



CLUB NEWS

INTRODUCTORY ISSUE

23<sup>RD</sup> MARCH

## WELCOME TO DCPC ONLINE

### DERBY CITY PHOTOGRAPHIC CLUB –KEEPING IN TOUCH

Hi Everyone

#### INTRODUCTION

Life has certainly changed with incredible speed for all of us, and we are having to adjust to a different way of living for the foreseeable future. We want to keep engaging members in whatever way we can, so that you are still benefiting from club membership even though we're not meeting. You will have seen in Ashley's email yesterday that we are setting up some online activities for members.

On Monday evenings, when you would otherwise be at the DCPC meeting, why not set aside time to join in club activities. We will learn as we go, but the idea is to suggest activities for you to do on a Monday evening, and afterwards share them. We will be using the club website as much as possible, and by email where this is not feasible. Of course, you may well be working on these throughout the week, but we will focus on issuing results / new challenges and so on, on a Monday night.

In this first bulletin, we are covering:

- the "raw to result" challenge
- a request to write a short piece to share with members on a photographic project
- competitions, judged by members (as we did last week for "in the rain")
- the monthly critique group, which has now gone "virtual"
- how to share your work via a "member's gallery" on the club website
- mentoring

#### WHILE YOU'RE NOT AT THE CLUB TONIGHT...THIS WEEK'S CHALLENGE: "RAW TO RESULT"

This evening, we'd like you to get out your raw images, and offer some for processing by other members.

#### How will it work?

- **We need to build up a store of images for members to process, so we'd like every member to share at least one image, and preferably more;**
- images should be sent in both raw and JPEG formats to me at [bren.howard1@btinternet.com](mailto:bren.howard1@btinternet.com) . File names should not contain the author's name.
- Each week starting next Monday, 30<sup>th</sup> March, we will upload JPEG images onto the club website
- Members can then offer to work on their chosen image(s) by emailing me at the above address
  - any member can work on up to 3 images per week

- any image can be worked on by up to 3 members (giving a chance for different approaches)
- members can submit as many images as they wish for processing, but we plan to only post one per member per week (this will help us to build up a stock for future weeks and hopefully sustain interest; (we might need to modify this if we don't have enough images)
- we encourage all members to put images in and we will ask for more images as needed
- I will aim to send out the raw files by end of Tuesday
- Reviewers should return the processed image(s) in **both** JPEG and RAW formats, by the end of Friday of the same week, along with a screenshot, or written summary, of the processing they did
- We will upload the processed images, as JPEGs showing “before and after”, and the processing steps, onto the club website on the following Monday when we then add more images for members to choose from and the cycle starts again.

After, say four weeks, we may hold a member competition of the processed images, if members favour this idea. This would need to be anonymous as the credit for the processing is due to the member who volunteered their expertise. No prizes, no named credit, but it could show how unpromising images could become competition winners. It might also encourage new learning in processing skills, that we can build into future programme events/members evenings when we reconvene.

### **WRITE UP YOUR PHOTOGRAPHIC PROJECT!**

We would like to invite any member to write a short piece/blog about a photographic project they are doing or have done. We suggest a maximum of 250 words and as many images as you would care to include in it (small JPEGs to keep the file size manageable). The plan is to publish one of these weekly on the club website. We would like to build up a bank of these, so that we can sustain this initiative for however long the coronavirus pandemic lasts, and so that we are able to publish one every week.

The subject matter can be anything of your choosing whether it's a location you've been working on, post processing or a new skill you are developing or indeed (as in my case) a plan to sort out a box of old photographs into some sensible order, and possibly put them into photo books; they are not club images or worthy of competition, but are presently inaccessible, because they are sitting their photo lab envelopes, in a box under my desk. So, I will be using the enforced time of self-isolation to finally tackle this job that I have been putting off for several years.

What are you doing that you might share with the wider club? Your blogs will help to give us material to share and maintain the fellowship of DCPC.

Please consider doing this and drop me a line at [bren.howard1@btInternet.com](mailto:bren.howard1@btInternet.com)

## **COMPETITIONS**

The virtual competition last week was well received, and we plan to do it again. Photo opportunities will be limited due to self-isolation and distancing measures, but many members will have gardens and we could, for example, have themes on "still life" and "in the garden" whilst still observing isolation/distancing as required in response to the coronavirus. Also, you could go and gather something, bring it indoors and create what could be a winning image. Ideas welcome, and watch this space.

## **CRITIQUE**

The club runs a critique group which (ordinarily) meets monthly and is now working online. Members put forward up to 3 images for critique, and in return offers their critique of images submitted by other group members. The plan presently is for members to submit written feedback while we can't meet face-to-face. We are also exploring the possibility of webinars. If other DCPC members would like to join, please email me at [bren.howard1@btinternet.com](mailto:bren.howard1@btinternet.com). We may need to limit numbers for practical reasons but, presently there is capacity within the group.

## **MEMBERS' GALLERIES**

Thanks to the skills and diligence of Mike Arblaster, the club benefits from an excellent website. This is a real asset in the present circumstances. You will have seen that there are members' galleries. Any member can post a gallery of their work. This is a real shop window of the kind of photography going on within the club. There is no requirement for accreditations/awards. This is simply a chance to share your images. There is no assessment or entry requirement-just a willingness to allow others to see your images. So, please, take the opportunity to put in some images for our website. Contact Mike at [mike.arblaster@virgin.net](mailto:mike.arblaster@virgin.net)

## **MENTORS**

While our activities as a club are "virtual", we would like to encourage more members to step forward to offer their skills, and we can then match people up. Members could then have one-to-one conversations and share work online, whilst normal activities are curtailed. Please consider offering, even if it is for a specific area of expertise or processing.

Mentoring is always by agreement, and the commitment should not be onerous. We have guidelines published on the website.

Best wishes to you all, and please get involved as much as you can so that we can help each other through these challenging times.

**Brenda Howard**  
**DCPC committee member**