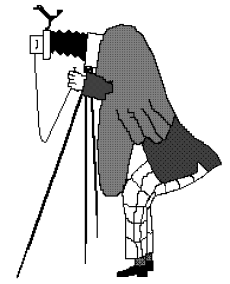


Focal•Point

**HARROW
CAMERA CLUB**

NEWSLETTER



NO: 130 NOVEMBER 2009

RESULTS

Photographic Alliance InterClub National Print Championship

This annual event was held at Connah's Quay, with 34 clubs from around the country. This is a brief summary, as Harrow did not take part.

The first round was won by Arden, with Dumfries and Wigan10 joint second. Amersham was 8th. The other club representing the Chilterns Association was New City, and they were 29th.

The Plate competition and the best newcomer's award went to Worcestershire CC. In the Final, there was a tiebreak for first place, which went to Wigan 10 on the last print. Smethwick was second, and Amersham was 5th. Best monochrome print was won by Steve Smith of Amersham.

All those in the final are invited back next year, so Amersham will be joined by two other Chilterns Clubs chosen at our Championship event in early April.

NorthWest London Federation

Our first match was held at Ealing, and we were adrift of the leader, Watford, by 9 points. There are two more matches in the first round, with the last being at home on December 8th.

EVENTS

A list of our external competition events has been placed on the web site. A summary is supplemented by full details of how to attend.

Our first Chilterns Rosebowl round is on Thursday November 5th, at Park Street Camera Club. Our second NWFed match is on Thursday November 12th at Watford Camera Club.

PreVisions: Sunday 29th November, 2pm for afternoon competitions and evening talk. This is at Stanborough Centre, Garston, WD25 9JL. Organised by XRR PS, this is an important inter-Club event, and strongly recommended. Competitions include both prints and projected. Entrance is £6. Check first whether Jenny King has a club ticket for sale. Otherwise pay on arrival.

PhotoImages: Thursday 3rd December, 8pm for a presentation of the selected prints for this exhibition. This is at Community Centre, Prebendal Avenue, Aylesbury, HP21 8LF. Organised by Aylesbury CC. The exhibition will be on display at the Queens Park Centre, Aylesbury during January.

RPS Distinctions Advisory Day: Sunday 24th January, 10am to 4pm, at Amersham Community Centre, Chiltern Avenue, Amersham, HP6 5AH. There are spaces for observers at this event, where the distinctions system will be described, and you can see work presented for advice. Attendance must be prebooked via Mark Buckley-Sharp. Cost £10.

PROGRAMME

The new 2010 Programme will be available in December. Meanwhile, there are deadlines to meet for various competitions.

Sets of up to 7 projected images is on 17th November, and CDs must be submitted on 10th. Digital image files must be named to start with a sequence number (01 to 07) so that they project in your required order. Slide sets can also be accepted on the evening.

There is a print competition on 24th November, and CDs are required on 8th December for the projected competition on 15th.

AGM

The AGM was on 27th October, and the usual reports were accepted.

The subscriptions rates for 2009/2010 are the same as for the past year. That is:
Single £28; Double £46; Junior £5

Subscriptions are payable at 1st October, but we always allow a holiday until the rates are decided. Therefore, please ensure that your subscription is paid as soon as possible to the Treasurer.

Mark Buckley-Sharp is the new Chairman, and he outlined a three-point plan for the coming year. First to go beyond welcoming our many new members by making sure they are fully integrated into the Club's activities and decision-making. Second to bring the Committee up to strength and working effectively with new members. Third to encourage more, and more effective, participation in external events by the Club and its members.

WORKSHOPS

The next workshop session is on 1st December, and the next after that is on 5th January. Three programmes are currently being planned.

A twin session with Alan Colegrave covering Photoshop skills for cloning, healing and airbrushing; and Mark Buckley-Sharp discussing the Club's digital projection system and software. We would like to have one or two more people able to run the projection system. Training will be available.

A single session with Dave Martin on still life.

A single session with Epson giving a demonstration of their printers.

One of these sessions will be dropped back to a later date.

SELECTION

Although selection is completed for events up to Christmas, there are more to come. Keep your best prints handy so that they can be submitted when requested. Selection of digital images is done from stock. You can submit extra digital images at any time. Submissions for selection stock are welcome in the usual size (1024x768), or in the larger size (1400x1050), or both.

PARTY TIME

The Christmas Party is on December 22nd. Arrangements will be announced, but there will be requests to bring some food, and some suitable prizes for the raffle.

CLUB MEETINGS

A regular group gets involved in setting up the equipment and chairs for our meetings, and also puts everything away afterwards. We have limited time for these tasks, and we really need as many people as possible to help. Don't just grab a chair and sit down. And don't just leave at the end. Either help at a variety of tasks, or offer to learn one in detail. It should be apparent what equipment is needed at each type of meeting.

CD FEEDBACK

There are only minor problems now with CDs and their files submitted for our projected competitions. It may not be apparent why some requirements apply, and so here are reminders and generic feedback.

The image files for each event need to be put into a folder with a unique name, such as the date of the event. Then the collator can immediately see which folder (with its contents) is for the event. When a CD is reused, it is very difficult if the CD is filled with an unclassified collection of individual files.

Submissions for each event should always be on CD. You cannot rely on previously submitted images being already in stock.

The filename format is TITLE by Author Eg, LATTICE WINDOW by Henry Fox-Talbot. Because we keep files in stock for selection, every one of your titles must be unique. Your name should have forename and surname in full, and spelt the same every time.

The exception to file naming is when images must be shown in a particular order. Then, you need to put a sequence number on the front of the file name. This applies to any talk you may give to the Club, and to the Sets of Seven competition.

Generally, the size of files (maximum width 1024, maximum height 768) and the colour space (sRGB) of files are now correct.