



DUNCHURCH
photographic society

IN FOCUS

EDITOR: Jean Sutton

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As new chairman, I have been very pleased with the direction the club is taking, many new ideas are being put forward by the members to the benefit of us all. The Audio Visual group is still meeting regularly and we will be bringing some presentations to the main club to be viewed by the members, also we are always on the lookout for new members for the AV Group.

Well, here we are about half way through another season, we have had the Exhibition in the Rugby Library which was very successful and which was well attended by the general public. The quality of the pictures was again excellent, and thanks to the members, there were no shortage of attendants. This was well organised by Allan Pinder. Up till now the syllabus has been interesting and varied, the host system agreed at the last AGM seems to be going well. I particularly enjoyed the "Owd man and me" with Roger and Judith Parry, which was very down to earth and entertaining, as were all the guest speakers. The panel of prints competition this year, saw an amazing set of entries, every one being worthy of a prize. Congratulations to everyone who entered.

The member's night was particularly interesting as I learned a lot from Andrew Swann on Picasa and Judy Longthorn on her methods of photography. (I need to

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and more.....

learn patience mainly). Gerry Coyle also gave us a good insight into Painting with light. For myself I am beginning to realise some of my own ambitions, as I have now managed to enter two competitions, (no prizes yet), although only projected images. I hope that Mounted pictures will come soon.

As to the future of the club, the remainder of the syllabus is a good mix of competitions, battles and speakers. I am certain that the continued standard of pictures and projected images will keep on impressing our judges, and will make our mark on the upcoming Battles. I also hope that more members will continue to bring new ideas to the

club. Ideas, like Gerry Coyle has with painting with light and Tony Timmins on the Studio night. We need to attract new members, as fresh views are always a good thing. The future of the club is in our hands, and I am always interested in your views. I look forward to hearing them.

In addition, as Christmas is almost upon us, I hope you will be able to attend the member's social evening on the 16th December 2009, where we can look forward to an evening of quizzes, banter and our meal. In the New Year, we will again be holding our highly prestigious, Presentation Dinner in the L'apprenti Restaurant at Rugby College on the 4th March 2010.

Finally, I would like to wish all our members and their families, **A Very Merry Christmas and a Happy and Prosperous New Year** Dougie

Competition results.

DAY TRIPPER..... IAN ANDREW WITH GREEN RAILINGS

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MERIT 1. MOVEMENT

Prints

1stNavin Mistry.....Rugby Squash Club
2nd.. Richard Anthony.....Whirling Dervish
3rd .. Allan Pinder.....The Maypole Dance
Hc.....Gerry Coyle.....Slow Down
Hc.....Andrew Swan.....Through The Train Window.
Hc.....Navin Mistry.....Rugby Railway Station
C.....Brian Sherwin LRPS.....Making a Splash
C.....Brian Sherwin LRPS.....Red Arrows Display
C.....Andrew SwanRed Arrows—Horizontal Loop
C.....Allan Pinder.....Wild Water
C.....Keith Jones.....Wake
C.....Adrian CP.....Draggin' at the Pod in a Blur of Motion

More to come





GETTING TO KNOW YOU

Who are you [Andrew Swan](#)

Where were you born [I was born in Glasgow and I am a Glaswegian, although I have not lived in Scotland since 1967 when I was 10. We lived in St. John's, Newfoundland Canada for 5 years before my father's work brought the family back to Britain, ended up in North east Lincolnshire \(Grimsby and Market Rasen\) until I was relocated to Warrington in 1992 where I stayed for 7 years before moving to Rugby.](#)

When did you come to the Rugby area [11 years ago when the company I work for relocated to Coventry.](#)

:What in your opinion are the best things about the area. [Transport ease of access to the road network and the trains from Rugby make it easy to get anywhere relatively quickly. I used to live in the Grimsby area and it was nearly 1 hour and a half to 2 hours before you reached a Dual carriageway never mind the motorway network. \(It is a lot better now but still takes 1-1.5 hours to reach a main dual carriageway that turns north \(M1\) / south \(A1\)](#)

–What are the worst [No Seaside / Ocean, for me being away from the the sea is about the worst thing I can think of in terms of a place to live, however when the company I work for moved from Runcorn \(It is on the Tidal part of the Mersey\) to Coventry that was the only downside everything else has been good.](#)

. When did you own your first Camera and what was it. [1986 Nikon F501](#)

When if ever did you buy an SLR [Nikon F501](#)

When if ever did you “go digital” [After a long time with not using my Nikon I bought an Olympus C8080 in 2006 which was the start of my serious photography, well serious to me. I now use an Olympus E3.](#)

When did you join Dunchurch Photographic Society [September 2008](#)

What do you consider to be the best aspects of DPS. [The friendly nature of the club. I have been made very welcome during my first year at the club.](#)

Is there anything you would like to see changed to improve DPS: [Too early for me to make comments on change as I have only been coming for one year.](#)

What are your outstanding photographic ambitions. [Too get better and eventually take an outstanding picture in some category.](#)



ONCE UPON A TIME

The ascent started at 4000 feet

I started working in 1984 for a small company in Southend- On- Sea, Ekco instruments, which made safety systems for mobile cranes and fork lift trucks. In the war it made wiring looms for Lancaster bombers. The safety systems stopped crane drivers from toppling over their cranes, and from dropping several tons on top of their heads. Several tons falling on you from 30 feet is going to leave you with a bit more than a headache.

I distinctly remember going into work one day, and my boss asking, "Have you got a passport ?" I said "yes" he said, "Good pack a bag you are going to Aberdeen you are on the 16:00 flight from Heathrow". Of course I wasn't to know then, that this was going to be the start of the best part of 25 years of getting on and off airplanes for work, like most people get the 205 bus on the Euston road.

Whilst Aberdeen docks are not worth a visit, the city it's self with the beautiful white granite is definitely very beautiful.

I looked up with some fear and trepidation at the crane cab, some 90ft in the air, I knew I had to climb up there and see why the crane system was behaving like it had been posed by a poltergeist fit for a Steven King novel. I hate heights. The storm was brewing. Knowing I was the highest point in the docks, I prayed there wasn't going to be lightening. The view across the docks and the city was breathtaking.

After several days it became apparent that the ghostly behavior of the crane triggering all the alarms, and shutting down, was not due to some unfortunate dock worker who had died with a grudge, but the police radar interfering with the electronics. You will be pleased, if not relieved to know I won't be talking about the boring details of the fix here.

Between 1986 and 1994 I traveled a lot in the UK, and Europe. Nothing compared me though for the next big adventure....

In 1994, after the usual course of events that life tends to throw at you, I went to work at Fujitsu in Birmingham. After a while I started to travel regularly to Tokyo, well Kawasaki to be more precise. At first, the sights sounds, smell, language and culture were all a shock to me. You never get used to the 13 hour flight cramped up in cattle class, sorry economy, and the 8 hour jet lag. However, I fell in love with the country, the order, the language that sounds like its being sung when Japanese ladies speak it, and the culture.

Of course one of my colleagues, Tim, decided he would take up the challenge and move there for two to three years. This was good as now I had a friend that was accustomed to the place and was a great guide.

The phone call was very exciting, it was Tim, "bring your walking boots, and a bright torch, and some old clothes with you this weekend, were climbing Fuji at night!" He said it as though we were going on a camping expedition to Coton Meadows.

Of course the excitement and anticipation were nearly all too much, I was more excited than a small boy on Christmas Eve.

Mount Fuji (Fujisan), at 3776 meters, (12,388 feet), is Japan's highest mountain; it is a stunningly beautiful volcanic cone. The last eruption was in 1707. Every year an estimated 200,000 people take the pilgrimage to the top.

After an hour of me- had packed and nagawa to take us to known as Gotemba We arrived at about could not see the hind sight that was a start walking, stop at summit by dawn, Mount Fuji is divided



station at the foot of the mountain and the tenth station being the summit. There are many trails

ticulous planning, The 5 of us, were waiting for the bus at Shi- the base camp affectionately 5th Station, It was at 4000 feet. 22:00. It was dark and we challenge that lay ahead. In good thing. The plan was to regular intervals, and reach the 5.00am the next morning.

up the mountain, all lined by varying degree with wooden huts where you can buy fresh oranges, sushi, Japanese tea and a walking stick. At every major level there is a wooden hut, where for a small fee you can have your walking stick branded with a hot iron.

The ascent turns out to be up well laid, but quite steep paths of fine black volcanic rock and dust. It invades everywhere. Thousands of people were on that mountain that night, long orderly queues formed to climb every level, the atmosphere was electric, the mountain commanded reverence and respect, and received both. Hour after hour the tiny beam of my torch picked out the large rocks to avoid, and shone on the small patch of the path. The thirst was quenched with the fresh oranges that we bought at the huts. Japanese men and women twice my age strode out purposefully in front of me with such stamina that put me to shame. Their walking sticks thrust so hard on the path you could follow the small indentations left.

The air was cool, crisp, fresh and thin, getting thinner as every step took us closer to the goal. It was dark.

As we reached the penultimate station, we looked to the east, to see the first signs that night must give way to day, my legs were on fire, my breathing difficult, my head dizzy, the altitude was taking its toll. The cup of hot green tea, along with the rest was welcome. It was so calm and peaceful.

The first glimpses of other peaks surrounded in beautiful cloud that white puffy skirts. The sun was behind us. We In the east the sun was like God had at-pulling the sun up that was as smooth as amazing spectacle beautiful day.

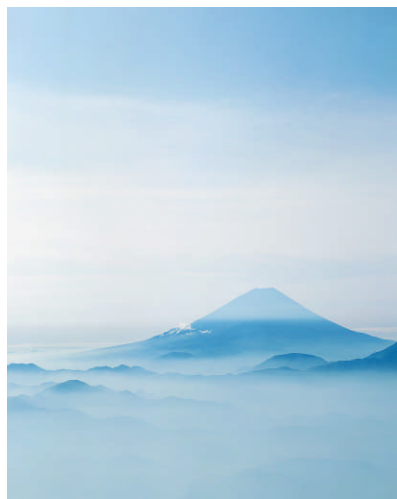
It took 6 hours to loose volcanic scree, am sure they had dis-to my body. I was be-4 long grueling hours that was going to take

back was very beautiful, I wouldn't know I slept solidly the whole 3 hours.

The whole trip, remains with me to this day as one of the most amazing experiences of my life.

By Keith Jones

www.milkfrog.com



light, showed we were high above all the ing us, each peak below was shrouded made them look like they were wearing dark forbidding summit of the mountain waited.

just popped its head above the clouds, it tached an invisible wire and was gently over the horizon in a seamless motion silk. We sat in awe, as we watched the unfold in front of us, it was the dawn of a

reach the top, the descent was on very my legs refused to work, at one point I owned me and were no longer attached ginning to think I would never get down, later we reached the road, and the bus us back to Kawasaki. I am sure the trip

It's joke time

"Did you hear about the tourist who tried to beat a speeding train to a level crossing?"

"No. Did he get across?"

"Yes" A marble one with his name on it".



MORE COMPETITION RESULTS

MERIT 1 MOVEMENT PROJECTIONS.

1stKeith Jones.....Kite Surfer
2nd..Brian Sherwin LRPS.....Howzat
3rd...Gerry Coyle.....Yellow Streak
HC...Phil Lindley.....Bursting Balloon
HC...Terry Mann.....Reflected Movement
HC...Andrew Swan.....Into the Tunnel
HC...Simon CoatesLSINWP Kick up a Gear
C.....Judy Longthorn.....Turning for Home
C.....Judy Longthorn..... Rapid Reflections
C.....Jean Purnell.....Traffic Lights
C..... Gerry Coyle.....The Winds of Change
C.....Brian Sherwin LRPS.....Over the Last.

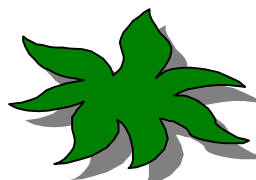
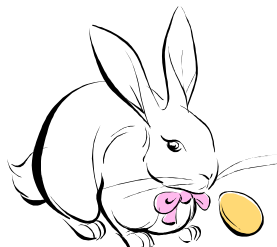
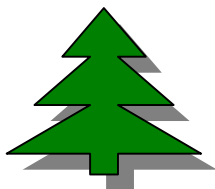
NATURE

PRINTS.

1st.....Simon CoatesLSINWP.....Long Beaked Common Dolphin
2nd.....Brian Sherwin LRPS.....White Legged Damsel Fly
3rd..... Ian Andrew.....Heron
HC.....Ian Andrew HC.....Judy Longthorn
C.....Brian Sherwin LRPS C.....Anthony Timmins
CTerry Mann

PROJECTIONS

1st.....Judy Longthorn.....Coot Nest Building
2ndRichard Anthony.....Rheas Courting
3rd.Judy Longthorn.....Fulmar
HC.....Richard Anthony HC Jack Hemming
HCBrian Sherwin LRPS HC Jean Purnell
HC.....Allan Pinder
C.....Allan Pinder C Phil Lindley C Keith Jones
C.....Gerry Coyle C Bob Mercer C Simon Coates LSINWP





Who are you: *Phil Lindley*

Where were you born: *I was born in Rotherham, South Yorkshire.*

When did you come to the Rugby area: *I came to Rugby in the Autumn of 2004 to work at the University Hospitals Coventry and Warwickshire NHS Trust, having left Kirkcaldy in the Kingdom of Fife.*

What in your opinion are the best things about this area: *The Canals, the proximity to the countryside and the road networks to take you further afield*

What are the worst: *The seaside is too far away; well that's what my daughter thinks!*

When did you own your first camera and what was it: *Hmmm, I must have been around 10 years old when I was given my first camera, it was manufactured by Kodak, but I cannot remember the model.*

When (if ever) did you buy an SLR: *I purchased my first SLR when I was about 15 or 16 years of age, it was a Praktica, this was soon replaced with an Olympus OM40, which I still have today, packed away in its camera bag*

When (if ever) did you "go digital": *In 2006 I purchased an Olympus E500 DSLR and became hooked on Digital, My most recent acquisition was an Olympus E620*

When did you join Dunchurch Photographic Society: *This is my third season with the society having found the website one night when I was searching for the local camera clubs.*

What do you consider to be the best aspects of DPS: *The Societies friendly atmosphere; I remember when I first came along I was made to feel welcome and this continues today.*

Is there anything you would like to see changed to improve DPS: *Hmm, difficult one to answer. May I suggest extending the Syllabus until the end of April?*

What are your outstanding photographic ambitions: *To be able to devote more time to taking photographs and possibly attaining a RPS distinction. My biggest ambition is to photograph the Northern Lights.*



DPS 2009 Exhibition - THE ORGANISER'S TALE

I have been asked to write an article to give an insight into the staging of our Annual Exhibition from an organiser's viewpoint. At the outset, I should state that running the exhibition was very much a teamwork effort and, although I was the main figurehead, many other committee and club members supported me.

That said, this is my story

My involvement started at the first meeting of the new DPS Committee in June, when I volunteered to take the lead for the exhibition with assistance from Tony Timmins. At this point the dates had already been set and Floor One Gallery had already been booked and paid for.

I saw the objectives of staging exhibition as being : to give an opportunity for DPS members to show their work to a wide audience; to promote DPS and try to recruit potential new members; and to promote photography in general as an enjoyable pastime/hobby. With these aims in mind, I compiled a list of all the jobs that needed completing – publicity, posters, catalogues, etc., etc. and I was left staring at two pages of 'to do' list and a feeling of "what have I let myself in for"? However, a meeting with Keith Miller, last years Exhibition Organiser, soon put my mind at rest. With the benefit of Keith's experience and copies of the relevant forms used last year and of all his correspondence with Rugby Art Gallery and Museum (RAGM) related to the hire of the gallery, I felt that I had all the information necessary to set the process in motion.

At the August Committee meeting, members volunteered to cover various aspects of pre-publicity including contacting local press and radio, national photo magazines, other local photo clubs, etc., and Tony Timmins agreed to provide the A3 size posters used for use at the Art gallery and also to design and print the DPS promotional handout leaflet. We agreed not to open the exhibition on the middle Monday (when the main Art Gallery and Museum is not open) or to have an 'official opening with drinks and nibbles' evening . We also decided to restrict the print entries to 6 per photographer and to aim to display 110-115 prints in total, as comments suggested that last year's 126 prints were slightly cramped. This left me to provide copies of posters and entry forms ready for our first meeting of the 2009-10 season in September.

At this point, the main problem soon became apparent – lack of time! As there were only 5 DPS meetings between the start of the season and the start of the exhibition, my main priority was the collection of the entry forms, and organising the stewards. Both these activities were not helped by the fact that I had also taken on the projectionist duties for this season and did not have too much spare time to encourage members to volunteer. I hope the desperation in my voice didn't come across as I made my weekly appeal for entry forms and the completion of the steward's rota!

Over the next few weeks a few issues relating to the hire of the gallery came to the fore. The first being that all publicity posters needed to include the Floor One gallery, the Rugby Art Gallery and Museum and the Rugby Council logos and that the Art Gallery had to give all promotional material their approval. This resulted in a withdrawal of the earlier posters and a rapid print run of 'version 2'. The second issue was the need for the Art Gallery to have a physical copy of our 3rd party liability insurance. This was quickly resolved by our secretary, Bob Mercer, obtaining the relevant paperwork from the MCPF.

A week before the deadline for submitting entry forms, I was beginning to think that restricting the prints to 6 per member was a mistake, as we only had around 90 entries. However a surge in the last week increased this number considerably. All the prints came in on time and apart from one mishap when a print was damaged during transportation, fortunately replaced before the exhibition (thanks Andrew). I was able to start preparing a database of entries and a draft catalogue, with only one typing error as far as I know – Gerry Coyles 'Rogue Tomato' ended up as 'Rouge Tomato'. Fortunately, this was spotted and corrected before the catalogue was finalised.

cont.d overleaf

Armed with 14 packs of 'Blu Tack', a team of 6 people set up the exhibition on Monday 12th. We found that there was room to show all of the prints submitted without overcrowding, despite the removal of a small petition wall that had been used to hang prints in previous years. That evening, I was able to finalize and print out copies of the catalogue and our syllabus and compile the steward's information folder ready for the opening to the public at 10:00am on Tuesday.

The 12 days of the exhibition passed with only two incidents – a steward turning up for the wrong time slot resulted in the exhibition having to be closed for 10 minutes until I arrived and a request for more syllabus sheets (I printed off more, took them to Floor One gallery only to discover that a stock of the missing sheets were on the windowsill!).

The prints were removed on Monday 26th, a task completed by 4 members, despite at one stage having the next Floor One exhibitors trying to set up their display at the same time! All that was left to do for the 2009 exhibition was to return the prints to their owners, follow up on the sale of prints (the Art gallery take 25% of any sale), complete the RAGM feedback questionnaire and provide a review of the exhibition for the November Committee meeting.



I would like to end this report with a few facts and figures and recommendations for the 2010 Exhibition...

- 519 visitors over 12 days
- 119 prints displayed from 23 members subject
- RAGM visitor book comments were very good. Many visitors enjoyed the wide range of water and thought the stewards were particularly helpful and knowledgeable.
- 2 enquiries were made regarding sale of prints.
- Recommend that we keep the number of prints to 6 per member for 2010
- Recommend the top row of displayed prints be to be at 6'6" high to raise the lower row.
- Recommend using larger text for the print title on the print detail cards.
- Recommend that all print detail cards be displayed at a height that is easily readable without stooping

Finally, it seems that staging an exhibition is a continuous process and the dates for the 2010 Exhibition have already been booked – so start getting your prints ready for the 11th-24th Oct 2010.

Allan Pinder.

(apols from the editor. I cannot move the tree.)

Novice trophy

PRINTS.

1st	Keith Jones.....	WAKE
2nd.....	Gerry Coyle.....	AZALEA SPLASH
3rd.....	Lewis Craik.....	MX5 FOLLOW THE LEADER
HC.....	Jean Purnell.....	ROMANTIC VENICE
C.....	Richard Rees	LOW TIDE ST IVES 2009

PROJECTIONS

1st.....	Phill Benger.....	PRETTY IN PINK
2nd.....	Gerry Coyle.....	EYE SITE
3rd.....	Jean Purnell.....	BACK STREET VENICE
HC.....	Gerry Coyle.....	REED REFLECTION
C.....	Keith Jones.....	SPIKE

PANEL OF PRINTS—JEFF BARTLETT MEMORIAL TROPHY

- 1st Bob MercerPort Merion
- 2nd..... George Ballard.....Norway
- 3rd..... Gerry Coyle.....Footfall on Porthill Bridge Shrewsbury
- HC Richard Anthony.....Red Sea Coral
- C.....Macro FlowersJean Purnell



MERIT 2—INDUSTRY

Prints

- 1st.....Richard Anthony.....What Health and Safety
- 2nd.....Andrew Swan.....Chain Making—The Weld
- 3rdTerry Mann.....Steam Cleaner
- HCGerry Coyle.....Spit and Polish
- HC.....Jean Sutton.....Takeaway Food Industry India
- C.....Keith Jones.....Cook
- C.....Keith Jones.....Fishermen

Projections

- 1st.....Allan Pinder.....The Blacksmith
- 2ndJudy Longthorn.....Rising from the Mist
- 3rd.....Gerry Coyle.....Farming the Wind
- HC.....Gordon Smith.....5K Devlieg
- C.....Keith Jones.....Sewing
- C.....Judy Longthorn.....Rebuilding the Pier

AS EDITOR OF “IN FOCUS” I WOULD LIKE TO THANK ALL THOSE WHO HAVE CONTRIBUTED OVER THE LAST THREE YEARS.

TO ALL MEMBERS AND THOSE THEY HOLD DEAR I WISH A VERY HAPPY CHRISTMAS AND A PEACEFUL NEW YEAR