



Hi All

It doesn't seem that long since we returned after the summer break yet here we are with the last edition of DPS News before Christmas. I think the season up to now has gone very well with the highlight possibly being the portrait night if we judge by enthusiasm. Brian J is up for an outside session next year using natural light. Watch for further announcement. The committee wishes all members & their families a Merry Christmas & a very happy & Prosperous New Year. Until January 8th. then, keep taking those photos.

Notes from an Old Snapper 6

So the other Monday I was sitting thinking that Brian R must have been a Boy Scout. He wants us all to Be Prepared. When out taking night shots we should have camera, tripod, torch, remote shutter release, spare batteries, umbrella, mobile phone and hot drink whilst wearing warm clothing, waterproofs, hat, scarf and fingerless gloves. Be Prepared!

How often in life are we not prepared?

The Old Snapper is never prepared to such an extent (especially as he does not possess a remote shutter release) and just wings it! I am not advocating you follow the Old Snapper's bad habits but I do believe you should follow the Old Snapper Code which can be encapsulated in four words "Just Take It Anyway!"

When the world was young and the word digital was applied only to matters relating to fingers and toes, photographs cost money. Every image captured went Kerching! on the cash register of the brain.

If you were lucky (or profligate) you had the roll of 24 or 36 part used in the camera and maybe another roll in the camera bag. Call it 50 shots at most. This amounted to a goodly percentage of the Young Snappers weekly income.

The Young Snapper would think carefully and long over the best angle and distance, which mode to set the camera, the optimum exposure, the focal point needed and the dozen of other considerations before committing to a photograph which once taken could not really be changed, altered or improved.

The Old Snapper has the freedom to throw caution to the wind. The Old Snapper just snaps and snaps and snaps. He moves his Zimmer Frame or motility scooter around the scene taking image after image. He brackets, he spot meters on every different light and dark area, he frames and reframes and only when he is fed up and runs out of different ways to take the scene does he down camera and move on.

Back at Old Snapper Acres he downloads his hundreds of images and sorts the wheat from the chaff.

One day last week, the Old Snapper took 196 images of nothing in particular whilst out. There was one image of competition standard with minimal post processing, maybe 5 images which required a degree of work and then the others. What to do with the rest? The Old Snapper hoards his "also rans" for a wet night when there is little to do. He gleans the hidden gems and works long into the night thinking of ways to perform photographic alchemy and turn the base metal into gold. This is part of the joy of the hobby.

So next time you are out in the hours of darkness, camera in hand but bereft of tripod, torch, remote shutter release etc. lacking a hot drink or fingerless gloves, Just Take It Anyway.

Use your invention. Remember the wall is steady, a piece of clothing substitutes for the old bean bag we used to carry, the lamp post is firm, the 2 second timer is handy, Raw is forgiving, Hand Held Night Shot is available, and a steady hand is needed. Be like an Old Snapper and take the shot six, seven, eight times. One could be steady and sharp and you only need one sharp shot. If none are sharp then you have lost nothing but a minute of your life which you probably would have wasted anyway.

Never ever think that the shot is impossible. Never ever think that you haven't got everything you need. Just use what you have. The Old Snapper was out judging a few weeks ago and gave 20 to an excellent, very late evening shot only to be told by the author that it was taken on the spur of the moment on a mobile phone on the way back from the pub. It deserved 20, if only for the ingenuity and attitude. It deserved 20 because it was a cracking shot!



Who is the Old Snapper?
Do you know his or her identity?
Answers on a postcard or email please.

DPS Retain the Boyes Trophy. - On a cold November evening, Pete Boyes & Dave Ireland ventured out to New Earswick to oversee the annual 3 way competition between DPS, Malton & New Earswick.

Expertly and very comically judged by equally long travelled Riponite Richard Egan, DPS came away with the trophy that has become somewhat of a fixture at Driffield (quite literally a few years ago). With 6 20s out of 18 pics, DPS were unstoppable on the way to their first inter club win of the season, especially following the sobering result at Beverley the week before. Total DPS score for the 9 DPs & 9 prints was 336 with Malton on 320 & host club New Earswick coming in with 315. A great result for DPS but a great night for photography as New Earswick were fantastic hosts, providing a superb buffet together with a brilliant personality of the judge.

Pete Boyes receives the Trophy from judge Richard Egan



Tech Tips Frozen Leaves

As the leaves turn colour and fall off the trees they present us with another photographic opportunity to shoot autumn themed images in a very different way. The technique we're talking about is freezing colourful leaves and photographing the ice block.

By freezing whole leaves in a pan of water you'll not only have colourful photography, but interesting and unique ice patterns to photograph too.

It's best to do this technique outside if you can as the light's better, they'll be less cleaning up and there isn't electrical equipment to fry as there is in a studio!

Kit wise, you'll need a macro lens on the front of your camera so you can get in close to the cracks that spread over the colourful leaf textures in the ice. You can leave the tripod inside, but make sure you have a reflector handy as it will help direct light into the dark areas the sun can not reach.

If you have something that can support your ice block so light can shine through it – great. If not, freeze it in a clear container and place it on a light coloured surface. Shallow containers work the best as you only need a few inches of water for this to work. You may also find coloured paper/card useful to add a punch of colour to the background of the image.

Place your leaf, vibrant autumn colours work the best, face down in the container, add water and put it in the freezer. If you can, pick leaves with splayed tips so light can shine through them. After about 30-40 minutes check your container as the leaves may have floated to the surface and moved position. Once it's frozen take the container outside and start shooting.

Small apertures, around f/22, will give you great depth-of-field so you'll be able to shoot patterns right through the ice. Check your camera's meter reading and if needs be spot meter from the leaf so the camera doesn't get confused from the light shining off the ice. Look for interesting designs, areas where air bubbles have gathered and unusual shapes that cut across the colourful leaf.

As it will take a while for the ice to melt, head back inside, put the kettle on and come back out to the ice every half an hour or so to snap the frozen air bubbles and water as it melts.



BELL TROPHY RESULTS

Thursday December 7th. saw Chairman Pete & President Brian J head to Pocklington for the YCPG Bell Competition. We won this last year but were beaten into 3rd place by a very strong Focus Bridlington entry & a slightly stronger Wolds. Full result with our individual scores below. Congratulations to Graham who again scored a 20 & a 19 also to Darren with 19 & 18. New member Jim Sharp also did well scoring an 18.

Final Result

1 Focus 180 2 Wolds 172 3 DPS 170 4 Hornsea 166 5 Pocklington 157 6 Beverley 156
7 Y Foto 139

DPS Individual Scores

G Thurlow 2 entries 39 D McDonald 2 entries 37 J Sharp 2 entries 33 E Howard 2 entries 31
P Boyes 1 entry 16 A Hill 1 entry 14 Total 170

The excellent judge, a lady from Wakefield who was a YCPG credited judge made very constructive comments about every entry (except the 20s of course).

PAGB GB CUP FOR DPis Closing date for entries January 14th. 2018

This competition has two classes as far as DPS is concerned, OPEN & NATURE.

The open class needs 15 images taken by a minimum of 6 members with no more than 4 entries per member.

The nature class needs a minimum of 3 entries & maximum of 21 with no more than 3 entries per member. Rules of nature photography are used in this class so for more information please view the GB Cup nature section on the PAGB website or speak to a committee member. Entries should be in JPEG format 1600 x 1200 DPI no more than 2MB. Please send your entries, marked GB cup to peteboyes@gboyes.co.uk or bring them to our 1st meeting in 2018