



WIMBORNE CAMERA CLUB

Newsletter number 1; late summer 2019

WCC TURNS 60!

2020 will be our diamond anniversary with the theme of engagement for all. Watch for announcements on our website and our Facebook page.

IMPORTANT! WCC CHANGE OF BANK

See page 3 for the new account details.

DACA SUMMER EXHIBITION

WCC was a featured club at this important local show which ended just this week - read more inside.



Ha Long Bay by Neil Davidson LRPS
as featured in the DACA show - page 2

FROM THE CHAIRMAN'S NOTEBOOK

Welcome to the first edition of the 2019/20 series of newsletters. Our idea is to present news and other items of interest to members in addition to our notice board and to the weekly notices given every week during the season.

The committee receive lots of material through website contact, other clubs, as well as regional, national and local organisations. It's not always easy to communicate that effectively on our noticeboard or in the spoken word in the weekly notices – and club nights are always busy with preparations for that evening's event as well as the natural desire for us all to chat and catch up. Carol does send frequent email updates, but this is intended as an extra effort to reach out to the Club – please let us know what you think – or even suggest content and news!

Committee Vacancy – Vice-Chair

We didn't receive any nominations for this important role at the AGM, which was a disappointment. The Committee are empowered to co-opt for this post, so the opportunity isn't lost if there's a volunteer out there prepared to help. If you think you'd be interested in helping how to run your Club, then now's the time to make yourself known – privately if you just wish initially to talk it through. Equally, if you think you know someone who might be interested but feels uncomfortable about coming forward just let us know and we'll do the rest.

Emergency Vacancy – Internal Competition Secretary

Unfortunately, Diana has had to tender her resignation due to unexpected changes in her work pattern. She remains on the Committee in a general capacity and we're grateful for all her hard work during last season. We now urgently need a volunteer to take up this important role – for now we can probably cover the preparation tasks, and Jean and Chris David have kindly stepped up to help, but your competitions are at risk if we fail to recruit for this vital role.

“We urgently need a volunteer ... your competitions are at risk if we fail to fill this vital role!”

REVISITING COMPETITIONS

The Committee has overhauled the rules for competition during the summer in time for the new season.

These are now published on the website [here](#) and you'll all get an email reminder prior to the first competition too. The main changes, briefly are as follows:

- **New PDI format** of 1600 x 1200 pixels. If you think you need support with this then just let us know and we'll help.
- **New scoring** – we are proposing a new system which will only count the 6 best scores. We conducted trials on last year's results and noted little material effect; the first few places were unchanged. We think that this new league scoring method may help to reduce the effect of inconsistencies as well as reducing the pressure to submit 8 images, enabling everyone to compete on the basis of their 6 best pieces of work.
- **PDIs with prints.** More than a quarter of entrants failed to comply with the existing rule that print entries need to have PDI files to accompany them. This makes it easier for our Comp Secretaries to compile, manage and record our entire work portfolio and select for external competitions too. It also enables us to showcase images of your prints on the Club website. From this season the Committee will be enforcing this rule, gently at first, but you risk disqualification if you become a repeat offender!

And always remember:

- Please - **submit promptly.** We do understand that from time to time it can be a rush, but late entries increase our workload. It also means that if there's any issue with your entry, there's no time to fix it. So do try to plan ahead.
- For PDI - **follow the filename convention.** It's not difficult to do and a little care on your part ensures a smooth file transfer. We reviewed a number of of the entries from last season and I was surprised at the variation. If you fail to comply, you risk your entry being excluded.
- **Follow the file format.** And please don't send zip files – it just means more work. Simple jpegs attached to an email is all that is required.

If you're struggling with any of this, then do reach out. Help is at hand. If there's enough interest, we can run workflow teach-in workshops, or we can even provide some cue cards to help. We absolutely want to encourage competition entries – it raises the standard of our club photography and as we improve our own enjoyment increases too.



Barn owl at golden hour by Jean Hollis as featured in the DACA show

DORSET ARTS AND CRAFTS EXHIBITION

WCC were invited to be a featured club by the Dorset Arts and Crafts Association in their summer exhibition at Purbeck School. We gladly accepted the opportunity to exhibit a small selection from our external competition shortlist, plus a few others we could acquire at short notice.

What we didn't do so well was our preparation for the show. Reacting to information from the organisers the week before, we were just able to showcase a sample of our work, on DACA-provided easels alongside a hundred or so prints from photographers all around the region. We did however, learn important lessons which we'll put into practice for future shows.

We displayed a selection of 25 mounted prints in both mono and colour representing a a range of genres. Featured photographers were: Ann Harden; Neil Davidson (on page 1); Roger Holman; Eric Wallbank; Norman Wiles; Chris David; Jean David; Alan Brown; Jean Hollis (above); Trevor Prince; Diane Green; Mike Grigsby and Giselle Brown.



Feedback from the organisers suggest they had a successful show, despite the traffic challenges because of the Sandbanks Ferry closure. They had high numbers of visitors and some of the prints in the DACA competition (decided by visitor vote) were sold.

To exhibit in future competitions you'll need to be a member of DACA which costs £10/year, but this can be offset by discounts at some retailers as well as free entry to the show. Plus, if you've sold a print, you've covered your investment several times over!



WCC prints at the DACA exhibition

MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL AND WCC TURNS 60!

It's that time of year again – after our summer recess the new season of meetings starts on September 2nd with a welcome glass of wine.

On the first evening, we will display images selected for external competitions, catch up on news and talk about the year ahead. We have, as usual, a packed programme of talks, activities and competitions as well as our bi-annual featured speaker. For 2020, Wimborne Camera Club's Diamond Anniversary, we are lucky to have secured Will Cheung FRPS who will present to us at the Allendale Centre on January 31st, titled "My passion for photography". Look out for more announcements soon.



Will Cheung FRPS

As announced at the AGM, we have maintained the subs at £40 but we do need members to renew promptly please. Also, the Club has decided to move banks – after a year or so of difficulties with the service from the TSB, your Committee has decided to transfer to the NatWest, where we will have a properly managed community account. For those of you who pay by BACS, which we actively encourage, the new account details are:

Sort code: **60-24-43** A/c number: **14170434** A/c name: Wimborne Camera Club

Be sure to change your online banking so your subs reach the right account!

EVER THOUGHT OF BECOMING A JUDGE?

We've all been there ... your hard work is being displayed on the screen or print easel. You listen to the judge's interpretation of the story you're trying to tell and their critique of your method – will it be held back? And then comes the mark ... if it's high, then you're delighted that your efforts are recognised, if it's anything lower than an 8, you're disappointed.

Well, the truth of it is that all judges have bias toward or away from certain subjects, and all will have a greater or lesser emphasis on certain aspects whether technical or creative. What you thought was your clever crop might be seen as unbalancing the composition, or worse still might detract from the overall creative impact – you thought favourable, the judge thought otherwise.

Good judging obviously requires concentration and care. From a standing start looking at perhaps 60 or more images, judges are expected to critique freely and positively. Marking of course must be applied within a range and



Kimmeridge Bay by Roger Holman ARPS



the judge needs to be able to explain how that relates to the image and apply marks as fairly as possible and with consistency.

In our Club we are unusual and privileged to have 3 practising judges, two of whom, Paul Thackeray and Norman Wiles are regarded as senior judges on the circuit. In the region there are many excellent judges – but there are not enough of them! At Wimborne we try to book a range of judges but this becomes increasingly more difficult as judges retire or withdraw for various reasons.

In our local region, we have monthly judging workshops – these are an excellent forum not only for keeping established judges ‘on their game’ but they also provide an opportunity for all photographers to learn about judging and even to train to become a judge. Workshops are held on Fridays in Blandford Camera Club approximately every month from October through to May. For those that may then aspire to judging, there is an assessment carried out by senior judges.

While this is a call for people to join the judging community, it’s also an excellent opportunity to understand more about the judging and assessment of images. You could learn a lot! Programme dates are posted [here](#).

WCC SUCCESS AT SAPA BEST OF THE YEAR AWARDS 2019

Ann Harden scooped the Best of the Year Projected Image in the SAPA Best of the Year awards held in April 2019 for her ‘Shadow Play’ image. Paul Thackeray was highly commended for his ‘Engine Power’.



*Shadow Play by Ann Harden
SAPA ‘Best of the Year 2019’*

This welcome recognition follows WCC’s earlier success where in the All vs All Print competition WCC narrowly beat Boscombe by a slender 1.5-point margin to snatch first place with 56.5 points! Our PDI haven’t been quite so stellar, managing only a joint 6th so we have work to do there. Results tables are [here](#).



*Engine Power by Paul Thackeray
SAPA ‘Highly Commended’*

LOOK AHEAD TO THE AUTUMN PROGRAMME

Talks

'Camera Club and Beyond' - Sue Sibley ARPS, EFIAP, DPAGB BPE3* - 9th September

'Small is Beautiful - Macro in the Natural World' - Robert Harvey BA ARPS EFIAP – 23rd September

Practical

'Cleaning Sensors and More' - Peter Brogden of Just Photographic – 14th October

Four Corners Evening – practical advice with participation encouraged! – 28th October

