

I-M-A-G-I-N-E

THORNBURY CAMERA CLUB NEWSLETTER

Issue 100

4th January 2022



Celebrating 100 issues!

The first issue of the club newsletter, in May 2012, was nearly a decade ago. As the newsletter reaches its 100th edition, we wondered what important changes have taken place in photography in that time. To set the ball rolling we

asked Steve Wells for his take on the question (Page 2). Do you agree? You may think more about advances such as drones or increased storage capability. Do you foresee any implications for clubs such as ours? All views welcomed!

Coming up in January - Programme Highlights

3rd: No meeting

10th: Tom Crowe Challenge judging (AV)

17th Internal Competition judging, round 3 (open): *Note that the judge will now be Colin Harrison.*

24th Dean Packer: How to edit an image in Photoshop: *Members can provide images in advance and Dean will pick one or two to create his "take" on them.* (tcc@itpresents.co.uk)

31st Matthew Tosh - photographing fireworks. There may be a chance to practice - be prepared! <https://www.matthewtosh.com/> *Members' evening reminder - Magic. See article in this newsletter for more information.*

With half an eye on the Covid situation, all these meetings will or could be delivered virtually. Watch out for more information.

A reminder about safety

In the programme highlights you will note that venue decisions will be influenced by the latest Covid information. If meetings continue to take place in Turnberrie's, the Committee would like to remind you to attend only if you are sure you are not infectious. Thank you.



Six Pix In Six Months

A reminder that at the end of the club year in May we look forward to seeing your six pictures of one location taken on six different occasions. Different weather, different light, different months, different seasons!

In the time of the newsletter (Steve Wells)

The Thornbury Camera Club Newsletter has reached one hundred editions. There have been many publications which would have been pleased to achieve such a landmark. In the time during which the Newsletter has reached its venerable age and in the years before, there have been changes in the photographic industry. Famous camera marques have vanished and new technologies have changed the nature of the business.

To understand this, we need to look at two things: First, the upheavals which were brought to a head by the financial crash of 2008 and, second, the effect of social media and the smartphone.

Even before the meltdown of 2008, big names in the photography business had started to disappear. In 2006, Minolta, then owned by Konica, sold out to Sony who went on to become one of the new kids on the block. Then, in 2011, Ricoh bought Pentax. The name Pentax survives but without the significance that it once held. The biggest shock of all came in 2012 when the oldest name in the business, Kodak, filed for bankruptcy. The trend has continued with Olympus selling its camera manufacturing business in 2021.

During this time, social media, particularly Facebook, has been on the rise. Alongside it, the ubiquitous smartphone has become the "must have" gadget for old and young. It is now possible for a photograph to be taken and to appear on the internet within seconds. Timeliness has become a more valued commodity in a photograph than focus, exposure or composition.



For traditional camera makers, the arrival of the smartphone marked the end of the market for cheap point and shoot cameras. They vanished overnight. Why would anyone want a small camera when they already have a phone? The camera makers have responded by selling the idea that we all need a "full frame" camera to get high quality images. The unstated point being that since you can't fit a 24mm x 36mm sensor in a phone, you can't get a high quality image from a phone. In reality, few of the people using "full frame" cameras

create photographs in a format which need a large sensor. Then, there are travel writers using iPhones to take images which are of a high enough quality to be used in books and glossy magazines.

As the man in the street has found it easier to take photographs and to share them, so the role of the professional photographer has diminished. A local newspaper which once employed a team of photographers now relies on readers to send in photographs. The photographer who once would have set up premises and a studio on the high street has long-since vanished. In days past, the wedding photographer with his Hasselblad would take twelve images on black and white film and, if you were lucky, the proofs would arrive during the reception. Today, a hundred images of the wedding are already available on the internet long before the guests arrive at the reception to be welcomed by the Bride and Groom.

Perhaps, when the Newsletter reaches its 200th edition, we will have abandoned cameras as we understand them today and instead will all be using smartphones, or whatever might succeed them ...



Wildlife Photographer of the year

A reminder that WPOTY is back at M Shed with one hundred powerful images telling the story of a planet under pressure, giving us a deeper understanding of the issues facing nature and the actions we need to take to protect it. Runs until June 2022.



WCPF News

No decision yet on whether the club might enter the 2022 Kingswood Salver, but in the meantime, here are the winners from 2021: <https://www.thewcpf.com/copy-of-kingswood-salver-1>

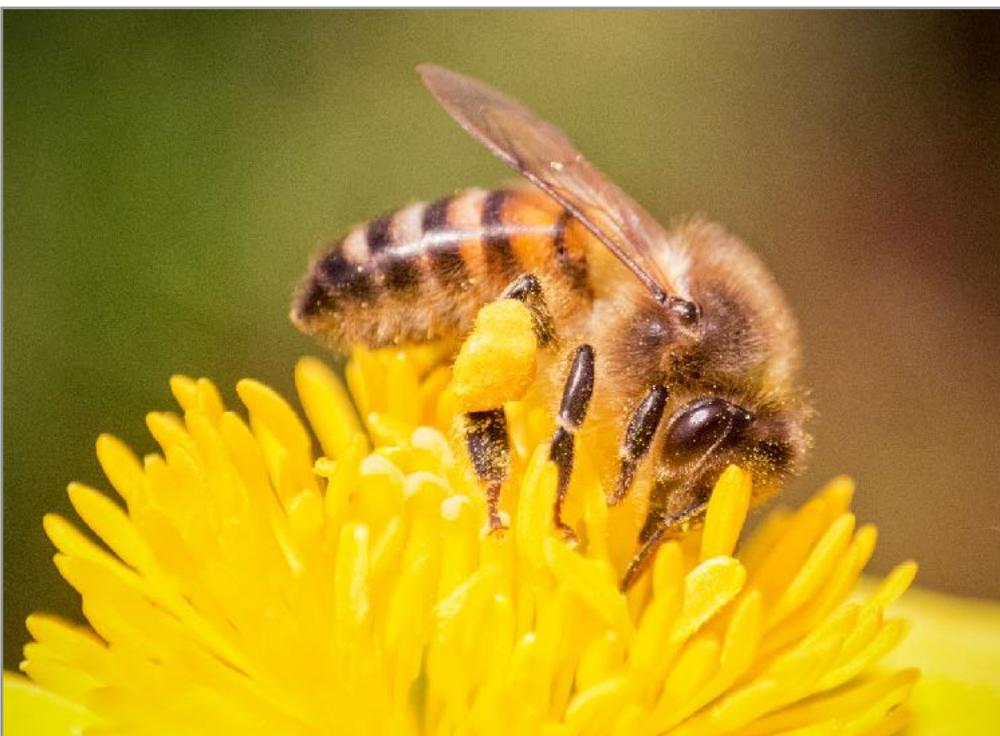
Also, facebook visitors will have seen the recent posting from Simon Meeds about the 2022 members' exhibition - entries by 5th March.

[https://photoexhib.com/wcpfex/login.php?](https://photoexhib.com/wcpfex/login.php?fbclid=IwAR1RohrJIHfg2Bj2DQQVWuI0EAzWcp4uzjLcbQsagWUmiX72tmQCpMhhQxY)

[fbclid=IwAR1RohrJIHfg2Bj2DQQVWuI0EAzWcp4uzjLcbQsagWUmiX72tmQCpMhhQxY](https://photoexhib.com/wcpfex/login.php?fbclid=IwAR1RohrJIHfg2Bj2DQQVWuI0EAzWcp4uzjLcbQsagWUmiX72tmQCpMhhQxY)

Internal competition round 4 - Water

We plan to include a briefing on this in Issue 101, but for those wishing to be ahead of the game, the closing date for entries is February 14th.



Members' Evening 7th February: Magic (or ...)

Simon Meeds offers us some guidance, and begins by referring to dictionary definitions:

- the secret power of appearing to make impossible things happen by saying special words or doing special things
- the art of doing tricks that seem impossible in order to entertain people.
- a special quality or ability that somebody/something has, that seems too wonderful to be real.

Your images could show any aspect of "magic". Perhaps you've seen a magician performing, an object or scene associated with magic (top hat, rabbit, wand...), or the magic may be in your image itself (impossible or too wonderful to be real). Magic may be a found object or scene, something created in reality, or something you have created in your

camera or computer. You may like to draw on presentations we have seen this season from John Hudson, Peter Haworth and Gary Nicholls.

The theme isn't meant to restrict your imagination, but rather to inspire it, so you can ignore everything above if you like. We can all find some magic around us. Here's one person's view - <https://youtu.be/AMnHcK3sr38>

Remember that the themes of this year's Members' Evenings are intended as the fall-back option if you need inspiration. The main aim of these evenings is to give you an opportunity to show us a recent photographic project that you have undertaken, whatever the subject.

Images to postmaster.thornburycameraclub@gmail.com by Jan 31st 2022.



Bristol Salon

We hear speakers talking about salons, and they seem to refer to 'faraway places with strange sounding names'. Well, time to put that right! Bristol Salon 2022 is happening later this year, so to whet your appetite, here are acceptances from 2021: <https://bristolsalon.co.uk/2021-gallery/>

