



Deidre Watson AIPF AFIAP

Last Thursday we completed our club nights for the year 2016. Deidre Watson from Drogheda camera club attended and delivered a talk and displayed her array of images, which were terrific. They varied from surfing the big waves to landscape to portraits to cats. Deidre has a passion for capturing images of people who surf the big waves and with a second home on the Atlantic coast of Portugal she is well placed to get the best as the world surfing championships take place there each year.

Deidre completed a successful A panel two years ago on the subject of surfing and her images definitely captured the skill and thrill of this sport. It was very interesting listening to Deidre talk about her initial interest in photography and her journey to where she is today. Well done to Deidre and she will be a welcome visitor back to our club in the future.

Afterwards, we retired downstairs to McGeough's for what was one of the most fun Christmas parties in the history of DPS. The atmosphere was great as everyone who attended were attired in their Christmas best plus we had our own mobile light show with a certain member adorned with her own magic bulbs. The Kris Kindle went down very well as people who initially picked exciting presents from the bag, then got them robbed by other members who fancied them more. Poor Marty had his Christmas morning beverage robbed a number of times and ended up with a pair of briefs to his disbelief. The star of the show was declared early as one of the presents revealed a certain member of our club on the hills of Donegal in his jocks doing his Usain Bolt impression. This was exchanged a number of times but ended up with its rightful owner at the end of the night.

Gabriel took to the floor to recite his "windy cellar" poem, which, I am certain, will make another appearance at some stage in the future. This was followed closely by Conor's impression of Tommy Cooper and his visit to the zoo. Deidre was then subjected to a Drogheda joke and a certain three babies who got mixed up but all was sorted-out by the Dundalk man in the end.



One of the highlights of the evening for me was the quality of the music supplied by Marty, Dave and Conor. A fantastic rendition of the "lonesome boatman" by the lads, with Conor on the tin whistle was as good as I've ever heard. There was music from the Beatles, the Boss, Neil Diamond and many, many more. Fair play to the lads who are truly talented plus the singers some who are not that talented.

Finally, it's a time to reflect on 2106 and what a great year it was with the club picking up the national shield again, 9th in the world club cup and numerous individual medals and awards. I have no doubt that we can surpass these achievements in 2017.

A very happy Christmas to everyone and may you and your families have a healthy and successful 2017.