



news and views from the
Photographic Alliance of Great Britain

e-news

Issue 54 – December 2011

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<http://www.permajet.com/cat/280/>

See page 6 of this e-news for the Winner for October

CALL FOR ENTRIES TO THE GB CUP

Open * Small Clubs * Nature

CLOSING DATE 9th JANUARY 2012

Entries have been slow arriving and, although it is a nuisance, we can probably accept them up until about 23rd January

Entry is FREE and each participating club receives a CD of all the best images entered, sufficient to happily fill an evening in your programme. These AV shows have been very well received and we have had many favourable comments about both the content and the quality of the production

OUR JUDGES	
OPEN 11 Feb 2012	
Des Clinton FRPS FIPF	ROI
Steven Le Prevost MPAGB EFIAP ARPS	Guernsey
Peter Paterson MPAGB EFIAP FRPS	SPF
NATURE 12 Feb 2012	
Des Clinton FRPS FIPF	ROI
Edmund Fellowes MPAGB	SPF
Richard Speirs DPAGB	NCPF
SMALL 13 Feb 2012	
Des Clinton FRPS FIPF	ROI
Anne Greiner MPAGB	SPF
Steven Le Prevost MPAGB EFIAP ARPS	Guernsey

FULL DETAILS, RULES AND ENTRY FORMS AT

http://www.pagb-photography-uk.co.uk/misc-pdfs/issue_16.1_gb_cup_general_and_digital_rules_10_11.pdf



Jimmy – Co. Monaghan by Des Clinton FRPS FIPF MFIAP, GB Cup Judge 2012

AWARDS FOR PHOTOGRAPHIC MERIT

COMPLIMENTS, COMPLAINTS AND CRIES FOR HELP

We receive communications from entrants after most adjudications. Many are complimentary, some are not! I thought readers might like a flavour of the feedback from the last adjudication in North Wales. I hope the writers will forgive me but these have been edited a little for brevity and to ensure their anonymity.

“I'd just like to say how much I enjoyed the day, and how well organised it was. The judging was extremely impressive. I've never seen 500 prints marked in such a way before and fellow judges have astonishing powers of concentration. You mark to a tough standard, which makes the award all the more valuable.”

“It has been almost a week now since the adjudication and the clouds of despair are starting to disperse. I have been looking at my entry a little more critically this last few days and I think that everything I need to know is there in front of me and there is no need to lay the blame anywhere else. I will try to attend a suitable workshop if I hear of one coming up in the not too distant future.”

“The whole PAGB awards have no merit as there is no consistency in any of the judging. This means that they have no value. The whole award system for the PAGB is a nonsense and a complete lottery. In short the whole thing is a complete farce. I re-entered six prints which I had entered on my first attempt at this award, every single one scored less than last time. The six prints together scored a whole 14

points less than last time. I appreciate that there will always be discrepancies, but a good print doesn't become a poor one overnight.”

It is always disappointing to fail, especially for a second time, and this letter deserved a response. Here is an extract from our reply;

I don't know specifically how the score for each of your 6 photographs changed but I have to say that a difference of 14 points over 6 pictures is about as consistent as anyone could reasonably expect with 6 different judges. If they look at a picture which is borderline then they have to decide to vote for it (4) or declare it a near miss (3). This can be a tiny movement but if two or more judges move from 4 to 3 then your score drops by 2 points or more.

Neither judging panel is wrong, nor is either panel necessarily correct. Perhaps the first panel averaged out a little high and the second a little low. The photograph is still borderline - sometimes it will get a passing score, sometimes it will not. We have observed that re-submitted prints sometimes score higher the second time around but that has never elicited a complaint.

We work very hard to ensure consistency and our judges are the best there are but photography judging is not a science. There are no real objective criteria to assess against and nobody is pretending that there isn't a little bit of luck involved. If your total entry is borderline, you have at least as much chance of failing as you have of passing.

A number of people have expressed interest in the pass rate at the November 2011 Adjudication for the Awards for Photographic Merit in North Wales	
CPAGB Prints 32 passed from 51	CPAGB PDI 10 passed from 17
DPAGB Prints 17 passed from 35	DPAGB PDI 8 passed from 14
<p>The team were particularly pleased to note that most entrants had managed to overcome the difficulties inherent in ensuring that their PDIs would appear to our judges as they appeared on their monitor. This has been a steep learning curve for many and there has been a low pass rate in previous PDI APM adjudications. The PAGB is satisfied that our projection is as accurate as it can possibly be within the limits of equipment currently available. If it looks wrong on our screen we believe that to be the fault of the entrant.</p>	

FEATURED PHOTOGRAPHER

David Venables I have been interested in photography for many years with monochrome initially being my main interest. I moved out of the darkroom about five years ago and went completely digital. I am an active member of both **Shirley** and **Solihull** Photographic Societies and a past President of Shirley. I gained the CPAGB in 1998 and the DPAGB in 1999. I am also a member of the UPP in Circles 4 and 5. My photographic interests are mainly taking landscape and natural history. I use a Nikon D300 and a Nikon D70s adapted for Infra Red together with a variety of lenses. I have been on the MCPF Judges List for about five years and I have recently been appointed the Midlands PAGB Awards Secretary. *below; Robin & Misty River by David Venables*



PAGB INTER-FEDERATION ANNUAL PDI COMPETITION 2012

Discussions took place at the last PAGB Meeting concerning a proposal to increase the entry numbers for the PDI Exhibition to double the present level. The majority of Federations were not in favour of this proposal.

It was decided to **introduce a Natural History section in the PDI Exhibition from 2012** and that any Natural History images submitted in the Open section **would be judged as pictorial images***

The number of images to be submitted by Federations was set at 50% the number of member clubs in the Federation for the Open section and 33% in the Natural History section. In the Natural History section there will

SUBSCRIBING TO e-news. When you add your name you are sent a confirmation e-mail which you have to acknowledge to confirm that it was you who subscribed. (Double Opt In procedure). Currently we stand at 81 people who have never confirmed, possibly because they entered their e-mail address wrongly. If you know anyone who has tried to join and failed, ask them if they got a confirmation e-mail and ask them to try again.

be a limit of maximum 3 images from any one author.

75 Nature and 200 Open photographs will be selected for the Exhibition

* The GB Cup organisers have received several enquiries from Clubs not wishing to enter the GB Cup Nature but still wishing to enter one or more nature images in the “open” GB Cups. The GB Cup rules state that these will be judged as “pictorial” and the Clubs wanted to know what this means. The judges will be briefed to ignore that these are natural history photographs and should assess them on their compositional merits and their visual appeal. If the picture is little more than a record then it should be judged on that basis. Since there are specific categories for Nature in these competitions we would anticipate that pure natural history photographs would be unlikely to score well in the “open” sections.

COLIN SMITH FRPS 1937 -2011

Colin suffered a very serious heart attack at the beginning of September and after further complications he sadly passed away on November 13th 2011.

Colin was born in the village of Coppull, near Chorley, and lived in the area for the whole of his life. It was in the countryside around the village that he became interested in the natural world. Colin was just 13 years old when he extracted his first camera from a relative's bin! On leaving school he was called up for National Service and found himself in an RAF Photographic Reconnaissance Unit in Malta. This experience was to have profound consequences. Firstly, he received a thorough training in photography. Much of his work was printing aerial photos but he was also known to fly over Malta with a 5" x 4" camera.



On being de-mobbed, he attended Loughborough College and spent the whole of his working life teaching in Chorley; not only his chosen subject CDT but also introducing an O level course in Photography.

Colin decided to use his photographic skills to record Natural History. He joined the RPS in 1973 and achieved the Associateship the same year, followed by a Fellowship in 1990. He also developed an interest in AV. Using his practical skills he made a sliding shutter device produce 'fade in/ fade out' special effects and used a tape recorder to provide a musical accompaniment to the commentary which he had tailored to his audience. The whole operation was purely manual and should not have worked but thanks to Colin's ingenuity it did! The only snag was that two people were required. Colin enlisted the help of fellow teacher John Walsh and their shows became immensely popular in the North West. The DIY equipment was replaced after many years by a Royale projector; and more recently, by a digital projector.

Colin was himself a member of many Photographic and Natural History Bodies during his lifetime. He was a member of the 35 Postal Club and attended their annual convention as late as September 2011. He was also a member of the Nature Photographers' Portfolio slide folio for many years - until he ran out of slides! With six other people he set up Chorley Natural History Society in 1979 and was their Programme Secretary right up to his death. He and his wife Joan were also members of Bolton RSPB and both of these societies enjoyed his lectures.

It is therefore surprising that for most of the period during which he was a very active photographer, he was not actually a member of any local photographic society! However, this was to change in 1990, when he finally joined Wigan 10. He was soon appointed to the list of judges for both the L&CPU and the PAGB and was much in demand to judge at all levels from club to international exhibitions. As one of the PAGB's most trusted judges Colin served several as an adjudicator for the PAGB Awards for Photographic Merit and was scheduled for the next Adjudication in April. He recently joined the L&CPU Mentoring Scheme to help prospective PAGB APM applicants and he judged the 2010 GB Cup Nature.

Colin supported all the activities of Wigan 10 and contributed to the success of the Society. He enjoyed the excitement when they won the inaugural FIAP Clubs' World Cup in 2007 and travelled to the presentation in Paris. He was L&CPU 'Photographer of the Year' on several occasions and was placed on their roll of honour in 2004. Alongside the many hours that he dedicated to helping others, he continued to enjoy his own success in national and international exhibitions.

Colin will be remembered for his sense of humour, kindness, modesty, love of nature and his fantastic photographic skills. He will be greatly missed.

See some of Colin's pictures at -

http://www.wigan10.com/colin_smith

from Colin's friends



The PermaJet Paper Draw Winner for December is Paul Boswell, Bridgenorth & District C.C

who wins an A3+ box of 50 Sheet Pack of Matt Plus 240. A clean, white, matt paper with ultra image sharpness.

"I live in the heart of Shropshire and my passion is action/sport photography, but I'm always on the lookout for new challenges and experiences. I've recently started entering national and international competitions with a view to one day attaining my BPE and CPAGB awards. Over the last five months I've managed 19 acceptances in all competitions so I'm looking forward to 2012!"



See more of Paul's photos at -

www.boswellimages.com



Bob Collins ARPS AFIAP

The November 2011 winner was Bob Collins of Glasgow, who has been judging for forty years on behalf of the Glasgow & District PU, the SPF, the PAGB and Internationally. He is a distinguished member of Queen's Park Camera Club and gained his ARPS in 1988 and AFIAP in 1989. In 2003 he was enrolled on the "The Roll of Honour" of the Scottish Photographic Federation and he is still going!!! He said "It just goes to show that it is worth spending the few moments reading through the monthly PAGB newsletter that they spend so much time compiling just to keep us informed of the goings on outside our club. All I need to do now is to see if my printer is still working!"

www.qpcc.org.uk

THE 4TH GREAT BRITISH SMALL PRINT CIRCUIT

CLOSING DATE : FEBRUARY 5th 2012

An exceptional International Print Circuit of 4 Salons and another high quality 4 Star catalogue. The Circuit continues to have FIAP and PSA approval and we are very pleased that we have been able to keep the entry fees at the same level as last year and once again offer a discount on entry fees for Groups of 10 or more.

for information, conditions of entry, calendar and on-line entry with secure payment using PayPal

<http://www.westcumbriaphotogroup.co.uk>

HOW DO YOU RECEIVE YOUR VISITORS?

Your Editor get surprisingly frequent reports from judges and lecturers asking if we can “beef up” our “Conditions Governing Judges and Lecturers listed by the PAGB” which appear on pages 45 and 109 of our Handbook. Some wonder if Clubs have even read them.

“A club invited a lecturer who lives nearly 200 miles away to visit. They did not offer/arrange a meal before, nor did they arrange or offer accommodation after. Would they have wanted to drive so far to get home after an evening's lecture?”

“I arrived outside the club in pouring rain and found that the nearest parking was about 400 yards away even though I had asked that someone book a space

for me. No-one was available to help with my equipment so I had to double park, off load it and leave it riskily in the entrance whilst I parked. At least I got help carrying it back to my car.”

“When I asked for my expenses the Treasurer looked appalled and said that he didn't have that much available. He said that he normally gave lecturers £20. I had driven 88 miles to the club. I still had to drive home and thought that £60 was quite reasonable.”
(Editor. £80 would have been more reasonable)

To be fair the vast majority of clubs are very hospitable and quite generous with expenses. Please try to be one of the Good Clubs.



The RPS Central Region

is proud to announce the

3rd RPS/PermaJet Lecturers Day.

29 January 10 am – 5 pm Tickets £19.50.

This major photographic event welcomes 15 of the UK's most influential, talented and entertaining photo lecturers, including members of the RPS Distinctions Panels and the London Salon of Photography, to present short illustrated talks of their latest images lasting for approximately 20-25 minutes. This is a quick-fire day with plenty of interesting mini-lectures to listen to and Smethwick P.S. will also host an exhibition of work from all the speakers.

<http://www.smethwickphotographic.co.uk/findus.html> for venue details.

The event is certain to sell out so please book now to avoid disappointment. PermaJet will be in attendance demonstrating and displaying their latest products at discount prices.

Contact - Andy Wharton rpscentral@yahoo.co.uk 01564 822908



Patron: Her Majesty The Queen. Incorporated by Royal Charter

10 FELLOWSHIP PANELS TO VIEW

Duke of Wellington, Kenton Lane, Gosforth - Sunday 22 January 2012 at 2.00pm

This is a unique opportunity to view 10 recently successful Fellowship Panels from four Categories – Visual Art, Nature, Travel, Professional and Applied.

Presented by **Roy Robertson** Hon FRPS and **Sandy Cleland** FRPS from the Distinctions Advisory Board

£10 including tea/coffee/biscuits

Cheque payable to RPS Northern Region to **Brian Pearson** ARPS, **2 Waterloo Place, North Shields. NE29 0NA**

e-mail: brianpearson41@btinternet.com

THE 155th RPS INTERNATIONAL PRINT COMPETITION

The world's oldest photographic competition, organised by The Royal Photographic Society, has put out a call for entries for 2012. The 155th International Print competition is open to entrants until 21 March 2012 and has £6500 in cash prizes, Olympus Pen equipment and will award medals to the winners. The competition is sponsored for the fifth year by international legal practice Allen & Overy which will also host the opening exhibition from 18 July 2012.

The competition is open to all photographers and includes a special award for under 25 year olds. Up to 125 prints will be selected by a panel that includes photographic artist Tom Hunter HonFRPS, the Guardian and Observer's head of photography Roger Tooth, social documentary photographer Ian Beesley, and photographers Sandy Cleland FRPS and Vanessa Slawson FRPS. Allen & Overy is awarding a £1000 prize for the best photograph on the theme of 'Change'.

Deadline for receipt of entries – 21 March 2012



Find rules, entry form and further information at



www.rps.org/155print

Shan Chen, China, *Static/Objects* from the 154th International Print Exhibition

The 99th Southampton 2012 International Exhibition of photography

The Southampton Camera Club was formed in 1896 and has been running its annual International Exhibition for nearly 100 years. The 2011 International attracted more than 11,000 entries from more than 60 countries, confirming their position as one of the largest salons in the UK.

CLOSING DATE FEBRUARY 4th 2012

<http://www.southamptoninternationalexhibition.co.uk>

To minimise postage costs, prints (but not CDs) may be forwarded to us from the Smethwick International



IF YOU HAVE ENTERED THE GB CUP NATURE HOW ABOUT >>>>

The Merrimack Valley Camera Club is pleased announce the 32nd George W. Glennie Nature Salon photographic competition. The salon is a club level competition and open to camera clubs and photographic association worldwide. Last year, almost 100 clubs submitted images for competition. This is a premier, international all-nature Club competition of digital images known for its diversity of subjects which range from animals to botany to landscapes. CLOSING DATE – 8th MARCH 2012

<http://mvcameraclub.org/comp-interclub/comp-interclub-01-glennie.htm>

AN EXCEPTION TO THE RULE

There have been a number of queries why photographs entered by one of the judges of the recent PAGB Inter-Federation Annual PDI Competition were accepted into the Exhibition.

At the eleventh hour one of the people booked to judge the Annual Competition/Exhibition was unfortunately taken ill and could not travel to East Anglia on the morning of the competition. In order for the adjudication to take place, a PAGB judge had to be found. After telephoning various PAGB judges in the area, Barbie Lindsay MPAGB EFIAP stepped in at the very last moment.

Barbie had entries in the competition and offered to withdraw them. However this would have unfairly penalised her Federation and it was decided that they should remain. Each of Barbie's photographs was scored by the other two judges and a score was added which "averaged" those two as much as possible. This is not the normal procedure and judges' work is not normally permissible. On this occasion an exception had to be made in order for the judging to go ahead as planned.

Daphne Hanson – PAGB Competitions Administration Officer



“Gossip” by Dennis Madge. Chairman’s Gold Medal Certificate, GB Cup (Small Clubs) 2011

PAGB AV AWARDS CONSULTATION

hAVe YOUR SAY

The PAGB has, for some time, been reviewing its approach to its AV Awards to ensure that the requirements recognise advances in all aspects of the craft.

There is a specific reason for this current review which relates to the origin of images used in AV sequences - specifically the use of images which are not the original work of the applicant. The PAGB is considering changes with the intention of easing this requirement in relation to Audio Visual submissions for their awards.

The review is also addressing other changes that may be deemed desirable to recognise the changing nature of AV production techniques and content.

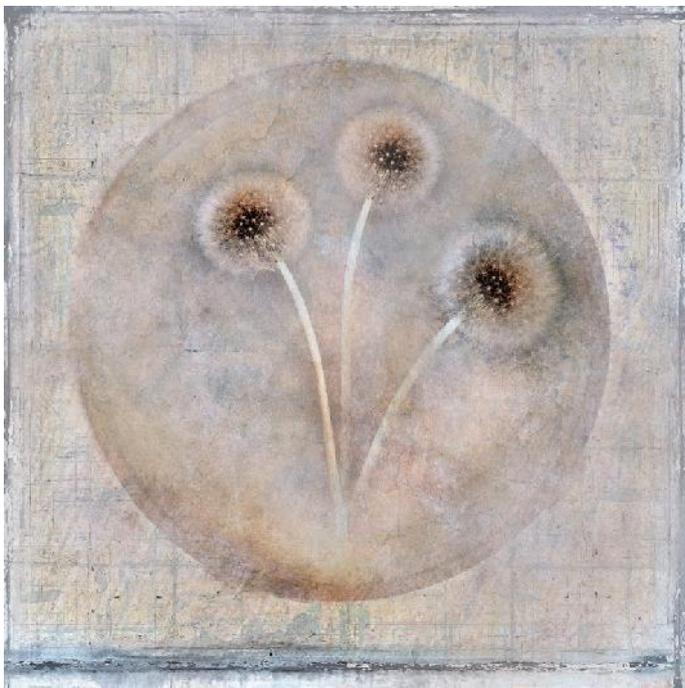
Comment is invited from audio visual workers who are members of PAGB affiliated clubs, especially those likely to consider submitting AV productions for future PAGB Awards assessment and those already holding PAGB AV Awards.

Submissions would also be welcome from any other individuals or organisations with an interest in AV production.

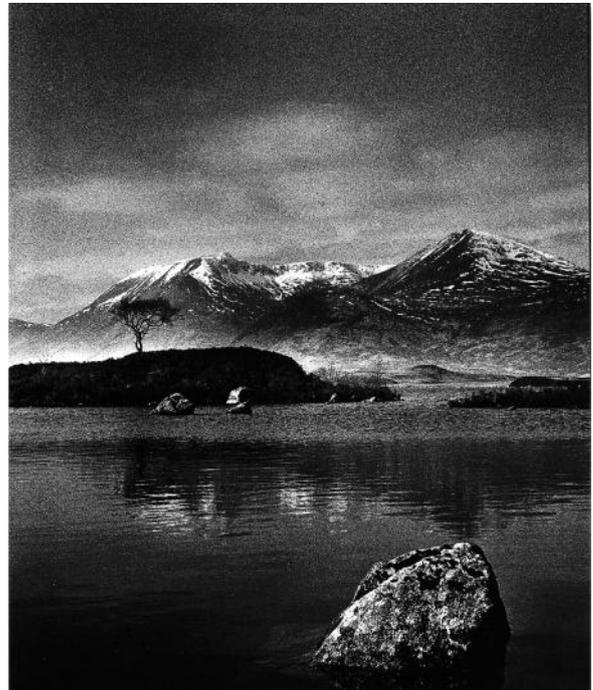
An open Consultation Document, with a short questionnaire is available at:

www.pagbnews.co.uk/avawards/index.html

The consultation closes on 21st January 2012



Set of Three by Steven Le Prevost (Guernsey)
(GB Cup Judge 2012)



Black Mount by Eric Miller (N&EMPF)
(It's That Tree Again)

NEW SUBSCRIBERS

In 12 months 167 people have “unsubscribed” from e-news and 11 have been deleted after “hard bounces”. However there has still been a net increase of 654, more than 50 per month. We also know that circulation is much larger than our direct list. Perhaps 5 to 10 times more recipients receive **e-news** forwarded from their Club or access it through a Federation or Club website. I think we can say that **e-news** is a success! If you know of anyone else who would like to get PAGB news straight to their computer please direct them to www.pagbnews.co.uk

.... and finally

POLICE COMPENSATE PARADE-BAN PHOTOGRAPHER

A teenager who was wrongly barred by police from taking photographs of an Armed Forces Day parade in Romford, London, has been compensated.

Lawyers acting for Jules Matteson - then aged 15 - said a police inspector had described taking photographs in public as "anti-social behaviour". "The inspector told Jules he was a public nuisance ..," said the spokesman. "He described the act of taking photographs as 'silly' and 'gay' and 'stupid',"

The solicitor said Jules had "politely" maintained that the police were not entitled to interfere with his right to report, however in response, the inspector told him: "I consider you a threat under the Terrorism Act young man. I've had enough'."

A Metropolitan Police spokesman said an out-of-court settlement had been reached with the force paying out compensation and legal fees.

This report is cribbed from BBC NEWS LONDON and you can read more at -
<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-england-london-16131390>