

Newsletter April 2024

1. April Events

All events start at 8pm unless otherwise indicated.

Date	Location	Event	Leader/Judge/ Speaker
Mon, 1		No meeting	
Thu, 4	Large Barn Hall	Beyond	Steve Brabner
Mon, 8	Drake Hall	PRINT COMP 5 - Judge: David Steel	
Wed, 10	Zoom	Committee Meeting	
Thu, 11	Committee Room	Mono Group - 7:45 start	Roger Wotton
Mon, 15	Drake Hall	AskAPS	Chrissi Ratcliffe
Thu, 18	Drake Hall	PIC Group - 7:45 start	Chris Palmer/ Steve Smith
Fri, 19	Waddesden Manor	Outing - Waddesden Manor	Juliet Ormiston/ Patrick Hudgell
Mon, 22	Drake Hall	SPEAKER:WARREN ALANI 'Talk Sports'	Warren Alani
Wed, 24	Committee Room	Colour Group	Laurie Turner
Mon, 29	Drake Hall	PDI FINALS – Judge: Panikos Hajistilly	Panikos Hajistilly

2. Chairman's Message

How delightful to report another successful month for APS in March with our winning the CACC Championship Print Final and coming 3rd in the PDI final. Congratulations to Brian and his team.

Below you will see (on the right in the photograph) one of the judges Jonathan Vaines expressing his views on Brian Ridgley's owl image. Jonathan incidentally will be giving us a talk next season.



In the Chiltern Hundreds (the competition open to all club members in the CACC) we had many successful images including Jacqui Titcombe's which won the overall Gold Award, congratulations Jacqui.



LOW CLOUD AT MACHU PICCHU by Jacqui Titcombe, Amersham

For anyone interested all Chiltern Hundreds and our Print Images are now displayed on the CACC website.

March also saw the PAGB Masters of Print and I am delighted to say Hilary Bayley received a prize from one of the sponsor's CEWE, congratulations Hilary.

A photograph of Hilary Bailey receiving a prize from Dale Orton. Hilary is on the right, wearing a white scarf and a black jacket, holding a red envelope. Dale is on the left, wearing a dark jacket and glasses, presenting the envelope. In the background, there is a banner for 'MASTERS OF PRINT PHOTOBOOK' and a small inset photo of a narrow street.

<< Hilary Bailey receiving the prize from CEWE who chose her print "Weary Walk Home".

Presented by Dale Orton, Head of Photo Culture and Quality

The fabulous MASTERS OF PRINT PHOTOBOOK – too good to be called a catalogue – has been expertly printed and is being posted to entrants by CEWE.

The CEWE logo, consisting of a stylized red 'W' followed by the word 'cewe' in a red, lowercase, sans-serif font.

Our two talks in March, Steve Brabner and Yin Wong speaking about the work of the late Paul Keene and recently Leigh Preston speaking about the work of High Milsom, were, I thought, inspirational.

For our April programme:

8th April the 5th Print Competition and the judge is David Steel DPAGB from the East Anglian Circuit, being a member of Cambridge Camera Club. His favourite genre is street photography or photojournalism and he particularly likes capturing people in their natural environment, although he does enjoy most forms of photography from natural history to landscape. David has made the following comment

‘Our eyes see many different things. our minds see even more. Photography is an expression of what our mind sees in the world around us ‘

15th April - ASK APS, all I know about the evening is that it is a big secret but it will be a practical evening.

22nd April - Our speaker will be Warren Alani ‘Talk Sports ‘ARPS, DPAGB, AFIAP, ABPE

Please see Steve Hunter’s piece below. I note from Warren’s website he shows some stunning sport’s photographs so I believe this will be yet another inspiring evening.

29th April - PDI Final with judge Panikos Hajistilly, FMPA, FBIPP, FSWPP a professional photographer from North London, who incidentally judged the final last year.

Two Reminders:

If you want to enter the CACC Rosebowl Phone Competition then you need to send your image to Brian by the **6th April** extcomps@amershamphotosoc.com

And secondly, your Society needs you, because as you all know we looking for a volunteer to take up the position of Vice Chairman, to take over the role of Chairman next year. Please contact me if you are interested.

Diane

3. Programme

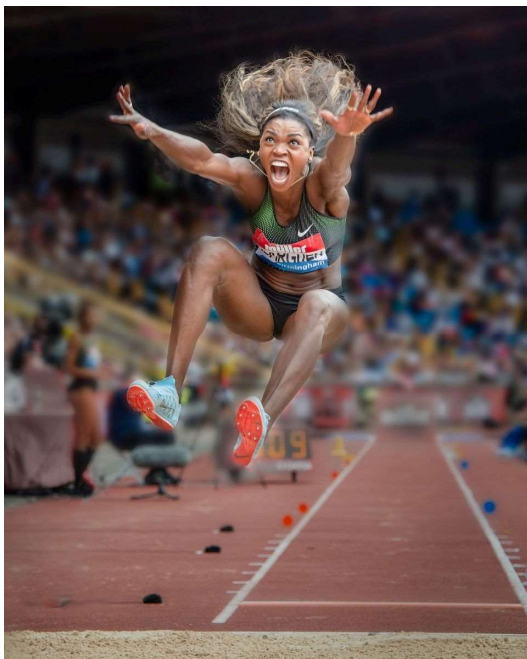
“Talk Sports” - 22nd April 2024

Warren Alani is a photographer based in Northamptonshire who first picked up his first camera as a teenager – a Zenit ET 35mm SLR. This was where his obsession with photography began. In 2009, Warren decided to turn his past-time into something bigger. Taking the knowledge and skills he learned during his youth, he immersed himself in the new age of cutting-edge technology and turned his hobby into craft. In just a few short years, Warren has cultivated a clear artistic direction and a distinctive style in his work. His acute attention to detail has earned him recognition from national and international bodies such as The Royal Photographic Society and the Fédération Internationale de l'Art Photographique. Warren has also been awarded an honours distinction from the Photographic Alliance of Great Britain, as well as having his work displayed around the world at the Masters Of Print exhibition (for seven consecutive years), in the revered London Salon of Photography, and at his own exhibitions in the U.K. and in Europe. In 2022, Warren was awarded the FIAP Blue Pin for Most Acceptances at the world-famous Edinburgh Photographic Society's international exhibition.

His talk focuses on capturing the action in a very unique, creative way. In this presentation he will also share both techniques and tips that will help take you from standard imagery to striking pieces of work. His presentation features photographs from the world of athletics, para athletics, tennis, swimming, BMX and much more, both in the UK and internationally. Alongside the "Hero moments" are candid shots taken during the event, which highlights the

emotion of the athlete.

Steve Hunter



4. Print Competitions

Our 4th Print Competition was held on the 4th of March. Results are as follows.

General Class:

- 1st 'Show some Backbone' by Richard Pitt
- 2nd 'Casting Shadows' by Janette Quainton
- 3rd Unlocked and Unloaded by Richard Pitt

Commended Print was 'You Looking at Me' by Steve Poole

Intermediate Class:

- 1st 'Stacked' by Vivienne Blewitt
- 2nd 'Lazy Norfolk Beach' by Vivienne Blewitt
- 3rd 'Coming in to Land' by Gill Allport

Commended Images were 'Time to Relax' by Sylvia Morris; 'Keeping Watch' and 'Cambron Lighthouse' both by Hilary Pickersgill.

Advanced Class:

- 1st 'Carving the Turn' by Maggie James
- 2nd 'Short Eared Owl Quartering' by Brian Ridgley
- 3rd 'Gloucester Dock Impressions' by Gill Morgan

Commended Images were 'Nestling in the Flowers' and 'Design and Decay' both by Hilary Bailey, and 'Balconies' by Roger Wotton.

The 5th and Final competition of this season is to be held on Monday **8th April**. Details to the Print Secretary by Midnight on Friday 5th April at the latest. The Judge is to be David Steel. **Please ensure that all prints entered have the correct corner numbers securely fixed to the top left-hand corner of the mount and the title and author are clearly displayed on the rear of the mount.**

All scores and Leagues are on the club Website.

John Harding

Print Secretary.

5. PDI Competitions

The fifth PDI competition was held on 18th March.

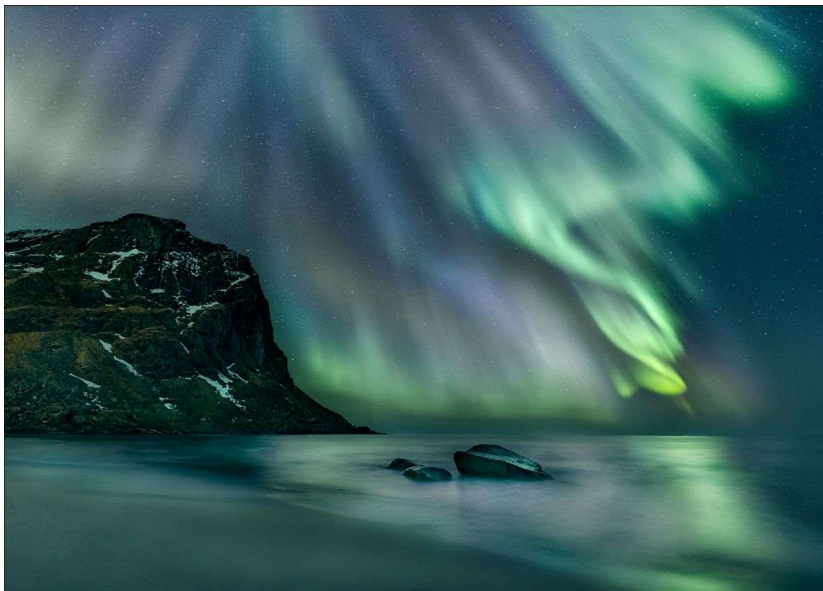
Congratulations to the winners.



General - BUDDY by Don Lewis



Intermediate - PASSING BY by John Allport



Advanced - AURORA FILLED SKY UTAKLEIV LOFOTEN by Maggie James

The final league tables can be found on the website. Congratulations to the

winners of each class. Mark Farrand, Deepan Vyas and Julie Mullings.

The PDI final will be held on **Monday 29th April**.

Each author may submit two images that have been in a PDI competition during the season. Entries should be unchanged from those previously used. The judge will pick the best image from each class and the PDI of the Year.

Any submissions should be emailed to the competition address at pdientry@amershamphotosoc.com by midnight on the Friday 26th.

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/>.

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

The next meeting will be a face to face meeting on 11th April in the Committee Room starting at 7:45.

Should you wish to join our group please email me at the address below to receive details of all meetings.

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. Ask APS

The third and final Ask PS of this season is on Monday 15th April. I am not giving away too many details but both Chrissi and I feel you are in for a huge treat and not of the chocolate variety. You will need your cameras with perhaps a short to medium length lens, 35 to 105 or 70 to 200 will be perfect. You will not need a tripod so please leave them at home. A flash gun may be useful. I can confirm we have a very special guest who is travelling a fair distance to join us and because of this we will supply extra nice tea and biscuits but at a charge of £2. All monies made is to pay towards our visitor's expenses. (We will need a couple of helpers for this). Also there could be other items that you may wish to purchase so extra cash could be good. I hope lots of you can come along to what potentially will be one of the best APS nights in a long time.

In the words of a great man. He who dares wins, he who don't... DON'T !!

Brian

9. Amersham Beyond Group

This group is for creative photography and photo art.

We are a sub-group of APS but everyone is welcome including visitors not yet signed up as members. There are no rules or judges, no equipment required and no prior notice necessary

We meet monthly and the next meeting will be on Thursday 4th April in the LARGE BARN HALL (*note the venue*) from 8 to 10pm.

The current Challenges are;

#42 Film Noir Revisited

#43 Oil and Water

and the latest;

#44 Blending Modes



#42 ANONYMOUS SHARP DRESSED MAN by Viv Blewett



#43 OIL & WATER by Diane Smith



#43 BLOWING BUBBLES by Myra
STOKES

See the notes of the last meeting for more about these Challenges;
<https://amershamphotosoc.com/message/viewtopic.php?f=42&t=860>

See the FAQ for more about the group and how to submit images;
<https://amershamphotosoc.com/message/viewtopic.php?f=42&t=814>

If you have any digital photography questions or would like to be added to the distribution list for calling notices and meeting notes, email me;
beyondsec@amershamphotosoc.com

Every image produced by group members since 2019 is here;
<https://www.flickr.com/photos/71981796@N00/albums>

Cheers,

Steve Brabner

10. PIC Group

Another captivating evening filled with intriguing photography marked the PiC Group's March gathering, offering a wonderful opportunity to reflect on the successes of our members.

We kicked off the evening with a glimpse into the past as **Steve Smith** shared his 1984 Associateship panel, characterized by a pictorial genre. In those days, a set of twelve darkroom prints flush-mounted on black mount board was quite acceptable. It was apparent that cohesion played a lesser role compared to today, with the focus being more on individual images.

In stark contrast, **David Manning** presented his successful Associate Applied panel, capturing vibrant street scenes from Hong Kong a few years ago.

Utilizing techniques such as shooting from the hip or without using the viewfinder, David displayed a stunning collection of street photography—a genre we hope to see more of within our group and in clubs.

Building on his Associateship panel, David also shared his latest work, which predominantly consisted of montages created by blending elements from multiple images. This innovative approach has garnered him considerable success at the club level, with many prints scoring a 20. While street photography traditionally adheres to strict guidelines regarding manipulation, David's creative montages offer a fresh if not controversial perspective on the genre.

Following the insightful presentations, **Sally Kitchingham**, a recent addition to our group, unveiled her successful Licentiate panel. Her collection showcased exceptional printing quality and compelling subject matter, exemplifying the standards expected at this level.

To conclude the evening, **Geoff Walker** treated us to a series of captivating black & white prints captured during his time in Venice. Seeking feedback and opinions on his series, Geoff received constructive suggestions regarding potential refinements. Suggestions included focusing on a more cohesive theme and perhaps revisiting Venice to further explore a concept suitable for a Travel panel.

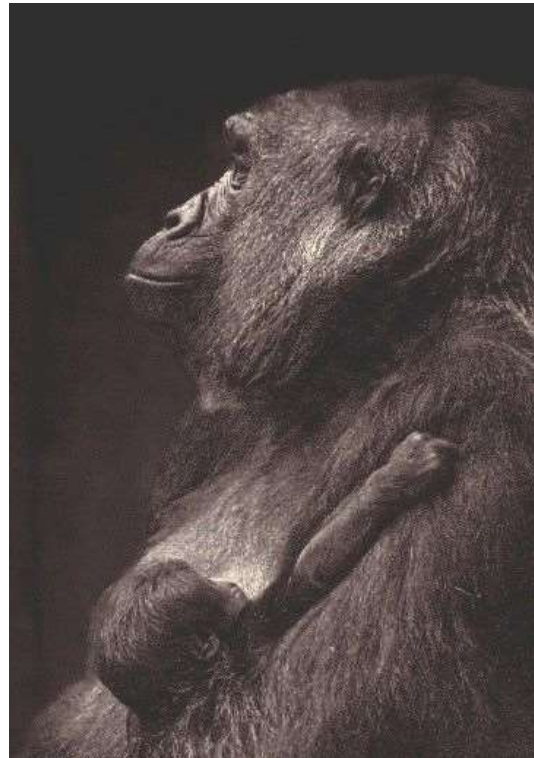
As always, our meetings are enriched by the diverse talents and perspectives of

our members. We look forward to another inspiring gathering next month.

Steve Smith

11. Outings

Despite the cold drizzly day, we had a very enjoyable day at London Zoo last week, it was very good to see two new members joining us. The highlight of the visit were the baby gorillas, and watching the interaction between them and their parents. Dad seemed to be more interested in sleeping, while the mothers were manicuring their babies' finger nails. The penguins were very inquisitive too!



Our next outing is to **Waddesdon Manor on Friday 19th April.**

We will explore the beautiful gardens and the new Wedding Cake sculpture.

You can also visit the house if you wish. Please note you will need to buy timed tickets in advance to visit the Wedding Cake so please let us know ASAP if you

would like to come and we will give you all the details that you need.



Dates for your diaries: -

Tuesday 14th May - City of London 'Vertigo Tour' when we will be going up four high rise buildings including the new Look Out & Horizon 22 buildings. This trip is now full so we have created a reserve list.

If you would like to join us, please email outings@amershamphotosoc.com and we will add you to the list. Please note that we need to limit the group size on some outings so it's "first come first served".

If you have any queries about the outings, please email or speak to either Juliet or Patrick at club meetings or at The Beech House, Amersham on a Wednesday morning.

Juliet & Patrick

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