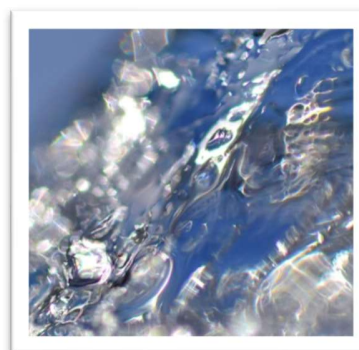


in this issue >>>*Roger's report**The review – January Speakers**Meet the members**Question corner**Snippets**Competition news**"Ice Impression" – David Hamilton – Commended***A Monthly Insight into the activities of Stroud Camera Club****STROUD
CAMERA CLUB****Contacts >>>****Welcome to
Stroud Camera Club**

We hope you enjoy this Newsletter. If you want any help with matters relating to the club, or your photography in general, we are here to help.

Chairman: Roger Matthews

Secretary: Trish Bloodworth

Treasurer: Leslie Holmes

Competitions: Richard Atkinson

Publicity: Jenny Smith

Programme: Margot Page

For more information, including contact emails for all the committee please go to www.stroudcameraclub.co.uk

*"Trees in the mist at Painswick Beacon" – Mick West
Near miss*

**Roger's Report**

When I wrote my last report for this newsletter, Omicron had not been identified in the UK and there was little prospect of us having to return to online Club meetings, but with cases rising rapidly through December our Club could not afford to risk business as usual when restarting earlier this month. Fortunately, with a membership that had taken Zoom in its stride over earlier lockdowns, and with a Secretary and Programme Secretary quickly on the case, our programmed Club nights and competitions were able to continue pretty much as planned. Unfortunately, we lost one speaker late in the day as a result of a family emergency, but swift action by Trish saved the day with a speaker who could not have been more appropriate given this year's 'Chairman's Challenge' that I had only set a few days before.

With the impact of Omicron receding and Plan B measures no longer required, I am confident that we can safely return to face to face meetings in the Bowls Club. While some members will continue to feel anxious, as a Club we must take advantage of the opportunities for social interaction and support that are best provided through face-to-face engagement. We will continue to provide Zoom meeting from time to time when this is necessary to attract the best speakers from further afield.

The programme for the remainder of the season is looking very exciting and work is already underway to make next year's even more so. Two upcoming highlights are the 3-way team challenge (a new challenge in lieu of the old ladies v gents challenge) on 3 Feb and my night/low-light photography challenge a month later. There has already been much banter from the team captains fighting over 2nd and 3rd place - I am sure this will be a regular feature of our programme going forward.

The early part of the year is also the time for our inter-club competitions - the local 'battles' and WCPF DPIC competition. We have achieved considerable success in recent years, and I am hopeful that we will do well again this year judging by the very high standard of images that your 'Battles Committee' were able to draw upon. A full report will follow in next month's newsletter. While we wait to see how well we do this year, let's all commit ourselves to capturing images worthy of selection next year.

AND FINALLY – REMEMBER

Competition is a good thing; it helps us deliver our best.

The review >>>

“Techniques and Creativity in Night

Photography” Nigel Forster

A very last-minute change to the programme had Nigel Forster very kindly step in to host our evening. It was such a well-attended event with 38 members on Zoom, which was fantastic. Nigel did not disappoint us either, showing us stunning imagery from his collections, and explaining in detail how he took the shot, and how we can do similar.

The evening, of course, coincided with the recently announced Chairman’s Challenge, so the tips of wide-angle lens, wide open aperture (f2.8 or f4) about 20 seconds exposure time, ISO 3200 -6400 (unless the moon is out and then <1000) were incredibly timely reminders.

Nigel also reminded us that we do need to use manual focus (focus on the moon if nothing else), shoot in RAW and check your images by magnifying the view on the back of your camera – the aim being to get stars as pinpoint circles and not little lines. Easier said than done, I am sure!

Members’ night

2022 may have started as 2021, with Covid 19 still raising its annoying head, and us back on Zoom for a short while, but it did not stop our members from joining in as ever, in fine form with the opening night of the new year – “Winter images”.

30 members joined the Zoom meeting, and it was very nice to see some faces that we have missed at club recently – we do hope that those of you who are still having to shield in particular for health reasons, will be able to return to join us at The Bowls Club shortly.

The night saw us enjoying 77 images submitted by members, as usual with varying styles and genres. The comments from the photographers were all interesting, and the additional helpful discussion from members added to the evening. Several members have commented since that they very much enjoyed the feedback that they received from fellow members and they are looking to continue to grow with their photography over the coming months.

Thank you to all who took part – without you, the members, entering such events as this, we do not have a club night!



“Under the fly” – Richard Atkinson
Shared on Facebook

Facebook

Upload your images to be the “face” of Stroud Camera Club for a month.

Why don’t you share some images via our Facebook group? It will be lovely to see them, and **if you would like to be the featured image**, just tag it #coverphoto and our social media secretary Jenny Smith will add it to her collection of potentials for the cover image.

If you are not yet a member, simply click the link within Facebook and answer 3 very simple questions.

For more information go to
<https://facebook.com/stroudcameraclub>

Highlights >>>

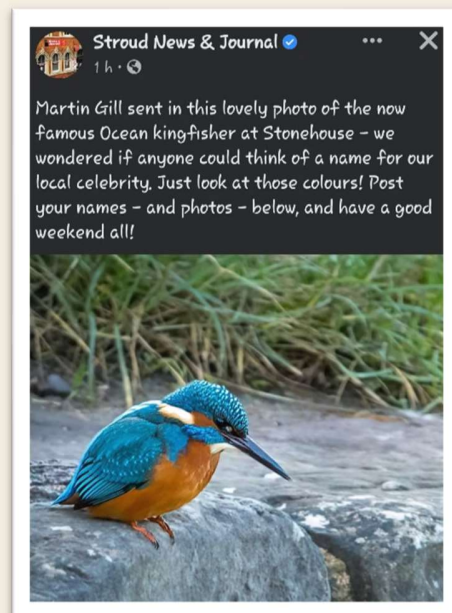
The month in review:

January has been a really busy month for us all at Stroud Camera Club – not only have we hosted the themed competition, a member night, and an excellent speaker in Nigel Forster, we also had the pleasure of a talk from our local boy, Simon Pizzey.

Simon was an eloquent speaker, who took us on a fascinating journey through journalistic photography. Starting with his own personal memories and influences from the “Picture Post” through his university days, London press pack, and on to Gloucestershire, where he explained he has remained due to the quirky and interesting nature of the area!

Seeing many of the images both from his archives and from his own images brought back many memories for SCC members, and reminded us all of the power of a photograph.

His insightful question to members about the images that had stuck with them over the years yielded excellent answers, with the images of 911 (“Falling man”) being amongst the “top” mentions, together with the “Napalm Girl”, JFK and Queen at Live Aid. Simon’s own images will equally stand the test of time, with fantastic records of cheese rolling, and even Boris Johnson sheep shearing!!!



Well done to Martin Gill, who had this image picked up by Stroud News & Journal

How do I do that?

Scott's AV Night – coming up on March 24th

A timely reminder for members to make a start on their AV presentations in readiness for sharing in March. Scott Antony will be very happy to offer members help and support and ideally will need the AVs forwarded to him before 17th March or any draft that you would like comment on by 10th March. You can email Scott directly on: scott@photofilms.uk

To start with it is probably wise to explain what an AV is! Scott sensibly calls them "Photo films" which is a far more meaningful explanation, as, if you google AV, you will likely be anticipating setting up some form of elaborate PowerPoint presentation for an audience of 10,000 delegates!

Another way of describing an AV is it is a slideshow of your images set to music, or voice narration, or a combination. It could also include small snippets of video, and sound effects, either actual or imported to create further atmosphere for the final piece.

The final piece doesn't have to be too long, anything from about 3 minutes to 6 minutes is ideal.

The Royal Photographic Society (RPS) has an excellent section on its website, which states:

What is AV

Essentially it is the presentation of a sequence of photographs with an accompanying soundtrack. Audio Visual presentations, or "sequences," can range from interpreting music, poetry or song to stories and documentaries on subjects as varied as nature, travel and tourism, topical issues or historical events. They can be humorous, educational, campaigning, inspiring or eccentric. AV is much more than "pictures to music"! AV at its best has the power to touch people's hearts, communicate feelings and emotions, and to change people's lives.

AV takes many forms

- Photo Harmony links a series of images to a suitable selection of music or sound with the aim of producing a harmonious sequence of pictures and third images, that wonderful transition when one picture dissolves into the next. In Photo Harmony, all photographs will be the work of the author. For a definition go to: <https://rps.org/media/jgdh2y1j/definition-of-photo-harmony.pdf>
- Other styles include the spoken word, often recorded by the author and when linked with sound and music will take the viewer on a journey. Styles are many and varied including travelogues, emotional personal stories, family history, interpretation of poetry, humour, and records of events and stories.

The RPS website also has an excellent couple of full tutorial videos, from Ian Bateman (former President of the WCPF)

<https://rps.org/groups/audio-visual/making-an-av-sequence/>

There are also some excellent examples at: <https://rps.org/groups/audio-visual/av-examples/>

If you are seeking royalty free music, then there are several websites including: <https://incompetech.com/music/> <https://www.purple-planet.com/>

A free slideshow editor is available at: <https://www.nchsoftware.com/slideshow/download-now.html>

Snippets

Don't forget DPIC (2022 Digitally Projected Inter-Club Competition) takes place on Zoom on 6th February

Zoom details in 30th Jan bulletin.

For those who are not familiar with the format, our Battles Committee headed up by Roger have selected 18 images (with no more than four images from one photographer and no more than five nature images), to represent Stroud Camera Club.

On the day, the images are judged between 1 – 5 by 3 judges and the team with the highest score overall wins. It is a very exciting event, as the images are previewed for only about 5 seconds before a score is given. Do support this if you are able.

Let Trish know any snippets of information that you would like included in future newsletters. Contact her using email: secretary@stroudcameraclub.co.uk

Other news...

Our local "International Salons" are starting to open for entries for 2022. For those who want to try their hand these are great starting points.

Cheltenham 2022 -

<https://cheltenhamcameraclub.uk/salon-2022/>

Closing date 28th March 2022

WCPF – Member Exhibition

<https://www.thewcpf.com/copy-of-exhibition>

Back to Basics

Back to Basics sessions will run on the 3rd Monday of the month – next one is March 14th 2022 – Colour Management

Thoughts

Roger has delivered a note of our support and a token gift to Ian Peters on behalf of the whole club – his wife Jane has been unexpectedly taken into hospital and due to current restrictions Ian is unable to visit her. We send our very best wishes to both.

Question corner>>>

Q: What is the 500 rule?

A: To achieve points of light you can use a simple rule that's often called the "500 Rule".
 $500 \text{ Divided by the Focal Length of Your Lens} = \text{The Longest Exposure (in Seconds) before Stars Start to "Trail"}$.

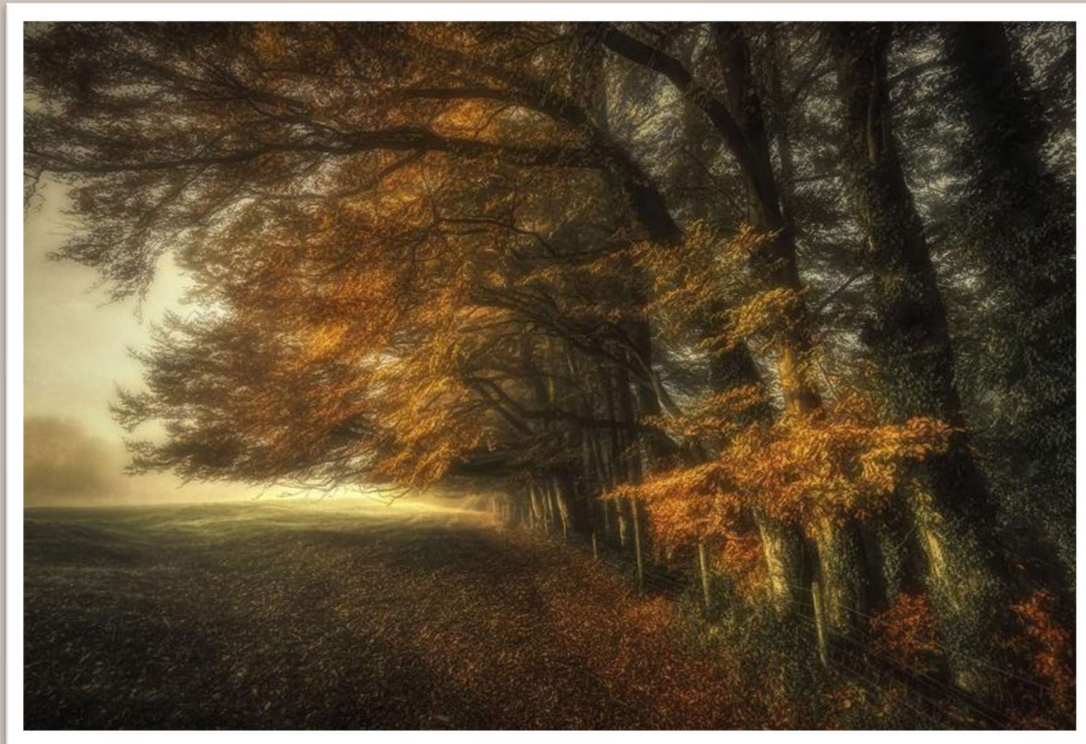
For example, let's say you're taking a shot with a 24mm lens on a full frame camera. $500 / 24 = 21$ seconds, which you can round to 20 seconds.

Digital Themed Competition – “Impressions” - Winner



“Golden Grass” – Trish Bloodworth – 1st Place

Awarded Images



“Golden Beeches” – Annie Blick – 2nd Place

“For an Impressionist to paint from nature is not to paint the subject, but to realize sensations.” – Paul Cezanne

2022 competitive thoughts...

January's competition was inevitably back on Zoom due to the Covid 19 position, so no prints were able to be shown this month. The competition was well supported however with 72 entries in the digital competition.

Martin Cooper, a long-time friend of Stroud Camera Club had selected the theme for our January competition as "Impressions". It was a very varied entry from members, with as Martin pointed out techniques ranging from in-camera ICM, in-camera "special effects", through to post-production enhancements and some more "tongue in cheek" impressions.

As ever, it is as much about taking part and showing your fellow members, whilst learning from the generous critique given by the judge that is important, and not just the award winners. However, it is also very important to acknowledge those members whose work was selected by the judge for "awards". A particular mention this month to a couple of our newer members.

David Swinburne for his beautiful image "Dream Tide" that was awarded 3rd place

Alison Garrett for "Lady in Red" a slightly surreal image which gained a Commended

Results:

1st place Golden Grass – Trish Bloodworth

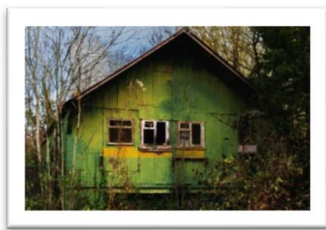
2nd place Golden Beeches – Annie Blick

3rd place Dream Tide – David Swinburne

Highly commended

Annie Blick, Trish Bloodworth, Andy Harbin

See website for full list and scores.



John Edwards – "Old Boathouse"
Near miss



Glyn Heskins "The Wall"
Near miss

coming up >>>

February 2022

Thu 3rd February – 3-Way Team Challenge

Thu 10th February – Cheltenham International Salon

Thu 17th February – Competition Night – Mono images

Thu 24th February – Kate Peake – Drone Photography

Remember Chairman's Challenge 3rd March

And AV Night 24th March – start preparing now!

Next Competition

Open 5 - Prints and Digital

This is the MONO competition

CLOSING DATE 3rd FEBRUARY

INTERNATIONAL SALON NEWS

CONGRATULATIONS to the following members who have had acceptances into International Photographic Salons! This month we have seen our club members accepted throughout the world once again

René Cason

CONGRATULATIONS

Martin Gill for having an image selected for Stroud News and Journal

Please send details of your acceptances or other external "wins" to secretary@stroudcameraclub.co.uk
Apologies if you are missed here – please let me know so you can be added next time.



Derrick Whitmore "Nature's map"
Near Miss

UPLOAD YOUR IMAGES – to your gallery and My Stroud & District competition

Award-Winning Images



"Dream Tide"
David Swinburne – 3rd Place

Award winning images



Highly commended – Andy Harbin – Luskintyre Beach



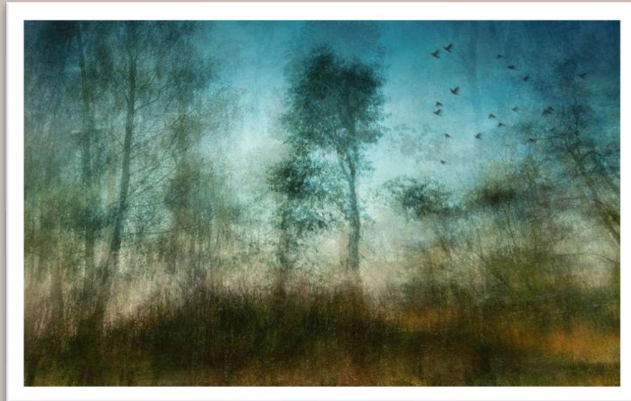
Commended – Lady in Red – Ali Garrett

More from the Competitions

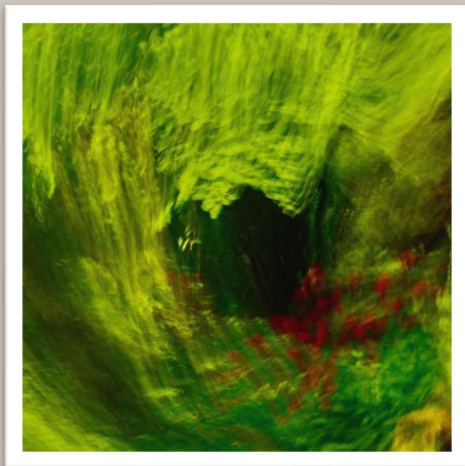
*Trish Bloodworth – The Horse
Highly Commended Digital*



*Annie Blick – The Roost
Highly Commended*



*Scott Antony – Spun Cave
Commended*



See more on our website: www.stroudcameraclub.co.uk

*René Cason – Capel Mill
Commended*



*Trish Bloodworth – Pink Dahlia
Commended*



*John Edwards – The Weir
Commended*



*Jeff Wilson – The Red Door
Commended*

