

NEW! - ZOOM CIRCLES!

Traditionally, UPP has been for prints circulated to members by post, or PDI images circulated to members online. Members therefore enjoy viewing and appraising the images and dealing with the Folios in their own time, over a period of a few days every month, in the comfort of their homes. This has been one of the major attractions of UPP and will always remain so.

However, the Covid pandemic and resulting lockdowns changed social activities for many people, but at the same time, new opportunities opened up. As UPP members don't meet in person, the pandemic, thankfully, had minimal effect, but one very positive thing that did arise was the possibility of members meeting and inter-acting online through Zoom. Thus, UPP Zoom Circles were born!

Once the idea had been mooted, it was taken up very enthusiastically, and within weeks, no less than six new Zoom Circles were formed that number has since risen to include 2 monochrome circles and 2 for small panels of work (this includes diptych and triptych). They have proved to be a very successful addition to UPP's activities, and are a great medium for discussing images, learning new techniques, and generally improving and enriching one's photography. The Zoom Circles work like this:

Each Circle has up to 12 members and meets every month through Zoom. Dates and times vary between Circles, with some meeting in the morning, some in the afternoon and others in the evening. Each meeting lasts about 1 ½ - 2 hours. There is one specialist Circle for Infra-Red images, but all of the others are completely open. The Circles are non-competitive, and this has proved to be very popular, as it gives members the freedom to choose images that may not be for competition, but which are more personal and can be more interesting, or perhaps, controversial.

Every month, every member sends an image by email to the Circle Secretary. These are then collated and presented for discussion on the day of the meeting. Everyone is expected to take part in the discussions and the resulting debates and exchange of ideas are very stimulating. It is a great way to learn and develop one's photography and a very enjoyable experience. Some members may simply wish to submit an image to get ideas on how to improve it for subsequent entry into a club competition or exhibition.

The Zoom Circles, as with all UPP Circles, welcome photographers of all abilities and experience and everyone plays an equal part.

If you feel that a Zoom Circle might interest you, why not join a meeting as a guest? There would be no obligation to join UPP if, after that, you felt a Zoom group was not for you. - but hopefully, you will enjoy it enough to want to continue.

For all enquiries, please email Alan Bousfield: membership@uppofgb.com