displays at other clubs and exhibitions. A “panel” is a collection of prints or PDIs, and members’ work will be chosen for such displays by the Competition Secretaries. However, where a panel is required to have a common theme, this will be organised by the **Print Competition Panel Organiser**.

The Club has a display cabinet in its meeting room (room 5) at the Community Centre and two others located in Farnborough and Aldershot libraries. Members’ prints are displayed in these cabinets, with the displays being changed at regular intervals. The cabinets serve to advertise the Club and give Members the opportunity to show work that may not be seen in Club competitions. Members are therefore encouraged to offer their prints for display.

Contact: Print Displays Organiser

From time to time, the Club receives invitations for individual members to enter national and international exhibitions and competitions. These are advised to Members by email.

Other Activities – the Club participates in various other activities in the local community. It has provided photographs for Farnborough’s official Millennium calendar, and organised the photographing of Farnborough by local school-children for archiving under the auspices of the Millennium Commission. The Club has also produced its own photographic calendars, and has supported the Farnborough Festival of Arts. In 2011, to celebrate the 70th Anniversary of the founding of the Club, a “Blurb” book was published containing images from a large number of Club Members.

Through the Rushmoor Town Twinning Office, the Club has developed an active relationship with Photo-Cirkel, a camera club based in Oberürsel, Farnborough’s twin town in Germany. Oberürsel is in Taunus, near to Frankfurt. The Club regularly exhibits Members’ prints in Photo-Cirkel’s biennial exhibition, and Photo-Cirkel has exhibited in the Club’s own exhibition and entered some of the Club’s PDI competitions. Members from both clubs have participated in reciprocal visits for a number of years.