

VIEWFINDER

August 2008

Comments and articles are welcomed and should be addressed to:

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Hello Everyone

I trust you all have had a good break despite the dull weather. Our last meeting, the Annual General Meeting, was quite eventful and following a recent Committee meeting, some of the issues raised are addressed below. The 2008/9 programme is at Appendix A. Our first meeting is on the 11th September and a selection of the meetings are detailed below. We are fortunate to be able to offer four Digital Tuition Evenings; see the details below.

We continue to have interest from a number of potential members and I look forward to welcoming them to our meetings and hope they decide to join us.

Peter Odds, Chairman.

Annual General Meeting Issues:

One of the topics raised was, how it was that members often saw a picture appear in club competitions more than once. There are two main groups of competitions, the Quarterlies and the non Quarterlies such as 'People' or 'Four prints on a theme' and the same image cannot be used more than once within those two groups, i.e. it could be used once in the Quarterlies and once in the non-quarterlies. But, it may be seen more than once in other ways. How it works might be best explained by taking the example of a picture first being seen as one of the Walkabout, Summer outing or Summer Challenge pictures which are not the main stream competitions. Not unreasonably if it is a good image that might do well in competition, the photographer would enter it into one of the Quarterlies, later he/she might like it to be part of their four-print theme entry. Also the image might do well and be chosen to represent the Club in the Southern Federation Competitions or the Joint Reading Photographic Club competition or even both. Finally if it achieved a mark of 9.5 or 10 it would be entered into the Best of the Best Competition. In this way an image might be seen as many as six times, but I do not think that this is unusual. Many high quality photographs are allowed to enter into all sorts of national and international competitions. To change this would rob the author of achieving the best exposure for his or her image.

Nevertheless, the committee has considered the problem and you will see that the 'Favourite Picture' competition has been dropped from the programme. Dropped also is the rule that enabled an image that had not achieved a 9 or higher to be entered again in a later competition.

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2008/9 Subscriptions

Following agreement at the Annual General Meeting the annual subscription is increased by £2 across all the memberships. Full details and an application form can be found at Appendix B. Please send a cheque and a completed application form to our Treasurer, Peter Muggridge before our first meeting on the 11th September. If you do this it would help him greatly as it is difficult to process some thirty people on the first evening and delays the start of the evening. Also it might seem a detail, but please make the cheques out for the exact membership amount and pay the £1 evening fee in cash on arrival.

Membership Cards

Following the debate at the AGM regarding photography in public places and whether to have a credit card sized membership card, the committee discussed the issue and decided to stay with the existing size and style of card as it contained a lot of information in a small space and possibly had more 'authority' than a small card anyone could produce. We suggest that you keep your membership card in your camera bag in case you should need to identify yourself. Also, to aid the identifying process a line has been added for your signature. It was thought that a signed card, much as other cards were signed, would help in identifying you. If you are a bona fide member of the Club, then the Club will always confirm your membership.

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Digital Tuition Evenings

Ernie Loft, who obtained his Licentiate of the Royal Photographic Society several years ago, has kindly agreed to be the tutor for a series of four Digital Tuition Evenings. He last gave a series of four tuition evenings in 2006 which were very well received. This year the lectures will take place on 2nd and 16th October, and the 6th and 20th November in the De Vitre room at the Cornerstone.

The lecture content will be based around the Adobe Photoshop and Elements photo manipulation software but, many of the techniques will be easily applied in other programs. Topics will include such basics as browsing, rotating, resizing, sharpening, red-eye, damage and dust removal, saving etc and going on to subjects such as selection tools and layers etc. However, I expect Ernie will be taking note of other requirements as the course develops. Naturally you will get the most out of the evenings if you are already conversant with Windows basics.

The lectures are meant to be self-funding and we have kept the charges to the same as 2006, ie £16 for four evenings booked at the same time, or £5 per evening if booked individually, which I am sure you will realise is a bargain compared with other courses available in the area. See appendix B to sign-up for the tuition evenings.

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www.webcc.org.uk – our web site

Paul Hampton has agreed to take on the responsibility of running our website. Martin Draper originally built the site last year and until now has kept it running. The site takes a lot of effort to keep up-to-date and pressure of business has forced Martin to stop. Paul has stepped into the position. He hopes to tell you more about this at our meeting on the 9th October. Our thanks are due to both Martin and Paul.

Wokingham Library Display

To publicise our activities, the club will have a display of our work in Wokingham Library from 30th August until 13th September.

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11th September Meeting

This is the first meeting of the 2008/9 season and usually we have a number of potential new members who are coming along for the first time. Indeed if any members have friends or relatives who might be interested in joining, please suggest that they come to our first meeting. It is always more satisfactory if people come along at the beginning of the season. On this evening it has become our custom to invite newcomers, if they are new to camera clubs, to bring with them one of their photographs which will be constructively assessed by an independent judge. This takes place in the first part of the evening. In the second part we have the Summer Challenge.

The Summer Challenge

We have five teams each with four members in the team and we should have 20 prints for judging. I know there has been some concern that all members of a team may not be able to put in an entry. This need not be the end of your team's entry. It was thought that this might happen and

when the rules were designed an extra mark was allowed for each member of a team that actually put in an entry. The rules are repeated below:

Summer Challenge Presentation and Marking

The prints are to be judged as a group of four; preferably one for each member of the team. Each group of four should have a group title. The title and author's name of the individual prints should be on the back as per our usual practice. The prints are to be no larger than A4 so that they can be produced by the average domestic ink jet printer, and simply mounted on suitable card. Showing these prints does not preclude there being used in the normal way for other club competitions. Each print will be marked out of 10. An additional mark will be awarded for each individual author who produces a print for his team i.e. four prints and four authors equals four extra points; four prints and only three authors then only three extra points - the maximum team points being 44.

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25th September Meeting

Selection of prints and slides for the Southern Federation inter-club competitions: On this evening we select twelve slides and prints for inter-club competitions. Of the twelve selected by members, the Committee selects a final eight which will represent the club. We will be looking for the best of our work through the 2007/8 season and ask you to bring along any print or slide that did well in our or other competitions and others even if they have not been shown on a club evening before. This year we anticipate that there will be a shortage of good quality slides due to the increasing popularity of digital cameras. However, you can have slides made from digital images, so, if you have a good image why not consider this. One internet site that converts digital images to slides is <http://microquiz.net/> . Slides cost from £1.53 each plus £1.50 delivery.

Evening walkabout - digitally projected photos: This is a showing of the digital images or slides taken during the evening walkabout in Windsor last May. Although judged by members this is not part of the more formal competitions but is a fun showing. So enter up to three entries, including any that might make us laugh. Judging will be by the members and you might have a winning image. You will need to observe the special rules for preparing your images for digital projection, so download them either from the covering e-mail or the web site.

9th October - MEMBERS' EVENING

Some time ago we started these evenings at which members give us presentations on a variety of subjects. On this evening we will have three excellent speakers on four highly interesting subjects: Rodney Hart on producing a High Dynamic Range image.

Paul Hampton on the importance of White Balance.

Ernie Loft on using the digital RAW format.

Paul Hampton on the club's web site and its re-development.

23rd October First Quarterly Competition: Theme – OPEN

The first of our four Quarterly competitions. Three classes: Small Prints up to 35 sq. inches in area; Large Prints no larger than 40 x 50 cm and slides. An OPEN theme so anything goes.

27th November Meeting

Marwell Summer Outing – digitally projected images: Again judged by members, this is not part of our formal competition programme, but a means of showing your prowess and maybe your humour. Preparation of images will be as for the Windsor images.

Be Your Own Judge: We all complain about how judges misinterpret our pictures or in our opinion do not give them sufficient marks. Well now is your chance, we will divide the members into small teams and provide a set of prints for your evaluation. We then ask one of the team to give their team's view of each image. The results are sometimes surprising but often there is a high level of agreement.

13th December Christmas Social Evening

This year we have a speaker who spent many years in the National Press Agency and has an interesting tale to tell. This will be followed by some snacks and drinks.

Wokingham and East Berkshire Camera Club

Meetings are held in the East Hall of The Cornerstone, All Saints Churchyard, Norrey's Avenue, Wokingham
Doors open at 7.30pm and meetings start at 8.00 pm.
Come early and give a hand with the equipment

2008/2009 Programme

2008		Presenter or Judge
Thurs 11 th September	Special 'OPEN' evening for non-members 1) Non member Photographs 2) Summer Challenge results Team entry – four prints on a theme	Ted Clark LRPS
Thurs 25 th September	1) Prints and slides for the Southern Fed. competitions 2) Evening walkabout digitally projected photos	Selection by members Judging by members
Thurs 2 nd October	Digital Tuition Evening	Ernie Loft LRPS
Thurs 9 th October	MEMBERS' EVENING 1) High dynamic range - Rodney Hart. 2) The importance of White Balance – Paul Hampton, 3 Using RAW – Ernie Loft, 4) Our web site – Paul Hampton	
Sat 11 th October	Cornerstone Open Meeting WEBCC display 10.00-12.00	
Thurs 16 th October	Digital Tuition Evening	Ernie Loft LRPS
Thurs 23 rd October	First Quarterly Competition: Theme - 'OPEN'	Mike Hammersly APAGB
Thurs 6 th November	Digital Tuition Evening	Ernie Loft LRPS
Thurs 13 th November	'People' Competition prints and slides	Judging by members
Thurs 20 th November	Digital Tuition Evening	Ernie Loft LRPS
Thurs 27 th November	1) Marwell summer outing - digitally projected photos 2) Be your own judge	Judging by members
Fri 28 th November	Southern Fed. Competition: Alton v Yately v WEBCC	at Alton
Thurs 4 th December	WEBCC display at WBC Shute End	To be confirmed
Thurs 13 th December	Christmas Social: A presentation on Life in the National Press Agency followed by some snacks and drinks.	Ron Pearce
2009		
Thurs 8 ^h January	Second Quarterly Competition: Theme – Going Green	John Chandler. CPAGB
Thurs 22 nd January	New Zealand	Alan Copeland LRPS, APAGB
Thurs 12 th February	Southern Fed. Competition: Aldershot v Farnham v WEBCC	George Walsh APAGB
Thurs 26 th February	Lifestyle Photography - a presentation	Amanda Tweed
Thurs 12 th March	Third Quarterly Competition: Theme - 'Decay and Dereliction'.	Chris Hutchison
Thurs 26 th March	'Inspirations' part 1, - a print presentation	Jim Gaines
Thurs 2 nd April	JPCR Competition at Burghfield Camera Club	Colin Harrison
Thurs 9 th April	Fourth Quarterly Competition: Theme - 'OPEN'	Peter Jackman
Thurs 23 rd April	Projected Digital Image Competition	
Thurs 14 ^h May	1) 4-Print Competition 2) 'Best of the Best' of the 2007/8 WEBCC Competitions	
Thurs 28 th May	A local walkabout - 6.00 pm start and a supper venue <small>No meeting at the Cornerstone</small>	Peter Allington
Thurs 11 th June	Annual General Meeting	

Wokingham & East Berkshire Camera Club

2008/2009 Subscription Fees

Subscriptions are due on the 1st September, but, please send the Application Form below, together with a cheque for the appropriate amount, made out to WEBCC, beforehand to: Peter Muggridge. 2 Wilmington Close, Woodley, Reading, RG5 4LR

Subscription Fees consist of an annual subscription plus a fee of £1 paid on entrance to each evening attended. The evening attendance fee includes a raffle.

Annual Fees

Members: £26 Family Members: £38

New members for the first year:

Members: £22 Family Members: £33

Under 21 members: Half of the above annual subscriptions and half the attendance fees.

Half Season Fees

Anyone joining on or after the 1st January 2009 will be liable for half the above subscriptions, but the full attendance fees.

Digital Tuition Evenings Costs

Four tuition evenings are planned. These evenings are in addition to the normal programme and the aim is to recover costs. Consequently, we prefer those attending to commit to the four evenings currently being offered. The four evenings charge is £16, or, if paid singularly £5 per evening. Either way, the charges are a considerable saving on any similar courses being offered anywhere in the district.

The dispensation of half the subscription for members under the age of 21 will be extended to the Tuition Evenings.

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Wokingham & East Berkshire Camera Club

2008/2009 Membership Application Form

Returned to: Peter Muggridge. 2 Wilmington Close, Woodley, Reading, RG5 4LR

Please enrol me as a member of the above club. I am applying as a:

tick boxes as appropriate

Member £26 Family Member £38 First Year Member £22 First Year Family Member £33

Under 21 Member: half the above fees Date of birth if under 21.....

Digital Tuition Evenings: Four evening course £16

(On the door price £5 per evening)

Total Cost: Membership PLUS Tuition Evenings Total:

Cheques should be made out to: WEBCC

Member/s Name/s

Address:

Telephone number: E-mail address