

Windlesham and Camberley Camera Club



Summer Newsletter

HOLD IT!

Issue 5 31st May 2006

Editorial

This is the fifth edition of HOLD IT! in its new format. Our newsletter magazine is aimed at recording information about the club events during the 2005-2006 season and keeping you informed about items of photographic interest over the summer break. Do keep looking at our website for information about the club and consider having some of your pictures added to the portfolio section. (www.wandccameraclub.org.uk)

Your ideas for a revamped website are also needed.

My thanks to all who have contributed articles and pictures - Edward Mendell, Shannon Belletti, Rod Downing, Mike Hillman, Madeline Harris, Leo Kennedy, John Hill, Peter Nicholson, Carol Drew, Roger Hoyle, Mike Morley and others. Thanks also to Roger Hoyle for the attached summer outings flyer.

Alan Meeks

Chairman's Chat



Hello all. Well this is the end of my first year as your Chairman. The club has continued to flourish. We have a very active and enthusiastic membership, which is evident when we look at the number of entries for every competition. Even those of us who do not participate turn up regularly to enjoy the company and friendship within the club. My thanks to all the members of the hard-working committee, as well as to those who regularly make the tea, as well as those who set the room and clear away at the end of the evening. I hope to see some of you at the summer outings, and I wish you all a very enjoyable summer with many photographic opportunities. See you all in September.

Annie Searle

Congratulations to this year's winners

- Photographer of the Year - Mike Hillman & Peter Nicholson
- Print of the Year (Division 1) - Carol Drew
- Slide of the Year (Division 1) - Carol Drew
- Print of the Year (Division 2) - Mike Hillman
- Slide of the Year (Division 2) - Leo Kennedy
- Audio-Visual Competition - Peter Nicholson & Roy Allen
- Best new member - Craig Dickson
- Frank Wickenden Trophy - Eddie Bigg
- Manx Cup - Leo Kennedy
- President's Award for Services to the club - Madeline Harris

Summer Evening Outings Wednesday 14th June

Evening visit to The Hog's Back Brewery (pre-booked places only)

Wednesday 12th July

Evening walk in Windsor Great Park

Wednesday 9th August

Walk in Frimley Hatches Nature Reserve

For details and map see the attached flyer.

Summer contacts - Annie Searle (01420 544946)

Mike Hillman (01276 471152)

Alan Meeks (01276 23994)

Day trip to Crofton Beam Engines in Steam (Kennet & Avon Canal) to be arranged for 30th September.



Photo - Alan Meeks

"Looks suspicious!"

"Well Officer, we got it through a grant from Surrey Heath Borough Council."

"You can tell that to the Judge!"

Our traditional print exhibition at All Saints Church Fair, Lightwater, in May was supplemented by the first outing of our new digital projection equipment when images produced by several members were shown in a continuous loop.

The Constables were satisfied with Annie's explanation so she will not face a holiday at Her Majesty's expense.

Set Subject Competitions

PRINTS - **"Countryside"** - on 6th December 2006

SLIDES - **"Rainy Day"** - on 17th January 2007

A good opportunity to take both on the same day!

Programme for next season

The Programme Committee (Leo, Janet and John Hill) has already prepared most of next season's programme (the earliest ever!).

As well as the traditional competitions arranged by Ray Acland, there will be talks on "Patterns in Plants", "Composition", "Big Ships and Little Boats", "Faces and Places", "Photographing Children" and "The Creative Eye - Approaches to Digital Imaging". Also expect a studio evening, AV shows and talks by members.

The programme will be published in August. A printed copy or an e-mail will be sent to you as soon as possible.

Everyone can pick up a printed copy at the first meetings.

Make sure the Secretary has your correct e-mail or other contact details. (01276 23994 or alan@smeeks.f9.co.uk)

First meeting Wednesday 6th September 2006.

Letter From America

I find it hard to believe that I've been living in California (and missing Windlesham!) for almost six years. But those months and years do go rolling by, ever more quickly.

Our club was established in 1935. 1935 was also the year I first became enchanted with photography. For my birthday (I was 15 years old) my father bought me a developing kit that contained processing chemicals in powder form, a ruby red bulb, a print frame, a packet of printing paper and a sheet of instructions.

When I finished exposing the next roll of orthochromatic film in my Kodak Brownie, I screwed the red bulb into our bathroom electric socket, filled the basin with the dissolved developer and watched as the images came to life on the cellulose strip I was passing through the liquid, up and down, up and down.

After fixing, washing and drying the film, I cut it into its individual negatives, placed each negative against a sheet of the sensitized paper inside the print frame, held it up to an electric light bulb for an exposure, then printed the processed prints in one of my mother's kitchen bowls. What excitement! What magic! And to think that I was the magician!

The techniques of photography have changed, but it is still magic. It is still that remarkable operation that makes it possible to preserve a slice of time.

I hope you each have a great summer and many photo ops.

Edward Mendell, Montecito, California



Photo Hunt - by Shannon Belletti

When I was taking photography classes back in Texas, my Fundamentals instructor issued a challenge on the first day of class. We had the entire semester to complete the project, and the student who completed it successfully received extra credit. Sounds simple enough, but here's the catch... she provided us with a list of 20 things to photograph, and the entire list of items had to be photographed on one roll of 24-exposure B&W film!

If you find yourself with a desire to go out and take some pictures and can't think of a subject, or if you're like me and can't walk away from a challenge, I've included her exact list below. Give it a try and see what you learn about photography and about yourself!

If you're dying to know, yes, I was the only student to complete the hunt. And as the typical overachiever, not only did I get every item on the list I also did the hunt in the exact order she specified!

Photo Hunt: Rules for film users: Use one roll of 24-exposure ISO 100 or ISO 400 film. You must photograph ALL 20 items on the roll to complete the hunt. Be as creative as you can!

Rules for digital users: Be honest! Set the camera to ISO 100 or ISO 400, and shoot JPG (not RAW) for the entire hunt. Use no more than 24 consecutive frames (NO, you cannot delete an image after you've taken it.)

Be as creative as you can!

1. Moving water - of any type but must show motion.
2. Eating - any type of food but the food must be identifiable.
3. Artisan at work - catch an artist or craftsman at work.
4. Lovers - should show loving interaction between them.
5. Building exterior - not just straight on. Make it interesting!
6. Owner and pet - Good luck.
7. Hot - show temperature.
8. Cold - show the extremes.
9. Landscape - a nice landscape view - scenic.
10. Something and its shadow - you do not have to show all of either object.
11. Close up of interesting object - as close as you can get.
12. Portrait of someone - use appropriate depth of field.
13. Person with a hat.
14. A picture of fruit - any way, any kind.
15. Texture - smooth, soft, rough, spiny, silky etc.
16. Shoes - on or off someone.
17. Paper - that's all I'm saying.
18. Sports shot - make good use of shutter speeds (stop action or panning).
19. Sound/noise.
20. Smell.



FILM IS NOT DEAD



A few years ago it was announced that the Digital Age had begun, and that we would all have to change from film to digital, there was much gnashing of teeth, whining and wailing that Kodak and other film producers would soon stop making 35mm film.

Well as far as I am aware 35 mm film is still being produced, and camera shops and places like Boots are still selling film, and there are plenty of places to have films processed.

Those of us who are still using film cameras are some times looked upon as being odd. I have to ask the question "why". There are many reasons as to why we stay with 35mm film, but for me it's two fold. Why change something that works very well for me, and secondly it's a question of cost. I know there are at least five or six members of the club who still use film cameras, they too must have their reasons.

Within the past three months I have had silly comments made to me about my equipment (camera equipment that is!) One was at Kew Gardens when a person asked me what I was going to do when they stop making film, my reply was "put my feet up if I am still alive". The second comment was, "O look - a man with an ancient camera". I did not reply at the time, but I should have said that it may be old as is the Photographer, but both are still in good working order, and we both give a satisfactory performance!

So just because we do not have all-singing and all-dancing cameras, don't write us off as photographers, don't forget our President went from film to digital and then back to film as he got better results from film.

Rod Downing

Congratulations to Mike Reed who has won a prize in the Olympus User Magazine for a Black and White print of a winter lake on the theme of "Reflections". Also congratulations to Leo Kennedy, recently awarded his LRPS.

Madeline's Crossword Answers (From page 4)

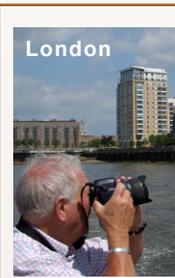
1. Finger painting; 2. Snap; 3. Daguerre; 4. In camera; 5. Aldershot; 6. Leo; 7. Eddie.



Finals Night May 2005. Chairman Annie Searle presents trophies to Carol (Manx Trophy), Derek (Photographer of the Year and Print of the Year Division 1), Mike (Slide of the Year Division 1), Ray (Slide of the Year Division 2), Roger (Best Newcomer - with William Watson not shown) and Leo (Frank Wickenden Plate). Other winners were John Evans (Print of the year Division 2 and AV), Roy Allen (AV) *Photos - John Hill*



Bikerboy - John Collard receives the President's Award for Services to the club from Mike Reed - 2005



The winning team - Men v Women

Summer outings 2005



Lightwater Arboretum - John Hill



The Quays



Guildford

Photos above - Peter Nicholson



Photo - Carol Drew



"Which button do I press next?" Mike Morley and Tom Wakes at a recent studio evening.



Jeff & Sylvia Wagner present their "Phantasmagoria" Magic Lantern Show



70th Anniversary Dinner Photo - Leo Kennedy



Our contribution to Yateley Camera Club's Annual Exhibition.



Annie cuts the 70th Anniversary cake baked by Pauline Bellingham

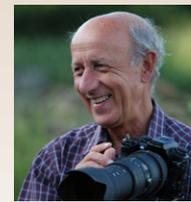


Photos - Mike Hillman



CLUB HOLIDAY TO BULGARIA 2007

As many members know, Jenny and I have been lucky enough to have travelled to various parts of the world, armed with cameras and binoculars to see and photograph wildlife and other natural history subjects. Most of the places we have been to we would very much like to go to again but there is always that overriding matter of cost!



There is one place though that we have been back to, and that is Bulgaria, it is good and not too expensive. Our two trips have been based on natural history, but during the course of our travels around the country we have realised that it has a lot more going for it both from a photographic aspect and from its cultural heritage. Whether one is a photographer or not, there is a wealth to see and enjoy. It is like stepping back in time with old villages (and people to match), wild flowers, lovely mountain scenery, and fascinating detailed architecture in the towns and monasteries.

From our own experience we have found the hotels to be clean and comfortable and the food is very palatable, - the wine goes without saying! The people are very friendly; - in fact we travel with an organisation named The British Bulgarian Friendship Society whose aim is to promote friendship between the two countries.

Jenny had the idea that some club members might like to form a group and travel to Bulgaria for one week in 2007; - it is an affordable holiday with an anticipated cost in the region of £545 based upon a minimum of ten people. The cost includes air fares, hotel and evening meals, our own guide and bus. We normally stop off at a local shop to buy food for picnic lunches.

Happily, we have a total of ten club members committed so far and a detailed itinerary is being prepared for us. We are basically following the route of one of their regular tours "A Taste of Bulgaria", but with a few of our own requested diversions included. We have confirmed dates of Sunday 3rd June until Sunday 10th June 2007. Ideally we could do with a few more participants so please join us!

Mike and Jenny Hillman

70th ANNIVERSARY DINNER

On Saturday 14th January fifty-six club members and partners assembled, in their best attire, for dinner at the Half Moon Inn in Windlesham to celebrate the 70th Anniversary of our Club. The venue had been carefully selected and on the evening lived up to its reputation for good food, pleasant surroundings, and attentive service.

It was good to see so many faces, some we were regularly familiar with, and some not so regular for various reasons. The farthest travelled were Jeff Wagner and his wife Sylvia who had driven from the depths of Kent.

There was plenty of opportunity for those "event" photographers amongst us and thanks are due to them for subsequently supplying us with some souvenir photographs and discs.

A typically thoughtful and well-worded letter from our President, Edward Mendell was read out by Mike Reed, and speeches were delivered by ex Chairman Jeff Wagner and Annie Searle our current Chairman.

During the course of Jeff's deliberations, he explained that he had been informed that H.M. Queen Elizabeth had been made aware of our anniversary and in light of her earlier connections with the Club, had been invited to attend our celebration. Jeff then produced a letter, on Buckingham Palace headed paper, from H.M.'s Private Secretary thanking the Club for her invitation but unfortunately had to decline due to one of her corgis being unwell. Until this moment I believe that many were taken in and credit is due to David Elliot for conjuring up the idea, and to Jeff for expressing it so convincingly.

To round off the evening Carol Drew, on behalf of us all, expressed our thanks to Annie for her time and effort in organising the event and extended congratulations for a superb evening enjoyed by all. Carol then presented Annie with a bouquet of flowers

Mike Hillman

Farewell



When I joined the Windlesham and Camberley Camera Club in September 1999 I had had a camera for more than 20 years and had taken many photos. Since then I have taken many more photos, but they are better pictures!

The first people I met on entering the meeting room were Alan Meeks and Edward Mendell, both of whom were very welcoming. And that's how it's been ever since - a very welcoming club. You have also welcomed my daughter Jo, and shown interest in her photographic endeavours, and even been part of her degree project.

Belonging to the Club has helped me to improve my photography, and has allowed me to discover what I like to photograph the most. It has helped me to appreciate good images and to realise that not everyone shares the same view of what makes a good photograph. I have learnt how to mount a print and how to mask a slide. I have also learnt that I'm not a terribly good portrait photographer, I'm much better with inanimate objects.

Now I am moving the north Shropshire. I will miss our weekly meetings. I expect I'll be able to find another Camera Club, but it will be hard for them to be as friendly as you have been. Thank you for being such a welcoming and accepting group of people. I wish you continued success.

Madeline Harris



Jo

Madeline's Crossword Quiz

Over the last year or so I have collected clues from the Independent's cryptic crossword that seemed relevant to photography and the club. I've also written a couple of my own - you'll be able to tell which ones!

1. Digital imaging?(6,8): 2. Picture a card game(4): 3. Actively argued about photography pioneer(8): 4. As film could be, not open to the general public(2,6): 5. Trees feeling the effect of fire in this town(9): 6. This big cat won the tail-less cat trophy with another big cat(3): 7. The turbulence we associate with black and white imaging(4).

Answers on Page 2