

NEWSLETTER

www.ypu.org.uk

NEWSLETTER NO. 107 - NOVEMBER 2011

CONTENTS

Page:

3	The President's Piece
4	PAGB Inter-Federation Projected Image Competition 2011 Results
9	From the PAGB Newsletter
10	YPU Annual Exhibition and Assembly details
12	Hints & Tips
13	The One That Got Away!
14	YPU Exhibition by TTL Camera Club
16	PAGB Adjudication April 2012
18	Judging in East Anglia
19	Police Stop & search Rights under the Terrorism Act
20	PAGB Inter-Federation Prints Competition 2011 Results
22	Folio Service
24	Raffle Tickets
25	Meet the Executive... Alan Stopher
27	FIAP Awards
28	Awards for Photographic Merit in AV
29	PAGB Report
30	Diary Dates

Cover Picture:

The best image of 2010 on the website, "Yellow Poppy" by Ernie Howard of Driffield Photographic Society

Hello everyone. Welcome to the November edition of your newsletter. I hope there is plenty to interest you. I look forward to any articles, publicity and photos for the next newsletter. Please, don't be shy. You send it, I'll publish it!

Best wishes Wendy

If you have any photographic information, articles, announcements, letters or events that you think would be of interest to the rest of us, please get in touch with me: Wendy Collins, tel. 01709 861716 or email wendycollins27@hotmail.com Last dates for submission: First week in February for the March issue, first week in October for the November issue.

I reserve the right to edit submissions for clarity and brevity. The opinions expressed may not be those of the YPU Executive. Submissions including pictures will be considered. Ideally, please send any pictures in a suitable digital resolution (eg 600 X 400 pixels maximum & .jpeg format preferably). Please do not embed pictures in Word documents. I reserve the right to "tweak" pictures to get them to fit.

THOUGHTS FROM THE PRESIDENT

As I sit here writing my first piece as President, I realise it already seems a long time since the embarrassing episode of losing my glasses when trying to give my acceptance speech. I really hope it wasn't a sign of things to come during the following two years.

The balance was quickly restored due to the fine work of TTL CC, with the tremendous way in which they hosted this years Exhibition & Assembly. Their hard work was there for all to see, particularly in the Exhibition which showcased the excellent work of YPU members for a six week period. My personal thanks to TTL for a job well done.

Speaking of The Assembly, I am sure you will have heard by now that Dearne Valley CC have stepped in and offered not to just to help the executive, but to host the 2012 event themselves. This as they say is above and beyond the call of duty, and is very much appreciated.

In one of her pieces, my predecessor Pat Reed wrote about the opportunity of 'snow' pictures, and judging by the weather forecasts from November onwards it seems that if you missed it last time around you will have the chance to dig out the 'grey card' and get the exposure right this winter.

One thing any President enjoys is giving awards to YPU members for their efforts within photography, either in taking pictures, or for the time and effort they have put into the Union itself.

I was therefore delighted to be able to make presentations of 'Life Vice Presidents' to Judith Waterhouse, Sue & Graham Neil, Gerry Padget, Bill Johnson, Alan Robson, Alan Ford and Peter Thompson.

No federation as large as the YPU can survive without some of its members stepping forward and taking an active role in its organisation.

Before too long the Executive Committee is going to require new faces: could you be one of them?.

Don't hide your light under a flash brolly!, go on think about it I am sure you will enjoy the experience.

Ray Brammall ARPS DPAGB

President

Results of the PAGB Inter-Federation Projected Images
Competition 2011

	Federation	Entered	Marks Total	Accepted Total	Mark Average
1	Midland Counties PF	57	631.0	39	11.070
2	Northern Counties PF	24	262.0	16	10.917
3	Lancashire and Cheshire PU	48	516.0	26	10.750
4	Western Counties PF	49	524.0	26	10.694
5	Chilterns Association CC	21	223.0	12	10.619
6	North and East Midlands PF	25	268.0	15	10.720
7	Southern PF	31	312.0	13	10.065
8	East Anglian FPS	58	602.0	30	10.379
9	Welsh PF	25	254.0	9	10.160
10	Scottish PF	42	421.0	16	10.024
11	Yorkshire PU	32	315.0	10	9.844
12	Surrey PA	24	236.0	7	9.833
13	North Wales PA	15	142.0	5	9.467
14	Kent County PA	26	246.0	8	9.462
15	Northern Ireland PA	15	138.0	4	9.200



Accepted Image: Easy Rider by Peter Bartlett, LRPS - Holmfirth CC



PAGB Ribbon

Bamboo Butterflies Mating by Andy Barnes - Stocksbridge PS



Accepted Image: Nuthatch by John Bailey - Stocksbridge PS



Accepted Image: Common Blue by Jim Edwards - Knaresborough & Dist CC



Accepted Image:
National Dance Company
Wales
by Les Downes
Ilkley CC

Accepted Image:
Misty Morning
by Keith Beverley
F4 PG



Accepted Image:
Out of the Morning Mist
by David Lockwood



Accepted Image:
Great Egret (Egretta
Alba) Landing
by David Robinson
Blackburn Leisure



Accepted Image:
Just Looking
by Gill Sharp,
ARPS, CPAGB
Holmfirth CC

Accepted Image:
Dawn Blues
by Stuart Walters



Your Club is cordially invited to enter the PAGB GREAT BRITISH CUP/S CLOSING DATE 9 JANUARY 2012

This is an extract from the Full Rules which will be sent, with entry forms, to all 2011 participant clubs or which can be obtained from rod@creative-camera.co.uk. Please note that there are some important changes contained in Issue 16 of these rules. Issue 15, currently shown on the PAGB website, cannot unfortunately be replaced until near the end of October although this still leaves plenty of time to enter.

The most important rule change is that entry to the 2012 GB Cups will be **FREE**.

The Great British Cup (Open)

1. Each club must submit **15 PDIs** on a CD – R. E-mail entries cannot be accepted.
2. Natural History PDIs are not permitted and, if included, the judges will be asked to assess them strictly as pictorial PDIs, not as Nature.
3. No entrant may have more than 4 PDIs and there must be at least **6 entrants** in the entry.

The Great British Cup (Small Clubs)

4. Small relates to your inability to make up a satisfactory entry, which complies with the “Open” rules listed above, and you should decide for yourself which competition you wish to enter. Clubs of any membership may enter either competition but not both. The choice is entirely yours but it is anticipated that you will strive to enter the competition most appropriate to your size, strength and reputation.
- 5 Each club must submit **10 PDIs** on a CD – R. E-mail entries cannot be accepted.
6. Natural History PDIs are not permitted and, if included, the judges will be asked to assess them strictly as pictorial PDIs, not as Nature.
7. No entrant may have more than 4 PDIs and there must be at least **4 entrants** in the entry.

The Great British Cup (Nature)

8. Each club may submit a **minimum of 3 and a maximum of 21 PDIs** on a CD – R.
9. The Winning Club will be decided on the aggregate of the 10 highest scoring PDIs. If a Club has entered fewer than 10 PDIs it cannot qualify for the Club trophy but can win Individual Awards including “PAGB Nature Photographer of the Year” based on an individual’s best 3 PDIs. You are encouraged to enter even if you have only one Nature photographer in your Club. The judges will recognise all aspects of Nature.
10. No entrant may have more than 3 PDIs.
11. FIAP Natural History definitions will apply.

Every participant Club will receive an AV Show on CD of the GB Cup entered which will give an great evening’s entertainment.

Do I need to mention again – entry is **FREE**

From the PAGB Newsletter

DO CLUBS RECORD YOUR LECTURES ?

It is getting fashionable in some areas for clubs to photograph a lecturer's prints so as to project them for the benefit of the audience. There are also clubs who ask to video lectures and demonstrations.

It has been suggested to your editor that some clubs may have distributed and even sold CDs of such recordings to members of other clubs. I have only second party anecdotal reports and no hard evidence of such a practice but I would be very annoyed if it happened to me and I am going to be rather more vigilant in the future.

I highly recommend that every lecturer and judge should seek assurance from the club that any digital copies of their prints will be deleted from the club hard drive after the lecture and should ask how any video taken is going to be used.

LIVE-EDITING DURING JUDGING

The very fact that live editing is being discussed shows that the most important part of judging is being overlooked. To my way of thinking, the most important part of judging is being able to discuss the picture content and the story-telling ability of the image. Considering composition and technical aspects is secondary and should be in the context of enhancing the picture content.

I have seen too many judges instantly home in on small compositional or technical problems. They may well be correct about the problems and correct in offering advice to help the photographer to improve the photograph but not at the expense of discussing the bigger picture.

Most judging evenings are pretty full at present and asking the judge to live-edit would be unfair to both the judges and the audience. Practical advice on changing composition or technical aspects should be covered in dedicated tutorial evenings.

The article above was received from a well known judge . I think he makes a good point

YPU Annual Exhibition And Assembly Details
Saturday 12th May 2012

Dearne Valley Camera Club are pleased to be hosting the Annual YPU Assembly & Exhibition for 2012

The Assembly will be held at
The Montgomery Hall
Wath-Upon-Dearne
Rotherham
South Yorkshire
S63 7RD

The Exhibition will be held at
The Public Library
Wath-Upon-Dearne
Rotherham
South Yorkshire

The Exhibition opens on Saturday 12th May 2012, and runs until 31st May within the library opening hours

For further details please Contact Tony Elliott on 01226 211829

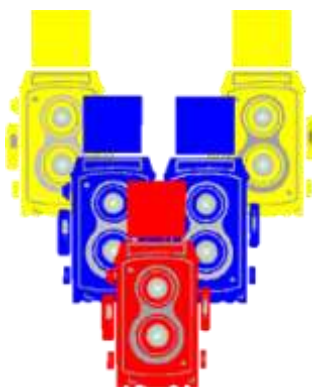
Congratulations

*At the April 2011 PAGB Awards Adjudications we had 3 successes.
All 3 are from Ilkley CC*

*Rodney Marsh CPAGB
Phil Reeds CPAGB
Richard Spurdens DPAGB*

Well done to you all

Dearne Valley Camera Club



Wath Salon 2011

To be held from Thursday 1st December until Saturday 31st December during library opening hours

A warm welcome is extended to all societies to the reception and opening at 7-30pm on Thursday 1st December 2011. To be followed by the presentation of awards and the showing of the accepted projected images.

JUDGE MR. RALPH BENNETT ARPS

Awards:

Best Monochrome Print

Best Colour Print

Best Projected Image

Closing date for entries is **13th November 2011**

Entry forms are available from www.wathsalon.co.uk

More details from Tony Elliott on 01226 211829

Hints and Tips

Deflated Feeling.

You've just bought the spanking new camera that you've always promised yourself. You bring it home, charge the battery, take some great shots then go to your favourite raw converter to start to play with them. It says 'format not recognised', you do some investigation and realise that in order to process your files you need the latest version of the software and have to divi out another wadge of cash.

But all is not lost.

Adobe, in an unusual act of generosity, has produced a free converter that will convert the latest raw files to a 'dng' format (Adobe Digital Negative) that can be read by your version of CS, Elements or Lightroom. The converter is easy to use, tell it the folder containing your raw images, select the appropriate format for your software and off it goes. When it has finished, open the individual 'dng' files and play as usual.

The converter can be downloaded from www.adobe.co.uk. Click on downloads and scroll down till you see DNG Converter. Click on your platform (Windows or MAC). Then follow the download instructions.

From

Harry Kingman

Chairman

Kirkbymoorside and District Camera Club.

www.kirkbymoorside-camera-club.co.uk

Calling Photoshop Elements Users

Do you use Elements for your digital image processing, and if so do you often wish that Elements had a little more functionality like the full version of Photoshop?

Well now you can access "curves", "layer masks" (for pre Elements9 version users), and a number of other useful actions prepared in the full version of Photoshop.

Log-on to a UK based website <http://www.tipsquirrel.com> and navigate to the Store area, where for the princely sum of £2.00 you can download this Elements enhancement pack. You will be sent, by e-mail, a link to the action pack once your payment has been processed. The link remains alive for 2 days only after your payment has been accepted.

You should also ensure that you download the accompanying Installation Tutorial that gives all the necessary instructions for installing the downloaded actions into Elements. These are "operating system" dependant eg: Windows XP, Vista or Windows 7, but are covered in the one instruction document.

(Continued on page 13)

(Continued from page 12)

So that the users of the full version of Photoshop don't feel left out there is also a set of actions available for you from the same source.

TipSquirrel is also a source of very informative downloadable tutorials and "on screen" video lessons for a whole range of digital imaging situations

From Ernie Jackson TTL Camera Club

Charlie Waite Videos

Just come across a set of four videos on the Telegraph web site by Charlie Waite using a compact camera. Excellent, would recommend them.

<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/travel/travelvideo/7866089/Compact-digital-travel-photography-choosing-your-subject.html>

From Tom Walton

If anyone has any other useful hints or tips, please email them to me at wendycollins27@hotmail.com

The One That Got Away

Back in the mid 80s I went with three friends from Stocksbridge Photographic Society on a weekend away to North Berwick. On the second day we went out to Bass Rock and, as we arrived at the rock, the Skipper told us that we could go in amongst the birds on the right hand side of the path. Being a little afraid of heights I was unsure, but after seeing an elderly passenger sitting on a rock with his legs dangling two hundred feet above the ocean I thought I could at least move a little closer. From my new vantage point, looking over the sea, I spotted a distant Gannet flying straight towards me. Putting my trusty Konica T3n with its 135mm lens to my eye I could see the bird in ever improving detail, first the slow beat of its wings, then the seaweed in its beak, even some feather detail began to appear. It almost filled the frame, I couldn't believe my eyes - the perfect, award winning, shot. So guess what? I took the camera from my eye for a better look! A true fisherman's tale.

John Townley TTL Camera Club

The YPU Annual Exhibition from TTL Camera Club

One evening, Brian Hemsworth visited TTL to judge one of our competitions. After some very constructive judging, a few of the TTL Committee chatted to Brian as we sat around a table.

Our Vice-Chair, Wendy Collins And our Treasurer, Heidi Morris were particularly engaged in an animated discussion with Brian. As I am Publicity Manager, I also sat at the table with our then Secretary, Tracy Cooper.

It became apparent that Heidi was interested in our club hosting the 2011 Assembly, as part of our 30th anniversary celebration. Tracy & I looked at each other with consternation as we imagined the heavy load about to descend upon our meagre shoulders, but we needn't have worried (too much), for once the idea was sold to us at our next committee meeting, TTL decided to go for it.

We are very lucky at TTL, for we have an enthusiastic membership and each committee member has a specific job & responsibility.

A series of planning meetings followed, & YPU Executives visited TTL to guide us & help us on our way.

A group of TTL members went to York to learn the ropes, as York hosted the 2010 Assembly.

TTL worked hard, led by our popular Chairperson Margaret Geeson. Then things began to fall into place.

1. Wendy Collins had been elevated onto the YPU Executive (That was a big help!).
2. Tracey & I had already organised exhibitions at Doncaster Museum & Art Gallery, & had worked very successfully with the Gallery management.
3. I have an interest in amateur theatre, & knew the staff at the Civic Theatre.
4. We had use of our meeting room and storage at Club 39.

The council wanted £650.00 for the use of the theatre, but Tracey worked miracles, helped by Doncaster CVS, a local development group and new deal for communities. She obtained a grant to cover this cost. The Art Gallery, also owned by the council was free! All of this was discussed in detail by members of our committee, & the club members were kept informed.

We all helped each other with everything. An advert was obtained for the back cover of the catalogue by Tom Ley. Alan Taylor sourced the map for directions to the venues, as well as organising the guest speaker, Bob Fitzharris Archdeacon of Doncaster. Detailed

lists of who was to do what were done by Chris Mercer.

The unpacking & judging days went smoothly, thanks to help from our members, and also some members from Doncaster Camera Club , their help was much appreciated.

All of our members mucked in to put the prints into frames, which made the job a lot easier.

The more practical among us mounted the photographic exhibition. Special mention goes to Tom O' Shey, Geoff Griffiths, and John Brady, very ably looked over by Neil McGregor who let us have use the gallery for 8 weeks! Other members gave help & encouragement.

Margaret Geeson organised a buffet lunch for the guest speaker and our YPU president Ray Brammall on the day at Club 39, our meeting place. Everything was on time thank goodness!

Our members worked as a great team on the day, easily recognised by their matching polo shirts sourced by Heidi, rolling up their sleeves & working tirelessly as stewards, helpers & advisors, both at the Art gallery & the Civic Theatre, to make the day a success.



Lunch at Club 39



Tracey Cooper, Ray Bramall,
Margaret Geeson & Bob Fitzharris

We at TTL very much enjoyed hosting the event, it was hard work, but because everyone gave their time & effort so freely it was good fun, if a little stressful at times.

We are pleased the event went so well.

Harold Armitage CPAGB LRPS
Publicity Manager
TTL Camera Club
Doncaster



Margaret Geeson & Ray Bramall



John Townley,
Bob Fitzharris & John's
Guide Dog Cassie

PAGB Adjudication April 2012

"The PAGB Awards Adjudication will be hosted by the YPU on the weekend of 28th/29th April 2012 at The Grange, Carleton Community Centre, Carleton Rd, Pontefract, WF8 3RJ.

The Adjudicators are:

Dave Butler MFIAP ARPS L&CPU

Peter Cheetham APAGB N&EMPF

Irene Froy MPAGB HonPAGB EFIAP FRPS MCPF

Sue Moore MPAGB FRPS MCPF

Leigh Preston MPAGB EFIAP FRPS MCPF

Colin Smith FRPS L&CPU

We shall need several volunteers to assist with this event, and if you are interested in helping, please send Pat Reed an email - pat@jandpreed.karoo.co.uk. or telephone 01482 813854.

Helpers will not necessarily be able to view all the entries.

This event will include the Master PAGB entries and will be interesting to all those who love photography and/or are considering entering for the awards.

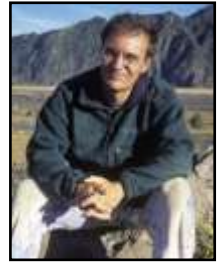
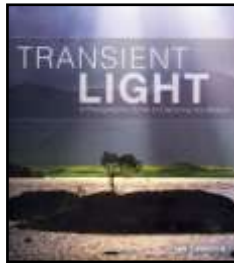
Tickets will probably be available for spectators nearer the time."

If you are thinking about putting work in for adjudication, it is a great opportunity to be there and see the appraisal of your images without having to travel too far.

Pat



Kirkbymoorside & District Camera Club



Ian

Kirkbymoorside and District Camera Club will be hosting an event on Thursday 1st March, 2012 when Ian Cameron will present 'My Kind of Light'.

The illustrated lecture will feature mainly Scottish and a few foreign landscapes but all will have that powerful presence produced by transient light.

Ian Cameron is a professional landscape photographer operating under the banner 'Transient Light', a term he has adopted to describe light, which for a short duration transforms a scene from ordinary to extraordinary, before returning back to the mundane.

His work is widely acknowledged and instantly recognizable. To see examples of his work check out www.transientlight.co.uk.

Tickets are available in advance at £5 each (or get 10 for the price of 9) this includes free entry into a draw for a signed copy of Ian's book 'Transient Light – A photographic guide to capturing the medium'.

For tickets and further details see www.kirkbymoorside-camera-club.co.uk



Colour Wash



Coniston Dreams



Crimson Castle

From the East Anglia Federation

Here in 'Swede Bashing' East Anglia we operate quite a strict regime concerning judges, appointing a Judges Officer and a Judges Sub-Committee each year who police the 3 panels of judges in our Handbook, namely 'A' 'B' and 'C'. 'A' being Advanced. 'B' an experienced judge with a wide knowledge of photography in general, and 'C' a judge at general club level.

A Judges Workshop is held every year to appoint new judges to the 'C' list, to assess the present 'C' judges for promotion to the 'B' list, and to assess the 'B' judges for promotion to the 'A' list. If a new judge is appointed, clubs are advised and encouraged to book them for experience. If a judge is considered for promotion, a live assessment is carried out by one of the Judges Sub-Committee in a club environment and a report is prepared for the Judges Officer and Committee to consider.

For anyone wishing to become a judge, we send them a copy of our Judges Workshop Notes, which are guidelines in preparation for the Judges Workshop and are also useful for future reference. They cover an Introduction (So you want to become a judge?), plus points for the Judge to consider such as Presentation, Timing, Attitude, Methods, Marking and Picture Composition. We have held a Public Speaking Workshop which was very well received and for the Advanced judges, we held a 'Refresher Workshop' which was also well attended.

On the Workshop day the judges are split into three groups, Beginners, Intermediate and Advanced. Each group is led by one or two tutors and two assessors are in attendance. Each group is given time to judge prints and projected images during the morning and half the afternoon. The rest of the afternoon all delegates come together for a live judging session. At the end of the day, the judges Officer, the tutors and the assessors meet to decide who will be appointed a new judge and who will be promoted. After that live assessments are arranged by the Judges Officer.

As you can see from the above, we take the matter of appointing judges to our lists very seriously, as a bad judge can ruin a club evening and lose club membership.

Police Stop And Search Rights Under The Terrorism Act

Every person has a right to photograph in a public place and it is not against the law to photograph a police officer undertaking normal duties.

The police do have a duty to investigate incidents which may give rise to suspicion.

You are not required to give any personal details unless driving a car, or you are arrested.

Officers may stop and search and view images if they believe they could be used in connection with terrorism.

Officers have no powers to delete images.

PCSOs may not search without a police officer present.

You must be provided with a copy of the Stop & Search slip which will include the officer's identity.

If stopped by a police officer remain calm and polite.

We all need to be vigilant against terrorism and support the police where possible as well as protect our rights to photograph in a public place.

We are grateful to the RPS who have agreed this wording with appropriate authorities.

Neither the RPS, the PAGB or your Editor can be held accountable for any inaccuracy.

PAGB Inter-Federation Prints Competition 2011 Results

Colour Prints

Pos	Federation	Prints Entered	Average Mark	Accepted Prints
1	Midland Counties Photographic Federation	38	11.368	14
2	North & East Midlands Photographic Federation	32	11.063	10
3	East Anglian Federation of Photographic Societies	33	11.03	12
4	Lancashire & Cheshire Photographic Union	14	11	5
5	North Wales Photographic Association	28	10.964	10
6	Western Counties Photographic Federation	38	10.711	7
=7	Scottish Photographic Federation	17	10.706	6
=7	Chilterns Association of Camera Clubs	17	10.706	4
9	Southern Photographic Federation	10	10.7	4
10	Northern Ireland Photographic Association	16	10.625	3
11	Yorkshire Photographic Union	10	10.6	3
12	Kent County Photographic Association	16	10.563	2
13	Northern Counties Photographic Federation	21	10.143	3
14	Welsh Photographic Federation	21	9.81	1
15	Surrey Photographic Association	16	9.438	2



Accepted Print

A Morning Snooze
by Andrew Clark

Harrogate PS

Mono Prints

Pos	Federation	Prints Entered	Average Mark	Accepted Prints
1	Midland Counties Photographic Federation	38	10.737	14
2	North & East Midlands Photographic Federation	16	10.625	4
3	East Anglian Federation of Photographic Societies	38	10.605	10
4	Lancashire & Cheshire Photographic Union	32	10.469	7
5	North Wales Photographic Association	10	10.4	2
6	Western Counties Photographic Federation	33	10.394	7
7	Scottish Photographic Federation	28	10.286	11
8	Chilterns Association of Camera Clubs	14	10.071	3
9	Southern Photographic Federation	21	10.048	2
10	Northern Ireland Photographic Association	10	9.9	2
11	Yorkshire Photographic Union	21	9.967	2
12	Kent County Photographic Association	17	9.947	2
13	Northern Counties Photographic Federation	16	9.625	2
14	Welsh Photographic Federation	17	9.412	2
15	Surrey Photographic Association	16	9.25	2

Accepted Print

Dream of the Dance
By Richard Spurdens

Ilkley CC





K. Andrew Rothery,
Folio Booking Secretary,
36, Gibb Lane,
Mount Tabor,
Halifax, HX2 0UG

Folios Available from the YPU 2010/2011

The following folios are available for the syllabus secretaries to place in their programmes for the members to enjoy.

The YPU Exhibition ones are purchased and yours to keep, so you can fit them in your programme anywhere you wish.

The PAGB ones will need to be passed on to the next club after viewing, so a date when you require them is needed. You will be notified where they will come from and who you need to pass them on to after viewing.

Postage Costs. For 1 CD two 1st class stamps, for two CDs three 1st class stamps.

Please enclose them with your request **along with your postage address,** to send the CD to

All the following are in a CD format.

The YPU ones which you retain cost £10 each

The PAGB ones which you hire cost £5 each

YPU Projected images from current exhibition £10

YPU prints from the current exhibition £10

PAGB annual prints from current exhibition £5

PAGB projected images from current exhibition £5

The actual prints selected from the exhibition are also available but, because they need to be passed on from club to club, the date you require them is needed.

YPU box of prints £10

If you have any questions about the above please give me a ring on 01422 246442

Andrew

Please note the folio is also available on the YPU website

www.ypu.org.uk



Accepted Print
Inter Federation

Tamworth Two

By
Richard Bown ARPS
DPAGB

Harrogate PS

Accepted Print
Inter Federation

Through the Open
Window

By
Gill Sharp ARPS
CPAGB

Holmfirth CC



Accepted Print
Inter Federation

Whitby Goth

By
Phil Jackson

Pudsey CC

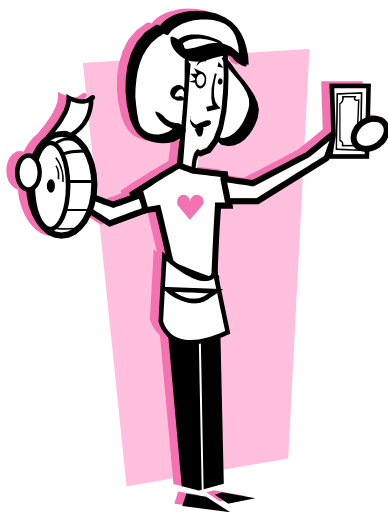


Raffle Ticket Winners at the YPU Assembly

2011

The following were winners in the 2011 draw:

1. £100 Cheque **0886** Harrogate PS
2. £50 Cheque **2640** Pontefract CC
3. £5 M & S Voucher **2860** Pudsey CC
4. £5 Book Token **3790** New Earswick CC
5. £5 M & S Voucher **2925** Rotherham PS
6. £5 Book Token **1273** Ilkley CC
7. £5 M & S Voucher **3567** Wetherby CC
8. £5 Book Token **3383** Wakefield CC
9. £5 M & S Voucher **3763** York PS
10. £5 Book Token **3266** TTL CC



MEET THE EXECUTIVE

Alan Stopher CPAGB, Huddersfield Photo-Imaging Club



My earliest photographs were taken on a Kodak 127 camera which had a fixed shutter speed (slow!) and produced square format negatives. I was given it for my 11th birthday and I soon set about combining its use with my interest in railways as I made crude attempts to record the last few years of steam trains near my home in the New Forest area of Hampshire. I found the square format a challenge and capturing moving trains unsuccessful so it was not long before I was hankering after a 35mm camera. I was given a second hand Dacora Dignette (a Voigtlander by another name) at Christmas 1966 and, encouraged by an older cousin, I soon acquired equipment and chemicals to develop my own film. Subject matter was still predominantly of a transport nature but I occasionally ventured into taking holiday landscapes but with little success.

University in London meant a broadening of interests and not much time for photography. My first real contact with fellow amateur photographers came with my first proper job as a graduate civil engineer with London Transport. I joined the District Line Photographic Club at Acton, West London. Our club room was a darkroom which meant I was able to learn the basics of printing and print quality as well as how to use a dry mounting press. I can still hear old Fred Brown saying that I should aim for a full tonal range from minimal 'paper base' white to a good 'juicy' black if I was to produce a good print. This was when I grasped the meaning of 'record' and made my first steps at entering work in competitions. I was also able to book the darkroom and spend lonely evenings trying to get decent 10" x 8" prints out of my limited repertoire. I soon acquired a Ricoh compact camera which broadened the range of stops I could use and within a year was spending a king's ransom on the newly introduced Olympus OM1. £150 was a lot of money for a newly married young graduate to spend on a hobby in 1974 and at least one of my friends' mothers thought I was mad. On reflection I have my wife Ali to thank for her support over this. She did not bat an eyelid at this expenditure and has never once criticised a purchase then or since.

This was now the age of colour and believing that black and white had its limitations I bought a second camera body and started taking colour slides as well. The first film I used to any great extent was Orwo from East Germany. It was cheap and cheerful and often produced some surprises particularly in the colours. After a bad experience with one Orwo processed film I moved onto Agfa. Despite keeping these slides in the dark for many years fading has occurred to both makes of transparency.

In our early years of marriage when Ali and I were both working and deliberately putting off starting a family we had holidays as far away as Borneo, China and India as well as some nearer to home in mainland Europe. This introduced me to travel

photography as I recorded the people and places we met. When I look back through my photographs this is the kind of subject matter which dominates.

In the mid eighties having moved to Huddersfield for work, I acquired a Durst enlarger and set up a darkroom in the attic and set about making monochrome prints to complement the colour slide output. Technology had moved on and it was possible to use multi-grade paper using filters instead of having to purchase a wide range of soft and hard papers to get anything decent out of the negatives.

Our two boys Richard and Jeremy were born in 1986 and 1988 and life was pretty hectic for a few years as Ali and I juggled work and childcare. After almost a 20 year break from club membership, I was persuaded by an acquaintance to join Huddersfield Camera Circle in 1996. It was great to spend time on my hobby once more amongst people with a common interest, bringing along my own work and learning from others. We had some excellent evening outings to local textile and engineering mills and even a power station. As well as getting some interesting pictures we were able to record industries which have since disappeared. It's a shame that strict health and safety regimes have virtually made such visits a thing of the past in the UK.

I often find it difficult to be a passive member of organisations which I attend, so I was soon on the HCC committee acting as Secretary and Slide Competitions Secretary before becoming President of the club. In 2004 we took the momentous decision to merge with our colleagues at Huddersfield Photographic Society. As club president I was involved with a small group of members in both clubs in piloting our way through the merger and duly became President of the merged organisation which we styled Huddersfield Photo-Imaging Club. I'm pleased to say that the merger was considered to be a success and looking around our meetings today most of our members have joined since 2004.

Since then I have continued on the committee as Competitions Secretary, a job which I am finding difficult to pass on to others.

Retirement from the world of paid employment in 2009 has enabled me take on a few more roles. I am now the President of the Interclub Colour Group of 12 clubs which holds 4 rounds of digital image competitions each winter season. Since joining the Yorkshire Photographic Union Executive last April I have taken on the role of Judge and Lecture List Secretary from Alan Ford. His will be a difficult act to follow but I will do my best to meet the standards he has set and bring in innovations where appropriate. Whilst the lecture and lecturers' list in Yorkshire is strong the number of judges has diminished in recent years. There appears to be no reduction in the competitive endeavours of our clubs so bringing in new judges will be a major focus in the coming months. If any of you would like to give judging a try, look out for the YPU Judges' Workshop which will be arranged in February 2012 and contact me to take part.

I had hoped to spend more time with my own photography on giving up work. This has
(Continued on page 27)

(Continued from page 26)

been partially successful. Having turned to digital photography around 4 years ago I take more photos than ever but I consider myself to be a relative novice when it comes to using the various techniques on offer. I still miss the craft element of darkroom photography whilst appreciating the increased scope for image-making that digital brings.

To test myself I put in for the PAGB last year and after some useful feedback from the YPU workshop on PAGB entry, decided to submit 10 slides from my back catalogue. This was partly because I took the view that slides had to be taken correctly and could not be 'messed about' and partly as a form of 'closure' for a medium I was no longer using. I was pleased to be judged a 'good club photographer' by obtaining my CPAGB on the first attempt. I have no plans to take this further. Standards of projected images and prints have rocketed in such a short time that the bar for higher levels of accreditation is very high.

When not taking photographs or helping with photo club management, I have other interests such as the inland waterways, current affairs, football and the environment. For almost 50 years photography has been part of my life. It has helped me to express my creativity in a way that my career in engineering and project management has not, and it has been good fun sharing the hobby with friends in my own and other camera clubs. The world of still photography is just as engaging now as it was when I took it up and there is plenty more to learn.

Congratulations

The following members have received distinctions from the FIAP in March 2011

EFIAP

Duncan Hill

AFIAP

Janet Burdon

Richard Burdon

Howard Tate

Many congratulations to you all

Awards for Photographic Merit in AV

The Standards sub committee is currently reviewing our approach to AV Awards to ensure that the requirements recognise advances in all aspects of the craft. There is, however, a more specific reason for this current review which relates to the origin of images used in AV sequences - specifically the use of images which are not the original work of the applicant.

The PAGB has always required that all images entered for Awards assessment should be the work of the entrant, and applicants for the PAGB Awards in AV sign a declaration to the effect that they own the copyright in all images included in submissions. However, it has been obvious for some time that many submissions have not strictly complied with this requirement.

Earlier this year the PAGB issued a general rule that all images submitted for its Competitions and the APM must be entirely the work of the entrant, clearly excluding the use of images from any other source regardless of copyright issues. The EC recognised that this could severely impact on the number of applications for AV Awards which, currently, are embraced within the PAGB Awards For Photographic Merit but felt that assessment could hardly be based on photographic expertise if any/much/all of the images are not the work of the applicant.

The sub committee is considering changes to these procedures with the intention of easing this requirement in relation to AV submissions for their awards. The review is also addressing any other changes that may be deemed desirable to recognise the changing nature of AV production techniques and content. We expect to be able to publish these proposals shortly and hope they can be implemented in time to apply for a possible Adjudication in October 2012.

Trustee Liability Cover 2012

The YPU is to pay for the Club Trustee Liability cover for 2012, so there will be no charge to individual clubs

REPORT FROM THE PHOTOGRAPHIC ALLIANCE OF GREAT BRITAIN (PAGB) OCTOBER 2011 MEETING

RECORDED LECTURE SERVICE

There has been an increase in the number of clubs using the service, probably because all lectures are now on CD. The outdated slide lectures have now been archived. Several new titles have been added, and are outlined in the new blue handbook. The GB Cup CD's are now available from me. There are separate CD's for the Open, Small Clubs and Natural History competitions. Also newly available are the PAGB 2011 Inter Federation Print Exhibition and the 2011 Inter Club Projected Digital Image Championship (Warwick). 'Pictures on Permajet' by Irene Froy is a recent acquisition and benefits from having a voice over to explain techniques. The eagerly awaited Awards for Photographic Merit (CPAGB, DPAGB, MPAGB) is due out in November but please wait until at least December to order it. The most popular lectures currently on loan is The Beyond Group's Open Digital Exhibitions; the 1st, 2nd and 3rd and all three contain top quality images. Please note that CD's are now £15 to loan and that you only need to send one SAE instead of two.

The use of PayPal to pay on line has been discussed again at the PAGB's recent meeting but there are still difficulties to overcome with this method of payment and the issue has not yet been resolved.

E-NEWS

The e-news continues to circulate on a need to know basis and is the most informative way of keeping in touch with national PAGB news. If you haven't yet signed up it is easy to register with Rod Whelans at rod@creative-camera.co.uk. Just to illustrate the speed of how the use of e mail can make a difference is just after the website of Gwen Charnock was published in e news she had 800 hits on her site the first day!

FIAP distinctions (AFIAP and EFIAP)

Dave Coates, the new FIAP Liaison Officer, has rewritten the notes and instructions for gaining an AFIAP and EFIAP. These are considerably more user friendly and are now circulated on the PAGB website. Please note that in respect of Monochrome and colour images from the same or similar source they must be considered one image. At the last PAGB meeting it was agreed that it was no longer necessary for entrants to submit photographs for the PAGB to stockpile, as previously, for use in FIAP Biennial competitions. It was felt that to do well in Biennials the photographs had to be cohesive and, for example, all be mounted in the same way. You may have seen our last Biennial panel of creative flower photographs in the e news. We came third in this competition and only missed the top spot by two points!

PAGB Awards for Photographic Merit

The PAGB executive have discussed the arrangements for the adjudication days to answer some criticism from the Western Counties Photographic Federation. All the questions raised by the Western Counties Federation were carefully debated and considered so it has been decided not to make any changes to the current arrangements.

Awards for Photographic Merit for AV (Extract from paper by Tony Riley)

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(Continued on page 30)

(Continued from page 29)

ensure that the requirements recognise advances in all aspects of the craft. There is, however, a more specific reason for this current review which relates to the origin of images used in AV sequences - specifically the use of images which are not the original work of the applicant.

The PAGB has always required that all images entered for Awards assessment should be the work of the entrant, and applicants for the PAGB Awards in AV sign a declaration to the effect that they own the copyright in all images included in submissions. However, it has been obvious for some time that many submissions have not strictly complied with this requirement.

Earlier this year the PAGB issued a general rule that all images submitted for competitions and the APM Awards must be entirely the work of the entrant, clearly excluding the use of images from any other source regardless of copyright issues.

The PAGB are considering changes to these procedures with the intention of easing this requirement in relation to AV submissions for their awards. The review is also addressing any other changes that may be deemed desirable to recognise the changing nature of AV production techniques and content.

The PAGB expects to be able to publish its proposals shortly which, it is hoped, will be implemented in time to apply for the currently proposed assessment in October 2012.

Finance

Good news! It is anticipated that because of increased sponsorship and the printing of the new handbook costing considerably less than anticipated that the PAGB will make a surplus this year. There will be no increase, therefore, in subscriptions and the PAGB are anticipating subsidising some of the major annual competitions and championships. Hopefully, some of surplus can be used to reduce the ticket prices to events such as Warwick (Inter Club PDI competition) and Connor's Quay (Inter Club Print championship). Ticket prices will probably be based on the idea of buy one and get one free which hopefully encourages more people to attend.

As you may well have heard one Federation has been the victim of fraud. The PAGB will be producing a paper outlining good financial practice so that clubs and Federations can lessen the likelihood that they suffer in the same way.

The Great British Cup

The Great British Cup gains more entries each year and is a great opportunity for each club to enter a national competition. This year the closing date is 9th January, 2012 and there are like last year 3 competitions – the Open, the one for small clubs and a separate competition for natural history. Clubs can compete in both the open and small competitions but should not show the same or similar images in both. It has been agreed to waive the £12 entry fee this year so make sure your club benefits from this and enters!

Insurance

The insurance trustee liability policy will be on the PAGB's website. There have been few claims this year so premiums will stay the same as last year. Following requests investigations are underway to see if the ceiling figure can be raised from £5 million to £10 million for public liability.

Stephanie Cook

WHAT'S ON - DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Date	Event
26th & 27th November 2011	Awards for Photographic Merit. Hosted by NWPA
2nd December 2011	Wath Salon Hosted by Dearne Valley CC
9th January 2012	Closing date for the Great British Cup
1st March 2012	Kirbymoorside & District CC Transient Light Lecture by Ian Cameron
3rd March 2012	YPU AGM + handing in of Exhibition entries
28th & 29th April 2012	PA GB Awards for Photographic Merit Hosted by YPU
12th May 2012	YPU Annual Assembly & Exhibition Wath upon Dearne Hosted by Dearne Valley CC
October 2012	Keighley Day
3rd November 2012	Representatives Meeting

