



The Little Man

Summer 2009



Wastwater - Mike Martingdale



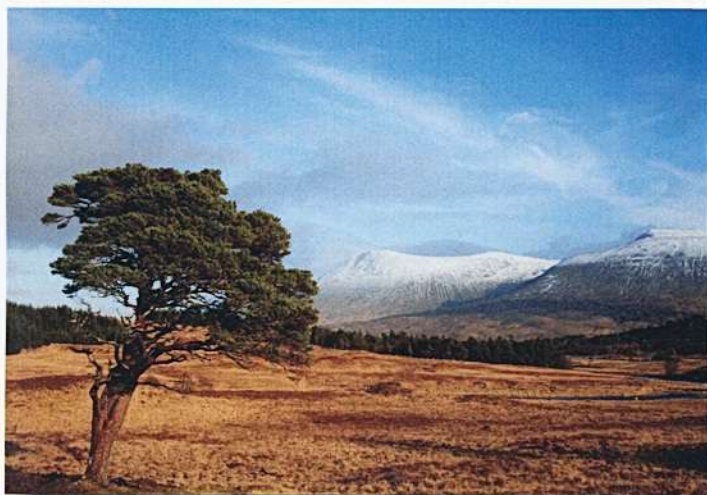
Safe Haven - John Grainger ARPS



Frosted Trees - Ann Owens



Stretching Cheetah - Ken Dickeson



Tree on the Moor - David R Neal AFIAP, DPAGB



Reflections - Julie Graham

Front page Red Flyer - Peter Crook ARPS DPAGB

I would like to thank everyone for their support for my first edition. I know there were a lot of mistakes and I apologise for those.

Circumstances are different now and I have no excuses. I have continued to place pictures from the 2008 portfolio both winners and non-winners as I believe everyone should have a chance to see their pictures in print. There is not enough space for everyone so please do not be too disappointed if your picture has not been chosen this time.

The articles which were not in the last edition have been posted in this edition as well as other articles supplied since.

I have been a member of UPP for over two years now and have enjoyed looking at other members photos and have picked up a lot of ideas for pictures. So far I have not won a monthly competition but that does not matter (much). It is the taking part that counts and the annual rally which makes it all worth while. The UPP needs some new members to help finance it, so if you know someone who enjoys photography and are not members have a go trying to persuade them to join.

The AGM Convention is being held on 18,19, &20th September you will find details enclosed with this edition.

The council is trialing an Internet circle. This circle does everything over the internet, there is not a single piece of paper or postage and you see the pictures as they were created on the computer screen. We will keep you informed of the progress.

Obituary

Since our last little Man we have heard of the sad news of the death of Mervyn Williams a past President and a very hard working UPP council member. I only saw him twice, he was never idle always working behind the scenes to make the AGM go smoothly. I have spoken to a few of our long standing members who remember him and Bob Scott past slide competition secretary, when he was setting up the slide projector at one AGM meeting in London remembers Mervyn standing on the tables taking out the light bulbs to make the room dark enough for showing the slides, He was a shy man who never wanting any accolade for all his efforts and he will be sorely missed.

Also I heard that Betty Underwood a member for 30 years has sadly passed away, Betty was a member of circle 28 Our thought are with both their families and UPP will miss them.

Liz Boud, President

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Ken Payne's Tale of Woe

As you may remember I recently built my own computer and everything has been working fine, that is until the first week of January. It had only been on for five minutes when an alarm sounded and all the fans inside stopped working. The LED readouts on the front also stopped. I changed some of the leads and had a fiddle with it but to no avail. When I switched it on the following morning everything came back to life again, well the fans were working at least, which was a blessing, but some of the buttons for adjusting the settings were not. I emailed www.GameCase.co.uk about the problem and they said, send it back Gov and we'll replace it. However, I wasn't happy to be without a computer for a couple of weeks due to all the work I have to do, and although I have a laptop and could get by it's just not the same, particularly for making prints. So I emailed back to say that if I bought a new case would they refund me if I returned the faulty one. The reply I got back was they would now send me a new front panel and for me to send the faulty one back afterwards. This was service at it's finest. I received it the following morning and proceeded to fit it. There were no screws involved, all I had to do was unplug the LED lead and lift the front up and pull it forward and the new one went back the same way. Everything was now working fine, at least until the next day.

The new front panel also threw a wobbly and shut down one of my fans. I was straight back onto the phone and spoke to the top guy who then promised to send me a brand new case the same day and collect the old one at the same time, no cost for postage here I might add, which I might have been reluctant to pay anyway. Ten minutes later I got an email from Am-track to say it would be delivered the next day, but my troubles were not over yet, read on, this gets good. The new case arrived at 11.00am and it took me a couple of hours to re-build it and I added another 200 GIG SATA drive at the same time to make a complete bootable back-up image of C: Drive. I plugged in and held my breath thinking to myself have I put all the connections in the right places or will it blow up. Up came the DOS screen and straight into windows, phew! this was wonderful, no problems yet I thought to myself! I then went straight into Disc Management (access via the Control Panel for XP) to check if the 200 GIGI SATA hard drive had been seen. NO IT FLIPPING WELL HADN'T. XXX it I thought, kicking the cat .

The only answer was to check out the BIOS. I rebooted tapping the delete key all the time and it wouldn't go into the BIOS, in fact it XXXXX thing wouldn't go into anything(that word is in the dictionary by the way), so the cat got kicked again and Ellie kicked me for kicking the cat. I then got a message saying "Insert Boot Media and Reboot". What's that all about I thought. After taking a deep breath to calm my nerves I sat back poured myself a large scotch on the rocks and had a think. Then it clicked, I must have the boot sequence wrong in the BIOS, but how was I going to get into the flipping BIOS the keyboard wasn't working. Change the Keyboard I thought, it might just work, as the one I was using was a USB connection to a USB card. Another keyboard was connected but this time to the PS2 socket on the motherboard, and bingo I was in. When I checked the hard disc utilities section, I was right, I had the boot sequence round the wrong way and it was trying to load windows from the new drive, which had nothing on it. As soon as I rebooted again everything was working fine and the two SATA drives were reading in DOS. I was then able to format the new drive in Windows Disc Management. I switched the computer off and on a couple of times just to be sure everything was back to normal, and it was. This was brilliant, all working after a hectic two days of tearing my hair out..... that was until I came home that evening and switched on - the flipping thing wouldn't boot up again, here we go again I thought, so it was off with the side panel to make sure all the leads were firmly plugged in. I switched on, and believe it or not it kicked into Windows. So was it a loose lead or was there a problem, who knows. It's been going like the clappers for couple of weeks now and I'm glad to say everything is working fine, even the case. And now onto my son's computer which I blew up after trying to fit a new floppy disc drive, I didn't do anything silly, honest, it just wouldn't boot into Windows when I put everything back as it was.

This computer was only a cheapo anyway but he had files on it that couldn't be lost. I took it over to a friend who originally built it for him and he couldn't get it to boot into Windows either so he took the hard drive out and fitted it to a cradle that fitted into one of the CD drive slots on his computer. The jumper on the back of the drive was changed so it would read as a slave backup and he booted up from his drive and strangely we were then able to read all Andrew's files from the drive in Windows Explorer. The drive was fitted back into my son's computer and bingo, it kicked into Windows, so what was all that about for Christ sake. I can only assume that something on the hard drive got knocked out of kilter when I was messing with it and after opening up the folders on another computer, it must have said to itself- hey guys there's nothing wrong with us lets boot back into Windows. You never know what is going to happen next with computers do you. So there you have it folks, computers can drive you raving mad sometimes, but dont I just love it. To date both computers are going like the clappers with no problems but watch this space future episodes.

Fortunately I don't have any of these troubles anymore now that I am a MAC user. I still hear about people having allsorts of problems though, when will Bill Gates get it right, probably never with the system he has at the moment. (Is it Bill Gates Fault, The Parts or the Meddler? Editor)

How to Make Big Suns - Jan Linden

Sure, these pictures may border on cliches, but they are cliches that never fail to grab us. Were all suckers for that frame-filling drama of Ol Sol looming large on the horizon.

And we all know how to get those shots of big suns - just shoot the horizon with that fabulously expensive, super-speed, extra low-dispersion glass, apochromatic tele, right?

Wrong. You need a long lens, sure, but it neednt be a budget buster. Some very good 500mm mirror lenses come in under \$200, store price. There are all-glass 400mm, 500mm, and 600mm designs from major independents that sell for \$300-500. And you can make an existing tele longer by using a teleconverter. That fine 300mm f/4 you bought for nature work, for example, can be converted to a 600mm f/8 with a 2X converter. Thats a pretty good focal length for big suns. Using a 3X converter will make a 900mm f/12, and so on.

Besides a tele, you need a sturdy tripod - flimsy travel models need not apply. For one thing, focusing and framing through a long tele is far easier if the rig is well supported. For another thing, even a little shake can blur a long-tele shot.

A spot or limited-area meter helps, although it is not essential. An overall meter reading with an SLR will generally be far too high, resulting in a shot thats too dark - even if the desired effect is a silhouette. Most big-sun shooters use the strategy of spotmetering an area of the sky near but not immediately adjacent to the sun - an area in which some sky tone appears. This will give you a silhouette reading that will still maintain a little shadow detail.

And how do you focus and compose with that big burning disk staring you right in the eye? First, if everything in your frame is a long distance from the camera, setting the lens to infinity is the easiest way to focus without being dazzled. Otherwise, you may prefocus the camera with the sun just out of the frame. You can often recompose the scene by holding your eye a little away from the finder to avoid being temporarily blinded by the sun.

The best big-sun shots are the ones that dont rely solely on the sun; the big sun, in fact, is best used as a background. The landscape, the harbor scene, the city skyline - each picture should stand on its own for it to work with a big sun behind it.

There is a pitfall here, though. Even with objects at a far distance, they can still be out of the plane of focus of the sun, due to the effective shallow depth of long lenses. Generally, the sun can stand to be a little soft, so try focusing on the nearest large object in the composition. Also, use small apertures and check the depth-of-field preview.

Big-sun shots can, on occasion, be surprisingly colorless; the sky around the sun can range from blank white to dull gray. A filter is called for here, from the standard warming (81A and similar) for a warm sky tone, to amber for richer color, to full orange for an exaggerated effect.

Jan Linden is a professional photographer and designer runs <http://www.photos4interior.com/>



Mother & Baby - Chris Aldred



Evening Farewell - Norman Robson ARPS PAGB BPEI

How to buy a Digital Camera - David W Johnson

Back before digital cameras were all the rage, the technology did not change that much, but buying a camera was still a hassle. You would have to look at quality, ease of use and versatility among many other features to decide what was the best buy that you could make.

But buying a digital camera is just that much harder because there are so many features that you have to consider.

First, the technology changes so fast that learning how to buy a digital camera is an art in itself. Let's face it. Who wants to buy a 3.1 megapixel digital camera when, the next day they are going to come out with some camera that costs half as much with twice the resolution, or better memory. No one, that's for sure.

It just does not make sense no matter how you look at it. That is why, before you go out and buy a camera, you should consult someone who knows how to buy a digital camera to make sure that you have considered all the most important details.

If you want to buy a digital camera, you should probably start by doing some research on your own.

Consumer Reports is always a good place to start. They provide all the relevant information that you could ask for to help you make a wise decision. Besides that, of course, there are many other good sources for information on getting a good digital camera.

For example, you can look at trade journals. Both photography journals and electronics journals will be able to give you many details on buying a digital camera, including product reviews and technical specs on all the leading brands.

You can probably also go into a store and ask all that you want about the digital cameras they sell there and get honest answers. Beware it is not just one of those stores that will sell you anything for your money. Buying a digital camera at a reputable store is a good idea, and might be more practical than using the Internet.

Although you will be able to save some money buying on the Internet, there could be problems. If something goes wrong with the camera, for example, you could be in for a hassle.

For more articles visit <http://www.Digital-Camera-Research.com>



The Raft - Dennis Apple



Derwent Water - Bill Dalzell



Clematis Proteus - RayGrace ARPS DPAGB



Tranquility - Baron Woods FRPS

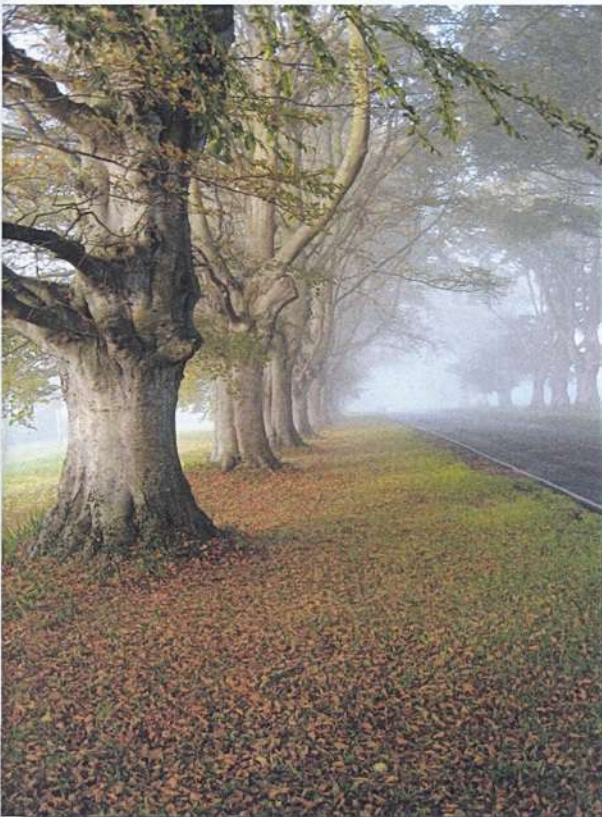
Photo Processing on Line - Editor

At one time, photos had to be processed in a darkroom. Today Online Photo Processing Services open up a whole world of photographic opportunities, as it enables amateurs to access facilities previously reserved for the trained professional and practice to their heart's content without the risk of losing that special photo.

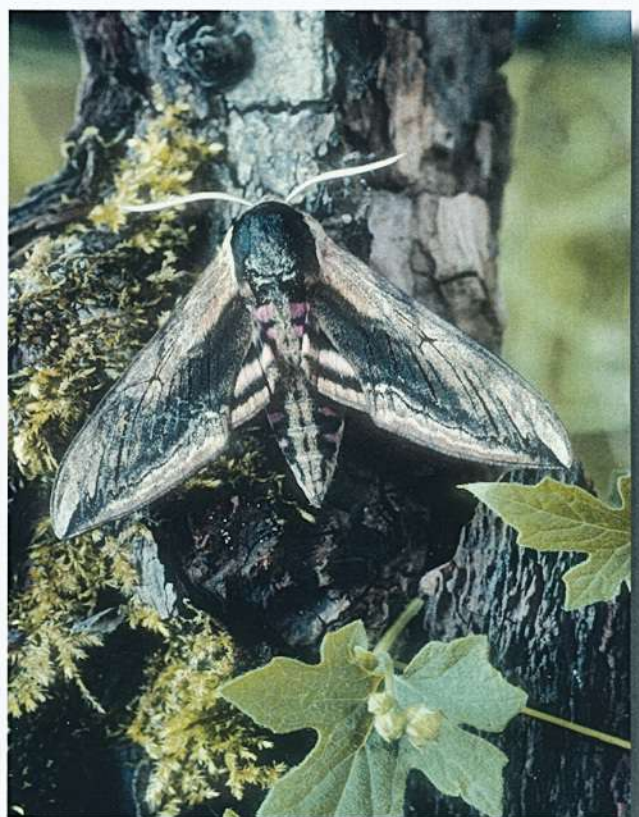
Prints can be altered until you are entirely satisfied that only the perfect image is printed. With the modern advantages of the internet, super intuitive digital cameras and home publishing skills are being made available to anyone with a little common sense and a desire to develop their own works of art. You can also Interact with other users, such online establishments usually offer club-like facilities where you can interact with other members and share information and tips with other users. For those who prefer to let others produce their prints, another option is an online photo processing service. Many photo processing companies offer a good number of free prints when you sign up for membership and offer photo storage at a very reasonable cost, along with an email link for updates.

No longer do you have to wait for the chemist to send your film to the processing plant and wait a week to see your prints. Your images can be stored by the facility and protected by elaborate security systems; much safer than anything available on a home computer. Now it's all available and to everyone who has an interest in taking pictures, storing and displaying them in hundreds of creative ways. Membership enables you to make your photographs available to friends, family and colleagues. Many services provide tips on greeting cards and Calenders. Framing service are also available.

Personal screen savers instantly transform your home computer. Online photo printing and photo processing is generating new interest in photography and producing entire communities of creative photographic enthusiasts eager to produce images for souvenirs, books and cards that at one time would have been inhibited in terms of cost and time by sensitive developing liquids bleaching out images, ruining photos forever in a instant. Fees are as a rule very reasonable and you can start a whole new interest in photography by creating journals, calendars and album covers.



November Morning - June Harfield



Privet Hawk Moth - Derek Larkin EFIAP BPE4

Circle News

Circle 71

Those of us who live on the North East coast know that people inland may be wilting in the heat, while we are wondering how many layers to wear! A recent rally of Circle 71 (formerly DI 1), broke this tradition. Members and friends met in Whitby for the 'Goth' weekend, the sun shone, and a ticket for the open top bus provided for all transport needs, also providing a unique viewpoint for all types of pictures.

Although thought of as the 'Goth' weekend, the costumes are much more varied, and sometimes cost thousands of pounds, and it is a photographers paradise as the 'models' are always delighted to be photographed!

The hotel was in a wonderful location, and gave amazing views of low light on the abbey headland. Whitby is famous for its fish and chip shops, but it could also have a claim to fame for cream teas, scones and cakes, as there were several very attractive tea shops. Liz Boud is circle secretary, but her increased workload as UPP President has not affected her other work, as the weekend was perfectly organised as usual, and the whole event a very happy memory for all the members present, who also have a bonus of a vast hoard of pictures to keep their memories fresh!

Author: Anne Swearman



A good time was had by all. Circle 71 at Whitby April 2009

Circle 14

The last year has seen a few changes. First of all was a change in secretary with yours truly (Gordon Smith) taking over from the incomparable Pablo.

Pablo who had been secretary for something like 25 years, had been asking for volunteers for some time due to impending major surgery, so having just retired, and after due consultation with the commander-in-chief of our house I offered to take over after speaking to himself at the AGM. I'm pleased to say that the change over went very smoothly, with Pablo travelling down from Barnsley to deliver all the necessary gobbins.

Pablo's operation took place at the beginning of January, and thankfully he seems to have made a full recovery, although his feet don't appear to have touched the floor since returning home. It was suggested by one circle member, on seeing Pablo's scare, that while the surgeon had got him in half he should have asked him to add a couple of inches to his height!

In January we gained a new circle member in the form of Bob Holder. Bob was introduced by Chris Taylor and is already making his mark in the folios. Personal introduction does appear to be the best way forward in maintaining our membership. Our membership currently stands at 11 so should anyone feel the need to join an A3 circle we do have room for a couple more.

This year's AGM prints were sent off to Ken at the beginning of June and show a fair cross section of the memberships work, and should make a nice panel

Circle 28 700th Folio.

Circle 28 was founded in 1950 as a 35mm coloured slide circle which we are to this present day though with the digital world biting into our hobby and as slide film becomes harder to obtain we are now taking digital images in slide format all be it on a small scale. Over the years the circle has only had two Secretaries Eric Haycock and myself (John Bullen) and during that time has been very supportive of UPP supplying the General Secretary of the club Christine Jones, both Eric and I served on council before I was privileged and proud to become President in 2001-2003. However it has not stopped there as Francis Ouvry is now the club Treasurer. It's nice that five of the circle members have been with the circle in excess of 25 years and we have won two circle gold's. While Betty has taken two major awards and Rodie and Geraint having one each. Our target for the circle apart from striving for circle gold,s is to reach 720 folios which will mean we have been in being for 60 years



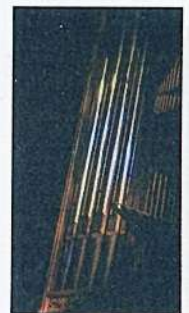
John Gateshill.



Roy Jamieson.



John Bullen.



Francis Ouvry.



Don Langford.



Ed Martin.



Betty Underwood.



Ray Smith.



Rodie Abrahams.



Geraint James.



Keith Brazier.

The 2008 AGM

Better Late Than Never



How not to take a Panorama.
It does merge but some people go missing



The next AGM Convention will take place on 18th,19th and 20th September 2009 at Hillscourt Conference Centre.

Enclosed with this Edition is the AGM Conventeon forms for Booking your rooms and meals. Make sure you get them back to Brian Davis by 15th August.

The map of how to get there is also enclosed if you have not been before.

I will be there and hope to see you all. (I am second from the right on the C71 Picture)

Roger Kidd I.Eng AMRaeS

PS Remember do not book your room direct with Hillscourt use the enclosed form.

Last Chance Saloon

The battle for the survival of slides is almost over, or is it? It is up to us as photographers to decide the future of slides in the world of amateur club photography.

New models of digital camera in every shape and form are announced daily with model updates becoming a regular occurrence. They are into our mobile phones, being handed out as giveaways, disposables and fashion accessories.

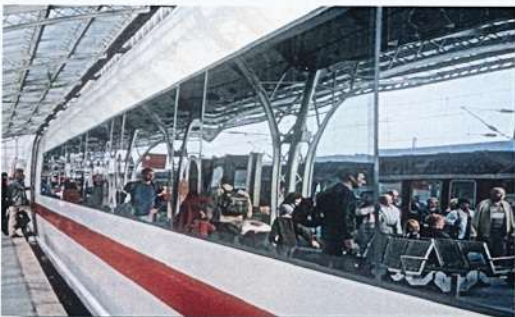
Film camera production is being cut back or ceased altogether. The new models are now few and far between and seldom attract much attention.

We wish to actively promote slide circles which combine the photographs of the 'pure' slide workers with those producing digitally initiated slides. The later are beginning to dominate - at least they are all 'film' slides. Advice is available on how to have slides made from digital files using commercial services. Recent decisions by our regional, national and international 'governing' bodies suggest that the way forward for the 'projected image' is digitally projected photographs. This is due to the dramatic fall off in entries of slides. Digitally projected photographs are easy to produce and that counts for much in this convenience orientated world. However the final quality is still not quite there.

This could be the last year of competitive slide competitions across the country - the bells are tolling. If we are to keep slides going then:-

1. Supporters of slides must be prepared to produce slides and then to enter into the slide circles - no entries, no circles, no more slides - ZAP!!!
2. Slides will not live as the purists would like using only original film based slides - we should be prepared to embrace the new technology of digital slides to enable the 'film' slide to live on.

Those who lament the demise of slides must seek to postpone this with their positive support - no more talking about it - enter your work and help slides through this period of transition - this is the "Last Chance Saloon".



Arrivals and Departures - Pam Sherren

Message from Pablo

Circle AA, (now 41 if I remember aright), is picking up speed again???? Yer, the Kiwis went totally digital, okay, not altogether a bad idea, but they did it unilaterally, and there are Oz members, personal friends, some of them, who are sufficiently far from civilisation, so we are told, that the chances of them ever being able to do that are exceeding remote, and indeed, U.K members, who were or are, not all that impressed by the idea, maybe they prefer writing on paper?

However, the pieces have now started ticking again, folios are moving again, the Kiwis will eventually get all their stranded prints back again. One very interesting bit to me, is that for a goodly number of years now, the Oz lot could always send their stuff airmail, - for less than it cost us to send stuff out to their end of the world by sea! Now that we are no longer sending stuff to Kiwi, guess wot??? Yer, airmail has become possible!

In fact, we don't send stuff individually, or in boxes or bags, but in tubes! Stuff that carpets used to get wrapped around! 4" dia, 13" long, with moulded plassy ends. The prints are unmounted so get wrapped around, with the notebooks down the middle! They travel in rather better shape than they used to in boxes!

Sadly, we have just lost Mary Round, wife of John Round A.R.P.S. another pair of long term members, joining, if I remember aright, back in the early 80s? The lass had a potent eye for a picture!



Flat Bed Printer - Edgar Beveridge LRPS

Circle 4

Circle 4 celebrated their 2009 rally, with glorious weather for the weekend, a surprise for us to have decent weather for a second year as usually we encounter rain for some or most of the rally. Seven members with two spouses were present and we warmly welcomed a new member to our circle at the rally. I enjoyed a pleasant drive from the West Coast of Scotland to Northallerton, a place I have heard a lot about but never visited before. Val and Geoff Burdis who organized this years rally, had secured the Lovesome Hill Farmhouse, Bed and Breakfast for us, which is near to their home. A warm welcome awaited us where we had a scrumptious tea, caught up on the year's news and discussed our visits for the weekend's photography. We all enjoyed a leisurely stroll round the farm, taking photographs of the farm animals.

Northallerton Camera Club was hosting their Annual Dinner and Trophy presentation at Solberge Hall, which is just outside Northallerton. We enjoyed dinner and the presentation of trophies prior to their guest speaker, Gordon Follows presenting his 'Magic Moments of Photography.' We all enjoyed his presentation and show of photographs and we were privileged to be able look at them closely at the end of the evening.

The Saturday 'meet' was a trip to Whitby for the Goth Festival. The weather was glorious affording wonderful photographic opportunities for us all. The 'Goths' were keen to pose for photographs with the most amazing costumes and make-up with a majestic atmosphere in Whitby. Aside from the Goths this pretty seaside town with it's spectacular Abbey towering above the town, enabled lots more photographs to be taken. We all enjoyed the day immensely and returned to Lovesome Hill for a large farmhouse dinner. Our evening was spent looking at and discussing each others photographs.

Sunday was spent at Thorp Perrow Arboretum, which is set in 85 acres of woodland with a collection of 1,300 different species of trees and shrubs. We had another glorious day albeit somewhat windy for photographing flora but we were particularly lucky to see the bluebells out in full colour. There is also a captive breeding and conservation centre with many different birds of prey to see and photograph. Sunday was 'Pinhole Photography Day' with one of our members Peter Young taking a group photograph and describing the technique for us. Val and Geoff hosted a buffet meal for us with slide shows given by some of us during the evening.

Once more our rally proved to be a huge success, with members enjoying a wide and diverse range of photographic opportunities and enjoying the company of each other.

Julia Graham. Circle 4 Deputy Secretary.



Goth week end in Whitby.
Circle 4 enter into the spirit of the day.



The gang - Julie John Phillip David Fay Peter Jill Keith Val Geoff Hilary

Circle 52 – Audio Visual.

We are continuing to enjoy seeing and making our audio visual presentations. We have had two changes in membership this year but the vacancies were soon filled and we welcomed David Lock who has completed 3 folios but only made one sequence especially for the Circle and Bob Robinson who is particularly interested in mono work and has shown us how this can be utilised to make some interesting AVs. A number of us who live in the Northern area have been able to meet up for a day's photography but it would be good if we could have a rally next year and involve all the Circle members.

Val Burdis. Secretary.



A Note from Our President

How time has flown. Already we are into the summer and thought of holidays, when I ask Ron to help pack, the first (only) thing he does is clean and recharge his camera equipment, and make sure the tripod is by the door ready to pack into the car, clothes etc is down to me, but I expect I am not alone when it comes to packing.

Since the last Little Man I have written to every member asking to help with recruitment, I sent out 369 letters and had 15 members respond. All said they would help when visiting other club or put up flyers in their town / villages notice boards. My first thoughts were to produce a CD and send this out to all secretaries and members who requested them but I had a very long letter from a much admired member who said he agreed but felt that we all have different printers and therefore the overall effect would leave us looking inconsistent, so we are researching the cost for them to be printed professionally, and hope to have them at the AGM for members to take home and distribute.

Since the last AGM, Council have agreed to a new way of judging the Glen Vase, your secretary will now ask you if you wish for your Natural History image to be considered for the Glen Vase and only images within that selection will be eligible.

Whatever way your circle chooses the AGM panels it is your decision, to allow it to go forward or not, your secretary will carry out your wishes.

It is a busy time of the year for our secretaries, collating the circles panel and sending them off to Ken, some circle circulate unmounted images to cut down on postage, these have to be mounted and labelled for hanging at the exhibition. So on behalf of our secretaries, lets give them a well deserved cheer.

I would like to encourage all of you to buy this years DVD as it help our funds and we can do more to promote UPP so we can go into the future, Council are reviewing other ways to bring UPP forward into the 21st century.

To those of you coming to the AGM, have a safe journey and the members who are unable to come, keep happy, well and carry on with your wonderful pictures.

Liz Boud, President



La Mare de Glas - Phillip Forbes



Kestrel In Flight - Steve Chadd

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7	Colin Douglas ARPS CPAGB BPE2*	144, Nutgrove Road, St. Helens, Merseyside WA9 5JP	01514-265787 yoko597@aol.com
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10	Nick Bodle	4 Medrow, Polyphant, Launceston, Cornwall PL15 7PS	01566-86103 bodle@4corsica.freemove.co.uk
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Common Sense at Last

Parents who want to take photos of their children in school plays or at sports days can once again snap happily away. The privacy watchdog says authorities that have banned parents taking shots for the family album are wrongly interpreting the rules. Relatives wanting to take pictures at nativity plays, sports days or other public events are often told that doing so would breach the Data Protection Act. But the Office of the Information Commissioner yesterday said this Interpretation of the law was simply wrong. It decreed that any picture taken for the family photograph album would normally be acceptable. This guidance can now be used by parents and grandparents to challenge 'barmy' rulings relating to the upcoming school sports day season.

Deputy Information Commissioner David Smith said: 'We recognise that parents want to capture significant moments on camera.' We want to reassure them and other family members that whatever they might be told, data protection does not prevent them taking photographs of their children and friends at school events.

'Photographs taken for the family photo album are exempt from the Act and citing the Data Protection Act to stop people taking photos or filming their children at school is wrong.' The guidance, sent to education authorities across the country, says: 'Fear of breaching the provisions of the Act should not be wrongly used to stop people taking photographs or videos which provide many with much pleasure. 'Where the Act does apply, a common sense approach suggests that if the photographer asks for permission to take a photograph, this will usually be enough to ensure compliance.' Specific examples of what is allowed includes a parent taking 'a photograph of their child and some friends taking part in the school sports day to be put in the family photo album'. The video recording of school nativity plays is also listed as being acceptable. The guidance says that, in some cases, official school photographs or visits by newspaper photographers may be covered by data protection laws. But provided that parents and children are informed about what is happening, there should be no problem in these cases. Earlier this month, the Mail reported how parents at Mrs Ethelston's Church of England Primary School were upset after being told they could not take pictures of their own children at sports day. The village school in Uplyme, Devon, cited changes to child protection legislation for the ban on cameras. Headmistress Andrea Rice said 'vulnerable pupils' needed to be protected. There has been a string of similar cases in which parents were stopped from taking pictures at school events. Margaret Morrissey, of pressure group Parents Outloud, said: 'I am really pleased that common sense has broken out. We have to be sensible about this and allow families to build up histories of their children and stop spoiling life for those parents who want to be involved.'

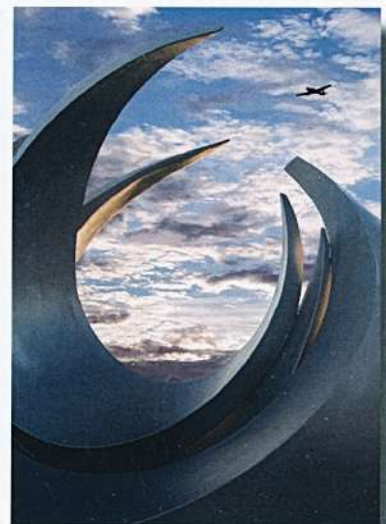
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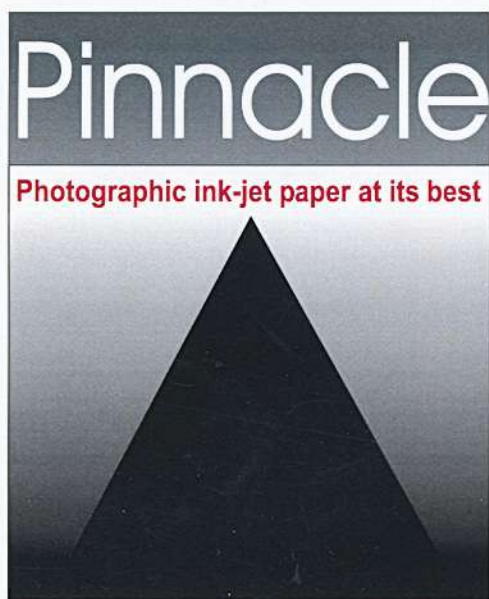


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