

## 2023-2024 SEASON >>>

Roger's report

The review

From the archives

Competition news

Federation & FIAP news



*"Changing the points"*  
- Chris Organ

Issue #38  
Mar 24

## 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: René Cason

Programme: Ali Garrett

**For more information, including contact emails for all the committee please go to [www.stroudcameraclub.co.uk](http://www.stroudcameraclub.co.uk)**



*"Low tide" – Rhys Owen*

## Roger's Report

It was a real pleasure hosting this year's battles: Forest of Dean & Newent at the beginning of the month and then Cheltenham & Cirencester three weeks later. In both battles the quality of the images was of the very highest level. The print section in particular saw some of the best prints that I have seen in this format of competition with many of the images printed on fine art papers. I too have been experimenting with different papers and am now a fan of matte and textured media. It's certainly cheaper to display digital images, but printing offers many more choices to really display your photography at its best. If you don't have a photo quality printer, you can use a print studio and still select the type of media best suited to your image. Give it a go and let's see if we can reclaim the shield when we face Cheltenham Camera Club next year (the digital section result was very close, but Cheltenham had the strongest prints).

Although we only have a month left of the regular season, we have two very important Club Nights coming up. First, we have the AGM on Thursday 11 April when you select your committee, without which we would no longer have a club. It is always a

moment of peril when committee members stand down, but I'm delighted to report that we have volunteers to fill all the posts that are changing this year. We do, however, encourage anyone with an interest in helping to run our great club to join the Committee as an ordinary member in the first instance. If you want to contribute to the running of the Club, please let myself, Mick or Trish know.

Our second upcoming highlight is the annual 3 Team Challenge. You should have been contacted by your team captain with a request for three of your best previously unseen images. It's a fun competition where you get to score all the images so, please submit images and may the best (my) team win!

Now, if it ever stops raining, I might try some photography.

AND FINALLY – REMEMBER  
*It may be cold and wet now, but tomorrow will be warmer and maybe drier.*

## Creative Members

A slight change this season to allow members to express their creativity through their own images, (rather than those provided as in previous years). For those who did not want to go for creative images, the option remained to share a trio of triptychs if they preferred.

As ever, a very varied set of images on display, with members having made an effort in both the triptych and creative arenas. A good number of snowdrop triptychs were on display with members having been tasked with taking snowdrop images for the potential Kingswood Salver. Rococo also offered inspiration for various creative offerings including Gerry's Eagle House multiple exposure with a gnarled tree root.

Surprisingly perhaps there were few ICM images – perhaps members feeling that actually ICM is not as easy as UCM (unintentional camera movement)! It was good to see some compositing, including from unexpected sources – Paul Edwards UFO was well received on the night.

With only a few member nights left this season, don't forget to give Ali any ideas for future evenings, as well as preparing in plenty of time for "Pattern, Texture, Many" on 25<sup>th</sup> April.

## The review >>>

### *Peter Crane ARPS - Street photography*

*Street photography is often portrayed in mono – so it was refreshing to see much of Peter's imagery was in full colour. Well, perhaps not full colour, as he advised us, he looks to match colour in his images, keeping them as simple as possible.*

*A range of images were shown with Peter using various compositional techniques, including leading lines – as he explained his ARPS panel had a theme including double yellow lines, which even included lines on a waste bin.*

*Whilst he is obviously well versed in the techniques for "street", Peter showed us a few images from his original attempts where he didn't have his camera in the best mode – he originally used aperture priority but found to his cost that many of his images were blurred due to the light requiring a slower shutter speed. Nowadays he tries to travel light with a small casual backpack to look discrete and not like a "photographer" and uses a minimalistic wrist strap to give security to his camera, yet the ability to act swiftly. These days he generally works in manual mode using 'auto ISO,' where he can set the aperture to f/8 and the shutter speed to 1/200sec. The flexibility of the auto ISO helps with the differing lighting found on the streets.*

*More of Peter's work can be seen on his website at:  
<https://www.petercrane.co.uk/>*



*"Look out" – Paul Edwards*

## Facebook

### ***Why don't you view some of the member images on our Facebook Group?***

If you are not yet a member, simply click the link within Facebook and answer 3 quite simple questions. Upload your image to the group – ideally for an image post use 2048px on the long side (either height or width) to get the best resolution for anyone viewing.

Be aware of "privacy" rules before posting.

Please "like" and "comment" on members' posts.

**For more information go to**

**<https://facebook.com/stroudcameraclub>**

## Battles >>>

Sadly, this season we no longer have the Tetbury battle as they felt their club now has insufficient numbers to make it viable. However, March has still seen our annual 3-way battles. Firstly, against Newent and Forest of Dean. A very well supported event with 28 members, 18 visitors and 2 judges (including Aleks Gjika who was present not to judge, but to assist Richard Atkinson with using the new Pixoroo Software). It can be reported that the software was very slick and enabled us to have an excellent battle.

Both Newent and Forest of Dean provided some excellent images, and it was commented upon by several knowledgeable members that the prints, in particular, were amongst the best ever seen.

Whilst it was a very close battle, we were very pleased to be the ultimate winners, beating Forest of Dean by just a single point. Well-done to the Battles Committee for an excellent selection.

The second battle at the end of the month against Cheltenham and Cirencester ended in triumph for Cheltenham once more, with them taking back the shield after the win by Stroud last year. We fought hard, and in fact scored the majority of the highest scores awarded on the night with 5 of our images gaining the top score of 19 out of the 8 images given this accolade. The evening was incredibly convivial, which was necessary as the poor judge was stuck in Easter traffic and spent 3 hours reaching us to give her critique and scores. Lee Spencer-Fleet should be commended for the speed in which she managed to offer excellent critique to all 60 of the entries, so that we still finished on time. Her comments about printing, including the use of various specialist papers was certainly helpful and once again gave additional insight into the difference between a digital entry and a print one. Roll on next year for the return battles!

## Snowdrops at the Rococo Gardens – Kingswood Salver

I would like to thank all the members who submitted options for a possible entry to the WCPF Kingswood Salver.

To remind you, this is a print competition, requiring a panel of five images, each from a different photographer. The panel is judged on the individual images and on the panel as a whole, so it is important for the five images to “work together” and the panel to portray the story we are trying to tell.

The idea agreed at committee for our 2024 entry was that we would see if we could come up with an entry on the theme of “Snowdrops at the Rococo Gardens” – it was hoped that we would have some kind weather and the possibility of an early entry to the gardens to catch a nice light. As is often the case when we are photographers, the weather defeated any real chance of this, so members instead, kindly visited the Rococo Gardens when they had the opportunity.

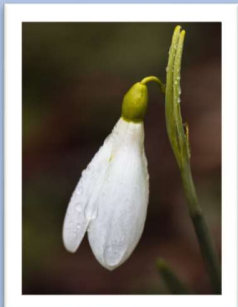
Of course, the problem with this approach was that the lighting conditions were incredibly varied, and whilst I’d have loved to have created a panel, the reality is that I really didn’t feel that the images “gelled” well enough.

So, “back to the drawing board,” for an idea for a panel – if any member has a suggestion, please come forward with it.

In the meantime, please enjoy these individual images, which I thought were fabulous. And thank you again to those members who submitted.



*Leslie submitted a beautiful soft capture of the mass of snowdrops. I particularly liked the background in this image, giving the sense of the numbers of snowdrops in the gardens.*



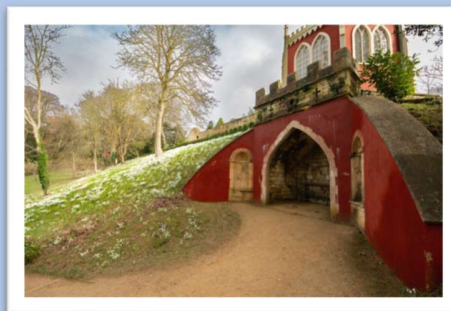
*René Cason and Mark Halling both captured nice close ups. I liked how this showed the familiar shapes of the snowdrops with a complimentary background.*



*Carol Barchou chose a very different angle of view for her close-up letting us see the stamens in the open bloom. This was a very enjoyable image.*



*Roger Matthews & Richard Atkinson managed to capture one of the iconic Rococo buildings, which was very much my vision for the panel.*



## Federation News

### WCPF Members Exhibition

*The results are now available to view at: <https://photoexhib.com/wcpfex/results-2024/results.htm>*

*Stroud members with acceptances:*

*René Cason AFIAP  
Trish Bloodworth EFIAP, BPEI\*  
(included 2 awards)*

## From the archives!

**Can you believe that SCC will celebrate its 85<sup>th</sup> birthday this May!**

As we know our Club was established in May 1939. These are just a few snippets from the minutes book.

*22<sup>nd</sup> May 1939*

*The subscription shall be six shillings payable in advance.*

*30<sup>th</sup> May 1939*

*The acting secretary was asked to attend to affiliation with the Royal Photographic Society.*

*It was decided to organise two outings. The first to Tewkesbury on Thursday 29<sup>th</sup> June and the second on Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> September to a place to be fixed later.*

The Second World War was declared in Britain on 3<sup>rd</sup> September 1939, so the Club had only had a couple of months to get established and there is no mention in the minutes about whether the 9<sup>th</sup> September trip took place.

The minutes do show that there was a break at the outbreak of war.

*November 27<sup>th</sup> 1939*

*It was explained that the winter programme which had been arranged had had to be abandoned on the outbreak of the war, but that with more settled conditions it had been found possible to arrange a meeting, on a show of hands it was decided to resume meetings monthly, if they could be arranged and that Monday was the most convenient night generally.*

Incredible that some “normal” life carried on amidst very uncertain conditions.

Mono Competition – Prints scoring 20



“Imperial War Museum” – Steve Vines

Mono Competition – Prints scoring 20



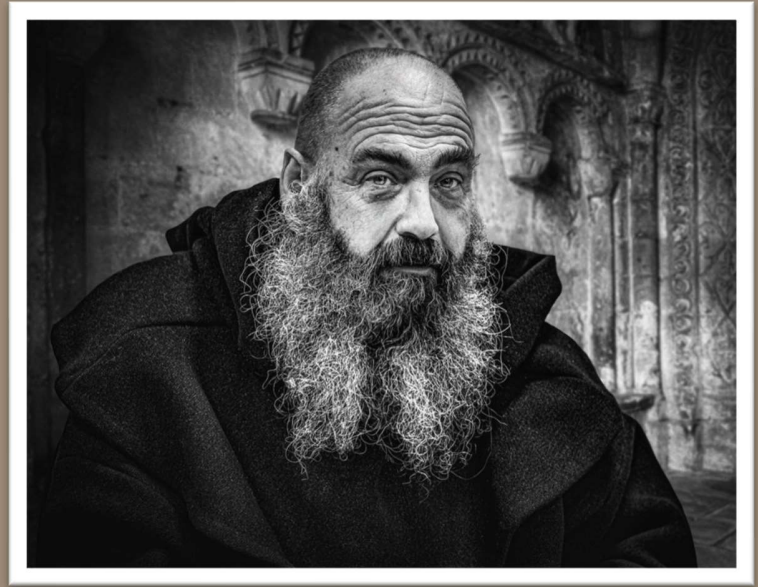
“Crested Hawk Eagle” – Roger Matthews

*Photography: "Capturing moments, shaping memories, framing life's essence." – Chat GPT*

Mono Competition – Digital scoring 20



“Rana” – Malcolm Marnier



“The Abbott” – Trish Bloodworth

Mono Competition – Digital scoring 20



“Crossing the glass bridge” – Mick West

*"Photography takes an instant out of time, altering life by holding it still." - Dorothea Lange*

# 2024 competitive thoughts...

What a great night of mono images. Jay Hallsworth was a very generous judge, offering great comments on the night, and he has also added written comment on our website. Click on the images to enlarge and then you will see comments where they have been given.



"Elephants crossing" – Ian Peters

## Mono Competition

### Prints

#### Scores of 20:

Roger Matthews - "Crested Hawk-Eagle"

Steve Vines "Imperial War Museum"

#### Scores of 19

Richard Atkinson - "Tributary"

Leslie Holmes - "Elephants at Play"

Malcolm Marner - "Annie-Rose"

Roger Matthews - "Pond Heron"

Geoff Perrett - "Street Art"

Geoff Perrett - "Old Man of the Sea"

#### Scores of 18

Trish Bloodworth - "10 to 2"

Trish Bloodworth - "Incoming"

Jeff Wilson - "The Shoot at Woodchester"

Jeff Wilson - "A Simple Portrait"

## Digital

### Scores of 20:

Trish Bloodworth - "The Abbot"

Malcolm Marner - "Rana"

Mick West - "Crossing the glass bridge"

### Scores of 19

Annie Blick - "Scrummage"

Trish Bloodworth - "Boy with the mouse"

Glyn Heskins - "A pebble borrowed from Chesil Beach"

Roger Matthews - "Peak 6"

Jeff Wilson - "The new dress"

### Scores of 18

Scott Antony - "Shadows & Shapes"

Richard Atkinson - "Focused"

Annie Blick - "Launderette Lady"

René Cason - "Coming through"

Leslie Holmes - "White Rhino"

Malcolm Marner - "Tattoo Artist At Work"

Francis Mridha - "Foot Steps"

Derrick Whitmore - "Danger Sign"

coming up >>>

**April 2024**

**Thu 4 Apr 2024 – Scott Antony Photofilms and bring your camera discussion**

**Thu 11 Apr 2024 - AGM - Select your Committee for the 2024/2025 Season**

**Thu 18 Apr 2024 - Image Of The Year Competition - The BIG one!**

**Thu 25 Apr 2024 - Pattern, Texture, Many - a members' evening**

**Thu 2 May 2024 – 3 Way Team Challenge - and close of Season**

## Next Competition

18<sup>th</sup> April 2024

**IMAGE OF THE YEAR**

**Hand in and enter by 4<sup>th</sup> April**

## INTERNATIONAL SALON NEWS

CONGRATULATIONS to the following members who have had acceptances into International or National (BPE) Photographic Salons/Exhibitions!

*Mark Halling – Basingstoke BPE*

*Trish Bloodworth – Belgium (incl. Award)*

*René Cason – Prague (incl. Award)/Moldova*

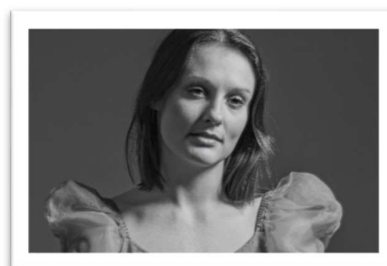
*Annie Blick – image featured on BBC News & The Telegraph*

## CONGRATULATIONS

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

## ADVANCE WARNING

- IMAGES YOU WILL NEED!
  - Image of the Year
  - Team Challenge
  - Pattern, Texture, Many



"Natasha" – Guy Bryan

UPLOAD YOUR IMAGES – to your gallery and our Facebook Group

## High Scoring Prints



“Street Art” – Geoff Perrett

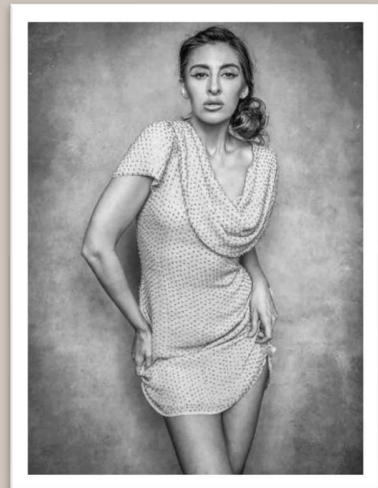


“Elephants at play” – Leslie Holmes

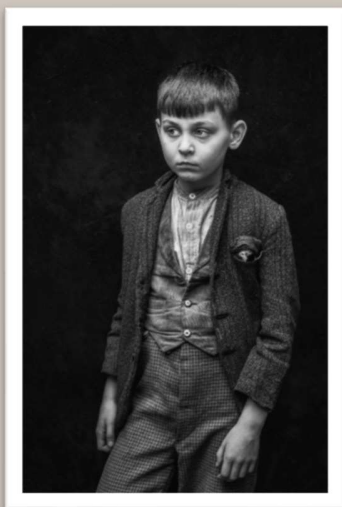
## High Scoring Digital



“Scrummage” – Annie Blick



“The new dress” – Jeff Wilson



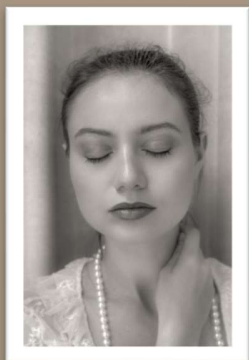
“Boy with the mouse” – Trish Bloodworth EFIAP



“A pebble borrowed from Chesil Beach” – Glyn Heskins

*“Photography is a way of feeling, of touching, of loving.” - Aaron Siskind*

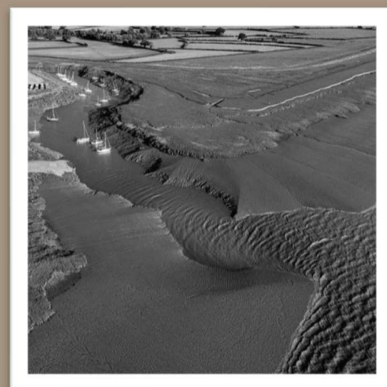
## More High Scores from the Print Competition



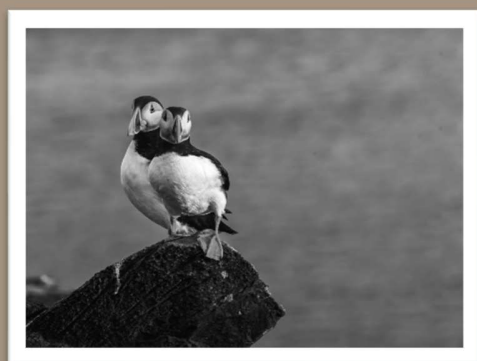
*"A simple portrait"*  
– Jeff Wilson



*"Annie-Rose"*  
– Malcolm Marner



*"Tributary"*  
– Richard Atkinson



*"A pair of puffins"* – René Cason AFIAP



*"Old man of the sea"* – Geoff Perrett

## More High Scores from the Digital Competition



*"Launderette Lady"* – Annie Blick



*"Danger sign"* – Derrick Whitmore



*"Footsteps"* – Francis Mrhida



*"Peak 6"* – Roger Matthews



## More competition images



*"Lunch preparation" – Brian Dinnage*



*"Church gate" – Gerry Chance*



*"Jen" – Mark Halling*



*"Anchor perch" – David Hamilton*

*See more on our website: [www.stroudcameraclub.co.uk](http://www.stroudcameraclub.co.uk)*

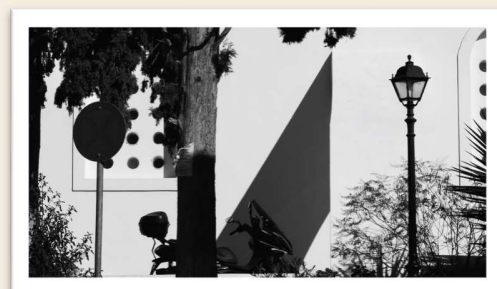
## From the competition



*"Juggling man" – Carol Barchou*



*"Stricken" – Derrick Whitmore*



*"Shadows & shapes" – Scott Anthony*



*"Tools of a trade" – Ali Garrett*