



## May 2020

Dear Member,

As you will be aware, until further notice most of our meetings will be virtual based upon Zoom software. The exception is the AGM which will run remotely using email as detailed below.

### 1. May Events

Date	Event	Leader/ Judge/ Speaker(s)
Mon 4th	Members Evening	Maggie James, Patrick Hudgell, Laurie Turner and Andrew & James Bailey
Wed 6th	Committee Meeting	
Thur 7th	Amersham Beyond Group	Steve Brabner
Mon 11th	"Flower and Still-life Photography" ( Award winning)	Polina Plotnikova FRPSThur
Thur 14th	Mono Group	Don Lanstone/ Laurie Turner
Mon 18th	Ad Hoc PDI Competition (split into General, Intermediate & Advanced)	Steve Smith & Chris Palmer
Mon 25th	Bank Holiday – no meeting	
Wed 29th	Colour Group	Rod Darrah/Laurie Turner



## 2. 2020 AGM

Our constitution requires that we have an Annual General Meeting at the end of each season in either May or June. This year's AGM is scheduled for Monday 1st June. As we are unable to proceed in the normal way, this year the committee has decided to run the AGM remotely, while still providing members with the opportunity to comment, raise issues and vote for or against the motions. The CACC has recently completed its 2020 AGM in this way.

The timetable will be as follows:

- Communications Secretary will distribute an AGM agenda + reports in pdf format to all members on 17 May
- Deadline for email questions from members on AGM reports should be sent to the Secretary by **25 May** (secretary@amershamphotosoc.com)
- Committee response to questions raised will be sent to members by 29 May
- AGM voting form will be sent to members on 1 June
- Deadline for votes to be sent to Secretary will be **5 June**
- Meeting results will be announced w/b 8 June.

## 3. Continuing Mono & Colour Groups

About a month ago I, Roger Wotton and Eddie Morton started to talk with Don, Rod and Steve Holden to develop a way of continuing both groups given we could not meet physically. With the help of a small group of members we developed and piloted an approach using Zoom meeting software.

The good news is that we are now really pleased to announce that we will continue to run both these groups as virtual Zoom meetings. Both Don and Rod have asked me to run/chair them until we return to normal times and can be together to enjoy real prints .

As both are discussion groups they present some challenges in learning how to run effective virtual Zoom meetings. For this reason initially contribution is limited to the original core attendees who are invited by Don or Rod.

Recordings will be made and posted on the APS Facebook page so all can watch. Colour will be the last Wednesday in the month and Mono the second Thursday throughout the summer.

The first Virtual Mono Group was well supported and really enjoyed with a strong request to continue. By the time you read this the first Colour Group will have taken place. [It also was highly successful. (Editor) ]

Thanks to every one that helped get us to this point of continuing our collective enjoyment of photography,

Best regards,

Laurie



#### 4. Amersham Beyond Group (Steve Brabner)

The May meeting of the Beyond Group will be held on Zoom on Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> May at 8pm. Call details will be circulated nearer to the time. Let me know if you are not on my usual distribution list but would like to join us.

The meeting will concentrate on the current Challenges (Text, Paper, Pop Art) and then introduce the next one #14. Please submit your images by Monday 4<sup>th</sup> May to the usual address; [beyondchallenges@amershamphotosoc.com](mailto:beyondchallenges@amershamphotosoc.com)

Pop Art images are trickling-in and they already offer an exciting alternative to our usual photographic imagery! Many people have found this one to be engaging and creatively stimulating – I know that I certainly have, because I keep waking up with new ideas. Let me know if you have any problems or questions with the subject or any processing issues.  
WHILST I'M CHATTING ....

We have been out walking almost every day and have found [FootPathMap](#) to be a fantastic source of local footpaths to print, many of which we didn't know about. You know how much I love trees and we have really enjoyed three spectacular local woodlands (all very different in character and currently packed with bluebells); Hogback wood - Beaconsfield, Captain's Wood - Asheridge and Rodger's Wood - Old Amersham.

I have also been busy mapping along the Zambesi in Zambia! [Missing Maps](#) is a humanitarian project to map areas of the third world for the Red Cross, Medicins Sans Frontieres, the UN etc. This involves tracing roads, building, rivers etc from satellite images onto the OpenStreetMap which is an open source map of the world. There are hundreds of maps needed and hundreds of thousands of volunteer mappers worldwide.

Finally, having spent time fixing all three printers at home (again) I was very pleased to see that Epson are launching [new A3+ and A2+ photo printers](#) which will no longer have the highly problematic black ink switching. They are also dramatically smaller than their predecessors and other improvements. These are the latest in a line of Epson and Canon top-end photo printers stretching back 25 years but please note that competition-quality prints are available at much less cost from cheaper printers and online sources.

Cheers,  
Steve



## 5. External Competitions (Gill Morgan)

### Rosebowl Finals

This year the Rosebowl Finals Day had to be cancelled due to the Corona 19 virus. Because it is projected competition it was decided to send the images of the 12 finalist clubs to the Judge Jay Charnock to mark at home.

It had been decided that as the CACC Championship Day in March had to be cancelled that the top 2 clubs in the Rosebowl would be invited to the PAGB Inter Club PDI Competition at Warwick in July.

Each club submits 8 images.

Unfortunately Amersham came 5th with Oxford being the winners with Maidenhead and Park Street joint runners up. There will be an anonymous draw to see which of the 2 runners up will go to Warwick.

It has not been decided how the 2 teams to be invited to the Inter Club Print competition later in the year will be decided.

#### Results

1. Oxford 153, 2= Park St 151, 2= Maidenhead 151, 4. Watford 150, 5. Amersham 149, 6 Wycombe 146, 7 Field End 145, 8=Ealing &HH 144, 8=Imagez 144, 10 Wantage 143, 11 Whitchurch Hill 137, 12 .Buckingham 136.

Amersham had some good images which had all scored highly in previous rounds but we always do best in competitions with more images.

If you want to view Oxfords winning entry they are on the CACC website. Interestingly there are a lot of Nature images in their winning entry.

#### Amershams Scores

20 Full Flight by Julie Mullings, 20 Heron with Lunch Nigel Cox, 20 Tackling Jamie George by Julie Mullings, 19 Black Church by Rod Eva, 19 Bleak Winter by Alan Sturgess, 17 Iced Rose by Hilary Bailey, 17 Morning Wait by Felicity Holden, 17 The Aviator by Brian Gough

Well done to Julie for scoring 2 X 20

Gill

### **PAGB Definition of 'Nature' revised**

Some of you will be aware that the PAGB have recently revised their "Definition of Nature to be used in PAGB Competitions". It can be found here:

[http://www.thepagb.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/nature\\_definition.pdf](http://www.thepagb.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/nature_definition.pdf)

...as well as an appendix at the end of this Newsletter.

One of our members feels that the PAGB Definition should be more explicit in not allowing a subject to be removed from its natural habitat for the sake of photography. The

Committee would like to hear views from the membership before considering whether APS should respond to PAGB. Please send any comments, whether or not in support of the PAGB Definition, by **Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> May** to [secretary@amershamphotosoc.com](mailto:secretary@amershamphotosoc.com)

**6. And finally , Vic sends his best wishes:**



Vic's interpretation of the long boring nights of isolation during this coronavirus epidemic!!!

Best wishes,

David Baldock (Editor)

## APPENDIX



### The Photographic Alliance of Great Britain

#### DEFINITION OF NATURE TO BE USED IN PAGB COMPETITIONS

Note that images already meeting the separate FIAP Definition of Nature will satisfy this less restrictive definition.

Nature photography means Images where living organisms are the primary subject matter. The story telling value of an Image will normally be weighed more than the pictorial quality.

Nature includes:

- Images taken with subjects in controlled conditions such as zoos, game parks, botanic gardens, aquariums and enclosures where the subjects are dependent on man for food. Scientific bands, tags or collars are permissible.

Nature excludes:

- Images where people are included.
- Images where the subjects are obviously domestic animals or plants.
- Images where an obviously artistic treatment has been applied.

Processing of the captured image, by cropping, exposure adjustment, colour correction, noise minimisation, dodging/burning, HDR, focus stacking and sharpening, is permitted, as is cloning of image defects and minor distractions including overlapping elements.

Montage is permitted, provided that the finished image looks natural and has not been manipulated "artistically".

In a Nature Event or Category, an Image appearing to meet this Nature definition will be accepted as Nature. The Judges will normally assume that any Image presented to them does meet this Nature definition.

Access to some biological subjects may be restricted. Where that is relevant, then Photographers warrant that they have followed relevant codes of practices and hold any necessary licences.

#### Wildlife

There are no Wildlife Events or Categories in PAGB competitions. Within a Nature Event or Category, an Image may be considered for a Wildlife Award. Before confirming any Award, the Chair of the Organisers will seek assurance that the Image meets the following definition.

Wildlife is defined as one or more living organisms free and unrestrained in a natural or adopted habitat, photographed as a single Image. There must be no additions or removals of any component part within the Image as it is presented. The Photographer may be required to supply the original Image file.