



Windlesham and Camberley Camera Club

www.wandccameraclub.org.uk

HOLD IT! SUPPLEMENT No1 for Finals Night 30th May 2012

This is the new web edition of HOLD IT! that used to be issued in printed form at Finals Night each year. A mini HOLD IT! sheet has been printed for 30th May 2012 and all members should have collected a copy. If you did not receive one you can find it on our Website using the link given in the Secretary's Finals Night blog.

Please send me any articles, photographs or other contributions that you feel could be shared with members and I shall be pleased to issue updates to this version periodically.

Alan Meeks



Summer 2011 Outings to the Watercress Line by Annie Searle

At some point after Christmas 2010 I was asked if I would consider organising a trip to the Watercress Line and a tour of Alresford. Thinking that this was just a general enquiry I must have said yes! Having done this trip before with the camera club a number of years ago I wasn't too worried, but remembering the numbers involved I thought I should put a limit of 20. Offering two alternative dates was, of course, a mistake. As usual, some could make one date and some the other. How did I overcome this I hear you ask. Simple. I did the trip twice!! Over 20 attended the trip on June 26th. and another group, about the same size did the trip on July 10th. I am happy to say that the weather was very kind to us on both occasions.



So, with a carriage allocated to us on each occasion, we set off on the first leg of our journey, stopping at Ropley for a wander round the engines and grounds and for some to enjoy an ice cream. We caught the next train for Alresford, and I managed to herd everyone towards the The Horse and Groom for lunch. The trouble with photographers is that they will keep stopping to take pictures! On both trips the pub really pulled out all the stops and moved tables so that we could all sit together. The carvery was excellent, and some members were somewhat surprised at how much my 11 year old grandson could eat. He even managed pudding and to prove it, he photographed the plate before and after. The second group had the pleasure of Liam's older brother who has an even bigger appetite!



Eventually we were all ready to walk around the town and beside the river Arle. The Town Mill Race and the Fulling Mill were admired and photographed and brown trout could be seen in the clear waters of the river.

A slow amble back gave us time to investigate Alresford station and the signal box. Photographs were taken from the footbridge as our train came in. We watched the beautiful scenery as the train made its way back to

Alton, and after a few final clicks of the cameras we made our way home, which, for me took 5 minutes!!



On the web

Club members' photos

Matthew Webb: <http://www.flickr.com/photos/54884539@N04/7235207576/>

Carol Drew: <http://www.flickr.com/photos/41158381@N05/>

Mark Wycherley: http://500px.com/Mark_Wycherley

Bernie Cawson: www.wizzphotos.com

And, OF COURSE, the Members' Galleries on our website: www.wandccameraclub.org.uk

General

For lots of interesting information on photography, equipment, software and forums Niall Ferguson recommends www.fredmiranda.com

If you have any other recommendations please let me know.

My Favourite Websites by Peter Walmsley

I was telling Alan about my favourite photographic website when he suggested that I put this knowledge into a newsletter article. The website in question is an online gallery with one of the best photographic collections I've seen, but I wondered what else I could include in the article - other free online photographic resources or just any good sources of photographic material at all? I opted for the latter, so what follows is a rather unrelated collection of 'stuff' with the only linking theme being that I think it is either good quality, good value or both.

First up is that online gallery: www.1x.com This is a free gallery and global community set up by a Swedish guy with absolutely stunning images all carefully screened by a group of resident curators. Anyone can join and offer their images for review and those that don't make it to the gallery can be offered for feedback by the general membership. Learning for everyone is central to the ethos and I've certainly learned a lot about critique from this site.

Next is the Lastolite School of Photography: <http://www.lastoliteschoolofphotography.com> Whilst obviously designed to promote Lastolite products, this site features quite a number of training videos, mostly around portrait technique and all offered for free. One of the regular contributors is Mark Cleghorn who runs his own photographic school at: <http://www.phototraining4u.com> Although not free (and I've only sampled one of his videos as a trial) he has a very wide range of video training material with a starting price of £9.99 which gives access to 10 films over the course of a month. There's a strong focus on portraiture, fashion and studio technique but he also covers landscape work and popular software.

For those wanting to show their pictures to a wider audience and even to sell, I have found the photographer's websites provided by Zenfolio fairly easy to set up and use, of good quality and rich in features. My own site is hosted with Zenfolio and can be seen here: www.evocation.zenfolio.com This is their most basic offering and comes in at around £25 per year. For those who are interested in setting up their own site with Zenfolio, let me know as I can provide a referral code which gives a small discount off the price. For those considering the world of stock agencies, I've tried both Shutterstock (www.shutterstock.com) and iStockphoto (www.istockphoto.com) Stock photography is quite a different game to general art photography in that commercial value is a more significant factor and with revenue of just 25 cents per sale, it is all about volume. Of the 2 organisations I have found Shutterstock to be the most user friendly but if anyone has experience of any other agencies, I'd be interested to compare notes.

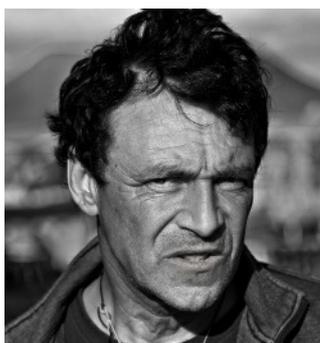
A couple of items to bring things to a close: Sony are very keen at present to increase their credibility in the DSLR market as rivals to Nikon and Canon and they sponsor the World Photo Organisation: www.worldphoto.org which is both an annual competition as well as a series of talks and events which for the second year running have been held at Somerset House. This year, most events have been free and that has included portraiture workshops, landscape sessions, panning technique for sports and racing, wildlife, astrophotography and flowers & macro. One of Sony's marketing techniques is to sponsor well-known specialist photographers - Sony advocates - who run the workshops. One such is Gustav Kiberg, a welder from the Netherlands whose Kingfisher photographs are world-renowned and well worth a look for their superb quality: <http://www.gkiburg.nl>

Peter

A Photographic Experience -Hawkfest - August 2010 Isle of Wight by Charles Pearson



Firstly, Hawkfest is the name of a music festival organised by, and headlining, a band called Hawkwind that Janet and I have followed for some considerable time. We went of course to enjoy the weekend, but I had in mind a series of photos for an AV I was planning. For this I needed some sinister looking photos of the colourful people that attend. We all know how difficult it can be when you ask people to pose for the camera, and often it is just not what you want.



So, I asked people if they minded their picture being taken and importantly not to smile. This produced many unusable results so I changed tack and asked people to look really mean instead, which became fun and produced more of the pictures I wanted. Two examples are shown here.



All pictures were taken with full permission and we ended up spending some interesting hours there talking to these wonderful people. Some of you may remember the AV that I put in to the club competition which also represented the club at an inter club event at Woking where the judge said he liked the pictures but thought the music was the worst he had ever heard in his life!! Oh well.

Charles

2011 Club Holiday to Istria by Mike Hillman

This year we added a fifth destination to our club holiday list when 17 members and partners and two regular friends journeyed off to Istria in Croatia for the first week of June.

We arranged the holiday through Thomson Holidays and stayed in the comfortable and pleasant Hotel Pical about one kilometer from the lovely old cultural and historical city of Porec situated on a small peninsula on the Mediterranean coast. Access to the town was either on foot, or more popularly via the "Noddy Train".

We all made several visits to Porec both during daylight hours and evening time and all found plenty to photograph with a whole range of subject matter from people to world heritage sites, classical monuments, old buildings and lovely sunrises and sunsets.

Thomsons provided coach excursions to various "touristy" destinations for all hotel guests but we were keen to try and arrange our own coach and guide for a couple of days and this is where Tanja, our Thomsons representative, came into her own for she negotiated a deal with a local bus company to provide a coach and guide specifically for us. Tanja was a keen photographer herself and had a feel for the type of places we might like to see and photograph and so she advised us accordingly. Additionally, much to the pleasure of all the men in our group Tanja arranged for another lovely young lady named Maristella to be our guide.

Our day trips with Maristella included a visit to the ancient city of Pula, famous for its Roman amphitheatre dating from the 1st century and better preserved than the Coliseum in Rome; perfect for photography. We journeyed into the mountain villages on another occasion and spent some time in what was once an abandoned village of very old buildings, we were told by Maristella that progressively over time various artists had taken over the houses and the village has since become famous for art lovers; once again a photographer's paradise. By some good fortune we were entertained by a really good college band that had set themselves up in the grounds of the restaurant where we chose to have lunch.

On another day we boarded the "pirate ship" Marco Polo and spent the day at sea, stopping off a couple of times to visit lovely Vrsar and Rovinj, both old towns with very interesting buildings, then whilst on board we enjoyed a lovely barbeque of fresh fish and local wine.

We did partake of one of the excursions provided by Thomsons, this took us to the world famous Postojnaskn Jama cave system and to the equally famous Lipica Stud Farm. We had a good laugh during our guided tour of the caves for the guide kept shouting "no photographs", - our group all armed with their SLRs were the target whilst all the others with mobile phone cameras kept flashing away, needless to say we did steal a few shots for our portfolio.

At the Lipica Stud Farm we were entertained with precision performances by the majestic white Lippizan horses. Interestingly the horses are born black and change progressively to white as they grow older. We were able to see and photograph the youngsters at the stable.

All agreed that we had enjoyed a very fulfilling holiday and are looking forward to the next one!

Your article can go here!

Please let me have your contributions by email: alancmeeks@gmail.com



*Finals Night
30th May 2012
and a good time
was had by all*



Competition Trophy and Award Winners 2011 - 2012

*Photographer of The Year
Carol Drew*

*Division 1 Projected Images
Bernie Cawson*

*The President's Award
Mike Morley*



*Division 2 Prints
Charles Pearson*

*Audio-visual Competition
Jean Hoyle*

*Frank Wickenden Competition
Roger Hoyle*



*Division 2 Projected Images
Ian Hoskin*

*Division 1 Prints
Carol Drew*

*The Manx Trophy
Mike Reed ARPS*



**Photo from video
by Roger and Charles**



An appreciative audience

With many thanks to Leo for taking photographs of the winners, to Rod for keeping results records and to Derek for preparing the trophy boxes and inscriptions