

Infinity

Newsletter of Hanham and Kingswood Photo Club

Editorial

Issue Fourteen - March 2024

This is the fourteenth edition of Infinity. March already, Spring is around the corner, hopefully we can put our wet weather gear away and enjoy the season.

The Kingswood Salver is a club print competition for a panel of five related prints taken by five different photographers. This competition is usually held in November. Kingswood PS started this competition in the 1980's, both Hanham and Kingswood PS. have won this competition a few times each. This year Arthur organised our entry, we now need someone to run this year's competition. Every year some members say "We do not decide on a theme early enough, and leave it to the last minute to put a cohesive panel together". Therefore it would be ideal to start planning our entry now.

Firstly we need someone to run the competition, secondly we need to decide on a theme, then we need to encourage members to produce photographs on that theme. We will then get the images printed and mounted in a uniform style. This is one of the top WCPF. annual competitions and we should be entering every year.

We only have a small committee bearing in mind the size of the club, some of the existing committee have taken on other task's in addition to their normally club duties, this is unfair and cannot continue. We are missing out on entering outside competitions because we do not have anyone to run them, we have just missed out on 'The Only Mono Competition', with the excellent black and white workers we have in the club we could have had some success in this competition.

I would encourage someone to volunteer to take on the position of outside competition secretary, it would be really appreciated by the members, you will not be thrown in the deep end, you will get all the help and guidance you need until you are competent to do the job. Can you help ?

This month we have an article by one of our regular contributors, Peter Weaver - 'What makes a good Photograph?'

I am sure there are other members who have something interesting to write.

There must be a wealth of information you could share with the members. Help me out, I am sure someone has a short story of your holiday exploits, past experiences, trips you plan in the future, club outings, competition news, future events which may appeal to members. Jokes, funny stories, cartoons, nothing is off limits.

Send your stories etc. for publication to :- **theeditorhandkpcclub@gmail.com** The deadline for newsletter articles is 24th of the month.._

A word of warning to those of a delicate nature who are easily offended, do not read this month's funny - Password Hell

Chairman's Chatter

February was a short month and passed very quickly, but we did have some very good meetings, including a visit from Crossbow Camera Club, The annual Club Auction, the annual London Camera Exchange Competition finishing the month with Hugh Milsom and Leigh Preston.

A little advance warning. On Thursday April 25th we have an evening out entertaining Norton Radstock PS. When they came to us in February they gave us a very entertaining evening, we need to reciprocate and entertain them. We need at least six members to come along and show their images, either prints or DPI's for up to 15 minutes. It would also be supportive if other members came along also. We can arrange car sharing if you wish. Please let Peter know if you intend to show your images or just come along.

The WCPF print competition was held on 4th February. H&KCC. scored 169 points, the winner Bristol PS scored 200. Although as group of photographs the club did not score so well, members whose prints were entered did score very well individually. We must thank Alan James for organising the entry and also delivering the prints to the venue, it is very much appreciated.

An evening with Crossbow Camera Club

Members from Crossbow CC visited us this evening. We saw a wide range of images of members art work and hobbies, including watercolour, and oil paintings, model planes, sailing boats, landscape and astral photography, a very entertaining and social evening. We will be visiting Crossbow CC. later in the year.

Annual Club Auction

This evening members did not disappoint it was very well supported and members brought along a vast variety of photography related items for sale. It was more of a fun social event than an auction with everyone participating and others being bullied into parting with their money. On the night we raised £130.50. which is an excellent result. We still have other items to sell, Helen has kindly offered to put quite a few items on EBay, for which we must thank her, it can be quite a time consuming job listing items on EBay. To-date Helen has sold items to the value of £110.00, making a current total of £240.50. Some other items are hopefully being sold elsewhere.

London Camera Exchange Competition

This evening Sammy, and David who manages the Bath shop, and Mark who manages the Bristol shop visited us to give their deliberations and results of the LCE. competition, this year's theme was 'Seasons'. Again the members shone by well supporting the competition and showing some outstanding images. This year's theme was 'Seasons.' LCE. as always were very generous with their prizes and have supported the club for quite a number of years. We had 54 DPI's and 27 prints entered.

It would be hopeful that our members would be encouraged to support LCE with their photographic purchases. The full list of winners are on the club website.

Next year's theme is 'Motion' The date of the competition is 19th February 2025, with a closing date of 29th January 2025. Rules state that images must have been taken after 24th February 2024. We expect it will be open to six prints/DPI's so now is the time to start planning your entry.

Hugh Milsom FRPS. and Leigh Preston FRPS - Hugh and I

This evening we had a pre-recorded PAGB lecture showing the work of photographer Hugh Milsom and narrated by Leigh Preston, who also showed some of his images. What a superb evening, Hugh's images were some of the best landscape photography I and I am sure some of the members have ever seen. What also complemented the images was Leigh's narrative, you could tell by his enthusiasm for the images that he also rated them very highly. An excellent evening for which we must thank Peter for arranging at the last minute due to Bob Bishop cancelling because of illness.

Hanham and Kingswood Photo Club Zoom Details

We try and zoom all of our meetings where appropriate, subject to technical issues. The code is always the same.

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81475977522?pwd=SHQ1TE5xWkY4R3pzUlpPUh0cUhuQT09>

Meeting ID: 814 757 7522 Pass Code 72Vy8n

WCPF Members Exhibition - Closing Date 3rd March

In the past when Hanham and Kingswood PS were separate societies both were very successful in the number of entries submitted and accepted including quite a few award winners in The WCPF Members Exhibition. The number of members entering has dropped off in recent years and unfortunately not one member had anything accepted last year. Let us try to change that this year.

We have many excellent photographer in the club, who have produced some great images, if you have done well in competitions this should encourage you to enter, why not give it a go. Entry Fees do apply. If you get something accepted it gives you a real boost and gives some kudos to the club.

Peter will be taking prints down on the date of the next WCPF Council Meeting on 3rd March.

There are three print and three DPI sections, selected entries will be displayed at the exhibition. The WCPF are finalising details at the moment.

Members Exhibition WCPF ([thewcpf .com](http://thewcpf.com))

Program Matters - March

Tea Rota - There is an updated Tea Rota on the Club website and on the notice board.

6th March - Helen Sugrue & Julie Kay

20th March - Nick Moore & Graham Greene

13th " - Paul Lewis & Sue Bennett

27th " - Tony Poole & Alan James

Please liaise with each other with regard to who brings the milk/Biscuits. If for some reason you will be unable to attend the club when it is your turn on the rota, could you please either swap places with someone on the rota, or find someone to take your place. Thankyou.

Blood Donor Evening's 6 & 27th March

6th March - **Quarterly Competition No. Four**

This is the final round of this competition, it is all very close at the top, the winner will be decided tonight. Good luck.

13th March - **Tony Cooper ARPS, AWPf - Don McCullin Retrospective**

This should be an excellent evening, Tony is known for his dry wit and vast knowledge, of his subject, the talk tonight is on the Somerset based world famous photographer Don McCullin, who Tony knows personally, so prepare for some unknown facts. Tony is Vice Chairman of Crown Monochrome

20th March - **Malcolm Sales QUEP, ABIPP, ARPS - An Introduction to Smartphone Photography**

Malcolm joins us on zoom from his home in Rushcliffe. Using free apps and recently taken photographic images Malcolm will show us how to 'develop' your Smartphone snaps into images worth printing.

27th March - **Don Bishop ARPS - Visions of the Landscape**

Don is well known for his railway photographs, but in addition he is an accomplished landscape photographer, Don also runs courses in landscape photography, lives in Cheddar. Tonight it is Don Bishop Landscape and Railway Photography.

Keynsham Spring Show

The Spring Show this year will be held on Saturday 23rd March at Keynsham Scout HQ. There are many categories to enter including photography. There are trophy's and prizes. For full details and on line entry form visit :-

http://issuu.com/deputytownclerk/docs/digital_version_final_spring_show_schedule_2024_2

Future Club Outings - Details of all outings are also on the club website **Club Outings - 2024**

Saturday 29th & Sunday 30th June - Black Country Museum & Dudley Zoo

Peter is organising a weekend trip to Dudley to visit The Black Country Museum on Saturday, then Dudley Zoo on the Sunday.

Obviously you can choose to visit something else. With this trip Peter is not booking your accommodation. Cynthia has recommended The Premier Inn in Kingswinford, which is not too far away, it has a Beefeater restaurant on site.

The Premier Inn, Dudley road, Kingswinford Dudley, DY6 8WT

Sat Nav.directions - DY6 8WT

What three words ///hint.market.tries

Please book your accommodation and the attractions tickets well in advance, both can be booked up early. This should be a chance to get some really good images. Please let Peter know if you are intending to come along.

Thursday 10th to Sunday 13th October - Ironbridge & Much Wenlock

Four days in Shropshire in a beautiful part of the country. Lots to see including Blists Hill Victorian Town, Attingham Park (National Trust) and the many attractions within Ironbridge itself. Peter will be staying longer but he will be organising events over the three days. He is looking to book good quality reasonably priced accommodation for all, could you let Peter know by 31st December 2023 if you would be coming along. If you want to book your own accommodation nearby, that's fine. This is an ideal area for some good photographs together with the social element.

What makes a good Photograph - Peter Weaver

This is a slightly amended version of an article I wrote for Hanham Photographic Society magazine a few years ago.

Knowing the answer to the question 'What makes a good Photograph?' should enable your images to be more appreciated by yourself and others whether you take them to be entered into competitions or just for your own pleasure it is another skill when you know the answer to the question and are able to execute it. What are the important items to me when I judge?

Technical Ability - This can cover a variety of things.

Is the image sharp? - This is probably the most common fault that I see (even with sharpening tools). To slow shutter speed, incorrect use of aperture, incorrect focusing ect. Using a tripod would help in most cases but it is not always possible to use one, so maybe increasing your ISO (although not to much) would help. Sometimes using a large aperture such as f2.8, f4, or 5.6 results in a very narrow depth of field being used leading to crucial parts of the image being unsharp. Also the use of autofocus has often made us lazy when the focusing point has not been correctly selected.

Is the image correctly exposed? - These days most cameras have built in exposure meters but you can over ride this by using exposure compensation or metering off the part of the image which is most important. Camera meters can be fooled, particularly with contrasty lighting conditions. Newer cameras may offer a variety of exposure modes as well as focusing modes.

Has the correct lens been used? - For example, a wide angled lens can lead to a curved horizon. Alternatively using too long a lens can lead to large areas of the image not being sharp, or as you wish. Using wide angled lens for portraits can distort the subject. There are many other technical fault's but these are just a few. Yes, you can sort out a lot of problems using the computer software but it is so much easier to get it correct in camera.

Presentation - Is the print mounted well on good mount board, the colour of the board does not clash with the image? The cut lines are straight and not wobbly or furry? Is the print well supported with a backing card? Digital images - Is to low a resolution used? Are all the spots and blemishes removed?

Impact - Does the image have anything to say to the viewers? As photography is like all arts appreciated differently by everyone. Someone else might notice something wrong, the photographer did not spot. However if you get your message across to as many people as possible then your image will be successful.

Composition and the seeing eye - You can give a monkey a camera and they might be able to create an image. However this last skill is harder to learn and whilst others might be more technically gifted in understanding the previous features, learning the art of good composition, seeing the picture and capturing the moment is a skill many people never acquire.

What makes a good photograph, Con't.

To make the viewer look at your images more favourably than someone else's requires you to stamp your individuality on the images you take. Choose a different viewpoint. Use your accessories in a different way. Use light, for example early morning or in the evening. Take photographs against the light. Take images of different subjects, not the usual pretty cottages, churches, swans ect.

Ultimately, what makes a good photograph for you is the one that you enjoy. However if you follow the above guidelines and also read photographic books and magazines, look at websites visit exhibitions, look at other members images, and talk about them, then I am sure that you will gain much more from your photography.

Funnies

Password Hell - By an Anonymous member

WINDOWS: Please state your new password

USER: cabbage

WINDOWS: Sorry, the password must be more than 8 characters

USER: boiled cabbage

WINDOWS: Sorry the password must contain 1 numerical character

USER: 1 boiled cabbage

WINDOWS: Sorry, the password cannot have blank spaces

USER: 50bloodyboiledcabbage

WINDOWS: Sorry, the password must contain at least one upper case character

USER: 50BLOODYboiledcabbages

WINDOWS: Sorry, the password cannot use more than one upper case character consecutively

USER: 50BloodyBoiledCabbagesShovedupyourA.....ifyouDon'tGiveMeAccessNow

WINDOWS: Sorry: the password cannot contain punctuation

USER:

ReallyPissedOff50BloodyBoiledCabbagesShovedUpYourA.....ifYouDontGiveMeAccessNow

WINDOWS Sorry. that password is already in use

Later that night

Ron Williams 89 years old was stopped by the police around 2.00am. and was asked where he was going at that time of night.

Ron replied, "I'm on my way to a lecture about alcohol abuse and the effects it has on the human body, as well as smoking, and staying out late"

The officer asked, "Really? Who's giving that lecture at this time of night?"

Ron replied, "That would be the wife"