



Windlesham and Camberley Camera Club

www.wandccameraclub.org.uk

HOLD IT!

Newsletter Issue 7 for Finals Night 28th May 2008

Chairman's Chat

After three successful years in the "Chair" and a very busy schedule at home Annie decided this year that it was time to move on and hand over the reins to some other unsuspecting individual - hence my arrival on the scene!

I would like to thank Annie on behalf of all Club members for her commitment and enthusiasm throughout her tenancy and look forward to her continued support (and no doubt a certain amount of banter) as an "Ordinary" member.

My thanks also to you all for your confidence in entrusting me with the Chairman's seat and I will do my best to maintain the high profile the Club has attained over the years.

With a new Chairman comes a new committee, and with a new committee we hope to bring on board a few new ideas. To this end our Programme Committee has put together a varied programme based as far as possible upon suggestions made in the questionnaire circulated by Janet earlier in the year. In order to increase the diversity of the programme we have taken out, for this year, the Four on a Theme, Set Subject Print, and the Summer Outings competitions. A fourth Print of the Year Competition has been added.

In addition to our regular meetings we have endeavoured to produce a full and interesting selection of events/outings during our closed season. These are listed separately within this Newsletter. We have also decided to continue the popular and well-attended "Eddie's Summer School" evenings in June, July and August, details also listed separately.

You will all know that one of my pet subjects is the Club Website. Steve Hurst has gone to great lengths to produce the Site and I would encourage you all to use it. We now need to update our own individual galleries and give our readers something new to look at! Please also use the Website to glean information on club activities or to add your own material that may be of interest to fellow members (see my rant below!).

Thanks are due to the outgoing Committee, some of whom of course are still on board, and to the many individuals who volunteer regularly at our meetings for preparing the room, tea making, and clearing up at the end. Then there are those who work behind the scenes in representing the Club at outside meetings and events.

If you are going away on holiday during the break, then I hope the sun shines on you. If you are not, then I hope the sun still shines, but above all, take lots of photographs and attend as many of our closed season events as possible.

Mike Hillman

Congratulations to this season's trophy winners

Photographer of the Year	- Carol Drew
Print of the Year (Division 1)	- John Davies
Slide of the Year (Division 1)	- Carol Drew
Print of the Year (Division 2)	- Mary Filby
Slide of the Year (Division 2)	- Jean Hoyle
Audio-Visual Competition	- Peter Nicholson
Best new member	- Jean Hoyle
Frank Wickenden Trophy	- Carol Drew
Manx Cup	- Carol Drew
President's Award for Services to the club	- Steve Hurst

A results sheet giving details of all entrants' scores will be given out with this newsletter.

Programme for next season

In August you will be sent an e-mail with full details of the programme for September 2008 - May 2009. A printed copy of the programme will be made available at the first meeting on Wednesday 3rd September.

Congratulations to Mike Reed who has been awarded Associateship of the Royal Photographic Society for his AV on Antarctica and to Derek Elkins who has achieved Licentiate status for his AV on the Watercress Line.

We record with great sadness the passing of our President, Edward Mendell FRPS in August last year. Edward was our President and fellow member since 1995 and is sorely missed.

SUMMER EVENTS

Full details are given on page 2 of this newsletter and on the club website (in the Calendar section).

Summer contacts

Chairman: mikehillman@talktalk.net (Tel: 01276 471152)

Hon. Secretary: alan@smeecks.f9.co.uk (Tel: 01276 23994)



What no ?

The Club Web Site

You will note that I have made reference to our web site in the "Chairman's Chat" column, however I believe it is incumbent upon me to emphasise the facility and try to encourage every member to use it, both for showing off your photographs, and perhaps more importantly, to use it as a two way communication and information tool.

If for example you know of some forthcoming event or an interesting place to visit, then share it with the rest of us by placing it on the web site. Likewise, if you have photographic equipment for sale then the web is the place to advertise it.

If you are not sure how to access the site or have any questions at all, then our Web Master, Steve Hurst, is only too willing to help you (mail@stevhurst.org.uk).

An "Idiot's Guide" for preparing and uploading your photographs has been issued and I know that many of you have used it. If you do have some photographs in the Gallery please think about updating them regularly and also get into the habit of logging on at least once or twice a week.

We've got it, - so let's use it!

In recognition of all Steve's work over several years in developing and maintaining the website we are pleased to present him with the President's Award for outstanding service to the club.

Mike Hillman

We are pleased to welcome Shannon Belletti as our new correspondent from across the pond with her "Letter from America". See Page 2.

This season there will be only one set subject competition and this will be for digital projection. In order to encourage creativity the Committee has decided that the theme will be:

Breaking the Rules

You may wish to take this literally but competitors are encouraged to "think outside the box" and to experiment without being constrained by the usual "rules" applied by judges that often stifle creativity.

We hope our judge, Joyce Rowlands, will enter into the spirit of this experiment on 25th February 2009

Letter from America

I was recently asked by a local café down the road to display some of my travel photographs from our time spent in England. It was an interesting project that reminded me of my last visit to WCCC where the discussion was about preparing a panel for RPS submission.

Not only was I required to choose 4 amazing images that would appeal to everyone, but they all needed to fit together as a group for hanging. The mounting and framing was important, not only for showcasing each photograph but fitting in with the general café décor as well. As with the RPS panels, I found it easier to choose a large selection of images within my theme and then narrow them down based on orientation and placement within the panel. Then based on the 4 selections and wall color, I chose simple white museum mounts and a thin black frame.

Starting with a small panel like this was a great way to learn the basics behind selecting images for and creating a cohesive panel of work. Begin with a pair, or even a trio. Then continue adding and before you know it you have ten! And for those of you who aren't quite ready to submit to the RPS, it's still a great lesson in learning how composition, color, cropping, and mounting can all be used to unify your photography. *Shannon Belletti*

Life after WACCC - A big hello to one and all from Bournemouth.

It doesn't seem like nearly a year since we took the plunge and we have managed to survive despite leaking pipes in the flat and problems with Wendy's parents wanting to move again within two months of settling down here! A few months down the line sanity and routines are back to normal or as normal as one can expect in this family. Wendy enjoys having her daughter and grandchildren on the doorstep and as all grandparents are aware there are plenty of baby-sitting duties when you live this close!

I try to find any excuse to get out and about (especially now when the kids are yelling!!) and even Mr Collard is impressed with the early suntan to the point of actually commenting on how healthy I look and he's not one to shower praise lightly. Ask him to look at one of your prints and you'll see what I mean. The town centre is 10 minutes away with superb ornamental gardens and the pier and beach a further 5 with the prerequisite clean sand and nubile bodies displayed in all directions. This not only explains why John has so many bike rides in this direction, but also why I look so healthy!

The bus pass is used all the time – it's 15 minutes to Poole Harbour and about the same to the gardens at Boscombe so managing to explore local area at no cost. For those who think they'll have nothing to do when they retire – move to Bournemouth – there's so much going on.



East Boscombe Camera Club is now lucky enough to have me as a member and is reaping the benefits of my knowledge and experience (if you believe that you'll believe anything). I'm enjoying meeting new people, but it will never be the same convivial atmosphere that seems to be almost unique at W & CCC and it's an aspect I do miss a lot. If the Club ever has an outing to Poole again count me in. Meeting up with old friends would be a priority and I hope to come up to one of the Summer Wednesdays.

Congratulations once again to Mike and Derek for their RPS Distinctions and good luck to those thinking of attempting one - you'll find the challenge the best part as it makes you think outside comfort zones. Finally, Good Luck to one and all.

Eddie Bigg LRPS (9½)

RPS AV Assessment Day

On Sunday 24 February I attended the Assessment Day at Aldbourne with two other members of the Mid Thames AV Group. Two of us had previously submitted our AV efforts to Bath with the appropriate paperwork. To say that suspense was in the air would be an under-statement, especially as, having stopped off for a cholesterol-fuelled breakfast at the motorway services, we were running behind schedule. We noticed that the Satnav was suggesting a turn off the motorway where we knew no such junction existed. A quick scrabble in the back of the car produced a map and a re-routing was sorted out.

As it turned out we arrived in time to see the introduction of the Assessment Panel consisting of six Fellows. This in itself was a daunting experience. First off were two traditional "L" submissions, both enjoyable pieces. The panel considered each AV in a side room and their deliberation time was a clue to whether they were struggling with their decision. Both were approved and we therefore had one happy member from WCCC. Next came two "Ls" in the new Photo Harmony category - lovely pictures and music - both approved. Then it was time for a lunch break before we saw the "A" submissions. The first consisted of two sequences showing an interesting juxtaposition between a father and a son, in the first father leading son on a strenuous mountain hike and in the second son getting his own back by running in the London Marathon. Both were well received by the Panel and accepted.

And now it was my turn. I had elected to produce a single sequence running for 15 minutes 19 seconds and I was beginning to wonder whether the Panel might not have preferred to see a selection of shorter pieces. In any event it ran according to plan and I nervously awaited the Panel's deliberations, which seemed to go on for ever so I knew there must be issues to discuss. Eventually I was invited to join the Panel and I was told of all the things they liked, but more was to come relating to those they did not like. I was beginning to fear that my work was not up to the required standard but then, with great relief, I was told that on balance the sequence was acceptable. I also heard applause from the audience in the adjacent room so was able to rejoin them with a beaming smile.

To follow were the two "F" submissions - a very thoughtful three part piece questioning current lifestyles and throwaway society culminating in a powerful rendition of the effects of the major foot and mouth outbreak. This was followed by a totally different concept from Switzerland; all ice maidens with complicated dissolves. The Panel's recommendations now have to be revisited by the full RPS committee before a Fellowship can be awarded. I wish them both well. *Mike Reed*

Club Outings and Summer School programme

- Wed June 11th** Walk around Windlesham Arboretum. Meet at second car park at 7.00pm.
- June 16th/17th** Holiday to Hungary. Meet at the Desalis Hotel, Stansted, Monday evening 16th.
- Wed June 25th** Summer School - Audio Visual Training. 7.30pm at club room.
- Sat June 28th** Visit to Wisley - Guided Tour at 11.00am. Cost £1.00 per person. Meet at 10am. Entrance fee for non RHS members £8.00 (or £6.00 for a group of 10 or more).
- Wed July 9th** Visit to Farnborough Air Sciences Trust Museum at 7.00pm. Tea & Biscuits available at £1.00 per person. Suggested minimum donation £1.00 per person.
- Wed July 23rd** Summer School - Photoshop Training. 7.30pm at club room.
- Sat Aug 2nd** Visit to Ryewater Nursery (Butterfly conservation), Sherborne, Dorset, DT9 5PL Guided Tour commences 10.30 am (Long journey 100 miles). Bring a picnic. Suggested minimum donation £1.00 per person.
- Wed Aug 6th** Skittles Evening at Surrey Cricketers Windlesham at 7.00 pm. Limited numbers, your name must be on the list. Menu selections required one week in advance – to Mike Hillman.
- Wed Aug 20th** Summer School, LRPS – "Creating a Panel". 7.30pm at club room.
- Tues Sept 2nd** Magic Circle visit - (Fully booked). Depart from Pine Ridge Golf Club at 5.00pm.

Contact Mike Hillman if you have any questions about these events.



Finals Night 2007 Trophy Winners left to right: Derek Elkins, Carol Drew, David Hacker, Maureen Kennedy, Leo Kennedy, Craig Dickson & John Hill
See the previous issue of *HOLD IT!* for the awards they received.

Subs are due on 7th Jan 2009



Photo by Leo Kennedy



Print exhibition and digital image projection at All Saints, Lightwater, May Fair 2008

Competition Divisions 2008 - 2009

Based on this year's competition results and in line with the need to maintain an appropriate balance between the two divisions the committee has determined the following members in Division 1 for next season's competitions. All other competitors will enter in Division 2.

Prints

- Ray Acland
- Bernie Cawson
- Mike Clift
- John Collard
- John Davies
- Craig Dickson
- Carol Drew
- Mike Fielding (P)
- Mary Filby (P)
- John Hill
- Mike Hillman
- Ian Hoskins (P)
- Roger Hoyle
- Leo Kennedy
- Peter Nicholson
- Mike Reed

Projected Images

- Mike Clift
- John Collard (P)
- Rod Downing (P)
- Craig Dickson (P)
- Carol Drew
- Annie Searle
- Jean Hoyle (P)
- Roger Hoyle (P)
- John Hill
- Jenny Hillman
- Mike Hillman
- Leo Kennedy
- Maureen Kennedy
- Mike Morley
- Peter Nicholson
- Mike Reed

(P) = Promoted



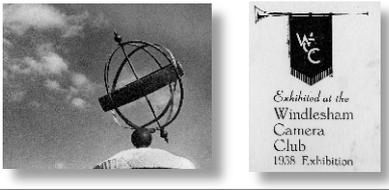
The Club's panel of 8 prints each from a different photographer for the Francis Spooner 8x8x8 competition at Yateley Camera Club in May. John Collard with Francis Spooner (left). Our panel achieved second place overall but best presented panel. (Image distortion courtesy of a Canon wide angle lens!)

Committee for 2008 - 2009

- Chairman*
- Vice-Chairman*
- Hon. Treasurer*
- Programme Team*
- Competition Secretary*
- Hon. Secretary*
- Studio Group Leader*
- Digital Imaging Group Leader*
- AV Group Leader*
- Other Members*

- Mike Hillman
- Roger Hoyle
- Carol Drew
- Janet Barton, Rod Downing
- John Collard
- Alan Meeks
- John Hill
- Craig Dickson
- Mike Reed
- Bernie Cawson, Mike Morley,
- Mike Clift

The print shown here was rescued recently by Joff Wagner from the property of a deceased member of a club in Kent. Note the certificate stating that the print was entered in our exhibition in 1938!



From Mike Clift's Archive

Comments on prints by a popular judge, Richard Little, over 20 years ago:

1. Print must have impact to make it stand out from the others.
2. Must have some graphic quality.
3. Must have a focal point.
4. Lighting should have shadows and texture, otherwise the results are flat.
5. Pattern. Nothing changes!



Leo's got a big one!

Many thanks to all members who provided photographs and text for the Newsletter and apologies if space restrictions prevented your item from being included.

The Chairman would like to thank Mike Morley for the very fine Holly and Sycamore gavel and sound block he made and presented to help in controlling committee meetings (look carefully on page 1 to see the gavel).

Hungarian Holiday

Following the success of last year's privately arranged Club holiday to Bulgaria, several members tried to persuade us to arrange something similar for this year.

We took up the challenge and were trying to find a suitable venue with a similarly suitable cost. It so happened that a brochure from a company named Jules Verne Travel dropped through our letterbox advertising an organised holiday to Hungary.

Several of our friends in the 'Natural History' circuit have used Jules Verne to various countries around the world and have always given good reports, so we decided to give it a try. The result is that nine club members and three friends & family have joined together and will be meeting-up for dinner and overnight at a hotel near Stansted Airport on 16th June, prior to departing the following morning for one week in Hungary.

The itinerary is pre-arranged and includes a certain amount of free time when we expect to be able to arrange locally any specific sight-seeing or visits to our particular liking. So, let's hope to replace the plethora of Bulgarian photographs that have continued until the last competition of this year, with some worthwhile images of Hungary.

Mike & Jenny Hillman

FARNBOROUGH AIR SHOW
IS ON JULY 14 - 20
SANDHURST OPEN DAY 15TH JUNE

What do you make of this?

I cdnuolt blveiee taht I cluod aulaclyt uesdnatrd waht I was rdgnieg. It deons't mttar in waht oredr the ltteers in a wrod aer, the olny iprmoatnt tihng is taht eth frist dan lsat ltteer be in the rghit pclae. The rset cna be a taotl mses and yuo can still raed it wouthit a porbelm. Tihs is bcuseae the huamn mnid deos not raed ervey lteter by istlef, but the wrod as a wolhe. Amzanig huh? **Mike Clift**

The Bulgaria Page

Club members cannot fail to have noticed that some of us spent an enjoyable week in Bulgaria in June 2007. Organised by Mike and Jenny through the British Bulgarian Friendship Society the trip gave plenty of opportunities for taking photographs, most notably of elderly buildings and locals (and club members - see below), insects, plants, stunning scenery not to mention sampling local wines.

The itinerary planned by the organisers was greatly enhanced by our courier, Assen. As a keen photographer and knowledgeable about the natural history of the area, he often added to the plan with extra visits to places of interest – like the local winery in Melnik on a wet day! Never mind that a planned visit to a large winery was taking place in the same afternoon! Resulting photos show that some took full advantage of the trip. These were both very interesting and different experiences. In the first we sampled local wine in a family run wine cellar, with much ranting from the owner about over-priced French wines. Later in the day we visited and sampled – yes again- several different wines in a modern wine production factory.

One particularly interesting visit was to a village where storks regularly nest on the tops of chimneys. Wherever one looked there were parent birds and young balanced on untidy looking nests, many with smaller birds nesting in the same mass of sticks. We stopped on other days at meadows with flowers and insects, and outside Koprivshitsa the locals were happy to be photographed as they went to work in the fields.

Many of the buildings in the villages were in a bad state of repair but some of the monasteries we saw were beautifully decorated, providing different photographic opportunities.

At lunch times we relaxed in restaurants sampling local foods and beers. Our evenings included on three occasions, meals in restaurants with traditional music and dancing, which some of us joined in.

It was an excellent trip. We were sorry that Mike couldn't join us at the last minute but our thanks to him and Jenny for the work they put in arranging the trip. I am sure I'm not the only member who would welcome another opportunity for a club trip to Bulgaria in the future. Apart from the photo opportunities, the trip was made by the friendliness of the group, something I particularly noticed as a new club member at the time.

Jean Hoyle

Photographs provided by Carol Drew



One for the wall



Cheers!



I think they've had enough!



Canada here we come!



Happy Bunnies



Which one's Ronald?



Just to prove there was some photography



Bottoms up!



Who are we waiting for?



I've been framed



Hope Mike doesn't see this!



Graeme in local drag



No Roy - you're meant to drink it!