



e-news

from the Photographic Alliance of Great Britain

Issue 246 15 Jan 2020



Lloyd Moore_Best Paw Forward

This happy picture formed part of Lloyd's successful DPAGB entry to the Awards for Photographic Merit Adjudication, held recently in Watford and it was accepted into the Masters of Print Exhibition,

**The
Photography
Show**

**The
Video
Show**

14-17 MARCH 2020, THE NEC, BIRMINGHAM

Hon Editor: Rod Wheelans MPAGB MFIAP FIPF HonPAGB HonSPF. rod@creative-camera.co.uk

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OUR CLIENTS



OUR MEDIA COVERAGE



FIND YOUR NEAREST CAMERA CLUB

Adrian Lines

Conversations with visitors to our Masters of Print Exhibition, in Birmingham, highlighted that there is no resource available, with which to find a nearby Camera Club.

With this in mind, I have developed a webpage to enable potential new members to find a Club.

Unfortunately, the PAGB does not currently hold the required information, but it does have the CES (Competition Entry System), which could be used to collect this information.

I would invite any club which has entered a PAGB competition in the last few years, to log into the PAGB's competition entry system and add your clubs details, the postcode and club website. This will be published automatically to the new 'Find a Club' webpage.

The page is already available to visit, but currently has only a few clubs registered. If you do not want your club to appear, you can either not provide the postcode, or delete it, if it already exists.

The PAGB competition entry system can be found at <https://pagbhost.co.uk>

The 'find a club' webpage is at <https://pagbhost.co.uk/maps>

Please direct any queries to secretary@thepagb.org.uk

MASTERS OF PRINT HALL OF FAME

It was an honour to have one of my pictures chosen for the Masters of Print exhibition again this year and I was very proud to see it professionally mounted amongst all the other excellent images on display at St Martin in the Bull Ring. I was also delighted to receive a Luxury Print Mounting Kit from Paper Spectrum by Chris Roberts, the Managing Director, who chose my image from the exhibition.

I joined Poulton Photographic Society in 2011 after accidentally drowning my camera, while photographing hammerhead sharks in Cocos island, which forced me to upgrade to a decent DSLR and, in the process, to start taking a greater interest in all aspects of photography.



These days, I spend a lot of time in and around the edges of Morecambe Bay, near where we live, trying to capture unique moments of the wildlife.

Studying the wading birds, seeing how they interact with the weather and tides, gives you a sense of where to position yourself, in the hopes of capturing a decent image. I had been sitting amongst the rocks, on the edge of the salt marsh, for about an hour before this Egret arrived and it

was another 20 minutes before it took off and I got the picture. These moments and opportunities are rare and, in order to remain competitive within our club, my wife and I sometimes create set-ups with some of the more common garden birds.

But true wildlife images, either underwater or on land, are what I really enjoy taking and experiencing and so I was particularly happy that the image chosen for the Masters of Print was this one, maybe justifying the insanity of spending hours sitting in a muddy ditch!

Richard O'Meara



Richard O'Meara_Clawfish in anemone



Richard O'Meara_Blue spotted stingray



Richard O'Meara_Blue tit collecting wool



Richard O'Meara_Curlew dispute



Richard O'Meara_Redshank dispute



Richard O'Meara_Starling dance

MASTERS OF PRINT 2019

PAPER SPECTRUM CHOICE:

'Egret In Mist' by Richard O'Meara



MASTERS OF PRINT

All accepted prints are on display
from 16th January
to 9th February

at
The Old Schoolhouse
Oldbury, B69 2AS

0121 552 0279
(ring for access)

AWARDS FOR PHOTOGRAPHIC MERIT

This is a recent DPAGB entry in Print by Nigel Cox of Amersham. P.S. Nature has come to almost dominate the APM, with more than half the entries received in this genre. A lot are successful but the standard is high and many do not make the grade. The passing score at DPAGB is 300 but everyone should aim for all 6 Adjudicators to vote YES (4) for every picture. This would be a total of 360 and Nigel came pretty close!



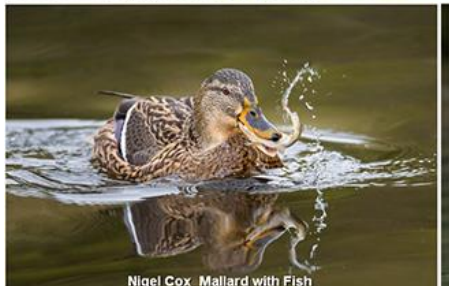
Nigel Cox_The Rat Catcher



Nigel Cox_Singing Wren



Nigel Cox_Two Buzzards



Nigel Cox_Mallard with Fish



Nigel Cox_Mallard with Frog



Nigel Cox_Whitethroat with food for the young



Nigel Cox_Heron on a Weir



Nigel Cox_Tossing the Carp



Nigel Cox_Great Crested Grebe With Chick



Nigel Cox_Hummingbird hawk-moth



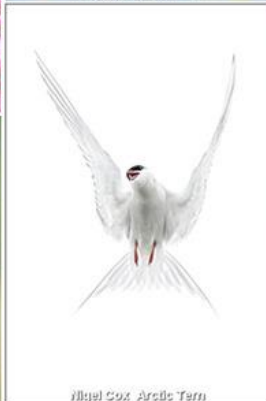
Nigel Cox_Marsh Frog Calling



Nigel Cox_Female Bearded Reedling



Nigel Cox_Cuckoo in the rain



Nigel Cox_Arctic Tern



Nigel Cox_Portrait of a gannet

8th Cheltenham
International Salon of Photography

2020

Open for entries 1 January 2020 Printed A4
Entries close 1 April 2020 FIAP 4*
Judging 17-19 April 2020 Catalogue

www.cheltenhamcameraclub.co.uk



<< <http://www.cheltenhamcameraclub.co.uk/wordpress/>

AWARDS FOR PHOTOGRAPHIC MERIT
ADVISORY SESSIONS AT THE
PHOTOGRAPHY SHOW

**I will be away from home for most of February so
please apply as soon as possible.**

See Page 6

MASTERS OF PRINT

Jo Knight was not, unfortunately, able to attend the opening of the exhibition in Birmingham, where her picture, "On the Shelf", was chosen by Richard Zinnerman of Sony to receive an A7ii Camera Kit

SONY
make.believe



WHERE TO SEE US

The Old Schoolhouse
Oldbury, B69 2AS
0121 552 0279
Ring for access

16 January
to
09 February

Wilkinson Cameras
4 Bold Street, Liverpool, L1 4DS
Mon-Sat, Shop Hours

15 February
to
15 March

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See >>
Page 3

The
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14-17 MARCH 2020, THE NEC BIRMINGHAM

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*Discount code applies to standard adult tickets only and cannot be used in conjunction with any other promotion. Group discounts are available - please email thephotographyshow@futurenet.com for details. Discount codes expire at midnight on 11 March 2020. **Subject to specific criteria

<https://www.photographyshow.com/>

The Photographic Alliance of Great Britain at

**The
Photography
Show**

CO-LOCATED WITH

**The
Video
Show**

14-17 MARCH 2020 THE NEC, BIRMINGHAM

Visit us for advice, information or just a chat on Stand A34

AWARDS FOR PHOTOGRAPHIC MERIT ADVICE

Once again the PAGB will be offering Awards for Photographic Merit:1:1 Advisory Sessions on our stand at The Photography Show.

We will have several Adjudicators in attendance each day to discuss any work you wish to bring along – Print or PDI – and, if you take their advice, this will give you a much better chance of success

For an appointment, please e-mail rod@creative-camera.co.uk with all of the following information please.

- 1 What day are you coming ?
- 2 Do you want a morning or afternoon appointment?
- 3 What level are you interested in - CPAGB, DPAGB or MPAGB?
- 4 Are you intending to apply in Print or PDI?
- 5 Will you bring Print or PDI for us to look at?
- 6 Have you applied, or have you been accepted to an Adjudication?
- 7 Which Club & Federation are you a member of?

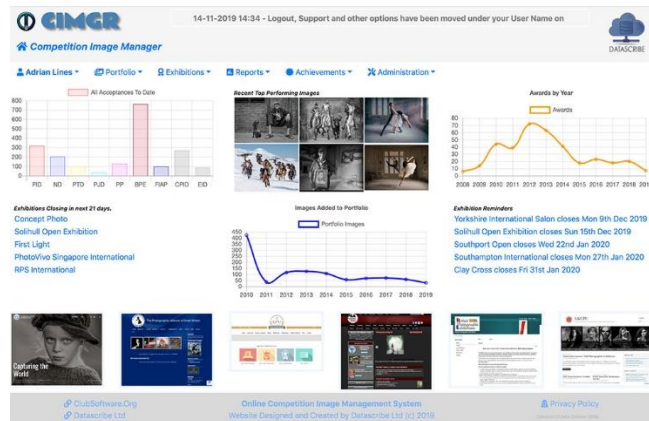
You can bring unmounted Prints, even at A4, but we will not be able to store them on our stand. Left luggage facilities are available in the NEC. Bring your PDI on a stick. Please do not bring too many pictures. A maximum of 15 for CPAGB, 20 for DPAGB and 30 for MPAGB please.

We strongly advise that you bring your images in Print if you are applying in Print, otherwise our advice can only speak to the content and not the quality of the print.

Bring your PDI, preferably not larger than H1600px x V1200px, on a stick. We will probably be viewing them on a Mac laptop. If you bring them on a tablet or a phone, we can only speak to the content and not the quality of the image when it is projected.

SuCCESs with Adrian Lines

Along with my real job, my photography, my committee and software work for the PAGB and my own federation, I also have a small software development company called Datascribe Ltd. Under this banner I am promoting a couple of new websites I have developed to help both **Photography Exhibition Entrants** and **Club Competition Secretaries**. Both of these projects started out for my own purposes but have now grown into something that I can offer to the wider world.



The **Competition Image Management System** can be found at <https://cimgr.com>

The first project is an online '**Competition Image Management System**' (CIMGR), designed to simplify record keeping for National and International Exhibitions.

It allows users to upload digital versions of their images and then allocate them to the various exhibitions and competitions, entering the relevant scores and awards as they are received. The system can then provide image activity reports along with organisation specific target reports, for BPE, FIAP and PSA.

We already have around 50 active members, but we have space for plenty more. To register, just visit the website and click on the 'Register New Account' button.

This service is completely free and is funded by sponsorship and advertising

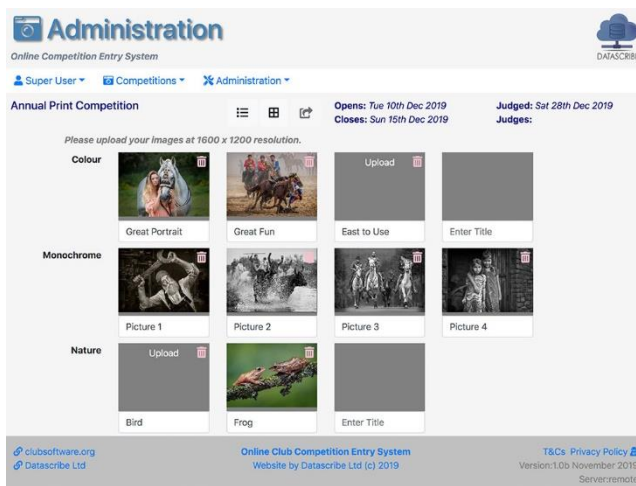
The second project is an online '**Club Competition Entry System**' (SuCCESs), designed to allow clubs to manage entries to their competitions.

Club Competition Secretaries can create a primary club account and then publish their competitions. Club members can then upload their images and titles to the website. When ready, the Competition Secretary can download the images, formatted for whatever system they use on the night. The system works particularly well with Dicentra.

After the competition, Club Competition Secretaries can then re-upload the scores to the system and use it to send out results to their members. This system removes the need for USB dongles, CDs and emailed images and it can check dimensions and can automatically produce the correct naming formats, saving the competition organiser time and effort.

This facility is also free, if no charges are made to the entrants. (Such as a Salon or Exhibition). This service is funded by sponsorship, advertisers and organisations charging entry.

To register either a primary club account, or club member account, just visit the website and click on the relevant link.



The **Club Competition Entry System** can be found at – <https://success.clubsoftware.org>



I also have developed a few other commercial online systems, such as Resource Management, Health & Safety Management and Job Costing systems, along with also offering a bespoke software design service.

If you have any queries, don't hesitate to drop me an email at adrianlines@mac.com for the photography related websites or adrian.lines@datascribe.co.uk if you have commercial enquires.

The 107th Southampton International Exhibition 2020

of photography

<https://southamptoninternationalexhibition.co.uk/>

southamptoninternationalexhibition.co.uk

Closing date: 9 Feb 2020

A total of over 200 awards, including FIAP, PSA and GPU Gold medals in each class

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One of the UK's oldest and largest International Exhibitions of prints and projected digital images. There are 3 print classes (Open Mono, Open Colour & Nature) and 3 digital classes (Open, Nature & Landscape). Every entrant will receive a high quality full colour A4 printed catalogue.

Vale of Evesham Camera Club - National Digital Internet Exhibition Photo2020

Accepted images on website from 12th April 2020

Vale of Evesham Camera Club proudly announces the staging of our 31st Annual and 22nd National Exhibition www.photo2020.net which has both BPE and PAGB patronage (2020-20).

The Exhibition is open to 4 Digital Categories:-

- Colour Images
- Experimental/Creative Images
- Monochrome Images
- Natural History Images

NOTE: The exhibition uses the size format 1600x1200 pixels.

SELECTORS:-

- Roger Parry** MPAGE, ARPS, BFAP, HonPAGE Colour, Mono & Experimental
- John Chamberlin** FRPS, APAGE, MFAP, FBPE Colour, Mono & Natural History
- Andrea Hargreaves** MPAGE, BFAP, PSA, BPEA Colour, Experimental & Natural History
- Brian Swinyard** MA(Photo), DPAGE, ARPS, BFAPB Mono, Experimental
- Judith Parry** DPAGE, HonPAGE, BFAP Natural History



Exhibition Website opens for entries 1st January 2020

KEY DATES:-
Last date for Entries: Thursday 29th February 2020
 Selection: Sat 7th and Sun 8th March 2020
 Accepted images will be viewable on the exhibition website www.eveshamphoto.net from 12th April 2020 until the following years' exhibition.

Entry can be made easily online, our preferred option, or entry forms downloaded for postal CD entry from the exhibition website www.eveshamphoto.net. Every entrant receives a Printed A4 Colour Catalogue.

<https://www.eveshamphoto.net/>



The Photography Show

CO-LOCATED WITH
The Video Show



The PAGB is on A34

14-17 MARCH
NEC, BIRMINGHAM



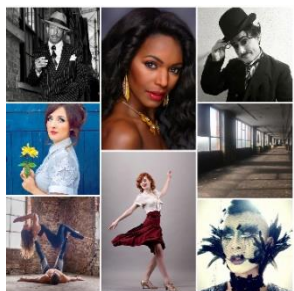
All photographs from workshops and set-ups, studio, landscape, model-shoots, nature and re-enactments, are unfair and should not be allowed in competitions!

Well, I have seen quite a number of online discussion and I have received numerous communications over the years from people who believe this. Equally, I have heard from many people who believe that judges are biased against such shots and punish them with low marks. So, who is right, or is everyone wrong?

It is undoubtedly true that there are workshops and set-ups where the pictures can be captured without much input from the photographer. There are studio workshops where the model does all the work, the lights are set up for you and you only need to press the trigger. There are nature hides where the creatures are baited in and you simply “machine gun” them – shoot enough frames and you must get one good shot.

However, most workshops are not like this and, even when they are, it is noticeable that the more skilled photographers usually seem to get the best shots. I have been involved in helping on photo-travel trips for many years and, whilst I am ready to help when it is needed and I encourage ordinary people to pose for us, it is unusual for two people to get the same shot – even when they are sitting on my shoulder! Everyone brings their own skill set and their own creative instincts, and their shot has their own personal twist.

“Pay and Display” nature has become a big market with photographic opportunities all over the world. Even so, how many really good nature photographers are there? It is nearly always the familiar names, the people with skill and a creative eye, who come to the top when there are awards to be presented. Even where creatures are baited or encouraged to appear, it still takes a degree of skill to capture the perfect moment.



I recently attended a model workshop, organised by Graham Currey and Emma Finch. They provided a superb venue, Leigh Spinners in Wigan, and 8 fabulous models working on eight sets, but they certainly did not set up the photographs. Over a weekend, 84 photographers worked in teams of 3, organising their studio lights themselves, finding daylight locations around the building and taking turns to direct the models. With Jack Cutler as Charlie Chaplin, Retro Rob, Natasha Bella, Katie Nicholas, Lydia Francis, Eva Serration & gymnast Damian Senior, it was action packed, fun filled and full on. Many of the participants brought their own props, costumes and story boards and there is no doubt who was in control of the photography. As Emma said “ “We provide the ingredients, but the photographers bake the cake”.

Perhaps the most important thing to remember is that we are amateur photographers doing this for FUN. We are entitled to photograph whatever we like, give or accept as much help as we like and, so

long as we were in control of the camera, we should not be barred from using these pictures in competitions, in Clubs and in other public forums.

But judges are biased against such pictures and will mark them down if they think they have come from workshops, set ups or third party hides.

I hear this comment a lot but I believe that it mostly comes from a lack of understanding or a lack of knowledge. It is important to differentiate between different sorts of events.

In open exhibitions, BPE, FIAP, PSA, etc., the judges are actually “Selectors”, not judging against a standard, but choosing a varied and interesting exhibition, conditioned by the needs of the organisers and the prospective audience. Selection to such an exhibition is obviously a clue to the standard of your work but it isn't always that clear.

Very good pictures are often rejected because the selectors have already chosen enough of that particular genre or subject. How many pictures of the same girl does any exhibition need, how many field mice, kingfishers or Victorian costumes? Equally, less meritorious pictures can be chosen to add variety to the exhibition. Often selectors will mark higher than might seem to be deserved, just to make sure that the picture gets into the exhibition. Once, when I was judging a prestigious International Exhibition, a picture came up which was different from anything we had seen up to that point. It wasn't very well produced, not as sharp as it could be and 3 might have been the button to hit. I scored 5 in the hope that it might score 11 and would be considered for the exhibition. Unfortunately, the other two selectors had the same idea and, to our embarrassment, it scored 15, which none of us had intended!

When it comes to our Awards for Photographic Merit, the situation is quite different. The photographs are not being judged against each other and there is no exhibition requirement to be considered. Each picture is assessed against the standard applied at each level. Judging is not a science and there are no

objective criteria to assess against, so these standards are difficult to precisely define. However, our Adjudicators are very experienced, carefully briefed and they are very fair. Also the PAGB has a permanent team in place to observe and ensure that our standards are maintained.

The standard required obviously varies across the levels and so must the approach to be taken by our Adjudicators.

At CPAGB, we are looking for Good Club Photography. This is quite a high standard and our Adjudicators are looking for good content and at least adequate technical skills. At this level, they will not be overly concerned with originality of subject – although, of course, that always helps.

At DPAGB, looking for exhibition standard, they will expect more interesting and more original pictures, taken and presented with good technical skills. This does not mean that they will mark down images which look as though they may have been taken at workshops but they will be looking to assess what the entrant has brought to the shot.

The MPAGB is the very best of UK amateur photography and the Adjudicators will expect to see highly proficient, technically perfect work of an interesting and original nature. It is unlikely that the more common subjects and images will score highly enough to achieve our ultimate award unless they show a different approach and a high degree of photographer input.

PHOTOGRAPHY SESSION DAYS

Graham & Emma run “Session Days”, providing a whole range of opportunities including a new creative portraiture series of workshop classes launched for 2020 which are a trio at £65 each. There is one for noir, one for colour and one for fine art. If you book on the trio you get £20 off the total so that you can bag three courses for £175.

20 big events in 2020

<https://sessiondays.co.uk/about/>





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Convention 2020

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<https://thesocieties.net/convention/>

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- **Damian & Lesley McGillicuddy** *'Do Your Printed Photographs Always Look the Way They Did on Your Screen?'*
- **Michael O'Sullivan** *'Capturing Fantasy Worlds for Beautiful Wall Art'*



The Societies
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Michael O'Sullivan

Capturing Fantasy Worlds for Beautiful Wall Art- IN
CAMERA! - Superclass
23rd January 2020 2:00pm-6:00pm

Full Convention: Wednesday 22nd – Saturday 25th January 2020
FREE* Trade Show Dates: Thursday 23rd – Saturday 25th January 2020
Venue: Novotel London West, Hammersmith

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The Societies
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Convention 2020

Michael O'Sullivan

Capturing Fantasy Worlds for Beautiful Wall Art- IN
CAMERA! – From Concept to Stunning Print. -
Masterclass
24th January 2020 1:00pm-3:00pm

Full Convention: Wednesday 22nd – Saturday 25th January 2020
FREE* Trade Show Dates: Thursday 23rd – Saturday 25th January 2020
Venue: Novotel London West, Hammersmith

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<https://thesocieties.net/convention/speakers/michael-osullivan/>

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Full Convention:
Wednesday 22 – Saturday 25 Jan
FREE* Trade Show Dates:
Thursday 23 – Saturday 25 Jan
VENUE: Novotel London West
Hammersmith, W6 8DR

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