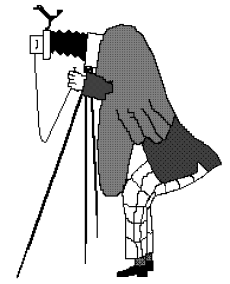


# Focal•Point

**HARROW  
CAMERA CLUB**

**NEWSLETTER**



**NO: 126 MARCH 2009**

## RESULTS

### Great British Cup

The second Photographic Alliance Great British Cup was judged in January, and Harrow had an entry. The Cup is in two sections - Open and Small Clubs - with the latter for Clubs only having a limited number of authors.

86 Clubs competed in the Open section, each with 20 entries scored out of 15. First, again, was Wigan-10 with 262 points; second Smethwick on 248; third Arden on 243. Amersham and Dumfries were fourth equal with 238 points. Oxford 11<sup>th</sup> with 229; Windsor 41<sup>st</sup> with 211; Field End 43<sup>rd</sup> with 209; Maidenhead 53<sup>rd</sup> with 205; and Harrow 67<sup>th</sup> with 199 points.

Overall 145 Clubs entered. That is not many, given that there are about 1000 Clubs affiliated to the Alliance. 6 Clubs entered from the Chilterns, which has 45 Clubs. The proportion from East Anglia was lower.

We mustered ten authors, and the individual scores are on the notice board. The highest score was 13 for 'Stag Bellowing' by John Draper.

### North West London Federation

The Final took place on Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> February with Colin Southgate FRPS (Harpenden) judging the projected images and Jack Bates FRPS (Croydon) judging the prints. In the club result, Amersham won with 331 points out of 360, beating XRR on 306.5 points.

Individual entries are starred during the first round, and are all shown at the Final. 'Physallis Fruit' by Dave Martin won the Best Print trophy. 'Jump and Shout' by Alan Colegrave won Highly Commended Print.

## EVENTS

**Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> March.** Unfortunately, this event could not be advertised in the Newsletter, but the Chilterns Association AGM, and an Audio-Visual training session were held at Amersham.

**Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> April.** The Chilterns Championship will be held at Drake Hall, Community Centre, Chiltern Avenue, Amersham, HP6 5AH. Probably starting at 2pm, and continuing until early evening. The usual entrance charge has been waived this year, although there may be a raffle. There could be up to a thousand prints and projected images at the Championship, which is an important chance to see the work from many other clubs in our region.

The **Inter-Club Print Championship** with 15 prints per Club, and for two Clubs to qualify for the Photographic Alliance Championship at Connah's Quay in October. Also an award for Best Print, and three Judge's Choice awards.

The **Inter-Club Projected Championship** with 15 images per Club, and for two Clubs to qualify alongside Amersham for the Photographic Alliance Championship at Warwick in July. Also an award for Best Image, and three Judge's Choice awards.

The **Strictly Digital Competition** with one image per author. Last year there were nearly 300 images, and the number may be higher this year now that there is more experience in the digital format. The Strictly Digital Competition awards Photographic Alliance Gold, Silver and Bronze medals, with a number of ribbons for highly commended entries. All the entries will later be made into the **Chilterns Hundred Exhibition** for Clubs to show locally.

## Events Continued

**Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> May.** The Chilterns Finals Day will be held at Drake Hall, Community Centre, Chiltern Avenue, Amersham, HP6 5AH. Probably starting at 2pm, and continuing until early evening. The usual entrance charge has been waived this year, although there may be a raffle. There are three events at Finals Day.

The **Print Exhibition** with 6 prints per Club, and an award for Best Panel based on scores obtained at the Print Championship in April.

The **Audio-Visual Trophy**, where we are entertained by many and varied presentations during the afternoon.

The **Rosebowl Final** closes the season with a flourish, showing images from the twelve finalist Clubs. Based on recent data, Harrow will be amongst the finalists.

Please note that the start times of individual events cannot be guaranteed. Even the printed programme can only give times based on estimates, and you are recommended to attend the whole event to avoid disappointment. Tea and coffee is provided, but bring your own food for the main late-afternoon break.

## PROGRAMME

**Projected Competitions.** Due to the weather, we had to cancel competition No.5 on 3<sup>rd</sup> February. All the entries have been carried forward to 10<sup>th</sup> March. We need to complete our projected competitions before it gets too light in the evenings, so we may only manage to complete seven this year, with the last on 28<sup>th</sup> April.

The **Set Subject Annual Competition** is on April 14<sup>th</sup>. This is for both prints and projected images, and you can submit two of each in the event.

The print set subject is 'Covent Garden', and the previous Set Subject Trophy will be awarded to the winner.

The projected set subject is 'Book Title', and the previous Wray Trophy will be awarded to the winner. The title of your image file must be exactly the book title as that will appear on screen. CDs are required one week in advance as usual.

## WORKSHOPS

The first of these is on 19<sup>th</sup> May, and we must think about the later ones too. A few suggestions for topics have been going around, but we need to get them written down. If you have an idea for a topic, please hand it in. At the same time, the Committee will try to advertise some topics so that people can express an interest. Here are a few ideas to get you started.

**Print Mounting.** We have several new members since we last had a workshop on print mounting. To show surface mounting, and also inset mounting using the Club's cutter.

**Camera Functions.** A small group, with or without a leader, and either for single or mixed camera manufacture, discusses digital camera setup and use. With a table-top subject, a tripod and some light, digital has the advantage of immediate feedback.

**Print Critique.** A small group, with or without a leader, brings prints (anything from enprint to exhibition size) for discussion within the group.

**Projected Critique.** Similar to prints, but using digital projection or laptop.

**Digital Projection.** We do need some more people to learn digital projection. Training session on our equipment and with our software.

**Image Processing.** This is an obvious area, but with some difficulty as there are many possible topics, and different levels of existing skill. Many topics are best learnt in 1:1 sessions, or from CD videos such as those with Digital Photo magazine. There are some possible group topics:

**Consistent colour workflow.** Getting all your equipment and software to work together simply.

**First Steps.** Standardising those first steps in processing most images.

**File Sizing.** Understanding file size and resolution for different purposes.

**File Storage and Backup.** Planning a method that suits you.

Note that we cannot really do basic computer training, setup or troubleshooting either in a group or by simple verbal advice. These really need 1:1 sessions on the actual equipment.