



# e-news

from the Photographic Alliance of Great Britain

Issue 280. 15 April 2021



*Spring Catkins by Sally Sallett*



The date of the first day of spring depends on whether you are using the meteorological or astronomical definition of the seasons.

The meteorological is the simpler of the two, because it splits the year into four seasons of three full months each based on the Gregorian calendar, making it easier to compare seasonal and monthly statistics. Every year, spring begins on 1 March and lasts until 31 May, with summer starting on 1 June.

The astronomical season is less straightforward as it depends on the date of the spring equinox, which means the date comes later and can vary slightly from year to year. In 2021, the spring (also known as vernal) equinox falls on Saturday 20 March. The astronomical spring will then last until the summer solstice, which in 2021 lands on Monday 21 June.

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Photographic Alliance of Great Britain

# MASTERS OF PRINT

Supported by Hahnemuelle and PermaJet

## LAST CHANCE

Entry to the 2020 MASTERS OF PRINT closes at Midnight on 15<sup>th</sup> April but, **JUST FOR YOU**, the site will remain open until Sunday 18<sup>th</sup>.

# Don't Miss Out! Do It Now!

o <http://www.thepagb.org.uk/competitions/pagb-masters-of-print/>



### YOUR VERY SPECIAL MASTERS OF PRINT BADGE

This handsome badge was specially commissioned to be worn with pride by those accepted into the Exhibition. It has only been available at PAGB events, with the recipient autographing their photograph in the Archive Catalogues to be lodged, with our other archives, in the Birmingham Central Library.

There were virtually no such opportunities in 2021 and we have no idea when the next public event can be held. Some have not yet been able to collect their badge and the delay is getting a little silly.

If you would like your badge to wear at Online Events, or just to impress your children, send me two small white labels, each with your signature, and I will post your badge to you. Best of all, include the two labels in your entry to the current MASTERS OF PRINT.

*Rod Wheelans, 3 Terregles Street, DUMFRIES, DG2 9AA.*



clik-trip have partnered with CameraWorld to offer a series of free travel-inspired Facebook Live talks, Thursday lunchtimes, starting 15th April. It's a great introduction to some speakers. Here's some more info on the first four:

<https://www.clik-trip.com/listing/category/events>

<<< **Facing Your Fears: Photographing Strangers In Public Spaces - a webinar by American Photographer, Craig Boehman**, based in Mumbai, India, for photographers who are looking for a methodology to overcome their fears in photographing people.... You can book Craig at [www.clik-trip.com](http://www.clik-trip.com).



## THE J.S. LANCASTER AWARD FOR SERVICE

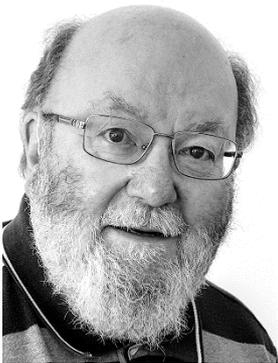
*Mr J.S. Lancaster proposed the formation of the PAGB in 1929 and served as its Secretary 1930-1946. This award was established in his name in 1998 to mark Exceptional Service to the PAGB and its Member Federations. It permits the post nominal initials, HonPAGB. Only 32 such awards had been presented up to 2020.*

At the 2021 AGM, the following “fab four” were honoured. The presentations had to be made online and, rather than quote from their citations, we thought it would be nice to record their reaction.

**ROY THOMAS HonPAGB.** I was surprised and delighted to receive this honour from the PAGB. It is nice to be recognised by my compatriots on the PAGB Executive, all of whom that I have mixed with over many years, and all of whom are selfless, committed and experienced in photographic administration and determined to make the PAGB and its service as good as it can be. I've always been impressed by their work ethic and abilities – Thanks! Guys & Gals!

It was over 4 decades ago that I joined the Neath & District Photographic Society, of which I am still a member, and I owe them everything for my progress. I never went looking for offices but a friend at Neath suggested that I went to the WPF AGM and soon they had nominated me to the WPF Executive.

Then, I think it was 1987, the much loved Eric Taylor was elected PAGB President. He put me forward as his replacement as WPF Member on the PAGB and, like a limpet, I've hung around ever since! I was greatly honoured to follow Eric as President of the PAGB. My memories are of the hundreds of people I've met who share in our great Hobby and every one of them was a positive experience, every one of them enthusiastic practitioners of our art and most showing technical skills well above my meagre efforts. In addition to that are the wonderful images I have seen and still remember to this day – it really is surprising how well images are retained in memory.



**PETER YOUNG HonPAGB.** What an honour it was to receive this award; I couldn't have done what I have without the help of my wife, Jill. It seems amazing that I can receive such a prestigious distinction for doing something that I enjoy. I fully intend to continue my work for Alliance, Federation and Clubs for as long as I'm capable.

Peter had rather more to say at the time, including this quote he had read by the late HRH Prince Phillip, Duke of Edinburgh.

*“Our only distinction was that we did what we were told to do, to the very best of our ability, and kept on doing it”.*

**Howard Tate HonPAGB.** I was shocked and stunned and not a little amazed at being awarded a J S Lancaster Medal this morning at the PAGB AGM 2021. For me it represents the pinnacle of recognition of my work for my Club, my Federation and the Alliance and I am a little humbled to be included in the group of previous recipients, all of whom I hold in great esteem.

I will wear the green and Gold badge with pride as I continue to work for the good of amateur photography, not just in the UK but worldwide. I would also like to congratulate Roy, Mark and Peter who were also honoured with the same award.

*Note. As outgoing President, Howard made the presentations to Roy, Mark and Peter and was then shocked when the incoming President, Roger Parry, made the presentation to him!*



**Mark Buckley-Sharp HonPAGB.** All our Clubs, Federations and the PAGB Executive rely entirely on volunteers, as does most of the RPS activity. Volunteers are either invited, or they offer a specific skill. Twenty years after bringing IT interests to my club committee for competitions scoring and newsletters, I was invited in 1998 onto the CACC committee as Treasurer, and, in 2003, nominated to the PAGB Executive. With a break for ill-health I am still helping at all three levels.



Besides several committee memberships, I have mostly been involved in specific projects of which the biggest would be the research for Standards in Digital Projection (2007). The most complex were probably the PAGB Constitution (2016) and the Harmonisation of Competition Rules (2017). The most fraught would be the GDPR (2018). Time passes and these activities are now just normal life.

To have my efforts recognised by others as in any way exceptional has come as a complete surprise and I rather suspect the same applies to my co-recipients this year. It is a massive honour to be awarded the J.S.Lancaster Medal as the supreme service award bestowed by the PAGB and I can only thank all those with whom it has been my pleasure to work over the years.

# The Old Woman's year under Covid-19 Restrictions

Sally Sallett ARPS CPAGB AFIAP BPE3

Within days of my turning 70, we were placed in Lockdown. Being retired, the effects were not as dramatic as for some, but disruptive, nonetheless. Living on a new development, on the River Calder, on the outskirts of Castleford, a former Yorkshire mining town, we did at least have access to long walks along the riverbank, which kept us, and hundreds of others, exercised and entertained.

Both our daughters are Key workers, one Deputy Head in a local special school, the other an NHS ODP at a General Hospital in the Midlands. So they worked throughout, and all the kids went to school.

In the spring, we were blessed with some lovely weather, and I decided to put my macro lens into action, chasing small insects about in the hedgerows. I had to buy a book to identify them! Wildflowers also got plenty of attention but that'll come as no surprise to those of you who know me.



I got ideas for tabletop projects from Facebook groups and YouTube. Then it was into my 'Mum Cave' to 'faff about' with the resulting images proving not to everyone's liking, but that's never bothered me!



Humblebee Ball by Sally Sallett

I seemed to spend a lot of money online too, an LED light-box, new editing software, new monitor, various bits for backgrounds etc. and upgraded OLY + treated it to a 100-300!

I'd never snapped as much as a sparrow so, when restrictions eased and armed with the new kit, I set off to RSPB Bempton in search of Gannets. Despite living up here for over 40 years, it's a location we'd never visited! It was a beautiful day, and I was quite pleased with the resultant images.

My camera club embraced Zoom from the beginning, putting on talks and running competitions, albeit PDI only. The RPS put on lots of free events which made the subscription almost worthwhile! I was invited to present talks and judge at clubs across the UK, which was quite refreshing. I believe there'll still be a place for Zoom, after we're all let out.

So, a year has passed. We've had our jobs, we've missed all the birthdays and haven't seen the little Grandsods for nearly a year, but we've stayed well and that's all that really matters. I do get a bit bored and am looking forward to being able to get back to our holiday home in North Yorkshire.

Meanwhile, it's back to my cave, to create something new. *Sally x*

"Shattered" is a photograph of Sally's NHS ODP daughter, which has been a previous **e-news** cover picture.

<https://www.facebook.com/pineapplypix>



<https://wakefieldcameraclub.org.uk/photo-gallery-page/sally-sallett/>



Shattered by Sally Sallett



## RECORDED LECTURE SERVICE

The most requested lectures in the last 12 months to 19 Jan 2021, are listed below.

1. "An Approach to Judging" by John Tilsley (16)
2. Paul Keene's "Nature Photography" (16)
3. "The Essential Guide to Low Light & Interior Photography (EOS)" (12)
- 4=. "The Art of Black & White (EOS)" (11)
- 4=. "Twenty Audio Visuals" by Sheila Haycox (11)
6. Eddy & Pam Lane's "Kingdom of the Ice Bear" (10)

A full list of the online lectures can be found at <https://pagbhost.co.uk/main/showlectures.php>.

To download the lectures you must first login or register at <https://pagbhost.co.uk/main/main.php>

The following lectures have been added in the last 12 months.

1. 'Photographic Opportunity' by Leigh Preston  
MPAGB FRPS EFIAP (15/01/2021)
2. 'FIAP Distinctions Portfolio' by Rod Wheelans and Peter Fry (08/06/2021)
2. The London Salon of Photography 2018  
(05/02/2020)
3. The London Salon of Photography 2017  
(05/02/2020)
4. 2020 GB Cup (for large clubs) by Adrian Lines & Howard Tate (30/01/2020)
5. 2020 GB Cup (for small clubs) by Adrian Lines & Howard Tate (30/01/2020)

In April 2020 the PAGB agreed to amend the 'Terms and Conditions' of the PAGB RLS to allow clubs to distribute lectures to their members. The initial termination date was 31 May 2020 and was subsequently extended to 31 December 2020. **Given the continuing situation this has been extended again, until 31 May 2021, to cover the entire 2020/2021 club season**

### Do you make Audio Visual sequences?

### Have you thought about entering for a PAGB Award for Photographic Merit in Audio Visual?

READ MORE at <http://www.thepagb.org.uk/awards/apm-awards-av/>

### We are accepting applications now for CPAGB/AV, DPAGB/AV & MPAGB/AV

-oOOo-

### We are also recruiting AV experts for our Online Advisory Service and you can apply at

<http://www.thepagb.org.uk/awards/apm-advice-service/>

(We would love to hear from any AV maker with experience of our Awards for Photographic Merit in Audio Visual who is prepared to help our prospective applicants.)





## RPS Distinction or a PAGB Award?

### DATE AND TIME

08 May 2021  
10:00 -

### VENUE ADDRESS

Online  
Join from your location  
Link attached to event booking confirmation email

[Book Online](#)  
FREE

## RPS Distinction or a PAGB Award?

The PAGB and RPS are jointly running a very special event to look at both awards.

If you have a body of work ready, or you are preparing one, which of the two options is best for you? Or perhaps you could try for both?

This event will help you to decide by looking at the following:

- The criteria for each award and what you need to do to become successful.
- The application process and how to apply.
- Successful submissions at all levels to show the standard required.

You will have the opportunity to ask questions of the advisors and find out which is the best way forward for you. This event is free, but we would recommend booking early as places are limited.

### **About the RPS**

*The Royal Photographic Society was founded in 1853 with the objective of making the art and science of photography more widely available. The international charitable organisation is dedicated to increasing the knowledge and understanding of photography and film, supporting photographers, and inspiring public engagement. The RPS is one of the world's oldest photographic societies.*

*RPS Distinctions are one of the most widely recognised and respected photography awards in the world. We support people to undertake structured assessments through a tailored and friendly education programme, with a high standard of care and support for everyone.*

There are three PS Distinction levels:

- Licentiate:** applicants must show photographic competence in approach and techniques.
- Associate:** applicants submit a body of work of a high standard and a written Statement of Intent
- Fellowship:** applicants submit a distinctive body of work and a written Statement of Intent.

### **About The PAGB**

*The Photographic Alliance of Great Britain was founded in 1930 and co-ordinates national activities through its Regional Member Federations for more than 1000 Photographic Clubs with around 40,000 members in England, Scotland, Wales & Northern Ireland, the Channel Islands and Isle of Man.*

*The PAGB Awards for Photographic Merit (APM) began in 1994 and have proved to be extremely popular with more than 7000 applicants assessed to date. The PAGB provide extensive advice and mentoring online and at regional workshops.*

*The APM are open only to members of Clubs affiliated to the PAGB through their Federations and are at three levels:*

- Credit (CPAGB):** Assessed at the level of Good Club Photography
- Distinction (DPAGB):** Requires photographs which would achieve success in National and International Exhibitions
- Master (MPAGB)** Recognises the very highest standard of UK Amateur Photography

[RPS Distinction or a PAGB Award?](#)

When I first became addicted to photography the 'industry standard' was a large 20"x16" flush mounted monochrome print - a darkroom print of course. In my club, Ordnance Survey Southampton, master printers like John Philpott and Bob Elliott were held in high regard. The same could be said of other photographers I met along the way - Bob Moore, David Penprase, Tim Rudman, Hugh Milsom, Ray Spence, John Clow and Bill Wisden. As well as being gifted photographers, they had one thing in common. They printed to an exceptional standard.



Fence Line by Leigh Preston

Having your own darkroom meant that you were not just taking pictures but making something permanent. Exactly the same thing is true with a PC and a printer. That magic and thrill of seeing your embryonic vision come to life in the way you envisaged, and the tactile feel of a photographic print is something that never leaves you. That print, the final outcome, becomes a source of pride in your ability to create something visually enlightening from what you witnessed when you pressed the shutter. It's high in personal satisfaction, and that can be greatly increased when you see it displayed in an exhibition. In many ways that collection of prints we can build up under the bed becomes a legacy with a lasting value and impact.

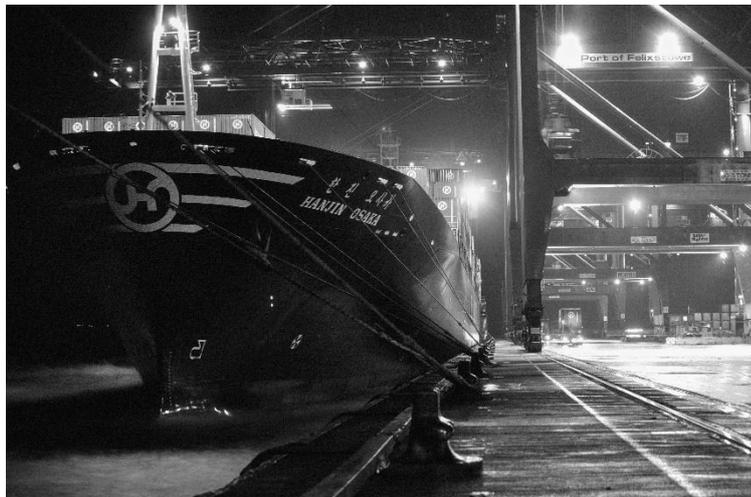
Much of the direct and simple approach to photography has been 'nicked' by the automatic process which gives competent results that are acceptably average, often considered kind of 'good enough' - just have a think about that phrase 'good enough'. It's OK, yes sufficient, but doesn't quite cut it, there's much more to taking pictures than 'that'll do' ! It's possible to become reliant on the camera making your decisions and taking the uncertainty of exposure out of your hands. Digital capture makes it relatively easy to deal with problems created by slipshod camera craft, that wonderful ability to make us unthinking and lazy ! Making prints does not have to follow that trend. With the advent of digital photography it suddenly became a much more accessible craft, far easier to print your own work, in some cases at the touch of a button. Fine, although a straight un-refined print is not the thing to aim at. Just another case of 'that'll do'. It's not 'finished'.

**There's much more to taking pictures than "that will do"!**

There's more to discover in that RAW file, more to do to tease out the best bits and refine the rest. A 'that'll do' image has a fault or three! The major shortcoming is the lack of a more emotive portrayal,

a missing element. The result can look rather 'off the shelf' and ordinary, lacking character and intention. Imagination, beauty and personality are lost in 'straight' work.

Practise and the realisation that it's not enough to accept second best, coupled with the uncovering of a new skill set, will allow the image to breath and communicate in a more emphatic way. En route, there are plenty of techniques to try, a fair degree of trial and error. Adjusting, manipulation and style can 'fine-tune' your work, can aid either realism or the more creative 'fantasy' approach. That process of control of tone, colour and luminosity allows us to make pictures with a more extensive range of results - from subtle pastel shades to dense monochrome clout.



Felixstowe by Leigh Preston

Chances taken can allow the soft and lyrical look, or a far more brutal interpretation that is indicative of forlorn despair, even anger, depending on what needs to be said. Next point here, making the right choice of paper surface that will give the right 'finished look' for an image. The visual language of a picture can alter with paper type depending on the hue of the white base, its apparent brilliance and the texture.

**Printing is addictive and learning how to do it well with the best materials, brings a sense of accomplishment and confidence.**

.. **BUT, and a big but**, fewer exhibitions are able to accept prints due to lack of gallery space and cost. Fewer clubs are running print competitions, especially at present, and fewer photographers are printing their work. This is partially because it's much easier to submit work at the touch of a button for the ever expanding list of on-line exhibitions. Postage, packing, the undeniable expense of making a print all contribute to this fact.

PDI are without doubt easier to produce, and success with them still gives you some element of credence, that sense of elation if your work is chosen. Is this a reason not to print your work? It's not a bad choice to have a foot in both camps. I'll explain.

Fences by Leigh Preston



Iron Maiden by Leigh Preston



**NOW**, if your images never make an exit from the confines of your PC then you are seriously missing out on a major aspect of our hobby. **THE ART OF PRINTING**, and it is an art. It may be considered an expensive indulgence, but it is a rewarding extravagance which can improve your photography no end. Don't let the criminal cost of ink cartridges put you off - work in High Key minimalism with a vast area of negative space! Or print smaller and use a larger mount. Joking aside, an important plus point here - printing your own work can be advantageous when submitting work as a body for a distinction from

the PAGB awards system or through the RPS panel process. You are in control , *only you* can make the print look the way you want it to be seen. Printing brings with it a consistency of approach. This results in thinking beyond how something is displayed on a monitor to how something looks in a cohesive and coordinate body of work. Making fine art prints requires a more emphatic degree of technical skill to allow for the refinement of your work. Fuller knowledge of which software package you are using and knowing which paper to use for the best 'feel' and look, is also a requirement. The approach is somewhat different to working with DPI's.

Processing an image to make a print from has some subtle differences to the way you might emphasis factors and elements for projection. Impact and instant appeal are less important than the sheer joy of creating a picture that is tactile and expressive, that can be proudly displayed in a frame at home or that other photographers from our peer group might linger over on an exhibition wall. It's much the same as having your work in a book, you can re-visit it in a far more pleasing way than just clicking on files lurking somewhere in your computer. When everything in the world has

**Impact and instant appeal are less important than the sheer joy of creating a picture that is tactile and expressive**

become digital and highly technical, printing a picture on paper, mounting it and sometimes placing it in a frame allows you to keep one foot in the analogue world before the advent of pixels and megabytes.

The hallmarks of a good printer are diligence, attention to personal interpretation and the artistic , creative feel of a finished print. Go to any photographic gallery and the prints will draw you in, you'll notice how stylised and individual they are. Curiosity occurs . Those viewing the work on display are often 'in awe' yet intrigued and enquiring about techniques used to get the finish, the emotive 'feel' and the grace that framed photographs illustrate. It can be the ultimate goal for a photographer - complete understanding and control of how their work is portrayed and the immense satisfaction that brings. Each individual print is a polished performance, drawn from a raw unrefined beginning towards that final statement.



Abandoned Fire Truck, South Dakota

Printing is addictive and learning how to do it well with the best materials, brings a sense of accomplishment and confidence. Some would consider the experience as a journey with pauses and stages, not forgetting bumps in the road, along the way.

A photographic print is a thing of beauty. Ultimately it becomes a means of expression, a verification of your ability. Whatever, despite all that's gone on this last year, printing pictures is pure escapism and a decent way to while away all those 'spare' hours. I mean there's only so many times you can cut the grass, treating the fence to a coat of preservative lacks the creative edge and wallpapering soon loses its appeal when tackling the stairs!

*Leigh Preston FRPS MPAGB*



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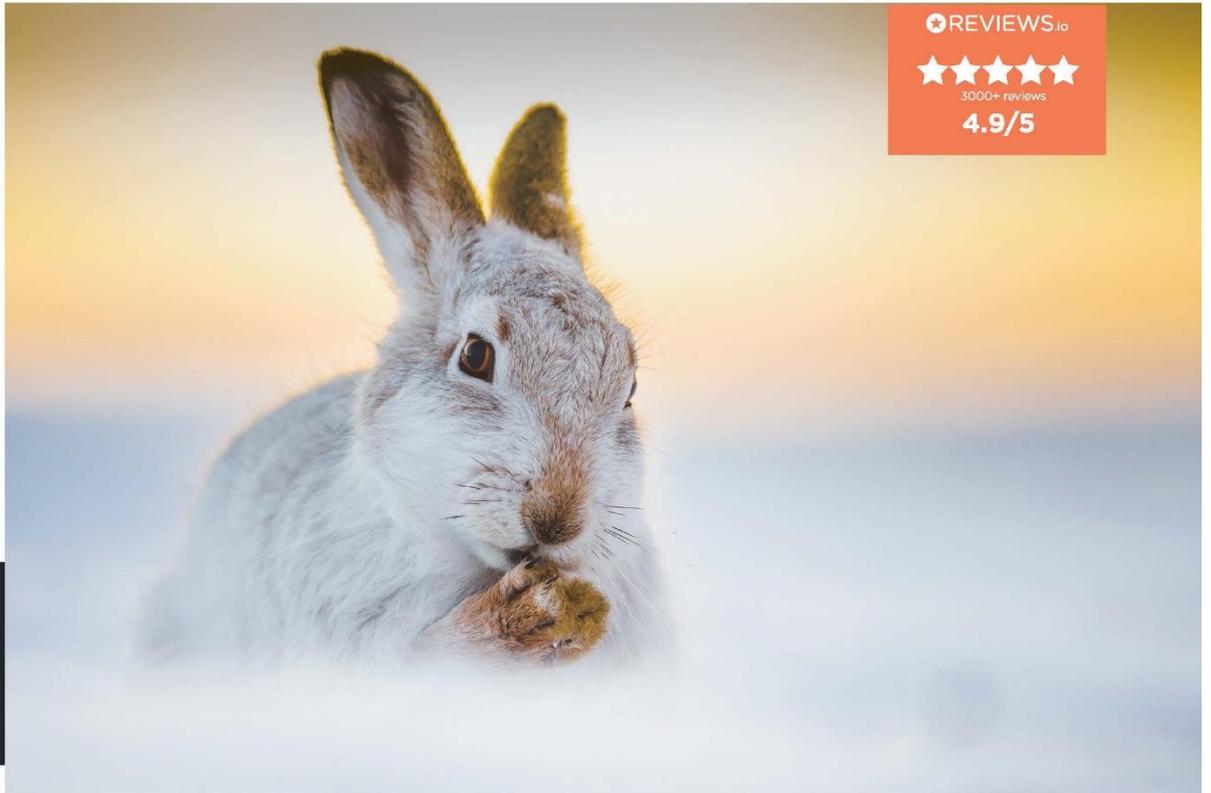


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4.9/5 average review score based on over 3000 genuine customer reviews on the reviews.io / reviews.co.uk platform - correct at the time of publishing

from the  
e-news  
archives



Giaconda by Stan Farries

# ETHIOPIA - ORIGIN OF MANKIND VIRTUAL PHOTOGRAPHY EXPEDITION

John Quintero took this photograph on a scouting trip for one of his tours to Ethiopia, and it went on to be named overall winner of the World Water Day Contest 2021.



Winner World Water Day Photo Contest 2021

From the Simien Mountains, known as the Roof of Africa, to the Danakil Depression, the hottest inhabited place on Earth, and on to the rock-hewn churches of Tigray and Aymara region, including of course Lalibela, a UNESCO heritage site.

Immerse yourself in the most incredible ceremonies, rituals, markets and daily life of the last remaining tribes of Ethiopia and explore some authentic places where not many travellers dare to go. From portraits to landscape and everything in between, John explains why he keeps coming to the land where time stood still to preserve some of the most authentic cultures of the planet.

John's talk lasts 90 minutes including a time for Q&A at the end.

<https://www.clik-trip.com/listing/q216fg4ndsp3-ethiopia-origin-of-mankind-virtual-photography-expedition>

You could travel with John on an exciting virtual photography expedition to the cradle of mankind. From the capital Addis Ababa, the highest city in Africa, to the Omo Valley to witness some of the most authentic tribal minorities of the continent.

*"Travel photography begins long before I arrive at the destination. I research months in advance. For me, every photographic project brings new challenges, and those are only overcome when I put all my knowledge to work in harmony with my creativity, I don't leave anything to luck!" John Quintero*





Flying Poppy by Ken Payne

# 994 Clubs

There are probably Clubs who will not be able to reopen after the Pandemic and there has been some concern at PAGB and Federation level. However, the latest returns show that 994 Clubs are still affiliated. This is 19 Clubs fewer than previously but still gives us around 40,000 individual members.



## MAYDAY

The next issue of **e-news** is scheduled for 1<sup>st</sup> May. Do you have an image suitable for the Front Page?

See - <http://www.pagbnews.co.uk/sites/default/files/newsletters/e-news%20cover%20and%20features.pdf>



If you haven't already looked at this MFIAP Special

<< **CLICK HERE** for e-news 280 extra



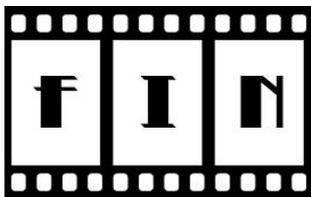
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and finally...

The PAGB has a new President and a new Vice President.

**President.**

**Roger Parry** MPAGB EFIAP ARPS HonPAGB ESFIAP (MCPF)



**Vice President. Daphne Hanson** DPAGB APAGB (EAF)

*Howard Tate becomes Immediate Past President and has also been confirmed as the FIAP Liaison Officer for the PAGB, taking over from the retiring Dave Coates.*