



Newsletter - April 2021

Introduction

Way back in the 1970's, I well remember a number of songs by Ian Dury, (of Blockheads fame). Sadly he is no longer with us, but his song "Reasons To Be Cheerful" is so relevant now, following Boris's recent announcement of the "roadmap" out of the lockdown. Kids are already back at school; meeting up with a maximum of 6 people just before Easter, and the "stay at home" rule will end on 29 Mar 21, to be replaced by "stay local". Depending on what you define as "stay local" could mean that we can get out and take pictures away from our immediate area! Yippee! It is envisaged that restrictions will continue to be lifted through spring into summer. Like I said, Reasons to be Cheerful, and we live in hope for a semblance of normality very soon!

WPS News

Committee News

You may recall from the AGM that our current Club Secretary, Ian Saunders indicated that he intended to stand down in June and that a replacement should be sought. No volunteer was forthcoming at that meeting and it was agreed to leave it to the committee to resolve. The good news is that Dave Hazleton has volunteered to take on the role of club Secretary with effect from 1 July 21. Dave currently has the role of External Competition Secretary on the committee and John Edwards has agreed to combine this role with his current post of Internal Comp Sec.

CAPS Competition

Some more background on our competition with Central Alberta Photographic Society. For those who are not aware, CAPS are based in a town called Red Deer in Central Alberta. A look at their website suggests a very active club, and judging by some of their images entered in the competition, a very talented membership. A link to their website is here: <http://www.centralalbertaphotographicsociety.com>

By the way, if you still haven't heard, WPS won our recent competition.

I have circulated the results and both judges comments around the club already. If you have not seen them, then please let me know and I will send a copy to you. I also want to thank all WPS members who contributed images, our Selection Panel, both judges for their scoring and comments, and finally to John Edwards, our Master of

PhotoEntry, without whose help and support we could not run the External nor our own competitions.

PAGB E-News No. 278

The latest edition of e-news dropped into my inbox on Tuesday. For those who do not subscribe, the link is here:

http://www.pagbnews.co.uk/sites/default/files/newsletters/en278%2017%20Mar%202021_0.pdf

Continuous Improvement - Landscape Group.

The first meeting of the Landscape Group will be on 25 Mar 21 at 7:30pm. Sadly it will be via Zoom but it can be considered the launch meeting of what I hope will become a successful group, where we are able to learn from each other, visit interesting parts of the region and have fun and hopefully some brilliant images in the process.

Easter Break

A reminder that there is no meeting on 6 Apr 21.

We resume on 13 Apr 21, on Zoom, the day after all the photographic stores are allowed to re-open for walk-in sales! Reasons to be cheerful.

Forthcoming Programme

There are two more meetings in March. On 23rd, Roger Hance is the presenter, talking about "New Images 2020 - Why I switched", and his decision to move to the Olympus mirrorless system. Over the last few years Roger has moved from full frame to mirrorless photography and he will be showing, and making comparisons between images using these two methods. Although Roger is a superb photographer, please take a look at his website, the session was booked to help those of our club members who are currently in a similar position. This presentation may help you to come to a decision between the two systems. A link to Roger's website is here:

<https://rogerhancefrps.com/home>

On **30 Mar 21** we are joined on Zoom by members of Buxton and Lowestoft for our annual Tripod Competition. I know that is is a keenly fought yet friendly battle and I am looking forward to seeing what images they have brought with them. Remember, the clocks will have gone forward by then so the lighter summer evenings will be here. Another reason to be cheerful.

Thinking of buying some new camera gear? On 13 Apr 21, David Smith, an Olympus Rep will be talking about techniques with Olympus cameras and comparing their format with conventional DSLR's. If you are in the market for a new camera, or are tiring of lugging weighty DSLR kit around and are thinking of a change, then this

might just be of interest. Nevertheless even if you are not, it still promises to be an interesting evening.

Advanced warning that there is an additional club night on **Monday 19 Apr 21**, when Guy Edwardes is our Zoom guest with his presentation "Seeing the Light - 25 years of Landscape Photography". Guy is one of the country's foremost landscape, nature and wildlife photographers so he should be well worth listening to. Check out his website here: <https://www.guyedwardes.com>

There will be an informal members evening on Tuesday 20 Apr 21.

And finally for April something completely different. on 27 Apr 21 Ian Wilson presents an evening entitled "Digital Techniques" Ian will process images provided by WPS members live on screen using Photoshop and demonstrating various editing techniques. If you have an image that you are happy for Ian to play with and enhance, please let a member of the committee know and we will provide details of how to submit at a later stage.

Remember to check out the up to date programme on our website here:
<https://www.wymondham-ps.org.uk/calendar/>

Recent Events

In the last newsletter I mentioned a presentation by Polina Plotnikova. Her presentation on Still Life and Flower photography was excellent, very enjoyable, and must have inspired a few members, judging by the collection of flower images which have popped up on Facebook in recent days.

Similarly a presentation on 9 Mar 21 by Shaun Reynolds on Astrophotography will hopefully inspire some to take up the offer of no sleep, and very early mornings for some images of the Milky Way. Shaun talked passionately about a fascinating subject and showed the results that can be obtained with dedication, staying power and some basic equipment. I must admit, I was surprised when he noted that he only travelled to New Zealand to photograph the southern end of the Milky Way, and he was only there for 10 days, shooting at night! That is dedication. He gave some valuable tips on settings and Apps he uses in his work, such as Stolarium, Planetarium and the Photographers Ephemeris. Like all our speakers this season, his was a very inspiring and interesting evening, delivered by a speaker passionate about his subject.

If you are interested in this form of photography, then please check out his website, a link to which is here: shaunreynoldsastro.com

DPI (Print) Round 3 Competition Results

The third round of the Print (DPI) Competition was held on 16 Mar 21. Once again there were some outstanding images in both Tier 1 and Tier 2, so well done to all who submitted entries, and congratulations to the winners. Our judge was Paul Radden who hails from Hunstanton and he provided detailed comments on all the images, especially those in Tier 1 where he focussed more time. There was some humour as part of his narrative and I found his critiques entertaining, educational as well as constructive.

Details of awards below:

Tier 1 Results (18 images entered):

- 1st After the Rain Stephen Bould
- 2nd Common Emerald Moth Alex Park
- 3rd Scottish West Coast Panorama John Staines
- HC Red Champion John Edwards
- HC Painted Lady Alex Park

Tier 2 Results (27 images entered):

- 1st Brick Lane Dude John Bulpitt
- 2nd Last Race at Brighton John Bulpitt
- 3rd A Touch of Blue Christine Bulpitt
- HC Lagoon Lovers Dave Balcombe
- HC Wistful Thought Dave Balcombe
- C Attitude! Gavin Jones
- C Cheetahs Bonding David Pelling
- C Breakwater at Dawn - Swanage Bay David Hazleton

The successful images are now displayed on the club website.

Meet The Committee - John Edwards (Internal Comp Sec)

My interest in photography began in 1979 whilst in the army, my first camera was a Nikon EM 35mm with a 300 Telephoto lens, which I bought when stationed in Canada.

I still have the camera although it doesn't work at the moment due to a fault with battery connections.

Since my family have grown up I have started to rekindle my interest in photography, and bought a Canon DSLR and a selection of lenses.

My main interests are Landscape and Wildlife but will give anything a try, hopefully now I'm slowing down to retirement I will be able to spend more time taking photos.

Since joining the club I have gained confidence in my ability to take better images by entering competitions and getting awards, I hope one day to be good enough to be promoted to Tier 2. LOL

..... **and Finally**

Following on from Shaun Reynolds presentation about Astrophotography, I noted a book about this subject in the latest Outdoor Photography magazine. Entitled "Night Sky Photography" by Adam Woodworth, the review says it is a "how to" book covering gear, techniques and editing skills needed to create "nocturnal masterpieces." If Shaun's presentation has prompted enough interest in you to spend nights outside stargazing, then this might be the book to get you started. I look forward to viewing your images!