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## Newsletter June 2026

### 1. June Events

All events start at 8pm unless otherwise indicated.

Date	Location	Event	Leader/Judge/ Speaker
Mon, 1	Drake Hall	APS Annual General Meeting followed by a talk by Hilary Bailey	
Wed, 10	Zoom	Committee Meeting	
Thu, 11	Committee Room	Mono Group - 7:45 start	Roger Wotton
Thu, 25	Zoom	APS On-Line Group	Tony Wright

### 2. Chairman's Message

Our last May Monday meeting was our print finals so congratulations to Janette Quainton, Charlie Blewett and Hilary Bailey and especially to Charlie for gaining Print of the Year. The images you will see later in this newsletter.

Our only Monday meeting now until next season is our **AGM on the 1st June**. I trust you have all read the AGM papers which were circulated on the 18th May, so you will be aware of any points to be discussed. We shall also be appointing the Committee for next year and hopefully Richard Pitt will be appointed as your new Chairman. I hope that you will all give him the support and encouragement which you have given me over the last few years.

Heather Sparks will be available in the break to answer anyone's questions about the APS Exhibition at the end of August, although Heather has already sent out comprehensive information and details are on our website. For our newer members who belong to the Mono and Beyond Groups you will be contacted directly Roger Wootton /John Harding and Steve Brabner about images for their exhibition panels. Also, Steve Brabner prepares an AV of our PDI images which is shown at the exhibition.

After our refreshment break on Monday evening, Hilary Bailey will explain to us all about brushes, not those of the sweeping kind but those you can create in Photoshop and then can use creatively in a photographic image. Hilary is I believe a master of this technique so it will give us all something to practice over the summer months.

As this year's season is fast approaching its end I hope that you have all enjoyed our programme and that we continue to encourage your photography whatever the genre.

I am particularly interested to hear from our new members on their thoughts and experiences with APS, so please do email me.

Just because we are not meeting until September does not mean you have to forget about the Society because :

- a. Our exhibition is at the end of August therefore you need to think about your exhibition prints. Heather has already advised about collection dates and entry forms which you will find on our website.
- b. The Beyond Group has a summer challenge of 'Abstract Architecture' which was rather coincidentally the topic of the last external speaker Steve would be delighted if other members took part.
- c. As hinted before we can all practice 'creating brushes' following Hilary's talk.
- d. Our external competitions team need to build up a bank of PDI's and prints for next season's external competitions. If you have any suitable images please contact either Brian Ridgley or Hilary Balley.

Finally, I hope to see you Monday, enjoy your summer and thank you for supporting me during my Chairmanship.

**Diane**

### **3. Print Competitions**

All the internal print competitions are now complete, and all results and scores are available on the club website.

Our Print Final was held on the 18th May and the results were as follows:-

#### **General Class**

*1st – ‘Standing in Line’ by Janette Quainton*



*2nd - ‘Katie's Swan Song’ by Charles Biggie*



3rd - 'A Segmented View' by Janette Quainton



## Intermediate Class

1st – *'Man versus Tunnel'* by Charlie Blewett



2nd - *'Raindrops and Rooftops'* by Charlie Blewett



3rd - *'All the Fun of the Fair'* by Steve Simpson



## Advanced Class

1st – *'A Captured Moment'* by Hilary Bailey



2nd - *'The Muster'* by John Harding



3rd - 'Valetta Skyline' by Roger Wotton



## **PRINT OF THE YEAR: 'MAN VERSUS TUNNEL' by Charlie Blewett**

The Judge was Phillip Joyce FRPS.

My thanks go to all members who submitted images to the competitions, to the judges who took on the difficult job of scoring them, to all the print handlers and to Jacqui Titcombe for her support through the season. The quality of images was very impressive and I'm sure that will continue. I hope that more members of the General Class will participate next season.

**John Harding**

**Print Secretary**

## **4. 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 7:45pm, with members showing and discussing their images, receiving comments and encouragement from group members.

We are a friendly group with members bringing prints (that don't need to be mounted) to our 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.

Our next meeting is on Thursday **11th June at 7:45 in the Committee Room.**

We look forward to seeing you.

**John Harding & Roger Wotton,**

**Mono Group Leader.**

## **5. Photographers in Camera (PIC) Group**

The May meeting provided a fitting finale for the PIC Group. To have so many members in attendance provided Steve and I with an wonderful endorsement of our initiative in forming this Group, and the value that so many of you have gleaned from our print sessions.

**Steve Hunter** started our presentations and explained the way that he has matured and developed as a photographer. Starting with strong influences from

attending Bruce Percy workshops, the prints that Steve showed provided good evidence of the way he works in the landscape, linked with careful production of his resultant lovely prints.

**Steve Smith** next displayed many 'hot off the printer' new prints, the result of his recent trip to India. Steve's travel and street work invariably have a certain look to them, invariably monochrome, and seen through his own eyes, carefully framed and subsequently processed with great care. Most of Steve's presentation contained a certain indefinable "Smith" signature.

After a wonderful refreshment break, which included a much appreciated speech by Hilary, and a very generous gift to both Steve and I, we finally saw some of my work.

A mix of A3, A3+, and A2 prints, landscape is my passion, and my love. A top row of coastal work from the UK, a middle row from Yellowstone NP, and a bottom row of some of my well known images including Aspen Grove and Icelandic Horses. The members seemed to appreciate them?!

In addition to the formal presentations it was gratifying to see so many wonderful prints on display around the room, including Martin Warner's phone box installation (complete with goodies), and the books too.

In conclusion, although it is sad to draw the PIC Group to a close we can, as Hilary suggests, reflect with pride upon the 146 or so meetings that we have convened since the Group's formation. We would like to think that the members will continue to pursue their photography armed with some of the knowledge and information that they have gleaned from their membership of our Group.

Thank you all!

Best wishes,

**Steve Smith FRPS & Chris Palmer FRPS.**





## 6. The On-Line Group

This month's On-Line Group meeting will be held via Zoom at **8.00pm on Thursday 25th June.**

Amersham's "Secret" Photographic Society is convening for the season's finale.

Why not join us for a real-time editing session and see what difference the suggestions might make to your images?

Information about the Group is available on our website, and you can join us by emailing Tony Wright at: [ARW1303APS@btinternet.com](mailto:ARW1303APS@btinternet.com)

**Tony**

## 7. Outings

After the success of our 'Wildlife and Water Skiing' outing last year we have decided to run this again on **Wednesday 15th July.** This will be held at Rickmansworth Aquadrome and should give some great opportunities for action

photos. Batchworth lake is surrounded by trees so it is a great place to get some shady spots if the sun gets too hot.

If you would like to join us please email [outings@amershamphotosoc.com](mailto:outings@amershamphotosoc.com).

Looking forward to seeing you there.

**Juliet & Patrick**

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