



Newsletter July 2021

Dear Member,

1. July Events

As you will be aware, until further notice all of our meetings will be virtual, based upon Zoom software, starting at 8pm.

Date	Event	Leader
Thu 8th	Mono Group	Roger Wotton/Laurie Turner
Fri 9th	Outing – See below	Juliet Ormiston
Wed 28th	Colour Group	Laurie Turner

2. Summer Events

During the Summer Break we will continue to run:

- **Mono Group - second Thursday of the month**
- **Colour Group - last Wednesday of the month**

If you are not on the distribution for Mono and or Colour groups and would like to be, please mail laurie899@hotmail.co.uk.

- **APS Chats Wednesday every week 10.30AM – 12.00**

Regards, Laurie

3. Chairman's Message

Amersham Photographic Society has just completed an extraordinary 21-month season necessitated by the COVID pandemic and associated lockdowns. During that time, the committee, special interest group leaders and members all made huge contributions to keeping activities not just going, but also venturing into the world of virtual meetings. We have had virtual coffees, an international competition (which we won!) and speakers joining from exotic locations.



It's been a fantastic success - congratulations and thank you to all who contributed and were involved. I recognise that some members could not, or preferred not, to attend virtual meetings. I hope the 2021/2022 season will allow us to meet in person, but also understand that there may be some interruptions if the pandemic escalates again. We'll manage.

Hilary asked me to consider being Chairman of the society a few months ago. I am delighted to now be in that role and looking forward to actively supporting the club. All of the committee members continue to work hard on the club's behalf, and I have seen evidence of their commitment first-hand by attending recent meetings. It's a fantastic club, with talented, enthusiastic and friendly members - it's great to be part of it.

One new piece of news – Don Lanstone is stepping down as the Mono Group Leader and Roger Wotton has stepped (back) into the position. Many thanks to both for their contributions, and we wish Roger well in his (not so) new role.

Please note that we are going ahead with the exhibition this year (23-28 August). You will see requests for print and pdi contributions - please do contribute to make this exhibition one of the best, and to relaunch the real-world Amersham Photographic Society in style.

Have a safe and photographically-productive summer, and I hope we all get to meet again in the new season.

Aidan

4. Exhibition 2021 (Martin Crook)

As noted by Aidan above, on the basis that we are no longer in lockdown then the annual Exhibition is being resurrected.

As usual it will be from the Monday evening (23rd August - setting up) through to Saturday evening 28th August (taking down) at St Michael's Church in Amersham. So dust off your prints and think about what you might want to display.

- The entry form can be downloaded from [our website](#)
- Please see the separate email giving details.

As usual there will be a PDI presentation and there are likely to be special interest group displays as well.

5. 2021 Annual General Meeting – Report

For those members unable to attend the Zoom meeting AGM summary on 7th June, here are the results. Once again, thank you to everyone who took part by voting for the resolutions.



Summary of voting:

- AGM agenda pack distributed to members on 21 May
 - Questions arising from members by 27 May: 0 questions
 - Votes received for all resolutions: 27 members
 - Votes received against any resolutions: 0 members
 - Abstentions: 1 member (one new committee member not wishing to vote for self)
- Results: All resolutions carried.**

Summary of changes arising from AGM

- Member subscriptions (2021/22) reduced from £55 to £45
- Family memberships reduced from £94 to £80

New committee members:

- Chairman: Aidan O'Brien
- Vice Chairman: Diane Smith
- Print Secretary: John Harding (shared with Jacqui Titcombe)

New committee positions:

- Programme Secretary (shared role): Hilary Bailey and Roger Longdin
- Co-opted Social Media and Ask APS coordinator: Chrissi Ratcliffe

Chris Read
General Secretary
June 2021

6. Membership Update

We are looking forward to our new season, in recognition of the fact that we operated on-line last season and to thank you for your continued support **the membership fee has been reduced for the 2021-2022 season to £45 for individual membership and £80 for family membership***

The subscription for our new season are due before the 1st September. **We would like to encourage electronic payment rather than cheques, where possible. To ensure we can capture details efficiently we would recommend that:**

Current members:

Please send an email to: membership@amershamphotosoc.com with the following details.

1. Full name(s*)
2. Amount paid
3. Method of payment
4. Note any changes to current details e.g. contact details, qualifications, use of images etc.



New members:

Please complete the [APS Membership Application form](#) from our website, and email to: membership@amershamphotosoc.com

Membership fee:

- Individual membership - £45
- *Family of 2 persons, one entering competition and one not competing - £80

Payment:

Subscriptions for 2020-2021 are due on or before 1st September 2021

BACS payment is preferred. **Please add member's name as the identifying reference**

- Bank: Lloyds,
- Sort Code: 30 – 98 - 97
- Account No: 78353460
- Account name: 'Amersham Photographic Society'

Alternatively, please post cheques and forms to:

- Membership secretary, Southcliffe, Misbourne Avenue, Chalfont St Peter, Buckinghamshire SL9 0PD
- Cheques payable to 'Amersham Photographic Society'

Use of your images on APS website, newsletter & external competitions

It is assumed that APS may post or enter your images which have been entered into Internal Competitions - on the APS Website, our Newsletters or into External Competitions on behalf of APS.

If you DO NOT wish your images to be used in ANY or ALL of these ways, you MUST inform the General Secretary in writing or by email – secretary@amershamphotosoc.com
Any member belonging to more than one Camera Club, may only have their images entered by ONE Club per season.

If you have any queries, please email me. Thank you!

Maggie, Membership Secretary

7. Outing (Juliet Ormiston)

Our 2nd APS outing of the year will be to Chiltern Open Air Museum on Friday 9th July.

If you would like to join us please could you pre-book a ticket online at <https://coam.org.uk> and let me know that you are coming and I will send you details of our meetup points.



An excellent selection of our images taken at Marsworth reservoir and canal waterside is available to view on the Flickr site in the outings section of the APS website.

Enjoy the summer & I look forward to seeing you all again soon.

Juliet

8. Beyond Group - Pigment Ink Photo Printers by Steve Brabner

You may recall that I have had a love-hate relationship with Epson inkjet photo printers over 25 years. I love the prints but like everyone, tire of the demands of the technology and hate the lack of support from Epson.

For several years I have owned three Epson Stylus Photo R3000 printers; one for matte papers, one for gloss papers and one for spares. The issues with these printers are documented elsewhere but suffice to say that I have finally snapped and purchased an Epson SC-P900 printer. I would have probably done this last year if stocks of all printers had not dried up because of the effect of the pandemic on global trade. Only with the arrival of summer 2021 have photo printers begun to reappear online.

How did I choose a new printer?

1. I have always believed that pigment inks are the most appropriate for longevity and photographic quality, despite them being more expensive and problematic to manage in the printer. However for many people, dye inks may be good enough and certainly less fraught. Recent ink-tank printers from Epson have combined the two with pigment black and dye-based colours but these have a more limited colour gamut (range). I only compare 100% pigment printers here.
2. The professional and advanced-amateur photo printing market is dominated by two manufacturers: Canon and Epson.
3. A4 sized images can be used within APS but A3 / A3+ gives much more scope for exhibition and display of our images. A2 / A2+ are also worth considering, not least for ink cartridge capacity reasons.
4. In the past, third party inks have been available for Epson printers. These reduced the cost per print dramatically but a guerrilla war by the printer companies is shutting down this option and I will not be going down this path again in the future. Life is too short. Third party papers remain widely available and offer vast choice without compromise.

The above considerations narrowed my choice to only four printers:

Canon imagePROGRAF Pro-1000 (£1000). This is an older A2 printer of the highest professional quality at a consumer price. It would be an easy first choice but for one huge problem – ink is used in epic quantities to keep the pipework running freely used or not. It is really intended for daily professional users. Oh, and it weighs 32kg!

Canon imagePROGRAF Pro-300 (£700). This is a new A3+ printer of high quality. Fortunately it does not use ink so freely as the Pro-1000 because it does not have a user-serviceable ink dump tank. However the most damning feature for me is the ten tiny ink cartridges of just 14ml. Although cheap they are rapidly exhausted which again results in a lot of cartridge replacements and high ink costs per print. This would be a seriously retrograde step for me which is a shame as it would otherwise be a solid choice.

Epson SureColour SC-P700 (£680). This is a new printer. Remarkably it manages to squeeze an A3+ capability into an A4 footprint. For the first time, the Epson bete noire of matte and gloss black ink switching (with the resultant ink waste and plumbing issue) is no more. The ten 26ml ink cartridges are of a small but adequate size, roll paper handling is built-in and there is a removable ink dump tank. The whole package is compelling for an A3+ semi-pro printer.

Epson SureColour SC-P900 (£1080). This is a new printer. Remarkably it manages to squeeze an A2+ printer into an A3 footprint. As above there is no black switching but the roll paper feature is an optional extra. Ink economy is further improved with ten relatively cheaper 50ml ink cartridges.

So the decision to buy the SC-P900 was an easy one from the point of view of running costs and features. However I struggled with buying another Epson when they have shown such disdain for their customers over so many years. I can only take comfort from the Sale of Goods Act and the excellent support that we have received from [Repro Repairs](#) in recent years.

Initial experience of the printer has been that the setup went smoothly and test prints with Permajet papers were spot-on with the Permajet generic profiles. It fits where my previous R3000 printer stood and is a very neat and tidy design. Very happy (so far). There are many excellent video reviews of printers at Northlight Images.

Here is the P900 overview; <https://youtu.be/lhQxfFrJoSc>

Cheers, Steve Brabner.

Best wishes,

David Baldock, Editor