

An Introduction to Macclesfield Camera Club

Brian Law
Honorary President

Background

- ▶ Macclesfield Camera Club has been in existence for over 50 years
- ▶ It meets weekly between Sept and April in Macclesfield Library
- ▶ We had around 55 paid up members last year
- ▶ With an average of 34 members attending meetings
- ▶ Subscription is £35/year
 - £1.09 per meeting

The Committee

Martin Welch -
Secretary



Roger Fielding -
Programme Sec



Brett Litten -
Web site



Stephen Coyne -
Vice President



Tony Cooper -
Internal Comps



Darren Moncur -
External Comps



David Tolliday -
L&CPU



Greville Leah -
Treasurer



Val Lear -
Social Secretary



Ben Tutton



Demographics

- ▶ We have a reasonably wide range of ages and gender
- ▶ Mainly digital with a few workers who still dabble in the darkroom
- ▶ And a very wide range of skills and abilities
 - Snap shooters to very serious amateurs and professionals
- ▶ A very wide range of specialisims
- ▶ Wide range of 'enthusiasm'

What do we do

- ▶ Regular Monday meetings covering
 - Talks
 - Demonstrations
 - Looking over portfolios
 - Competitions: internal and external
- ▶ Mix of 'home-grown' and invited speakers
- ▶ Tea break part way through meeting
 - Chance to socialise
 - Seek advice etc
- ▶ Website

What else do we do

- ▶ We have occasional social events
- ▶ Photo trips
 - The Roaches
 - Liverpool
- ▶ A visit to Almeria in February
- ▶ We ran a number of Digital/Photoshop Tuition evenings last season
- ▶ Occasional newsletters

Internal Competitions

- ▶ Five formal competitions held over the year either themed or open subject, this year's topics are:
 - Open (Mon 6 Oct)
 - Low light/night photography
 - Action/Movement
 - Open (excluding natural history)
 - Trees
- ▶ There are Print and Digital sections, paid-up members can enter up to 4 images in Prints and 3 in Digital
- ▶ Points are awarded and there is a cup for the best performance in each of the two sections at the end of the year
- ▶ Next years topics are
 - Open, Curves, Song Titles, Monochrome & Open

External Competitions

- ▶ We are involved in 3 regular external competitions
 - Robertshaw Trophy (Oct, at Macclesfield)
 - Peak Trophy (Feb)
 - Digital Competition (May)
- ▶ A small selection committee chooses the entries from members images submitted for internal competitions
- ▶ The actual competition moves round the clubs
- ▶ This past year we came third twice and we won the Digital Comp

Annual Exhibition and Competition

- ▶ Print and Digital Sections
- ▶ 5 Classes in each
 - Open, Mono, Natural History, Portraits & People and Creative
- ▶ Up to 10 entries in each section, maximum of 3 entries per class
- ▶ Judged externally
- ▶ Cups awarded for each class as well as for overall winners
- ▶ A selection of prints (~60) are displayed in the Library Gallery for 2 weeks
- ▶ This year's exhibition will be in December, 6 to 19

Annual Exhibition and Competition

- Dec 09

- ▶ Print and Digital Sections
- ▶ Totally open
- ▶ Up to 4 Print entries and 3 Digital entries
- ▶ Judged by the members on the opening night
- ▶ Prizes for 1st, 2nd and 3rd in each section
- ▶ A selection of prints (~60) will be displayed in the Library Gallery for 2 weeks
- ▶ Deadline for submissions 16 Nov
- ▶ Images can be used in other competitions and next years AEC

Photos on One Day

- ▶ One off competition on 15 Feb 2010
- ▶ Members to enter a set of 4 digital images all taken on one day
- ▶ That day is Sunday 10 Jan 2010
- ▶ Images will be shown separately and as a panel of 4
- ▶ Judged internally by the members based on the panel of 4 images
- ▶ Prize for the winner

Presentation of Prints

- ▶ Presentation is important
- ▶ Mounts should be 50 cm x 40 cm (not 20" x 16")
- ▶ Use good quality mount board, colour sympathetic to the image
 - if in doubt use black
- ▶ Sources of mount board
 - Mirror & Picture Factory - Vernon Mill, Stockport
 - CV Thornley, Bankley St, Levenshulme
 - Hobbycraft, The Peel Centre, Stockport
 - Handicraft shop, Old Park Lane
- ▶ If you are interested in entering competitions but not sure how to mount and present your prints speak to any of the committee

Preparation of Projected Digital Images (PDIs)

- ▶ Save as a JPEG
- ▶ High quality (=12)
- ▶ sRGB colour space
- ▶ 1400 pixels wide for landscape images
- ▶ 1050 pixels high for portrait or square images

Think about Composition

- ▶ What is the theme of the competition make sure your image reflects this
- ▶ What is your title - make sure this reflects the dominant part of the image
- ▶ Get in close or crop
- ▶ Make sure horizons etc are horizontal
- ▶ Use the contrast (Curves) and saturation (HSL) controls in PS to get images with that 'Wow!' factor

L&CPU and PAGB

- ▶ Lancashire and Cheshire Photographic Union (L&CPU)
 - www.lcpu.org
- ▶ Formed in 1905, with 102 affiliated clubs and 3500 photographers
- ▶ Photographic Alliance of Great Britain (PAGB)
 - www.pagb-photography-uk.co.uk

What do we own

- ▶ Canon D400 SLR with 18 to 55mm lens
- ▶ Canon A460 compact digital camera
- ▶ Laptop computer and digital projector
- ▶ Slide projector and screen
- ▶ Canon A3 Printer
- ▶ 50x40cm and 40x30cm frames for print display (68 in total)
- ▶ MonacoEZ software for printer profiling
- ▶ Studio back cloth stands and lighting stands



Macclesfield Camera Club
offers something to
interest everyone