

## **Honiton Camera Club Finding the Pandemic Challenging.**

In response to your request at the AGM, here is our situation at Honiton Camera Club.

We stopped meetings in March with the lockdown, but kept going with a weekly contest, using email and our Club Facebook. This resulted in about half the members partaking each week.

Our season has now restarted, and we are using Zoom. It was a bit of a struggle to get everyone au fait with it, but now it is fine. So far we have had a critique evening of members Summer images, followed by the Irene Froy recorded lecture available from the PAGB website. Our next meeting will be the first internal competition of the season, and, as I have been unable to get a judge (I tried 10, using the PAGB list, but they are all so busy!) we are going to have a go at member judging, using a system similar to DPIC, with a programme one of our members has produced.

Membership wise, we have lost a worrying number of members. Some have decided to not rejoin, as they do not want to do the Zoom meeting situation, 5 have, or are about to, move away from the area, and 2 have died over the closed season. . . not Covid in either case!

At present we are anticipating a membership of 18, but of these, there are still 5 who have not paid up!. This is a big blow, as we had spent a lot of time and effort to build up to about 28 members. While we are still doing Zoom meetings, this is not the end of the world, but once proper meetings can start to take place, we may find we are struggling to finance the Club with such a small membership.