



news and views from the
Photographic Alliance of Great Britain

e-news

Issue 59 – February 2012

GB CUP SPECIAL 1 of 3

This is the first of three Special Illustrated Editions of e-news featuring the GB Cup 2012. This issue has the award winning pictures from the GB Cup (Open). The next, in a few days, will cover the GB Cup (Nature) and following that, the GB Cup (Small Clubs).

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GB Cup (Open) 2012 - The Top Club from each Federation		
Amersham PS	CACC	165
Beyond Group	EAF	182
Eastbourne Photographic Society	KCPA	160
Smethwick PS	MCPF	179
Durham PS	NCPF	161
Worksop & District PS	NEMPF	160
CBPPUCC	NIPA	154
Southampton Camera Club	SF	171
Woking Photographic Society	SPA	151
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Best Individual Photograph. GB Cup Open 2012



“Waiting” by Chrissie Westgate, Beyond Group, EAF

Gold Medal Certificate – Peter Paterson award

Gold Medal Cert – Des Clinton award



“Jonasz” by Bogdan Gofron, Dumfries CC, SPF



**“Beach Walk” by Gwen Charnock
Wigan 10, L&CPU**



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on imaging

Come visit us on Stand B12, Hall 9
Birmingham NEC
4 - 7 March 2012
10am - 6pm Sunday-Tuesday
10am - 5pm Wednesday



Take a 3D tour of our biggest ever Focus stand

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Dnglfiaw9Pg&feature=youtu.be>



**“In the Kasbah” by Richard Cherry, Beyond Group, EAF
Gold Medal Certificate – Steven Le Prevost award**



**“Waiting” by Jeff Pitman, Southampton CC, SF
Gold Medal Certificate – Steven Le Prevost award**



**Life Underground by Janet Haines, Dorchester CC, WCPF
Gold Medal Certificate – Peter Paterson award**



**Morning Bathing by Sonja Haigh, Leek PC, MCPF
Gold Medal Certificate – Des Clinton award**

WHY TAKE A PAGB ASSESSMENT? LEN MORRIS DPAGB

I cannot answer for others but I do have a clear view for myself. I have two sets of letters I am able to place behind my name. One set was gained during my career and very rarely used until I became a consultant and had to “sell” myself. I imagine that professional photographers who need to “sell” their ability to non photographers would, understandably, seek awards to achieve just that. However there are many amateur photographers, myself included, who seek to be awarded those letters. I am one such, so why did I invest £100+ including petrol, accommodation and entrance fee to try to have five letters to put behind my name? £20 per letter seems pricy!

I did a great deal of photography up to 1990 then lapsed for 12 years busy running a business using the knowledge embedded in the other set of letters. Then I retired and determined to get back to photography. Needless to say I was rusty. I researched the local camera clubs and found that Ilkley Camera Club, just over the moor from me, was the best around and joined it. I entered some competitions at the club and judges were polite, desperately trying to find something good about the image then pointing out the ten or so ways to improve it. This old dog needed to learn some new tricks!

The club program was excellent. I was able to see the work of top photographers, far better than I. Other club members were supportive too. My photography improved by a process of my own application and osmosis from those around. You may imagine my delight when I was awarded a commendation for a club competition. Things progressed until I was regularly in the competition awards. The question then arises “How good is Ilkley Camera Club?” So at that point I decided to test myself and submit myself to a CPAGB assessment. The reason was, and still is, to get an objective view of my standard. I know that there are better photographers than I in Ilkley Camera Club. I know some judges have praised and some criticised my images (sometimes the same image!) so why PAGB?

The PAGB system seems to be as objective a way as can be obtained. It uses six judges to ensure that the small bias that one might have does not significantly affect the outcome. It even has a chairman watching over these

highly experienced judges to check that as a group there is no bias one way or the other. They are all human so one can not expect perfection but I doubt that there is a better way of achieving it. So at the end of the assessment day you may feel that a reasonable objective evaluation of your standard has been made. My CPAGB was awarded with a comfortable margin.

Being a person who has always driven myself to improve I then set my sights on DPAGB . Why? Bob Moore, in his recent article, seemed to overlook my key reason.

I wanted to improve my photography and have an objective view to say if I had or had not. In due course I did achieve my DPAGB, by the skin of my teeth! I told my club about it not to say how good I am, there are club members much better than I, but because it was partially their success. Our distinctions group and the club program as a whole had helped me on my way. Hopefully I will help others in my turn.

I will still take images that I like, rather than the “in vogue” ones judges might prefer. But they are better images than a few years back. Where do I go now? Well I am strong in Natural History and it is time that I improved my landscape and travel imagery. MPAGB? I would love to get to that standard but is a very, very daunting step up.

Was it worth £20 a letter? Well no. Was it worth £100+ (twice) for the fun, experienced, sense of achievement not to mention looking at hundreds of fellow photographers’ excellent work? **Definitely YES.**



Interestingly “Cape Sugarbird on Protea” gained 26 points at CPAGB level and was awarded 22 points at DPAGB level. Impressive and spot on!



Leaping Dolphin by Len Morris DPAGB (scored 24 at DPAGB)

For more information about the PAGB Awards for Photographic Merit visit

<http://www.pagb-photography-uk.co.uk/merit.htm>



Destination
North Eastern Turkey

Tour Leader
Rod Wheelans
FRPS FIPF MFIAP MPAGB

Dates
16 - 30 June 2012

Duration
14 Nights

Group Size
Maximum 16

Price
From £1590 pp
(Single Supp: £300)

Contact
JourneyAnatolia.com
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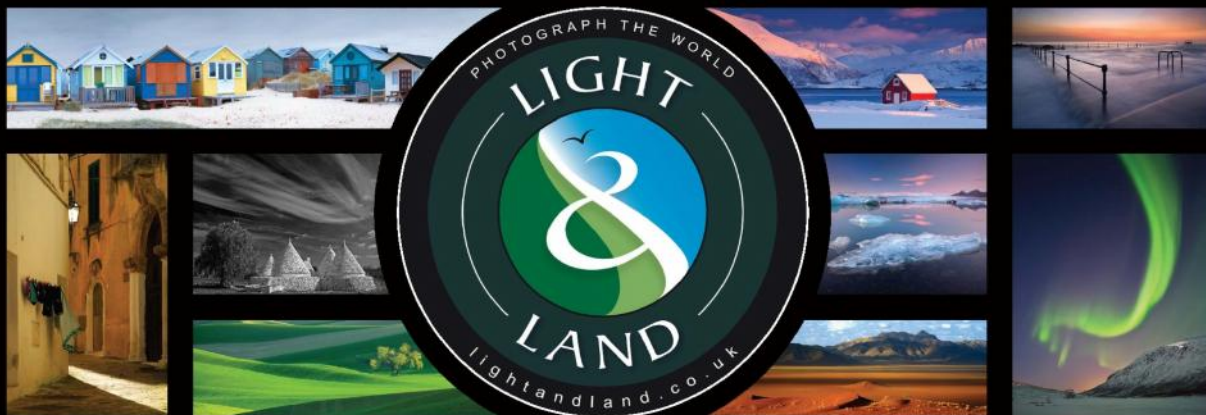


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For more award winning photographs visit www.journeyanatolia.com



2012 Tour Destinations



LAND OF THE MIDNIGHT SUN

Lofoten Islands

Date: 22nd July - 5th August 2012

Leader: David Ward



CANADA'S GREAT PRIZE

The Canadian Rockies

Date: 14th - 25th September 2012

Leaders: David Ward & Antony Spencer



A SEA OF FLOWERS

South Africa

Date: 25th August - 7th September 2012

Leaders: Charlie Waite & Sue Bishop



SOMERSET'S HIDDEN GEM

Exmoor

Date: 8th June - 11th June 2012

Leader: Peter Hendrie



ISTANBUL AND GEOLOGICAL WONDERS

Turkey

Date: 23rd - 30th April 2012

Leader: Peter Hendrie



COMPACT CAMERA WORKSHOP

Stowe Landscaped Gardens

Date: 13th - 13th September 2012

Leader: Charlie Waite



A CARPET OF BLUEBELLS

Micheldever Wood

Date: 29th - 29th April 2012

Leaders: Antony Spencer & David Clapp



A SPANISH WONDER

Valencia

Date: 18th - 21st May 2012

Leader: David Clapp

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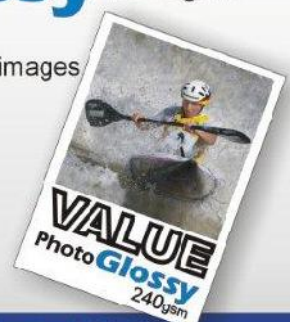
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