

I-M-A-G-I-N-E

THORNBURY CAMERA CLUB NEWSLETTER

Issue 115

5th May 2024

Sunday in Weston with friends ... what could be nicer?

Remember those days before Photoshop? The joy when prints came back from developing and all your care with composition, light, colour and focus had actually paid off? Well the three-way battle next Sunday May 12th at Weston-super-Mare between Sodbury & Yate, Crossbow, and ourselves gives you a fun chance to hone those core skills once more! Images may not be "manipulated", other than by cropping or balancing brightness, contrast, and colour balance. Parts may not be removed, substituted or added. Submit your best pictures to

Simon Riches for possible selection. Each club will enter twenty-five images, with judging in September.

Simon also reminds us that the Kingswood Salver now allows for three-image panels where three members submit one picture each. Also that there is a chance to join a selection panel for the club's entries into external competitions.

Folk wishing to pursue any of these matters should please contact Simon.

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Competitions: sRGB please

We live in complex technological times! Pictures can be edited in software and on hardware that default to any of several formats that especially affect colour, for example its vibrance. But consequently, when viewed on other platforms, eg a judge's laptop or a projector, these images can look flat and not at all how the photographer wished them to be seen.

So for many years, for both external and internal competitions, there has been an agreement that all submitted images should be in sRGB (standard red green blue) format. All members are therefore advised to look at their software options and check, and if necessary, switch to sRGB, and edit with this as the default colour format.



Programme for the last few weeks of this season:

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| 6 May | No meeting |
| 13 May | Amy Shore - Emotional Storytelling in the Automotive World |
| 20 May | Print Gallery: Talk with and view prints from <i>Mike Ashfield, Cheryl Miller and Simon Meeds</i> .
<i>No zoom this evening.</i>
There will be a 'not quite the end of season' buffet |
| 27 May | No meeting |
| 3 June | <i>Judging of internal competition round 6 (open) and presentation of trophies for the 2023/24 season</i> |

What's on (Details about just a few of the events listed on the What's On page on our website)

May 2-6: **Last couple of days!** Severn Vale Art Trail <https://www.severnvalleartrail.org/> 60+ artists in 20+ venues over 5 days! Contemporary and traditional art on show in a diverse range of mediums including drawing, painting, photography, ceramics, sculpture, stained glass, jewellery and textiles. Our old friend Eddie Kilmartin will be at St Mary's Church in Berkeley.

May 18-19: Steam on the Levels - Westonzoyland Pumping Station, TA7 0LS. <https://www.wzlet.org/steamonthellevels>. Historic exhibits from steam engines and classic vehicles to living history groups.



May 25-27: Gloucester Tall Ships Festival <https://www.gloucestertallships.co.uk/post/docks-ahoy-gloucester-tall-ships-festival-set-to-sail-again-in-2024>. Separately organised but probably intentionally at the same time, you will find the Gloucester Shanty Festival and Steampunk Pirate Festival.

June 20-22: Wales & West Photography Show - International Convention Centre Wales, Newport NP18 1HQ <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/wales-west-photography-show-2024-tickets-690756480227>. Free entry but booking required. This event spans two days and offers complimentary seminars and presentations delivered by expert photographers and videographers.

Briefly looking into July: Thornbury Carnival (5th-6th) <https://www.thornburycarnival.co.uk/> and Royal Welsh Show (22nd-25th) Royal Welsh Showground, Builth Wells, LD2 3SY <https://rwas.wales/royal-welsh/>

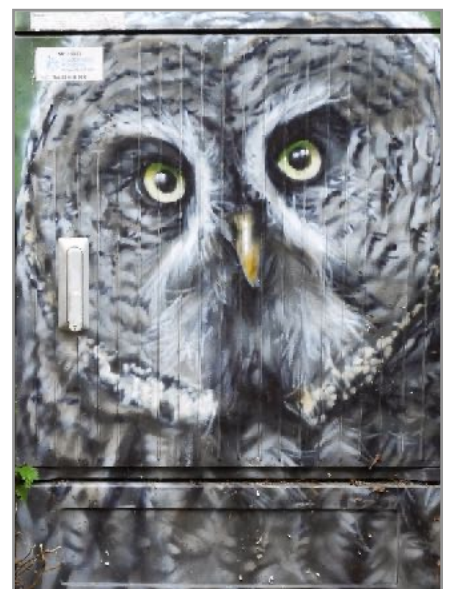


STILL WANTED !!!

Many folk will know that Steve Skinner has moved away. He is remaining a member of the club, but obviously at a distance!

We are already reallocating IT, sound and vision responsibilities around the remainder of the tech team, namely Simon Meeds, Simon Riches, Brian McBride and Nigel Newman, but we would love more help!

There are a range of tasks, and the amount of IT skill needed starts at zero for some! If you think you might like to help but would like to know more please talk to any of the team.



Internal Competition Themes 2024/25: 'Light and/or shadow' and 'Wet'

Nobody, not one of us, can ever, ever, predict how a judge will interpret a theme. So our internal competition secretary Brian is rightly cautious about offering what might seem to be helpful steers. That said, it doesn't hurt to get the grey cells thinking, so with caveats duly noted, here are some thoughts about these themes.

First, light and/or shadow. Basic browsing will take you into terms you may be unfamiliar with, such as 'Rembrandt lighting' or 'chiaroscuro'. Don't dwell there, but just log them somewhere in the brain. Here are three sites semi-chosen at random that may stimulate some ideas.



<https://www.shutterstock.com/blog/using-strong-shadows-photography>

<https://shotkit.com/light-shadow-photography/>

<https://www.photoworkout.com/shadow-photography/>

Now, 'Wet', where perhaps the challenge isn't so much thinking of something that qualifies, it's perhaps how get a judge to *feel* the wetness rather than simply see it.

Whether it's condensation on a cold surface (which professionals seemingly fake!), a droplet caught in time as it splashes into a bowl of liquid, a waterfall, wet washing on a line, a flooded high street, a long exposure of slanting rainfall, a gannet emerging from the sea with its prize, jumping in a puddle, a surfer in 'the curve', or water dripping on someone's face from a soaked hat, the challenge is the same. This article offers a few tips: https://amateurphotographer.com/technique/expert_advice/top-tips-for-photographing-water/



Alexa tells photography jokes (with a little help)

Don't try to photograph a horse after dark - *it would be a nightmare!*

I found a technical explanation of how to photograph the Sistine Chapel, *but it might go over your head ...*

I've been worrying about how best to photograph a Hobbit attraction on an upcoming visit. *My wife says I'm Tolkien in my sleep.*

Take care when photographing electricians - *they might have a short fuse.*

