



Newsletter November 2023

1. November Events

All events start at 8pm unless otherwise indicated.

Date	Location	Event	Leader/ judge/ Speaker
Thu, 2	Large Barn Hall	Beyond Group	Steve Brabner
Mon, 6	Drake Hall	SPEAKER : Ian Wilson "File Preparation and Printing"	Ian Wilson
Wed, 8	Zoom	Committee Meeting	
Thu, 9	Zoom	Mono Group	Roger Wotton
Fri, 10	Burnham Beeches	Outing: Burnham Beeches for Autumn Colours	Juliet Ormiston/ Patrick Hudgell
Mon, 13	Drake Hall	PRINT COMP 1 – Judge: Paul Burwood	Paul Burwood
Thu, 16	Drake Hall	PIC Group - 7:45 start	Chris Palmer/ Steve Smith
Mon, 20	Drake Hall	North West Fed. Competition	
Mon, 27	Zoom	PDI COMP 2 – Judge: Rosemary Wilman	
Wed, 29	Committee Room	Colour Group	Laurie Turner

2. Chairman's Message

Welcome to our new members who have joined during September and October
I trust you will enjoy being a member of our Society.

October was a varied month for the Society with two excellent speakers Linda Wevill and Steve Varman, a PDI competition and ASK APS, I hope you all learnt a new technique or were encouraged to 'see an image'.

On looking at the programme for November it seems to be virtually a 'Competition Month.'

6th November: We start the month with a talk from Dr Ian Wilson ARPS, who is travelling from Cambridge, on File Preparation and Image Printing. Steve gives us details later in this newsletter.

13th November: The start of our internal print competitions with judging from Paul Burwood. Paul is based at Field End Camera Club although many members will know him from the PIC Group which he attends. If you are intending to enter a competition then your print needs a corner attached with a number, which are issued by John Harding. Please email John at printsec@amershamphotosoc.com, should you want corners.

20th November: We are hosting round 3 of the North West Federation Competition (NWF), the other clubs in our section of the league being Hemel Hempstead Photographic Society and Field End Camera Club. As yet we do not know the allocated judge. Do come and support APS. (details of the two earlier rounds are below)

27th November: This will be the second round of our internal PDI competition. if you did not enter the early competition but would like to enter this round, no problem just make sure you send your images to Steve Holden our PDI secretary, by midnight on the 24th November. Details of how to send are on our website.

So far this season we have entered 4 external competitions.

On the 22nd October we represented the Chiltern Association of Camera Clubs (CACC) along with Watford Camera Club, at the Photographic Alliance of Great Britain (PAGB) Print Competition. There were 37 clubs from around the UK taking part, the final result has at the time of writing this piece, not been published but I think we came somewhere in the lower half but above Watford. Our two most successful prints were Maggie James's 'Perfect Turn' and Steve Hunter's 'Japanese Pines in Sunset' as shown below



PERFECT TURN by Maggie James



*JAPANESE PINES AT SUNSET
by Steve Hunter*

We have competed in two rounds of the NWF against Field End and Hemel, we came 2nd in round 1 and first in round 2.

In round 1 are most successful image in the Print's was Alan Sturges's 'Spike' and in the PDI

Brian Gough's 'Contemplating' as shown below



SPIKE by Alan Sturges



CONTEMPLATING by Brian Gough

In round 2 are most successful image in the Print's was Steve Hunter's image again of 'Japanese Pines in Sunset' which also was a starred image and in the PDI's Alison Trimbee's 'Milkyway at Tyneham' as shown below.



MILKY WAY AT TYNEHAM by Alison Trimbee

The day you may be reading this we will have had Round 1 of the CACC Rosebowl on the 30th October by zoom, so I shall comment on that result next time.

Many thanks to all those involved in the external competitions particularly, Brian, Richard and Hilary.

Enjoy our November Programme

Diane

3. Programme

Guest Speaker: Nov 6th: IAN WILSON ARPS - File Prep and Printing

In Ian's own words he is "a frustrated engineer with a passion for photography". Ian is the Chair of the RPS Licentiate Assessment Panel and his talk will be much as it says on the tin.

His talk will be a master class in the subject of image capture, digital imaging and printing and will be bringing along a number of prints and lamps to show

how viewing in different lighting plays an important role.

Ian was highly recommended by one of our members who said "I thought I knew all about printing but obviously not!"

Hope to see you there,

Steve Hunter

Programme Secretary

4. Print Competitions

The first Print Competition of the season will be held on Monday 13th November at the New Drake Hall. Print Corner Numbers, Titles and Authors name to printsec@amershamphotosoc.com by midnight on Friday 10th November. Some more entries from the General Class would be welcome.

The following is for Intermediate and Advanced Class members only. You will recall that it was agreed that to assist the External Competition selectors these classes would also submit a pdi of their prints to the Print Secretary prior to the competitions. Pdi submissions should be sent as attachments (For Mac Users : Put your images into a new folder, then drag the folder into an email - it is critical you do this, otherwise it will not open on a PC). They should arrive with the email information of the physical print and be in the the same format as for pdi competitions.

John Harding,

Print Secretary.

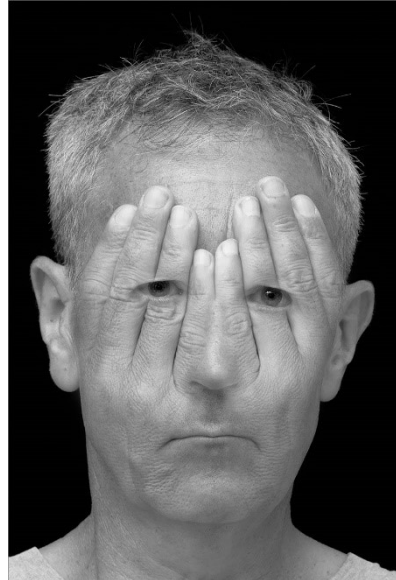
5. PDI Competitions

The first PDI competition was held on 9th October.

Congratulations to the winners.



General - EVERGREEN FRAME
by Richard Pitt



Intermediate - HIDDEN SELF-PORTRAIT
by Andy Smith



Advanced - SWALLOWS ON SPANISH VERANDA by Julie Mullings

The next PDI competition will be on 27th November on Zoom.

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 (6th

November) before the competition on the Monday.

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. The Mono Group

At our October meeting in the Committee Room, we viewed around 40 varied and interesting prints from members, which received comments and constructive advice from members.

Our season continues with meetings alternating between Zoom and Live. Details of our November Zoom meeting will be emailed to members ahead of the meeting as usual.

Should you wish to join our group please email me at the address below to be added to our mailing list to receive details of the meetings and the Zoom access codes.

Roger Wotton, Mono Group Leader.

monogroup@amershamphotosoc.com

7. 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).

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.

Look forward to seeing you.

Laurie Turner

8. Amersham Beyond Group

This group is for creative photography and photo art. We enjoy exploring *beyond the viewfinder*.

We are a sub-group of APS but everyone is welcome including visitors not yet signed up as members.

No prior notice, or equipment is required – just turn up!

We meet monthly and the next meeting will be on Thursday 2th November in the Barn Hall from 8 to 10pm.

The current Challenges are;

#38 Film Grain

#39 Challenge Yourself

and the latest;

#40 Surrealism

If you have any digital photography questions or would like to be on the distribution list for calling notices and meeting notes, email me;

beyondsec@amershamphotosoc.com

Notes of previous meetings and an FAQ are here;

<https://amershamphotosoc.com/message/viewforum.php?f=42&sid=ab73676e9c2c3bbbf544f7243f55f8d2>

Every image produced by group members since 2019 is here;

<https://www.flickr.com/photos/71981796@N00/albums>

Cheers,

Steve Brabner

9. PIC Group

The October meeting of the PIC group was another very successful gathering, attended by possibly the largest audience we have had since the Group's formation.

Four members presented their prints for us starting with **Brian Ridgley**, who has been very busily photographing butterflies locally. An impressive display of 27 prints provided a feeling of being out in the fields and spotting these often-elusive subjects. Brian's technical ability, coupled with a pictorial aesthetic, gave a very good start for a potential Natural History Associate submission.

Seeking advice via a formal RPS one2one might be his next step to determine the appropriate style and formation of his panel.

Next we viewed the work of **Peter Branch** who recently gained his Travel Associate distinction, of Palestine. Helpful was the opportunity given to the Group to compare his first unsuccessful submission beside his heavily revised panel, and hear the changes that Peter made to achieve subsequent success.

After a welcome refreshment break we enjoyed a new body of work from **Patrick Hudgell** who has been working upon a studio based set of detailed photo stacked images of plant details, (seed heads, flowers, buds.) His technical competence was admired, revealing tiny textures, colours and shapes in very small parts of his floral subjects. Feedback and suggestions were provided by the Group on how Patrick might progress the project, and introduce more variety too.

Finally it was pleasing to have the opportunity to view **David Pearson's** successful Fellowship Visual Art panel as it had previously been retained by the RPS for advisory days. His restrained architectural graphic compositions provided a superb finale to a very enjoyable meeting.

On Thursday 16th November (our next meeting) we will have a visit from **Barry Webb FRPS**, who achieved his F very recently, and have a chance to admire his amazing slime mould Natural History panel. Several other members have indicated that they will show prints, so it promises to be another enthralling evening. See you then!

Chris Palmer





10. Outings

The next outing is on **Friday 10th November** when we plan to visit **Burnham Beeches** for the beautiful autumn colours.

<https://www.cityoflondon.gov.uk/things-to-do/green-spaces/burnham-beeches-and-stoke-common/visit-burnham-beeches>

There are subjects to suit all tastes - from woodland, heathland and ancient trees to wildlife and fungi. We may even find some slime molds for those interested in macro work. Burnham Beeches is just 10 miles south of Amersham and has plentiful parking, a great café for coffee and lunch and public toilets. Here are some photos from our recent recce. We look forward to seeing you there.



Wednesday 6th December we will go to **Old Amersham** in the evening to take some low light shots. The ancient buildings, cobbled pavements, Christmas

lights and decorations make great subjects after dark. For those looking for spooky shots there are also three graveyards!

If you would like to join us or have any queries about the outings, please email us and we will send you details

outings@amershamphotosoc.com

or speak to either Juliet or Patrick at the meetings. We are also often at The Beech House Amersham on a Wednesday morning.

Juliet and Patrick

11. ColorChecker Display

We now have a new ColorChecker Display instrument which will calibrate monitors, ensuring that what you see on the monitor is close to what you will get from your printer. This is an essential part of getting consistent & correct colour from your photos & printer. It is available for loan to any APS member - Email Mike Hynes at munki@amershamphotosoc.com to arrange a loan. Download ccStudio from Calibrite and then it's very easy to use – much simpler than the ColorMunki.

The ColorMunki has been retired but is still available if anybody wishes to use it to make print paper profiles.

Mike Hynes

12. Members Galleries on the APS website

All APS members are very welcome to submit images for their individual gallery on the Members' Galleries page of the web site. These galleries are a great way for members to show their own images to the public and also to demonstrate the breadth & depth of the talent within APS.

Members can submit up to 8 images of their choice – they will not be vetted. See the pdf here for the requirements for the gallery:

https://www.amershamphotosoc.com/wordpress/wp-content/uploads/2023/07/Members-Gallery-Images_6-April-2022.pdf

Mike Hynes

APPENDIX

APS Covid Guidance

The following APS guidance is reviewed monthly by the committee. Please contact a committee member if you have any comments or suggestions relating to this guidance.

Wearing a face mask during APS meetings will remain optional. However when infection levels are high, to maximise personal protection, it is recommended that FFP2 or FFP3 grade face masks are worn by those that feel vulnerable.

Nobody should feel embarrassed about wishing to protect themselves by wearing a face covering. Gov.uk guidance updated June 2023 states:

"Face coverings and face masks can help reduce the chance of you spreading infection to others, especially in crowded and enclosed spaces, and may protect you from becoming infected by some respiratory viruses."

Please do not attend a meeting if you feel unwell, have Covid or any other respiratory symptoms or have tested positive for Covid 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

