



Newsletter

October 2013

Welcome

We extend a particularly warm welcome to our new members, Colin Burnham, Rosalind Eskell, Gary Gawler, Carl Graham, Martin Hasluck, Jude Anthonisz, Moira Izzard, David Lambdin, Robert Lee, Martin Lewis, Phil Lockett, Diane Silcock, Paul McLoughlin, Maggie Martin, Ann Owens, Brian Winton, Phil Woolley, Raymond Yardley, Sheila Imrie, Roger Tipper, Ray Harris, Paula Fernley, Juan Figueredo, Andy McLaughlin, Megan Litson, Stephen Parkinson, Barry Griffiths, Sue Haslett and to those who joined towards the end of last season, Phil Bird, Emm Eason and Lynne Mc Donagh. We hope you will enjoy your membership of our club.

To the established members of the club I say please make our new friends welcome.

Image Discussion Evenings - Ken's Corner

A new innovation at our image discussion evenings is to have more display boards out so that more member's prints can be displayed for all to see. This is for those who do not particularly want to enter images for discussion but would just like to show them so if you feel a little diffident about having your images discussed just bring them along and display them and quietly listen to the comments that are made. You may get some nice surprises!

Mount Cutter

The club has purchased a good quality mount cutter for members to use. Martin Lovell is the custodian of the cutter and members who wish to use it should get in touch with him either at a meeting or on 01392 824264 or 07768 423411. Martin will give full instruction. There will be no hire charge but you will be expected to buy your own blades.

Canvas Prints

There are lots of deals going on the web for canvas prints but one particular provider came to my notice the other day, which is of interest. Check out the website <http://www.litebytes.org.uk/>. This is an interesting project in Grantham to give employment to students with learning difficulties. The prints are of excellent quality (new member, Colin Burnham has already obtained some) and are very competitively priced.

Lightroom 5

For those of you who have recently upgraded to Lightroom 5 (and I can thoroughly recommend the upgrade) the following link to a one hour online tutorial may be useful.

<http://www.picturecorrect.com/tips/how-to-develop-and-share-photos-with-lightroom/> There are some very interesting new features in Lightroom 5 and, unless you know what you are looking for, you may not find them. There are also very good tutorials by Scott Kelby and also Robert Rodriguez Jnr on the same subject on You Tube.

For Sale

New member, Lynne McDonagh, has a Canon 100mm macro lens for sale in mint condition. Contact her at Plantlightlyblog@gmail.com or phone her of 01392 252839.

Coming Photo Opportunities

Halloween in Exeter – The March of the Zombies

Takes place on Saturday October 26th starting at the Upper us Station Car Park at 4.00 pm and finishing at the Exeter Phoenix at around 5.00 pm

Somerset Carnivals

Last autumn several of us went to the Shepton Mallet Carnival and came back with a good crop of photos. The year the Somerset Carnivals are:-

Bridgwater – Saturday 2nd November

Burnham on Sea – Monday 4th November

Weston Super Mare – Friday 8th November

North Petherton – Saturday 9th November

Shepton Mallet – Wednesday 13th November

Wells – Friday 15th November

Glastonbury – Saturday 16th November

The midweek carnivals are considered better for photographing because the crowds are not so dense but the Bridgwater and the Glastonbury venues are the biggest. For full details go to

<http://www.somsetcarnivals.co.uk/events.asp>.

Aspect Ratios – a few thoughts

The majority of members use full frame or CX format cameras with a native aspect ratio of 3:2. This is the old 35mm film format. The aspect ratio can make or break the effectiveness of a composition by either emphasising the subject or putting the whole scene off balance and you need to have this in mind as you are taking the picture. If you are a Lightroom user and follow the logical workflow of the develop module you will find that one of the first things you are invited to do is to crop the photo. This can be done either to a custom ratio or to preset ratios such as 1:1, 4:3, 4:5, 8.5:11 or 5:7. The preset ratios enable you to use standard printing papers and mounts whilst the custom ratios allow more creative cropping. The wider the photo is in relation to its height the more you are inclined to “read it like a

book” running your eye from one side to the other and it is therefore important that elements of the picture will lead your eye in to the focal point. A 1:1 ratio gives a very strong centre and can simplify an image tremendously. Turning the camera through 90 degrees into the so called portrait mode creates new problems. In my view, the last thing you want to do in portrait mode is to take a portrait but that is a personal view! You no longer read the picture from left to right or right to left but rely upon an element of the picture to take your eye from top to bottom or bottom to top. Whoever said photography was simple!

Brian Rees

Club Manager