



Newsletter September 2022

1. September Events

All events start at 8pm unless otherwise indicated.

Date	Location	Event	Leader/ judge/ Speaker
Mon, 5	Drake Hall	Opening Night	
Thu, 8	Zoom	Mono Group	Roger Wotton
Mon, 12	Drake Hall	MEMBERS' EVE - Can your Images be Improved	
Wed, 14	Zoom	Committee	
Thu, 15	Drake Hall	PIC Group	Chris Palmer/ Steve Smith
Mon, 19	Drake Hall	SPEAKER: IAN WILSON – File Preparation & Printing	Ian Wilson
Thu, 22	Small Barn Hall	AskAPS	Chrissi Ratcliffe
Mon, 26	Drake Hall	MEMBERS' EVE - PHONE FUN	
Wed, 28	Committee Room	Colour Group	Laurie Turner
Thu, 29	London	Outing: Chimps are Family Exhibition	Juliet Ormiston/ Patrick Hudgell

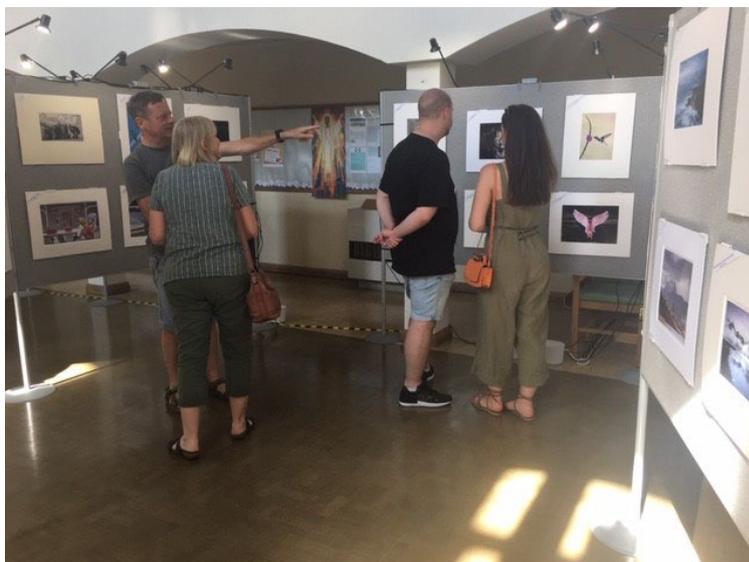
2. Chairman's Message

My piece this month is twofold: Our 70th Exhibition and September events.

Our 70th Annual Exhibition

I hope you all managed to attend our exhibition. I was impressed, we showed such a variety of genre, photographic skills and achievement and during the times I was stewarding we had very positive reactions from the viewing public. Hopefully, we have gained a new member or two. I have to thank Martin for organising the exhibition and Brian and Steve B for all their assistance.

Actually, there were many members involved from the panel choosing night, label making, installation and dismantling to the stewarding so many thanks to everyone and to those who attended the members evening.



September Events

I am assuming that you read August's newsletter so you know what is happening in September. To recap however, there are no club competitions this month as the Committee has chosen to have a period of encouraging everyone with their photography to 'See the Image' and above all to enjoy one's photography. I have to confess the inspiration for me came from Vic Attfield's talk in May.

5th September - Opening Night

We shall hear from members who run our groups :-

Chrissi Ratcliffe (Ask APS)

Steve Brabner (Beyond)

Juliet Ormiston (Outings)

Laurie Turner (Colour + Mono (as Roger Wooten is away))

(Laurie will also mention his role as Members Representative on the Committee)

Chris Palmer (PIC (Photographers in Camera))

Hopefully, their brief talks will inspire you to attend some of the extra activities provided by the Society. The aim is always to enjoy our photography and how to improve our images.

We shall then hear from Steve Holden and John Harding about our internal PDI and Print Competitions and how they can help you to learn from any critique given.

The star of the evening will be Ken Law giving us a talk on his photographic journey which he has entitled 'Back to the Future'.

We shall of course want something to look at during the break, so do, if you wish, bring along one of your very first images and a recent one to display (First and Last) so we can see the improvement and/or development.

12th September - Members Evening 'Can your images be improved'

Initially we shall have two short talks from Brian Ridgley and John Allport explaining how they consider their own images have improved with helpful critique.

For the main part of the evening some of our experienced members will be manning tables giving helpful one-to-one, critique under various genre. This will enable new and newer members to be encouraged to show and improve their images, and for those proposing to enter our internal competitions it gives a chance for your image(s) to be considered and possibly helpful suggestions as to improvements, which can be made, before you actually enter a competition. I appreciate some of our long-standing advanced members no longer enter our internal competitions, however the Society does enter external competitions so there will be a table manned for members to show images which they believe may be suitable, to be considered, to represent the Society in external competitions.

For this evening I am suggesting you can show your image either as a print or on your iPad/Notebook or laptop.

Please do come along with your images (as many as possible) and support the Society .

Those members helping and the genre will be :

Jacqui Titcombe and Linda Gould	Wildlife and Nature
Hilary Bailey and Maggie James	Flowers and Seascape
Peter Jones and Brian Gough	Street Portraiture and Portraiture
Geoff Walker	Sport
Steve Hunter, David Pearson and Chris Reid	Landscape, Architecture and Abstract
Gill Morgan, Brian Ridgley and Laurie Turner	External Competitions

19th September - Speaker Ian Wilson on 'File Preparation and Printing'

26th September - Members Evening 'Phone Fun'

This will be an opportunity to show some phone images you have been taking over recent months. Bob Marshall will highlight in a brief talk some of the phone apps available and then a panel of 3 members (Bob, Steve Brabner and Alison Trimbee) may give some friendly comments. Please send your images to Steve Holden at pdientry@amershamphotosoc.com before the 23rd September.

Sorry it has been a long article, but September is mainly Members' Evenings and I would like as many as possible to become involved. Next month's will be shorter.

Please note Brian is looking for volunteers throughout the season to join the Tea/Coffee rota. So please volunteer.

Diane

3. Speakers' Programme

The full programme of Monday evening activities for the 2022-23 season has been circulated and we very much hope you like what you see – and moreover will like what you experience each Monday.

We've tried to ensure there is a good variety of talks covering an array of genres and types of photography.

Topics covered include: File and Print Prepping; Portraits; ICM; Sport; Street; Landscape, and loads more. A link to the website of each Photographer is detailed on the circulated list and the full programme is accessible from a link on the APS website.

You will note that all our speakers plan to be with us in person, apart from the two who live too far away and they will join us on Zoom.

We will shortly be researching and planning the 2023-24 (can that be possible?) – so if there is a topic you would like covered or a particular Photographer, you'd like us to invite – then please let us know. We can't always promise to deliver, but we'll certainly try.

Hilary & Roger

Programme Secretaries.

4. Print Competitions

Firstly, I would like to thank all those who supported last season's print competitions. I believe that competitions, whilst not the be all and end all, of club activities can be an important way of improving your images. The meeting on the 12th September and Ask APS evenings are other opportunities to seek advice and information.

The 2022/23 season starts on the 5th of September and it might be an idea to start looking at your images and identify those you think may make suitable entries. The 1st round of the print competitions will be held on Monday the 14th November 2022 and, as usual, only one entry per member is required. Full details of how to enter can be found on the APS Website under the heading 'Internal Competitions' and includes suggestions regarding mounting images for competitions.

John Harding, Print Secretary

5. PDI Competitions

Welcome back to the new season (and to any new members welcome to APS). Projected competitions will restart in October and at time of writing and bar any new complications will be fully in person in the Drake Hall. For those that haven't entered before the rules and instructions are on the competitions pages of the website

<https://www.amershamphotosoc.com/competitions-internal/>.

Any submissions should be emailed to the competition address at

pdientry@amershamphotosoc.com by midnight on the Friday night before the competition on the Monday, so for the first round that is 7th October.

We normally accept entries from any point after the previous competition, but as the mailbox will be used for the phone fun entries, please don't send them until after that (so from the 26th September).

If you have any questions they can be asked to me (Steve Holden) on most Monday nights either at the break or after the meeting, or via the pdisec@amershamphotosoc.com address.

Steve Holden

6. External Competitions

The new season of External Competitions is beckoning like the laser probing at James Bond's smartly tailored trousers in Goldfinger.

Firstly, we have the mind numbing brain swell of the North West Fed now back with tactile real photography. That's to say Prints. Due to my criminal lack of good timing - namely a cruise on the Med in September - our selection for the first round at Pinner in October has been badly compromised and needs to be in place by September 11th after which if BA plays ball I'll be on my way to Barcelona.

SO ANY MEMBER WHO HAD A PLACED OR COMMENDED PRINT LAST SEASON, COULD YOU PLEASE BRING IT TO THE APS MEETING ON MONDAY 5TH SEPTEMBER TO MAKE IT AVAILABLE FOR SELECTION.

The NW Fed round in October is quickly followed by The Rosebowl and The PAGB Inter Club Print Competition. That's based in Blackburn, Lancashire where I will have the pleasure of attending on your behalf and will be searching for the mythical Beatles fourteen hundred holes or something like that. Anyone know Paul McCartney for help?

John Caton

Ext Comp Sec

7. AskAPS

AskAPS starts the new season on Thursday September 22nd with an enjoyable and informative evening with Chris Palmer who will talk to us about Printing Paper Choices.

This will cover everything you need to know about home printing your images and what choices of paper are available.

John Harding may pop in during the evening to talk about mounts for presenting your images which will be particularly helpful for new members and those just starting out in entering competitions, and I will be giving out a few 'Slip Mounts' for an easy and effective way to start presenting images.

We look forward to seeing you for a lovely evening held in The Small Barn Hall.

Chrissi Ratcliffe

8. The Mono Group

The Mono Group is an APS Special Interest Group, that supports and encourages members interested in monochrome photography.

We meet on the 2nd Thursday of the month at 07:45pm, with members showing and discussing their images, receiving comments and encouragement from group member's.

We are a friendly group with members bringing prints (that don't need to be mounted) to our live meetings and send digital images in advance for our zoom meetings.

However, you don't have to show prints or images, you can just come to the meetings and contribute to the discussion, if you wish.

This coming year our meetings will alternate between 'virtual on zoom' and 'live in person' throughout the season, details are emailed to members monthly and are also in the APS Programme.

I will be away for the September 8th Zoom meeting, so if you would like to join us, please contact: Diane Smith at diane.sorsopmis@gmail.com or chairman@amershamphotosoc.com for details and the access code for this zoom meeting.

We look forward to seeing you.

Roger Wotton, Mono Group Leader.

The two images below from a recent meeting are by John Allport and Alfred Garcia.



9. The Colour Group

Is a small, friendly, informal group where we enjoy, seeing, discussing and celebrating our colour pictures.

- Each member submits up to three pictures (any genre) which are shown and the author talks about them.
- We then chat about the picture expressing both appreciation and often questions on where and how.
- Some authors will ask for feedback to help understand strengths and weaknesses and potential improvements.

It is a fun enjoyable evening. To quote members;

“Its spending the evening with a group of interesting, enjoyable friends and seeing wonderful images”

“Great way to understand and improve my work”

“We always have a great evening”

Less experienced members have said it is a friendly place to get feedback and take the first steps to be ready for competition

Experienced members have improved work for external international exhibitions.

Some members come just to watch and enjoy.

“So something for all and its fun - please join us”

When and where:

Last Wednesday of the month starting at 8.00 and finishing at 10.00

Alternate, each month, between live and virtual Zoom meetings (see programme).

(This decision is a result of surveying our group)

If you are not a member of our group and would like to join please contact me

laurie899@hotmail.co.uk and you will be put on the distribution list.

Please do join us you don't have to submit pictures initially. You can show old in addition to your latest or just watch.

Look forward to seeing you.

Laurie Turner

The images below are by Geoff Walker, Ken Law, Bob Marshall and Bernard Wallace



10. Photographers in Camera (PIC) Group

After a sweltering few weeks, holidays, and general photographic inactivity it will be good to resume PIC Group meetings on Thursday September 15th, at 8pm, in the New Drake Hall.

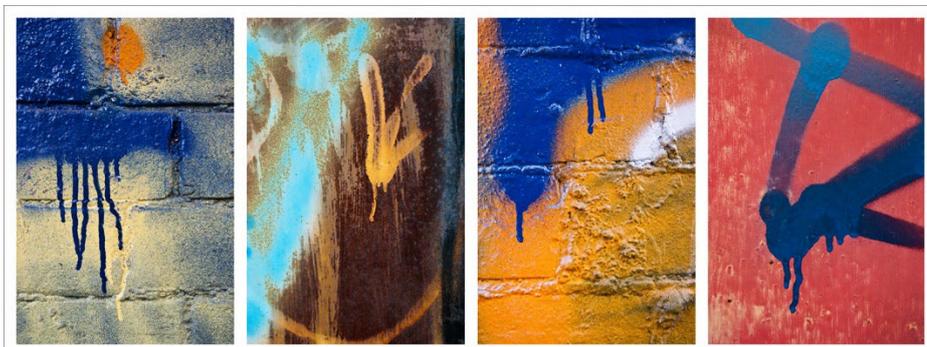
For those that are uncertain about the aims and objectives of the Group, we are there to support photographers who make prints, and wish to work on projects or in themes, on exhibitions or books, rather than in single competitive images. There is a strong belief that an image isn't finished until it's printed, and the opportunity to share work with other Group members can be very rewarding. Membership of the PIC Group is open to everyone. We are grateful to operate under the umbrella of Amersham PS, but aim to cover our own costs with a nominal £10 per season subscription, (which includes free tea and coffee.)

When the PIC Group was formed some years ago very few APS members possessed distinctions of any kind. If you produce prints for the APS competitions, what are you going to do with them

afterwards? The RPS distinctions are a wonderful way of working towards a worthy qualification at one of 3 levels - Licentiate, Associate or Fellow. Chris Palmer is currently Deputy Chair of the Visual Art panel, and has previously served on the Licentiate panel. Meanwhile Steve Smith has assessed on the Documentary, Visual Art, and Travel panels. Hence between them they possess a wealth of experience and can help to support and provide feedback to potential applicants, should they request it. This nurturing support and encouragement has resulted in a significant number of RPS distinctions, and several Group members are currently working on their own future submissions.

Fittingly then for the first meeting we have invited David Harris ARPS to present his beautiful Visual Art Associate print panel, and discuss the process of its evolution, capture, and production. Generally, we have sufficient time for 4 members to show work, so if you have a set of prints that you'd like to show, (even just a pair?), you will be very welcome. (It's always helpful to let Chris know in advance via c.j.palmer@virgin.net). The first meeting will be run by Chris as Steve will be away in Scotland, but should see both leaders together at the subsequent meeting on Thursday 20th October.

Chris Palmer



11. Amersham Beyond Group

If you are interested in going beyond merely capturing what's in front of you with your camera, the Amersham Beyond Group might be for you. We meet monthly and are dedicated to creative photography and photo-art.

You may have seen some of our work at the recent APS Exhibition and I will be speaking and showing more examples on the first APS meeting of the season on 5th September. The first meeting of the Beyond Group will be on 6th October also in the Drake Hall.

There are no competitions or judging. We operate by means of monthly Challenges, the latest of which is *Mobile App Art* where the aim is to take creative images entirely using a mobile phone and apps. Here is one of my efforts over the summer, taken at the Royal Academy Summer Exhibition and using the app Bluristic. It has already provided hours of entertainment. Several of our members have commented that the group gives them freedom to play and have fun with their photography again without worrying about what judges might say.

Steve Brabner



12. Outings

We have had a couple of very successful Photo trips during the summer. In July a large group of us walked from The Oval to Battersea Power Station admiring all the new construction that is going on there.

At the beginning of August, a small group of us had a very pleasant afternoon at Chenies Manor. A big 'Thank You' to Hilary who gave us an excellent informative guided tour of the House. In the afternoon we wandered around the grounds and explored the lovely gardens finishing with some lovely tea and cake.

Here is the link to see our images on **all** of the past outings.

<https://www.flickr.com/photos/10884468@N06/albums>

On 29th September we are planning a trip to London South Bank to explore the chimpsarefamily exhibition which consists of 28 chimpanzee sculptures along the South bank of the Thames between London Bridge and City Hall. The sculptures aim to show how Chimpanzees behave and experience emotion such as love, grief, friendship and conflict in much the same way as we do. The exhibition also hopes to highlight the plight of this highly intelligent but sadly endangered species. The sculptures are sited amongst many famous buildings with great sights of the city so

there will also be ample opportunity for architectural and street photography too.

On Friday 4th November we plan to go to the London Wetland Centre in Barnes. More information to follow.

Please email me if you would like to join us.

outings@amershamphotosoc.com

Juliet Ormiston

Two images from the recent outings by Steve Brabner and Patrick Hudgell



13. Social Media - Facebook

A very warm welcome to all new members of APS. If you are a Facebook user we have a public page that you may like to 'Like and Follow' Amersham Photographic Society - APS.

We also have a private members only group, Amersham Photographic Society Members Only, which you can request to join. This is a friendly, fun, and secure group page where we all share photographs, give and receive help and advice, and let everyone know about get-togethers and outings.

Chrissi Ratcliffe

APPENDIX

COVID 19 Guidance

The government has removed domestic restrictions in England. The following APS guidance will be reviewed monthly by the committee. Please contact a committee member if you have any comments or suggestions relating to this guidance.

APS returns to live meetings for the 2022/23 season. At the time of writing (August 2022) the summer wave of COVID infection in the UK population is declining.

There are currently no plans for "hybrid" Zoom meetings. Where advertised, some SIG meetings will be Zoom only and occasionally a speaker may appear in the Drake Hall over Zoom.

Wearing a face mask during meetings is optional. To maximise personal protection, FFP2 or FFP3 grade masks should be considered.

Please do not attend a meeting **if you feel unwell, have COVID symptoms or have tested positive in the past week**. We will not seek evidence of vaccination or negative tests. We rely on our members to act sensibly for the protection of others and themselves.

APS Committee