



news and views from the
Photographic Alliance of Great Britain

e-news

Issue 69 – June 2012

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*Apocalypse, London Salon Medal Winner, by
Hilary Roberts - featured in a recent e-news*



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MPAGB APRIL 2012

It has been many years since we have achieved FOUR MPAGB at one Adjudication. e-news will feature each one in turn showing their complete entry of 20 photographs

MPAGB
April 2012 3 of 4

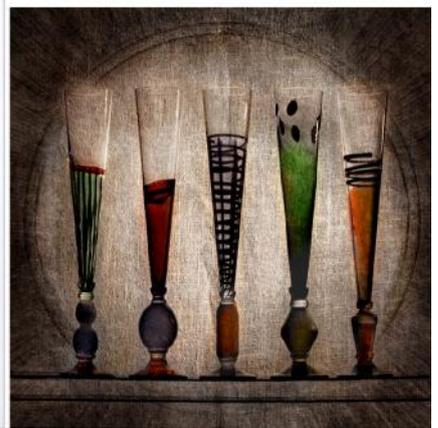
CHRISTINE WIDDALL



All photos by Christine Widdall MPAGB EFIAP BPE4*

I was brought up taking photographs and learned how to process in the darkroom from the age of five. The excitement of taking and making pictures has never diminished and photography is now a major part of my life, as an exhibitor and judge, nationally and internationally, and as L&CPU Past President and Executive Member. I work in a variety of styles, from landscape and panoramas to still life and portrait. My aim is very simple - to try to capture places, people and moments in time and make them as beautiful and interesting as possible. I try to go beyond the objective recording of fact and to use self-expression to provide an interpretation of my subjects.





Christine
Widdall
MPAGB

See many more of Christine's photographs at www.christinewiddall.co.uk



Roy Lambeth CPAGB. BPE2*

My introduction to photography was around the age of eleven and came from an interest in chemistry. This led me to try producing photographic prints at home. Small problem, we did not have electricity

Member for the Southern Federation
Meet the PAGB Executive Committee members

However the books I read said that contact prints could be made in room light using Gaslight Paper. The local chemist shop sold photographic chemicals and papers but on asking for Gaslight Paper I was asked “what books have you been reading?”

I used a front lamp to illuminate a contact print and a red rear bicycle lamp as a safe light and & the rest is history, as they say. Progress over the last 55 years means that now I produce all my work digitally. All my work is still very much about People, Natural History and Manipulated images.



I joined my first camera club in 1975 and have been involved in committees ever since, in more recent years as the SF Treasurer. I gave this up in 2011 and became the PAGB Executive Member from the Southern Fed. This first year has been an insight into how much is covered during the Executive Council Meetings and the amazing amount of work done by the members.



The PAGB Corporate Sponsors



EPSON BECOME A PAGB CORPORATE SPONSOR

The PAGB is absolutely delighted to welcome Epson (UK) Ltd as a Corporate Sponsor. There can be very few Camera Club members who have not heard of Epson and many thousands of you will already be Epson customers. We look forward to a mutually beneficial relationship which will see Epson attending both the PDI and Print Inter-Club Championship and will enable us to update you on new products through e-news adverts.

Our new Sponsor said “Epson is proud to become a sponsor of the PAGB. As a leading player in the photography and fine art market camera clubs throughout the UK are extremely important to us. We are looking forward to working closely with them through our relationship with PAGB.”

The first exciting news is that Epson will donate the fabulous Stylus R3000 printer as one of the raffle prizes at both The PDI Inter-Club Championship at Warwick on 14 July 2012 and the Print Inter-Club Championship at Connah’s Quay on 27 October 2012. Imagine going home with one of those! You have to be there to buy a ticket and you will find a ticket application form on Page 7.

You can read all about this superb printer using the link below.

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<http://www.epson.co.uk/Store/Printers-and-All-in-Ones/Epson-Stylus-Photo-R3000>



Richard Speirs DPAGB.

Like other members of the Executive, I too blame my father for creating and fostering an interest in photography

Member for Northern Counties Federation

Meet the PAGB Executive Committee members

He was an aerial photographer in the RAF and all our family prints from the late 50's and even early 60's bore the logo "Air Ministry" on the reverse.

My first camera was a Kodak Autographic, with which I started my own printing adventures and disasters, using the darkroom in the school where my father taught. I progressed to my first SLR, an Exa 1A ^{See Page 10}, with wonderful interchangeable waist level and eye level viewfinders. I used this extensively to record plants I encountered in my studies as a hopeful botanist/ecologist.

My camera use ran through Petri, Pentax and Canon before settling with Minolta and now Sony, backed up with an excellent Panasonic Lumix which I use extensively whilst mountaineering and for taking quiet candid shots. Although my early interest in recording the natural environment still remains I now happily tackle any subject which looks to have picture potential. I joined Morton Photographic Society in the mid 70's and, having worked my way through a number of committee posts, I'm now entering the last year of my second term as Chairman. I've also been on the Executive of the Northern Counties Photographic Federation for a number of years and have just finished my term as President. I am an NCPF and PAGB judge and I regularly tote a lecture or two to camera clubs



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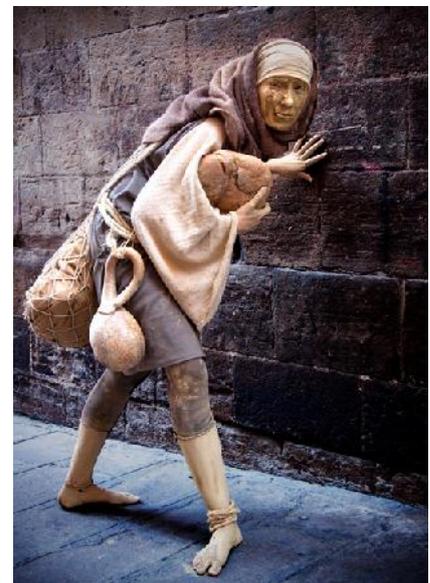
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The Arts Centre
University of
Warwick

Saturday
14th July 2012

Commencing
at 10.15am



The **PHOTOGRAPHIC ALLIANCE OF GREAT BRITAIN** invite all interested in PHOTOGRAPHY, whether members of a competing club or not, to attend this exciting and stimulating event. It is held in the 550 seat tiered theatre within The Arts Centre complex of the University. The University is just a few miles south west of Coventry, off the Coventry-Kenilworth Road (A429). There are Bar and Catering facilities within the building and ample free Car Parking.

Two Clubs from each of the 15 Federations, together with the top 10 placed clubs from the 2011 Championships will compete to find the Champion Club for 2012.

Admission is by prepaid ticket only from 9.30am; these can be purchased by completing the form below and sending it with the correct remittance and a SAE to see below. Wheel-chairs can be accommodated, but such requirements must be notified on the ticket application form.



To: Mrs Carol J Cheetham CPAGB APAGB

Tickets available mid-April 2012

6 Twentylands, Rolleston-on-Dove, Staffs. DE13 9AJ

Please send me Admission Tickets at £5.00 each. Total remittance £

Please make cheques payable to the 'PAGB'

Name

Address

Post Code Telephone No.

I/We are members of Club/Society Fed.

Tick box - if a Map to the University of Warwick is required Wheelchair access

Please include a Stamped Address Envelope
Please note that tickets booked and paid for are non returnable

Lets Jive by Peter Eaton and Barcelona Bread Thief by Andrew Daw from their successful CPAGB entries



LANDSCAPE
PHOTOGRAPHER OF THE YEAR
ENTER BY 15th July 2012

THE SEARCH FOR THE UK'S LANDSCAPE PHOTOGRAPHER OF THE YEAR BEGINS

Could you be the next Landscape Photographer of the Year?



Past winners (clockwise from top left): Jan Gibbs (2007), Gary Eastwood (2008), Antony Spencer (2010), Robert Fulton (2011), Emmanuel Coupe (2009)



www.take-a-view.co.uk

Now in its sixth year, the Take a view - Landscape Photographer of the Year Awards is open for entries and you have until mid-July to upload your pictures for a chance to win £10,000. 'Take a view', the idea of renowned landscape photographer, Charlie Waite, is one of the nation's most exciting photographic awards and the search for the 2012 winner is on.

AWARDS FOR MERIT IN AUDIO VISUAL PRODUCTION

The PAGB recently agreed the following definition which has received wide support.

“An AV Production submitted for a PAGB Award for Photographic Merit should predominantly consist of a sequence of still photographic images, the majority of such images being the original work of the entrant, together with a synchronised sound track.

The use of third party images, animated graphics, video clips or other visual material, whilst not excluded, should be limited and appropriate to the production.

Entrants must confirm that they have obtained legal consent for the use of any visual or audio material used in the production other than their own original content.”



The AV Adjudication, scheduled for 20 October 2012, has adopted this definition and will be conducted in accordance with previous custom and practice. Now that this definition has been agreed* the PAGB Executive has asked the APM Sub-Committee to review all the procedures and practices for running Adjudications from 2013. They intend to conduct a further wide ranging conversation leading hopefully, to specific proposals early in 2013.

If you are involved in Audio Visual as a current or potential producer of AV, as a past or present judge or if you just have an interest in how it may develop in the future and you would like to be involved in this conversation please register an interest with rod@creative-camera.co.uk All input is welcome although we cannot promise individual responses.

***Note. There has been some response to suggest that this discussion should lead to changes in the agreed definition – this is not the case.**

AWARDS FOR PHOTOGRAPHIC MERIT

The L&CPU Mentoring Scheme - Christine Widdall MPAGB

When our qualifying rules to enter the PAGB Awards for Photographic Merit (APM) were relaxed, the L&CPU decided to start a mentoring scheme for prospective candidates to help them to understand the different levels and the requirements of entering and to help them to achieve their best entry by giving feedback on their photographs.

The mentoring scheme and seminar were promoted on the L&CPU website and before long enquiries were coming in. We started with about 40 candidates, divided between the seven mentors. Unfortunately, after a very short illness, we lost nature expert Colin Smith.

Mentors ask to see a selection of the candidates' best work, perhaps 30 images to begin with and candidates can send new images for appraisal as they make them. Some candidates take more of the mentors' time than others and mentors vary a little in the way they work. Some candidates are also clearly "ready" and only need a little practical advice before the adjudication, but others are nowhere near ready and need more input. In some cases they may even be advised to delay their application until achieving a higher standard. For that reason, it is helpful to see a candidate's work before they apply to the PAGB and, if the candidate is entering prints, it is important to see their prints and not just PDIs.

In the autumn of 2011 we held a Mentoring Seminar which included a "mock Adjudication" with 6 of the mentors acting as judges.

Clearly, running a mock-adjudication is a risky thing to do, especially as some of our mentors have not yet sat on a PAGB panel. The candidates

were warned that it was only to give a feel for how they might get on and that we could not guarantee the same marks on their real adjudication. However, it did show candidates how their work sat in relation to the standard of other candidates and that gave a severe "wake-up" call to some, resulting in a renewed effort to take better photos, which I know paid off in the end!

Is there a down-side? Well, the mentors may potentially be blamed if the candidates fail, though the few who did fail did not seem to take this view. Successful candidates may think you are their mentor for life and it is certainly a big commitment. It requires willingness and TIME and mentors MUST give feedback quickly as any delay is lost time for their candidates. Now success breeds success, so we need more mentors and have still not replaced our nature specialist.

The L&CPU feel that the advantages of mentoring outweighed the disadvantages. It gave confidence to those whose work was already at the required standard, helped others to improve their work and choose their best images (the final selection MUST be their own). The iterative process maximised the candidates' chance of success and they were able to compare their work with that of candidates from other, maybe stronger, clubs during the Mentoring Seminar.

After our first year we think it was worth doing and is worth continuing and we will certainly consider running more Seminars with mock adjudications.

This is an update of an article first published in e-news 51 in October 2011.

At the April 2012 APM in Pontefract the L&CPU had a bumper entry with 15 passes, including two at MPAGB, and they are confident that the mentoring scheme helped several of the entrants who would not have passed otherwise.

JUDGING SPECIAL ISSUE

Later in the year we hope to publish a special edition of e-news devoted to the Black Art of Photographic Judging. All we need is the material to fill it! If you have any considered views on judging, any amusing or annoying anecdotes, any suggestions for improvement, any questions or any views at all on judging which would be of interest to our readers then please send your contribution to rod@creative-camera.co.uk.

We welcome articles and one-liners from Judges and their victims. Just remember even judges have feelings too. We cannot promise to publish everything but please write now!

NEIL JONES SENTENCED with permission from the WPF website at <http://thewpf.co.uk>

The former treasurer of the Welsh Photographic Society, Mr. Neil Jones, has been sentenced for the theft of monies totalling approximately £16,500 from the society after pleading guilty to all charges brought against him. The honourable judge, Justice John Curran, said that this was a serious breach of trust in taking the members' subscription money for his own ends and he sentenced Mr. Jones to 12 months imprisonment, suspended for 2 years including 6 months on probation. He further

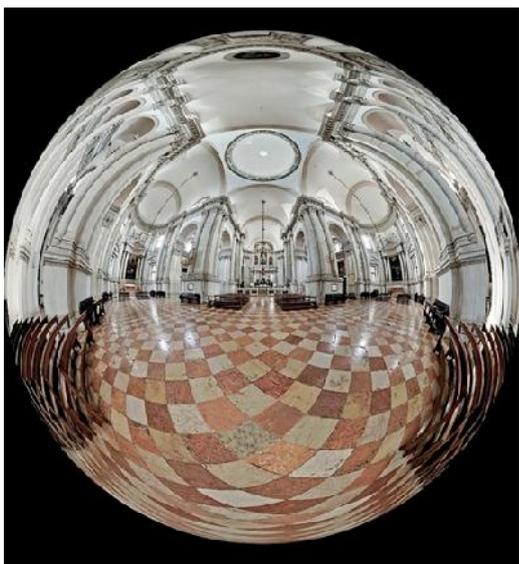
said that Mr. Jones should not be relieved of his responsibility to repay the funds but realising his situation he was making an order that he should do so at a rate of £20 per week. Consequently, Mr Jones will have repaid his debt in 16 years.

The WPF Exec would like to take this opportunity to thank all their clubs and their members for their generous and sympathetic support during what has been a very difficult couple of years.

IDEAS ABOUT THE ART OF PHOTOGRAPHY

by Sir George Pollock, Bt., MPAGB, HonPAGB, HonFRPS.

This brand new talk on CD, now available from the PAGB Recorded Lecture Service, describes and illustrates the ideas about the art of photography which Sir George has developed in half a century of work as an artist-photographer. Emphasis is placed throughout on creative vision and on the importance of composing in colour



Wings in the Garden (an "Oofery" by Sir George)
<360° Panorama of San Giorgio Maggiore, Venice by John Law, ARPS

PAGB Recorded lectures may be hired (affiliated Clubs only) from the RLS Secretary Stephanie Cook, DPAGB, AFIAP, 58 High Street, South Milford, Leeds LS25 5AF
t: 01977 682857 e: stephanie.cook@btinternet.com



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Member of FIAP and the Photographic Alliance of Great Britain

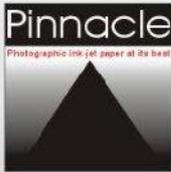


The Welsh Photographic Federation would like to invite you to take part in our **2012 Welsh International Projected Image Salon**. The salon is recognised by FIAP (Europe) and PSA (America). This will be our 36th Salon and there are four sections: Open, Experimental, Natural History and Photo Travel. **Closing date is 21st July 2012** and the entry system is live now. To enter online go to www.thewpf.co.uk

NEW !



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THE 33rd NORTHERN COUNTIES INTERNATIONAL SALON OF PHOTOGRAPHY 2012



FIAP Catalogue Rating - 4 Star. Closing Date -16 August 2012

details at <http://www.ncpf.org.uk>

The Beyond Group are now accepting entries to their 5th National Exhibition
http://www.beyondgroup.info/Beyond_Group/5th_Exhibition_2012.html

They have added nature to their print entry.
Making 6 sections in all, with plenty of special awards.

The National Portrait Gallery is delighted to announce a **Call for Entries for the Taylor Wessing Photographic Portrait Prize 2012, a major international photographic award.** Entry forms are now available and the closing date for entries is 9 July 2012. To enter, visit www.npg.org.uk/photoprize The **Taylor Wessing Portrait Prize** provides an important platform for all photographers over the age of 18, including professionals, gifted amateurs and students. Around 60 photographers will be selected for the exhibition at the National Portrait Gallery. The winner will receive **£12,000** and the exhibition will run at the National Portrait Gallery, London, from 8 Nov 2012 – 17 Feb 2013.

*Harriet and Gentleman Jack, 2010 by Jooney Woodward
(1st Prize 2011)*



RPS INTERNATIONAL AV TOUR

with Jean-Paul Petit (France) and Jacques van de Weerd (Belgium)

Wednesday 19th September . Evening lecture/presentation Hosted by Staffordshire AV Group. 8:00pm -10:00pm at Derrington Village Hall, Derrington, nr. Stafford, ST18 9LR. £8.00. Booking essential. Details: howard.bagshaw@ntlworld.com or www.wmid-av.org.uk/events.html

Fri 21st Sept Wilmslow 7:30-9:30 pm - Suzanne Walker hgandsw@taltalk.net

Sunday 23 September. Full AV Day hosted by Mid Thames AV Group. 9.45 for 10.00am start at the Community Centre, Woosehill, Wokingham, RG41 3SW. £10.00. Booking essential. £10.00. Details: graham_laughton@yahoo.co.uk

Details also on the RPS website at www.rps.org/group/Audio-Visual

The Exa is a very simple camera, no particular technical specification and very easy to use for everybody - including the younger Richard Speirs. (see Page 6) The Exa 1A was constructed in the DDR by the Ihagee Kamera Werk from Dresden in 1964. The Exa was conceived in the mid-50's, as a simple camera evolution of the Exakta, to have a larger public access. The viewfinder is normally a waist level finder and is changeable with an eye level SLR prism finder.

Ed. Probably not too many people will be interested but I had a suitable space here!



and finally ...

The APM Committee are always urging people to submit their applications early, as places in Adjudications do fill quickly and we wish to avoid disappointment. However, imagine the surprise of the Secretary when, in May 2012 he received a genuine application for the November 2013 event - it fitted in with the photographer's location. We continue to advise early application!

and more finally ...

