



e-news

from the Photographic Alliance of Great Britain

Issue 137 – 1 May 2015



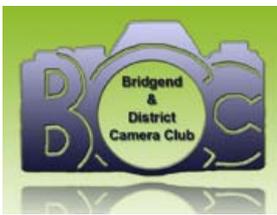
A May Day Cover Special by Adrian Lines *MPAGB FBPE EFIAP ARPS*

www.cherry-art.co.uk

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The Bridgend "5 to 8" is an annual photo harmony competition which is intended to demonstrate skill in the production and visual progression of still images linked to sound. No words or story with a specific beginning, middle and ending are required. The emphasis is on matching images with appropriate transitions and harmonising them perfectly with an appropriate sound track. www.bridgendcameraclub.co.uk

SCOTLAND BY MARK ALLEN, BELFAST, WAS THE 2015 WINNER

"I am an amateur photographer; I don't hold any photographic distinctions and I don't do any commercial work. I'm retired and, for me, both photography and creating slideshows are just a most enjoyable hobby. The "Wild Scotland" sequence was two years in the making and was version 9. The multiple versions were all about getting the colours of the images to harmonise perfectly and also match them to the flow of the music.

I'm dyslexic, so I work slightly differently to my fellow AV workers (or so I'm told). For me, *the music must come first*. One evening; while driving and listening to Classic FM 'at the movies' I first heard the "Adagio" from the film "Sunshine". "Scotland", I said to myself and version 1 was created.

Almost all of the images were taken with a tripod during a dedicated photography trip to Glencoe and the Isle of Skye in 2013. I used a Nikon D300 and a D700 and spent a lot of time getting the composition just right. This sometimes meant waiting for that interesting cloud to move to just where I wanted it. All images were adjusted with Capture NX and only cropped to fit my ratio of choice 16:10. I compose with this ratio in mind. To date, no one has been able to pick out the one picture taken on my iPhone4!



I was encouraged to enter the 'Bridgend 5 to 8 competition' as a result of my success in winning a 'PAGB Gold Medal' at the 2015 NIPA AV Festival, with a sequence called Iceland. I also won a 'Neil Marshall Medal' in the Inter Federation Challenge, when my Iceland sequence went 'head to head' with the winning sequence from the recent IPF AV Festival. The Iceland images were created with my Fuji X-T1, adjusted in Lightroom."

The "5 to 8" judge, Malcolm Imhoff FRPS FACI(M) said -

"You know when you see the first picture that this is going to be special. The photography throughout is stunning. The Ken Burns effect of gently zooming every image helps keep the momentum going. The "Adagio" from the film "Sunshine" is a wonderful piece and the drama of the music complements the drama of the landscapes completely. Maybe the author should warn the projectionist to keep the volume down during the relatively quiet beginning otherwise the audience will get blown away! The images and transitions are totally in sync with the music. Here is somebody who listens to and knows his music. There is perfect harmony between successive images, shapes, colours, with not a single jarring line or horizon. Great care has been taken constructing this sequence, helped by the fact that the author no doubt has a large number of first class pictures from which to choose. The whole thing builds and develops. Swells in the music are used to highlight the close ups of rocks, barnacles and ice fragments. The percussion is used to show the railway section. When I saw the classic image of the Cuillins from Elgol I thought "this is the end", but the final picture was even better. It's clear from the filename (v9) that this has undergone a lengthy period of revision, honing and pruning, so that what we see today is powerful, passionate and intense. This is a good lesson. Never be satisfied with your first attempt."

See SCOTLAND by Mark Allen at -

http://www.bridgendcameraclub.co.uk/5to8Comp_Results.html

See ICELAND by Mark Allen at -

<http://www.nipphoto.co.uk/!av2015/c189z>



SOME NOTES FROM THE PAGB AGM

Saturday, 11th April 2015 at the Thistle Barbican Hotel, London EC1

Item 6. Subscription Rate for 2016

The retiring executive recommended that due to the healthy finances of the PAGB resulting from hard earned sponsorship and financial competence, the club subscription should remain unchanged at £34.75 for 2016. This recommendation was seconded by Sue Dobson and passed by the meeting.

Item 7. Presidents Report

The President, Leo Rich gave his final report, published in the PAGB Annual Review. And said that one of the most pleasurable duties performed during his term of office was presenting Awards for Meritorious Serve (APAGB) and Awards for Photographic Merit (C/D/MPAGB) to recipients whenever he could. He has been very appreciative of always receiving a warm welcome when attending and visiting Federations. Leo reminded those present that the PAGB once had an official gavel that had been mislaid at some point in the past. He then generously presented the PAGB with a new streamlined "travel-gavel" which, along with the chain of office, would be trusted to the good hands of future Presidents.

Item 9. Election of President, Vice President, Officers and Members

The retiring Executive proposed the following appointments:

President – Roy Thomas
Vice President – Gordon Jenkins
Honorary Treasurer – Peter Young
Honorary Secretary – Howard Tate
FIAP Liaison Officer – Dave Coates

The outgoing President, Leo Rich, then officially handed over the Presidency and the chain of office to the incoming President, Roy Thomas.

Roy presented Leo with his Past President medal and thanked him for his effort and leadership during the past two years in office and the meeting agreed enthusiastically. Roy proudly announced to the meeting that he and his wife had celebrated their Golden Wedding Anniversary the previous day and the meeting congratulated Roy and his wife on this achievement. Roy also mentioned that the PAGB, the Federations and more than 1000 clubs with in excess of 30,000 members was a massive organization which was run entirely by volunteers and was probably the largest organization in the UK to be run in this manner. This was a tribute to the whole PAGB family which runs very efficiently on a basis of conversation, consultation and cooperation.

The meeting continued the process of election of Federation members of the Executive of the PAGB. The following election of Federation members were put to the meeting on block:

<i>Federation</i>	<i>Nominee</i>	<i>Nominated and Proposed by</i>
CACC -	Mark Buckley-Sharp	CACC Executive
EAF -	Daphne Hanson	EAF Executive
KCPA -	Clive Tanner	KCPA Executive
L&CPU -	Vacancy	
MCPF -	Roger Parry	MCPF Executive
N&EMPF -	Peter Cheetham	N&EMPF Executive
NWPA -	Christine Langford	NWPA Executive
NCPF -	Richard Speirs	NCPF Executive
NIPA -	Ian Lyons	NIPA Executive
SPF -	Rod Wheelans	SPF Executive
SCPF -	Roy Lambeth	SCPF Executive
SPA -	Tony Riley	SPA Executive
WPF -	David Paskin	WPF Executive
WCPF -	Sandie Cox	WCPF Executive
YPU -	Stephanie Cook	YPU Executive

The meeting agreed that once the L&CPU gave notice of who they proposed to be the L&CPU member, the PAGB Executive were empowered to accept that nomination as they saw fit.

Item 10. Appointment of Accountants

Sadler Samson, Birmingham were re-appointed as qualified accounts examiner to the PAGB.

Item 11. Appointment of Honorary Solicitor

The Secretary informed the meeting that the current Honorary Solicitor could not be contacted and so could not be reappointed. It was decided that the decision concerning this appointment be co-opted to the Executive. A notice will be posted in e-news announcing that the PAGB are looking for a Honorary Solicitor.

Item 12. Appointment of Honorary Archivist/Historian

Dr David Moore MPAGB EFIAP BPE5* be re-appointed to this post.

Farnborough camera club are very proud of their long standing member Clifford Derricutt who received the APAGB from the PAGB president Leo Rich in March 2015. Leo gave a moving speech in which he praised Clifford for his dedicated service to the Club, the SCPF and the PAGB.



Clifford joined Farnborough Camera Club in 1985. He soon joined the Club's Management Committee and in 1989, when he took on the role of Secretary, where he was a great ambassador for the club at Federation level. He performed his duties with efficiency and dedication for 25 years, making him the Club's longest-serving Secretary, only stopping due to health reasons. Clifford has himself achieved a very good standard of photography and his work has represented the Club in many Federation competitions over the years. What has also been very important was encouragement of others, both to join the Club and to do well in their own photography. In 2006 Clifford was awarded the SCPF Roll of Honour and then, in 2014, the FCC elected him to the post of Vice-President, awarding him Honorary Membership in appreciation of all his work for the support and development of the club.



MARRUTT

Exclusive PAGB Offers:

40% OFF CIS Systems at www.marrutt.com/cis-offer
40% OFF Refill Cartridge Systems at www.marrutt.com/rcs-offer
all starter kits include ink - simple instructions - custom profiles



How many times have you heard “the print does not look like that at home”?

Is there a solution to colours not matching? A simple device to illuminate a print with light which is close to print viewing booth standard? A small portable source of controlled light of the correct colour temperature? I looked around for such a product and I found the GrafiLite, which appeared to fulfil the purpose and was reasonably priced. After a few weeks of use it has proved very effective, it can be relied upon to show your prints accurately and consistently.

At the recent Photography Show in Birmingham I saw such a lamp being used on the PAGB stand for assessing prints for their awards. This was very reassuring because they should know a thing or two about print quality. Grafilites, and other similar lamps, are widely available but mine was bought from Color Confidence who were able to supply the device very quickly without charging the earth for it.

Scriptor

I'm the Programme Secretary of Baddow Camera Club near Chelmsford and I entered a National UK

photography competition run by the Forest Stewardship Council (FSC), who promote sustainability of wood products. I won my category of 'Terrific Trees' and then, in March, I was voted the overall winner by a public vote. My prize was family "Go Ape" tickets plus a day with the environmental photographer Edward Parker. This month FSC have used my image as the cover for their April edition of 'Forest Matters' magazine.

I am also a postgraduate student at Writtle College in Essex and I have just submitted my MA research dissertation on 'The Tree in Photographs - What are the key artistic influence and personal motivations of 21st Century tree photographers?'

Marion Sidebottom

The image is of an ancient hornbeam tree taken in Hatfield Forest in Essex. >>



You can see more of Marion's work at <https://500px.com/marionsidebottom> or <https://marionsidebottom.wordpress.com/>

20% OFF tickets to the SONY WORLD PHOTOGRAPHY AWARDS – see Page13

SOME OF THE GREAT PICTURES WHICH WILL APPEAR IN THE GB CUP NATURE DVD LATER IN THE YEAR. (All Participating Clubs should receive it in August 2015)



Little Owl Walking by Austin Thomas.jpg



Gannets Fishing up close by Chris Brooks.jpg



Orca Blow by Steve Lobley.jpg



Kingfisher Aggression by John Webster.jpg



Kenyan Cheetah Cubs by Austin Thomas.jpg



Male Rock Ptarmigan by Dave Bowen.jpg



Snow monkey mothers protecting their young in a snow storm by M...



Brimstone early morning by Neill Humphries.jpg



mallard chasing osprey by Jo McIntyre.jpg



Grey Wolf Aggression by Dave Jones.jpg



Oceanic Blacktip Shark by Spencer Burrows.jpg



Spoonbill Fishing by John Webster.jpg

GJ Wildlife Photography

(Sales - Tuition - Hide Hire - Photography Tours)



Black Grouse Hide

For more information

Gordon Rae DPAGB

Jo McIntyre DPAGB

(tel :- 07825 129113)

e-mail - gjwildlife@gmail.com

www.gjwildlifephotography.co.uk



Squirrel hides from £75pp/day
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West Scotland and within easy
reach of M74 motorway.





THE ROYAL PHOTOGRAPHIC SOCIETY 2015 NATIONAL AUDIO VISUAL CHAMPIONSHIP
Friday 4th, Saturday 5th, and Sunday 6th September 2015.

Ruxton Lecture Theatre, at the Ruxton Technology Centre, Staffordshire University, ST18 OAD

Alongside entries from audio visual authors, this year film and video authors are invited to enter. Accommodation will not, this year, be included in the part of the weekend package, which will include session bookings and refreshments. Attendees will be able to choose their own accommodation. There are two Premier Inns located adjacent to each other, three and a half miles from the Campus. These are the Stafford North (Spitfire) Hotel and the Stafford North (Hurricane) Hotel. Additionally, the University has single study bedroom accommodation near the Beaconside Campus, which can be booked directly. Please note, that Premier Inns do not give discount for events such as ours, so look out for their offers.

Jury - Linda Gibbs MPAGB AV-AFIAP (Chair), Graham Sergeant FRPS and Joan Ryder Rathband FRPS FPSSA AFIAP DPAGB.



Please make a note of the dates in your diary. Further information on can be found on the RPS website.

Andrew N. Gagg FRPS secretary@rpsnavc.org.uk

Edgar Gibbs FRPS, MPAGB, AV-AFIAP chairman@rpsnavc.org.uk

AWARDS FOR PHOTOGRAPHIC MERIT

APRIL 2015 - SOUTHAMPTON

The closing date for submission of Entry forms and CD's was the 27th March and, at that time, four entries had not been received. A final notice was issued and two were quite quickly resolved. Of the other two, one replied that he "had no intention of making a submission" and nothing further was heard from the other. Both have been notified they have been withdrawn and forfeited the whole of their Entry fees. With earlier withdrawals, we will be running at less than maximum capacity - which is fast becoming a regrettable feature of many of our adjudications despite the increased penalties.

AUGUST 2015 - ORMSKIRK

A new venue has been found with the loss of Edge Hill - Ormskirk School, Wigan Road, Ormskirk, L39 2AT and the local team is in place. The closing date for submitting applications is the 1st May and we still have a number of places available at Credit PDI level and Distinction Print and PDI levels all being held on the Saturday. The paperwork is already being prepared as there will be little time between processing the results of the April event and the issue of the Entry Information packs which are due out, at the latest, by middle of May. Bearing in mind that all our other "catch up" adjudications have been one day closed events the response to this two day adjudication has been gratifying.

NOVEMBER 2015 - PORT TALBOT

The venue is Tywyn Primary School, Channel View, Port Talbot SA12 6JF. Entries are filling quite nicely, with a great deal of local interest - especially for the Distinction level - from the Welsh Photographic Federation. Closing date is 1st August and, at the current rate, we should be full, especially as this is the final Adjudication for Distinction and Master Applicants, at the old entry fees!

APRIL 2016 - NCPF

A new application form, with the revised charges, has not yet been released to the Federation Awards Officers but will be issued once the numbers entering the November 15 event has reached a satisfactory level.

WORKSHOPS

Evidence that workshops are having a beneficial effect filters down to me as quite a few who have attended have asked to be moved from Prints to PDI, or vice versa, or from Distinction to Credit or vice versa - all of which I am happy to do provided we have the space available. A few request a withdrawal which we can accommodate if we have enough time - it is the late withdrawal which causes so many problems. The APM Advisory desk on our stand at The Photography Show proved extremely popular.

APM IN AUDIO VISUAL

MAY 2015. It is "all systems go" for this adjudication on the 10th May and it is quite encouraging that I have received quite a few enquiries for Observer tickets for those who wish to know the new format before they commit.

MAY 2016. The same venue has been provisionally booked for the 21st and 22nd May 2016 and we already have applications to fill one day and, from the interest generated, I anticipate we will have our first AV Awards two day weekend for a very long time. At last the hard work seems to be paying off.

Leo Rich APM Secretary, 11 April 2015

SONY INTER-FEDERATION COMPETITIONS and EXHIBITIONS

Each Year Federations forward their best work from their Affiliated Clubs to compete in the Inter-Federation Competitions in Print and PDI. The Competition Pack for the 2015 Competitions was sent to Federations in March. The Federation Competition Officers were notified that the On-line Entry System was available for testing and familiarisation and that the site will go live for entries on 16th April 2015. Entries should subsequently be uploaded by midnight on 31st May, to comply with the 1st June deadline. Judging of the Print & PDI Competitions will take place on Saturday 20th June 2015 at The Kings Centre, Burgess Hill, West Sussex hosted by KCPA. *Daphne Hanson, Competitions Administration Officer*

Judges: Clive Tanner FRPS DPAGB, Richard Walton FRPS MPAGB EFIAP & Leo Rich ARPS DPAGB APAGB EFIAP/s



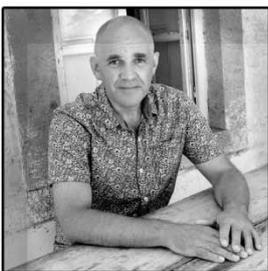
MIKE McNAMEE



JOE CORNISH



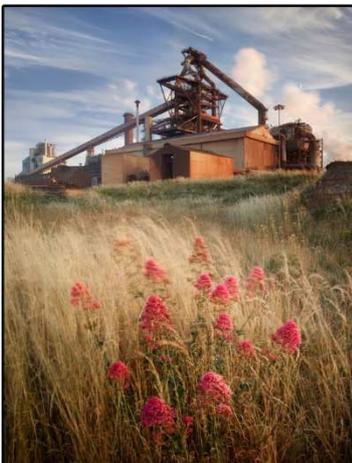
STEVE CAPLIN



EDDIE EPHRAUMS



DAVID MALLOWS



Joe Cornish

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- **Steve Caplin** will challenge our thinking with his talk 'Photo manipulation: How far can you go?';
- **Eddie Ephraums** will excite us with 'The Art of Photography'.

Three Theatres will feature:

- Stimulating presentations from the keynote speakers;
- Adobe workshops with David Mallows;
- Epson on colour management and printing with Mike McNamee
- A variety of presentations on the latest equipment from the trade.

The Bowens Studio will offer you the chance to learn how to use lighting and to shoot a live model.

The RPS will be holding LRPS Assessments.

We'll be showing our Print Exhibition and Projected Image slide show.

And we will have around a dozen trade stands for browsing and buying.

For more information go to the website:

www.rps.org/DIGExpo

"It's all about knowledge"



Steve Caplin



Eddie Ephraums

CONSTITUTIONAL CHANGES. Changes to the Constitution and Rules were agreed by the AGM. As well as alterations to Rules 6 and 7 which will appear in the next Handbook the following Schedule will be added.

Schedule One

- (a) This Schedule provides the test for Affiliation of a Society required by rule 7(b).
- (b) A Society may be Affiliated to the Alliance only if it is a camera club, photographic society, photographic club or photographic group with a published constitution and published programme of events, united by a common interest in photography, meeting in person for mutual co-operation, education, entertainment or competition solely from a physical location within Great Britain, Northern Ireland, the Channel Islands or the Isle of Man.
- (c) The test for Affiliation of a Society shall be made by the Federation.
- (d) The definition at (b) in this Schedule may be amended by the Alliance Executive.

Marjorie and Tony Furmston FRPS APAGB were recently presented with their APAGB certificates by the PAGB FIAP Officer, Dave Coates at Normanton C.C., in the YPU.

Tony Furmston, Marjorie Furmston and Dave Coates >>

Tony and Marjorie both joined Normanton CC in the seventies and became interested in audio-visual when they joined Leeds A-V Group. In the 80's they gained Associateships and Fellowships of the RPS and went into history as the last joint Fellows of the RPS. Both have lectured over the years as far south as Poole and as far north as Perth in Scotland, giving their expenses

to TAKE HEART, a charity they support at the Leeds General Infirmary and St. James Hospital. Tony and Marjorie enjoy landscape photography, with favourite locations being Scotland and the Lake District. Lately, they have attended many 1940s war weekends; taking part by dressing up in the costumes of that period as you will see from their photograph.



NCC
Normanton Camera Club

President Mrs. M Furmston FRPS
Chairman GM Padgett LRPS, DPAGB
Vice Chairman AE Furmston FRPS

SOME OF THE GREAT PICTURES WHICH WILL APPEAR IN THE GB CUP (OPEN) DVD LATER IN THE YEAR.



Washing by John Wainwright, Arnhem PS



Washing the Patches by Cheryl Jenkins, Deffer CC



Landscape Photo by Tang Di, Chesham CC



Child with Basket by Mark, Southam CC



School of Science by Andrew Wood, Bristol PS



Liquidize by Pauline Pentony



Hot Legs Go Under The Hammer by John Gurnstead, Beyond Group



Backstreet Kid by Stephen Bell, Durham PS



**The Arts Centre
University of
Warwick**

**Saturday
11th July 2015**

**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 8 placed clubs from the 2014 Championships will compete to find the Champion Club for 2015.

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, 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 2015

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 ofClub/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 cc

PRESIDENT'S REPORT FOR 2014 TO THE AGM IN APRIL 2015

I make no apology for the length of this report and, even as it stands, I have left some detail out.

During my visits to Federations and clubs I have been surprised at the lack of knowledge shown about the PAGB and its role in UK club photography. I think it only right, every so often, to make people aware of what happens behind the scenes to provide our Federations and their clubs with the services they require - and I have not even mentioned Insurance, judges, the website, handbook and the continuing success of the GB Cup etc!

Anyone casually visiting the Diary page of the PAGB Website will see that around fifteen items are listed for the year - and three of these are Executive meetings (with one including the AGM). No doubt the impression is that we have a very easy life as the total is far exceeded by many Federation and Club events. However, for those in the "know" the remaining dozen or so events are far from being a sinecure.

Most are organised and run by small committees, normally led by one of the Executive and take many months - sometimes years - in the planning and to ensure that the 30000+ photographers who are members of clubs affiliated to the PAGB via their local Federations enjoy events that will do justice to the quality photography being produced throughout the UK. Most of these Executive members are also active in their own Federations and Clubs - how on earth they find the time continues to amaze me and I thank everyone of them for their efforts and dedication especially our Hon. Secretary Howard Tate and Hon. Treasurer Peter Young who must live, eat and breathe PAGB.

In my working life one of the sayings trotted out by "management" was 'Any company that stands still is going backwards' and I am glad this is not true of the PAGB. Just as photographers have needed to adapt to new innovations so have we and one of these changes related to the running of the Inter Federation Print and PDI competitions. These used to be run separately and were a little secretive in that only the Federation involved in running each event actually saw all the photographs submitted. This all changed for 2014 when both events were brought together and held on one single day - with an audience in attendance. This was great forward thinking by the Competitions and Exhibitions committee headed by Daphne Hanson and our thanks go to them all and in addition to Adrian and Jane Lines from the Lancashire & Cheshire PU who introduced a bar code scanner system which was a revelation to someone like me who is a "non-techie". The whole event was organised by the Welsh Photographic Federation and our

congratulations go to their excellent team who really did demonstrate that the combined event was feasible and is the way we will go in the future. We may look at the possibility of using the same bar code technology for other PAGB events.

One of the keystones of the PAGB year is Warwick (Inter-Club PDI championships) and, as expected, it did not disappoint. Not only are we always treated to a feast of excellent photography but it is a great place to have a good chat with friends not often seen (or networking as some would have it!). I know running Warwick is a mammoth task but Peter Cheetham and his select team really do make it seem so easy. Warwick is a tradition and, as I left this year, I overheard two couples saying "see you here next year" as this is the only time they meet other than exchanging photographs on the Web.

Talking of the Web, one photographer I met at a Federation meeting, who is a bit of a Jonah I gather, foresaw the demise of camera clubs in the next ten years as we all swop our pictures on the Web and have no need to go out on dark, dismal winter nights. I wonder if he will miss seeing real Prints and listening to the comments of the invited judge at Competition night, let alone all that can be learned from visiting lecturers and his club members.

Another of our keystone events is the Inter-Club Print competition which also experienced change in 2014. After many years being based at Connah's Quay we up-sticked and moved to Edge Hill University, Ormskirk - a decision which was appreciated by most but, inevitably, had a few teething problems mainly connected with distances between the various locations within the campus. However this did not detract from another day of tremendous print photography organised with panache by the team under the direction of Rod Wheelans. Sadly our venture to Edge Hill is to be short lived and we will be heading to another location in 2015.

During my years being involved in club photography we have, occasionally, had clubs join who stress they are non-competitive and only gather to discuss each other's work. With one or two exceptions they have folded after a short while mainly because individual photographers wish to prove themselves amongst their peers. It was for this reason the PAGB Awards for Photographic Merit were introduced 20 years ago and are proving to be ever popular - so much so that holding three adjudications in one year seems to be becoming the norm - and keeps me out of mischief.

This need to gain recognition is also reflected in two other activities with which the PAGB are involved and which go largely unseen by your average club member.

FIAP also have a set of Awards that can be earned by photographers entering Exhibitions with their Patronage and the FIAP Liaison team, headed up by Dave Coates, handle over one hundred applications each year. As the number of Exhibitions which has their Patronage increases year on year, this number is bound to increase for the future. The UK submits more applications for FIAP distinctions than many other countries and it is a credit to the PAGB that we ensure all those submitted are "in order" and will not be rejected. Sounds easy but it is a huge task given the number of acceptances that need to be checked especially at the higher levels. Whilst on this subject we are to host the FIAP Colour Print Bi-Ennial in 2015 and the team are already planning and working hard to make sure we run an event of which we can be justly proud.

The second area where the PAGB assists the individual photographer in achieving honours is the granting of Patronage to UK salons which, again, seem to be growing in number every year and are also helping to raise the standards of photography. We do encourage photographers seeking a PAGB Award to enter these as a guide to the level of photography - plus the fact it is always nice to achieve an acceptance.

We have almost one thousand camera clubs affiliated to the PAGB and no two seem to be the same. Some of the smaller and/or more remote clubs cannot enjoy the benefit of visiting speakers and this is where our Recorded Lecture Service is a boon. To be able to fill a club evening, and see work, from respected speakers - at a very cost effective charge - enables them to stay in touch with mainstream photography and we appreciate the dedication of Stephanie Cook to providing this service for us.

At every Federation I have visited during my term in office one of the hot subjects has been communication especially between the Federations and clubs. Whether it is overload I do not know but what I appreciate is PAGB e-news which provides us with up to date information in a speedy and very cost effective way - where would we be without it?

We are an amateur organisation and many of the activities we organise have developed 'organically' over the years. With the constant threat of litigation around every corner, and the desire of other parties to drag the PAGB into issues which have little relevance to our activities, it has been apparent, like it or not, that we need to be more "professional" in our approach. This, never ending, task falls on the shoulders of our Standards Officer, Tony Riley who, with his fellow wordsmith Mark Buckley-Sharp, pursues his role with dogged determination.

A large number of the activities we run are very costly and might not be possible without the sponsorship we receive from a large number of sources and we do need to ensure that our benefactors are receiving value for the money or services they provide. This year Gordon Jenkins, Clive Tanner and Rod Wheelans have been able to develop new revenue streams but we do need to show our support at every opportunity. Help us to keep your subscription to the PAGB low!

I have tried to visit as many Federations - and clubs - throughout the year and my, long held, belief that photography is one of the greatest hobbies one could wish has proved true. I honestly appreciate all the kindness shown to both myself, and Carolyn, during our visits. To end I repeat the mantra I adopted when I first became President "Remember - photography should be fun!" Let us hope 2015 lives up to it.

Leo Rich DPAGB ARPS EFIAP/g APAGB

Membership of the PAGB and Number of Affiliated Clubs	2014	2013	2012	2011	2010
Chilterns Association of Camera Clubs	43	44	43	42	42
East Anglian Federation of Photographic Societies	126	123	123	121	115
Kent County Photographic Association	49	52	49	52	51
Lancashire & Cheshire Photographic Union	97	96	97	95	95
Midland Counties Photographic Federation	112	111	111	110	113
North & East Midlands Photographic Federation	48	46	48	49	49
Northern Counties Photographic Federation	50	50	48	46	48
Northern Ireland Photographic Association	27	29	30	25	26
North Wales Photographic Association	22	22	22	22	21
Scottish Photographic Federation	91	91	85	82	83
Southern Counties Photographic Federation	62	63	62	62	62
Surrey Photographic Association	50	49	49	48	48
Welsh Photographic Federation	51	51	50	50	50
Western Counties Photographic Federation	105	103	102	102	98
Yorkshire Photographic Union	70	69	65	64	64
Total	1003	999	984	970	965

PAGB PATRONAGE OF EXHIBITIONS AND EVENTS

The number of Patronage events has grown over the last 5 years and, with six regular events still to apply, we anticipate a record 37 events in 2015. We have received our fourth application to extend patronage to an International Exhibition, this time for the Wrekin Salon.

See the last page of this issue for YOUR invitation to submit YOUR picture to feature on the cover of **e-news**

PhotoLive 2015 The event for photographers by photographers.

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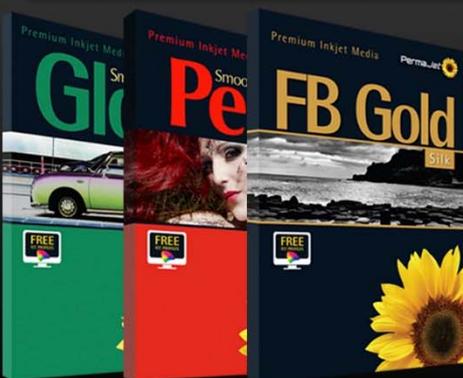
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WHO IS THE COURSE FOR?

The course is suitable for the beginner and does not assume any knowledge of photographic techniques or digital photo-editing skills. It will also appeal to those who want to top up their skills.

WHAT COULD I DO AFTER THE COURSE?

The course provides a foundation that allows you to continue to create and share images that you are proud of as your photographer's eye develops.

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WHAT DOES THIS STATEMENT MEAN TO YOU?

"Human elements shall not be present, except where those human elements are integral parts of the nature story such as nature subjects, like barn owls or storks, adapted to an environment modified by humans, or where those human elements are in situations depicting natural forces, like hurricanes or tidal waves."

This is a quotation from the Nature Definition, now adopted by FIAP, PSA, RPS and the PAGB and republished recently in **e-news 136**. How would you interpret it? We have received the following note.



"These two images that have both been incorrectly disqualified under the new Nature definition. The Pelican shot was deemed to have a "human element" because someone, the fisherman, had thrown the fish. I asked PSA to adjudicate and they said it was an incorrect interpretation of the new regulations and should have been allowed but the Salon replied that the Judges' Decision is Final.

The Heron was disqualified because the mud track behind it was deemed to be man-made. I think there needs to be clarification because two Salons in two different Countries have got it wrong so far."

Gordon Bramham MPAGB EFIAP/g EPSA ARPS

Obviously this is nothing to do with the PAGB who have no control over Salons and Exhibitions but these do seem to be a severe interpretation of the Nature Definition. Far more than was ever intended. It is not the function of the PAGB to become involved at such matters. All problems must be resolved with the organisers which Gordon has sought, unsuccessfully, to do. It is published here simply for interest.

The PAGB FIAP Officer, Dave Coates, said -

"I suspect that, if the definition was not quite so recent, these decisions would simply have been dismissed as bad judging, which is where the blame should lie.

So far as the salon's reaction is concerned, there was little they could really do, except, of course, to get better nature judges next time. Even then, mistakes are always possible and things will go wrong occasionally. I fully understand Gordon's frustration but I doubt if we could ever formulate a definition that somebody couldn't get wrong!"

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YOUR PICTURE ON THE COVER OF e-news

This is YOUR invitation to submit a picture to feature on the cover of **e-news**. Your picture should be appropriate to a particular month and some suggestions are listed below. However you can use any idea, any date, any celebration you like so long as it is appropriate for such a prestigious publication.

<u>24 June</u>	Wednesday	Midsummers day
<u>14 July</u>	Tuesday	Emmeline Pankhurst Day - named one of the most important people of the 20th Century
<u>15 July</u>	Wednesday	St. Swithin's Day. According to legend, the weather on this day will be the same for the next forty days.
<u>23 September</u>	Wednesday	Autumnal Equinox - First day of Autumn (12 hours of daylight)
<u>31 October</u>	Saturday	Halloween - All Hallows Evening
<u>5 November</u>	Thursday	Bonfire night - Guy Fawkes Night
<u>25 December</u>	Friday	Christmas Day
<u>1 January</u>	Friday	New Year's Day
<u>9 February</u>	Tuesday	Shrove Tuesday - Pancake Day
<u>14 February</u>	Sunday	Saint Valentine's Day
<u>25 January</u>	Monday	Robert Burns Night - Burns Night
<u>27 March</u>	Sunday	Easter Sunday
<u>1 May</u>	Sunday	May Day. May pole, Morris dancing and May Queen.

Send your pictures to rod@creative-camera.co.uk at least 4 weeks prior to the date you are celebrating. We cannot promise to use them all but we will try!