

TANDRIDGE PHOTOGRAPHIC SOCIETY

MARCH 2007 NEWS UPDATE

Welcome to another TPS News Update. We start with an update on an upcoming event:

SPA INTER-CLUB QUARTER FINALS - Following our **third win** with our Print Panel at Mid-Sussex last month, we are through to the Quarter Finals. Our Quarter Final match will take place on Tuesday 27th March at Molesey PS. The Judge will be Roger Force FRPS DPAGB APAGB, and our opponent will be Kingston CC. Molesey PS meet at **7.45pm** at St Mary's Church Hall, St Marys Road, East Molesey see: <http://tinyurl.com/2comby> for a map.

TPS WEB UPDATE - Brian Smith has been busy fettling the TPS Website - <http://www.tandridgephotographicociety.org.uk/> - Now on the **Competition** page you can find full details of this years Competitions: including the individual scores for all your entries, as well as the current standings in the competition.

Don't forget the Member's Gallery on our website - A great place to showcase our members work. Brian will be pleased to add your images . . . Just prepare your images as for our DI Competitions, and let Brian have them.



SUMMER MEETINGS & SUMMER OUTINGS

The Committee have been busy arranging the following:

SUMMER MEETINGS:

June 21st - The Bull, Chelsham July 05th - The Barley Mow, Tandridge
July 19th - The Fox, Coulsdon Common Aug 02nd - Whyte Harte, Bletchingley
Aug 16th - The Carpenter's Arms, Limpsfield Chart

These are informal gatherings - people start arriving from 8pm - do come along!

OUTINGS:

Recent attendance has been disappointing. So, we have decided to make these trips more structured, hoping this will increase their appeal to members. Mike Crisp has agreed to work on this and would welcome your thoughts and ideas on the format of these outings, as well as your suggestions on suitable locations. Mike can be contacted at: mike.crisp@tiscali.co.uk

SPYDER2 COLORIMETER

Tandridge Photographic Society is now the proud possessor of a Spyder2 colorimeter. "So what?" I hear you chorus in unison but probably for three different reasons

- 1 - you're not a digital worker
- 2 - you don't know what a Spyder2 is and you're concerned about eight legged, hairy creatures
- 3 - you've already got something similar and you think yours is better.

For the first category of members, the film-only photographers, be reassured that we are fighting to preserve a competitive arena for your skills within the club and you can ignore anything that follows below.

If you are in category two then read on.

If you are in category three, and have already invested in buying your own calibration device, you might like to read on to see how yours compares with the club's.

There is, of course, a fourth category of member that knows perfectly well what a Spyder2 is but has much more important things to do with their hard-earned cash than splashing out on a piece of equipment they may only want to use four times a year.

So would members in categories two and four gather round whilst we talk about monitor calibration and monitor profiling whilst the others go away and add more 10s to their portfolios.

If you are working with a digital image the chances are you are going to look at it on a screen. This isn't universally true because there are very good systems available that will make prints directly from your camera files with no additional operator intervention. But if you do want to use a computer to enhance and optimise your photographs then your primary point of reference to the colour and tonal values of your picture is going to be your computer screen.

Computer screens, just like televisions, have lots of controls for changing brightness, contrast, colour balance, colour saturation and neutrality. These controls have absolutely no effect on your pictures but they have a huge effect on how you see your pictures. For example, you have an underexposed shot – it looks too dark on your screen. So you wind-up the brightness control, the picture looks a lot better. This is only happening on your screen, you haven't corrected the picture in any way! If you send that picture to a printer, the print will be too dark. If you enter that picture into the club's digital competition it will also look too dark.

Take that example and apply it to every visual characteristic of your photograph (with the possible exception of focus). So, highlight detail, shadow detail, subtle skin colours, bright saturated reds, greens and blues, beautiful neutral detail in your Harley-Davidson engine block and so on. We need to have a fixed reference against which to compare the photo-file. The principle of calibration and profiling provides that reference set of conditions specifically for your computer and your monitor.

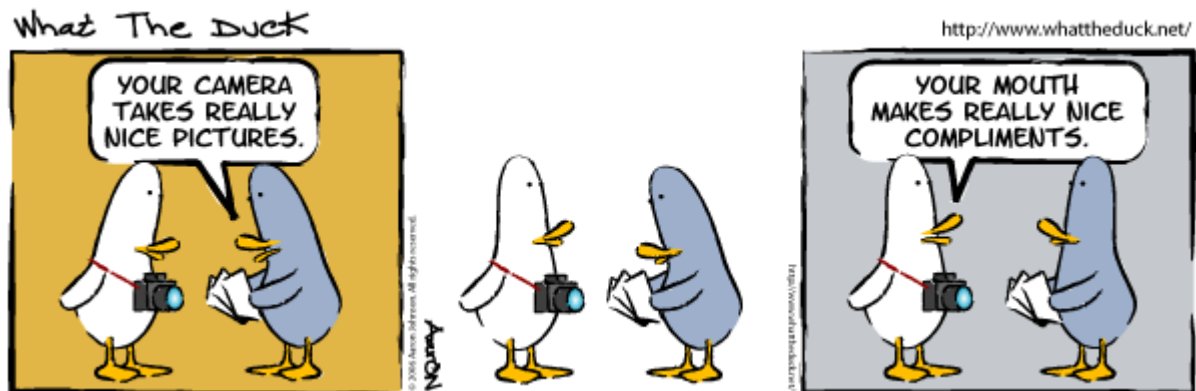
The only way that you can get sensible information about your photography is if the settings on your colour monitor are stable, if the computer driving your monitor understands what effect it is having on the appearance of your screen and if the software you are using to edit your pictures can be given an explanation of the consequences of combining your computer with your screen.

SPYDER2 COLORIMETER Cont.

The process of monitor calibration fixes the colour, brightness and contrast of your screen to pre-set, recommended values. It then informs your computer of what adjustments the computer needs to make to sustain those values for the images you are looking at. Profiling the monitor and computer combination gives the editing software (Photoshop or something similar) the information it needs to display accurately the edits and changes you make to the picture.

The Spyder2, with the software that accompanies it, calibrates and profiles your monitor. It is the club's intention that you should borrow the device and the software so that you can do this for yourselves. This isn't the place to give detailed instructions on how to do it, but you won't be left alone to work it out for yourselves if you are not confident in following the instructions that come with it.

Marcus



EXTERNAL COMPETITIONS – OPEN EXHIBITIONS

Olmec launches Camera Club Photographer of the Year Competition at Focus 2007 – ICI Imagedata has joined forces with its UK Distributor, Paterson Photographic, to launch the Olmec Camera Club Photographer of the Year Competition at this year's Focus Show.

Open to all UK Camera Club Members, the competition offers a great package of prizes, including an Interfit Lighting Rig, Benbo Tripods, Olmec Photo Paper and Sigma Macro Lens. The Winner's Camera Club will also receive £500 worth of Olmec Professional Photo Paper.

There is a completely open brief. Any photographer submitting an image that demonstrates technical and creative skills and has that extra something special could become Camera Club Photographer of the Year.

The best images received each month will appear in Amateur Photographer, with the monthly winner receiving a yearly subscription to the magazine. The overall winner will be selected from the top 30 images received judged by the Editor of Amateur Photographer, Roger Parry of Paterson and Bob Moore Hon FRPS of the PAGB.

How to Enter:

All entries must be printed on Olmec 260gsm Gloss Photo Paper (A4). To receive a free pack of Olmec Paper (one per entrant), please visit the Paterson website at: www.patersonphotographic.com or e-mail roger.parry@patersonphotog.plus.com. Entry Forms can also be downloaded at the Paterson Website.

The London Salon - are seeking entries for their 97th Annual Exhibition. The Exhibition will be at The Camera Club, London, from 7 July to 3 August 2007.

The **Closing Date** for entry is: **30th April**, and entry forms can be downloaded from: <http://www.londonsalon.org/>

LANDSCAPE PHOTOGRAPHER OF THE YEAR AWARDS 2007

As 2007 unfolds, the first major 'Landscape Photographer of the Year' competition is now well under way and entrants have until the end of May to submit their photographs of the British landscape.

Backed by The Automobile Association (The AA), 'Take a view' is the brainchild of renowned landscape photographer Charlie Waite and offers a total prize fund of £20,000, including £10,000 for the overall winner.

A six-week exhibition on London's South Bank, in the autumn, will allow many entrants to see their work on public display and a full-colour book of the winning entries will be available from AA Publishing.

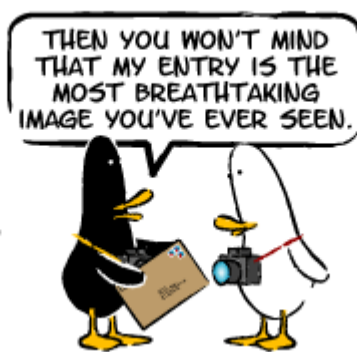
Britain's heritage is celebrated by people around the world and entries are welcome from everyone, whether resident in Britain or simply visiting. Set to become a major annual event, the competition offers various categories for both adults and children, allowing for a wide variety of styles and subjects as long as the images are of the British Isles. Entries will be judged by a celebrity panel from the photographic and film industries.

Charlie Waite says of 'Take a view': "The rich diversity of the British landscape is something that is available to all of us and is ours to enjoy. This competition will provide an on-going platform for capturing images that best symbolise our land and our times, and that will stand as a record of our country."

The book of winning entries will be launched by AA Publishing at the opening of the 'Take a View' exhibition, in the superb surroundings of the National Theatre on London's South Bank. Supported by the Sunday Times Magazine, this competition is destined to become an annual event that will reflect the heart and spirit of Britain.

All entries must be uploaded via the competition website, www.take-a-view.co.uk and the closing date is 31st May 2007. Full terms and conditions can be found on the site.

What The Duck



OUT AND ABOUT

An Evening with an ANGEL

Eastbourne Photographic Society have arranged an evening with Wildlife Photographer **Heather Angel**, at Hailsham Community Centre, 19:30pm on Tuesday 27th March 2007. Tickets £6:50.

PHOTO 2007

If you are quick, you can catch the Annual Exhibition of Work by members of Croydon Camera Club. It's on at: Sun Lounge, Fairfield Halls, Croydon, CR9 1DG. BUT IT CLOSSES on the 11th March 2007.

Croydon Camera Club's 2007 Wratten Lecture

Former *Observer* sports photographer and *Guardian* picture editor **Eamonn McCabe** will give Croydon Camera Club's 2007 Wratten Lecture on Wednesday 28th March at Shirley Methodist Church, Eldon Avenue, Croydon, starting at 8pm.

Eamonn, who is now freelancing, was four times Sports Photographer of The Year, five times Picture Editor of The Year, official photographer for the Pope's visit to Britain in 1982, and News Photographer of The Year in 1985. He will speak on 'A life in pictures.'

Tickets (£4) can be obtained from Wratten, 12 Wickham Road, Shirley, Croydon CR0 8BA. Cheques - with SAE - should be made payable to "Croydon Camera Club."

RPS CENTRAL SOUTHERN DIGITAL GROUP

On Sunday, 25th March the topic of the meeting will be "Advanced Photoshop" with Bob Rowe ARPS CPAGB.

This is an all day meeting starting at 10am for 10.30. It will be held in the Coopers Hill Community Centre, Crowthorne Road North, Bagshott Road, RG12 7QS. The meeting is open to anyone and more information can be found on their website at www.csdigital.co.uk. The charge to non-season ticket holders will be £15 for RPS Digital Group members and £18 to others, with a 20% discount for a first time introductory visit.

Refreshments will be available but please bring a packed lunch.

Roger Norton, Publicity Officer, CS-DIG Web: <http://www.csdigital.co.uk>

OXO Tower Gallery, London - Britain on View.

Photography of Britain's countryside and coastline. Open 1-18 March 2007, 11am-6pm daily - Admission free

'Discovering the furthest corners of the earth has never been simpler but this makes it easy to forget that some of the most beautiful scenery can be found on British soil. This collection of photographs offers a reminder of just how breathtaking the countryside on our doorstep can be, revealing an astonishing range of dazzling scenery without any need to fly to far flung locations. Photography by some of Britain's finest landscape photographers is shown with work by Rod Edwards, David Sellman and the award winning landscape photographer Joe Cornish.'

Britain on View coincides with British Tourism Week 12-18 March. The full selection of images can be viewed at VisitBritain's online image library here: <http://tinyurl.com/y9lnhd>

SMALL ADS

EPSON STYLUS 1200 PRINTER (A3) FOR SALE - Little used – Can show a print a print made on it in January 2007- £99.00 ono. John Nathan, Tele: 01883 717800.

ANNUAL DINNER

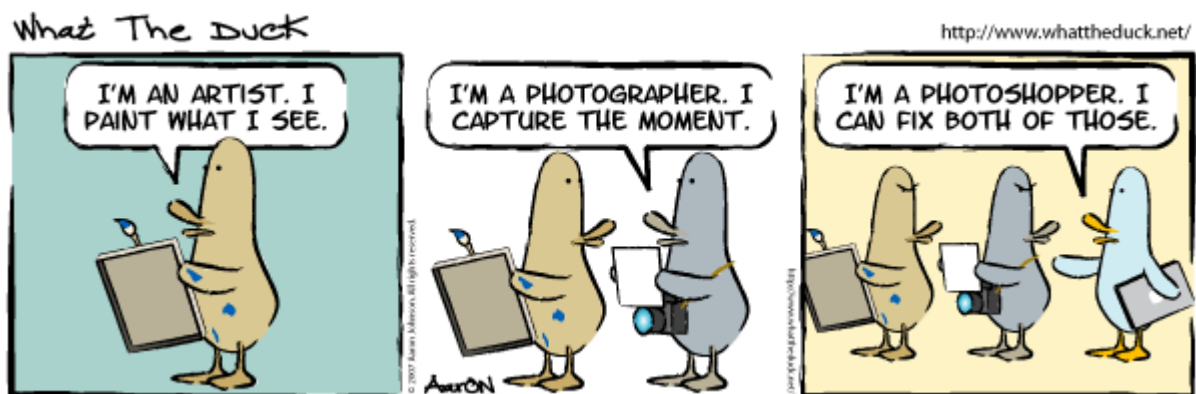
Details of the Annual Dinner and Prize Giving are being finalized as you read this. We are planning on returning to The Grasshopper at Moorhouse on Thursday 7th June.

SUMMER CHALLENGE

This years theme for our Summer Challenge will be '**A Self Portrait**' – but DO NOT just go for a formal Self Portrait! DO give it a bit of thought, and come up with some imaginative alternative self images! This is NOT a competition – NO PRIZE or CUP. But a bit of fun to occupy yourself over our summer break.

There's NO LIMIT on the number of images* each member can present at the first meeting of our 2007-8 Season on September 6th.

* Submissions should be mounted prints – but of any size and any configuration.



Finally, the Committee have been asked if a print containing more than one image (i.e. a Triptych) would be eligible in our print competitions. **The good news is that it would**, and it would also be accepted in SPA competitions and exhibitions (but do remember the SPA place a limit on the maximum mount size of 20" x 16" / 50.8cm x 40.6cm).

Thanks to Marcus for his article. Don't forget, this is YOUR News Update, and I welcome any contributions from members. Send me your: comments, idea's, articles, events, exhibition details, etc. - the next update should be available in May.

Send all contributions to: tps@elms42.freeserve.co.uk

Thanks, and Happy snapping,

Steve

8th March 2007