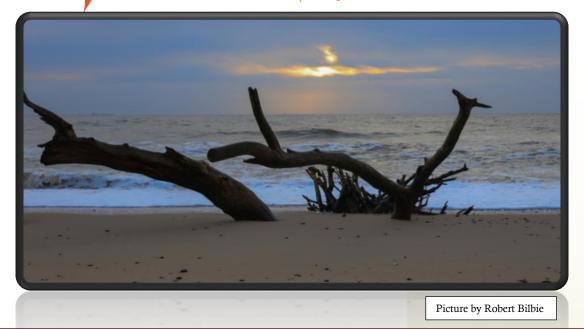
### N O V E M B E R 2 0 2 0

# The Lowestoft Photographic Club Newsletter Issue 14



## Message from the Chairman

I hope you are all enjoying our season so far and it's nice to see some of our other photographic friends from other clubs who have decided to join us for the zoom presentations, I think you will all agree we have had some excellent speakers to date, I particularly enjoyed the Photographic Sublime by Thomas Peck.

The judging of the competitions has however been a different matter, to combat this we are putting together a list of judges that we feel are entertaining, consistent and fair with their scoring, with the intention of only using these judges in the future.

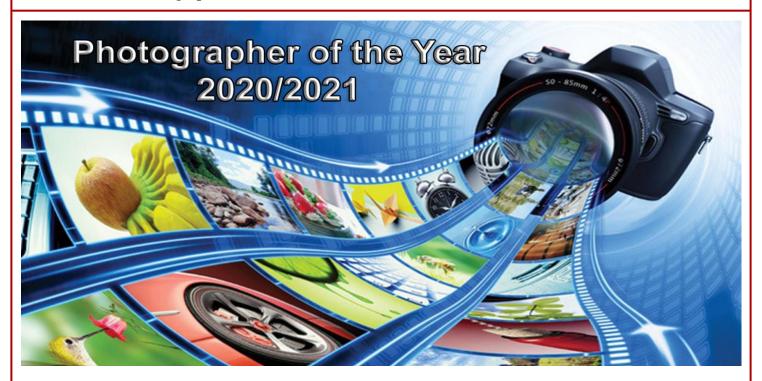
Looking ahead we are planning more photographic outings, these of course gives us all the opportunity to have a chat face to face albeit socially distanced, and perhaps get some great shots. We will announce the dates and venues in due course.

I've decided on the theme for the Chairman's night on the 5th May. I want to see your favourite three images taken in 2020. I'll attempt to comment and judge them and announce the winner at the end of the night. There will be a prize for the winner...

Glenn Long Chairman

#### The Lowestoft Photographic Club Newsletter

#### November 2020



			LPC: PHOTOGRAPHER OF THE YEAR SC <mark>ORE</mark> S FOR 2020-2021														1st Plac	1st Place Colour		2nd Place Colour		3rd Place Colour			
				16th Septe	ember 202	20		30th September 2020					28th October 2020								TOTALS BROKEN DOWN				
		PDI	PDI - Open Colour			PDI - Theme - Composite Photography		PDI - Open Mono			PDI - Theme - Transport			PDI - Open Colour			PDI - Theme - Waterfalls			Grand Total	PRINT - Open competition		PDI - Open competition		PDI Theme
		A	В	Sub T	A	В	Sub T	А	В	Sub T	A	В	Sub T	A	В	Sub T	A	В	Sub T		Colour	Mono	Colour	Mono	
King	Adrian						0							19	15	34	15		15	49	0	0	34	0	15
Beaumont	Alan	14	12	26	1		0				15	14	29							55	0	0	26	0	29
Fulford	Alan	17	17	34	14	19	33	20	16	36	15	17	32	18	16	34	16	17	33	202	0	0	68	36	98
Walker	Alan		-	0			0			-				18	19	37	18	16	34	71	0	0	37	0	34
Biglin	Andrew	-	-		17	17	34			2	20	16	36	-			16	18	34	104	0	0	0	0	104
Smart	Barrie	10	10	26		-	0.			20		4.7								0	0	0	0	0	0
Smith	Barry	18	18	36	-		0.	15	13	28	16	17	33	18	16	34	16	15	31	162	0	0	70	28	64
Allison	Bob	-		-									-				<u> </u>			0	0	0	0	0	0
Dawson Soanes	Bob Carol		-		-	-				-				<u> </u>			-	-		0	0	0	0	0	0
Soanes Jackson	Chris		-		L						-	-		<u> </u>						0	0	0	0	0	0
Snowling	Colin	-	-	1		-				-	-	-					-			0	0	0	0	0	0
Leak	Derek	17	16	33	14	16	30	14	14	28	13	19	32	16	15	31	16	15	31	185	0	0	64	28	93
Gillings	Diana		10	35		10	50	14		20	15	15	52	10		5.	10		51	0	0	0	04	0	0
Beaumont	Edwina	17	16	33		-	0.	14	15	29	14	16	30	<u> </u>			18	16	34	126	0	0	33	29	64
Blyth	Frank			0			0	18	16	34	18	17	35							69	0	0	0	34	35
Kinch	Frank	16	16	32			0	19	17	36	13	18	31	15	15	30	15	16	31	160	0	0	62	36	62
Maudlin	Gary	15	17	32			0 \	14	12	26	15	14	29	14	14	28	18	16	34	149	0	0	60	26	63
Long	Glenn	20	20	40	17	16	33	16	17	33	14	16	30	16	18	34	15	18	33	203	0	0	74	33	96
Morgan	Janet			0			.0													0	0	0	0	0	0
Mott	Jim			0			.0													0	0	0	0	0	0
Burton	John				1		.0.			8				0						0	0	0	0	0	0
Pitts	John	17	18	35	18	16	34	15	15	30	15	14	29	17	17	34	19	19	38	200	0	0	69	30	101
Watson	John			1.0			0													0	0	0	0	0	0
Welsh	John	14		14			0	13	15	28	16	15	31	14		14	13	16	29	116	0	0	28	28	60
Leak	Judy	18	17	35	14		14	15	17	32	14	16	30	15	16	31	16	16	32	174	0	0	66	32	76
Smith	Leon	17	17	34	18	19	37	16	15	31	16	15	31	19	18	37	16	18	34	204	0	0	71	31	102
Hunting	Linda	15	16	31	16	17	33	16	18	34	13	16	29	14	17	31	15	18	33	191	0	0	62	34	95
Snowling	Lynda			0		-	9						_					-		0	0	0	0	0	0
Merrett	Marney	_		0		<u> </u>	0			_				<u> </u>				-		0	0	0	0	0	0
Littlewood	Patricia	16	10	22		-	0	45	45								16	16	32	32	0	0	0	0	32
Newman	Patricia	16	16	32		-		15	15	30	-			14	18	32	-	-		94	0	0	64	30	0
Gillings	Paul	17	10	22	-				10	26	-	-		10	10	38	-	-		0	0	0	0 71	0 36	0
Utting	Paul		16 15	33 30	-	-		18 15	18	36	15	16	31	19	19	38	18	17	35	107	0	0		36	0
Jackson Smith	Philip	15	15	30	16	17	33	15	15	30	15	15	29	16 16	16 16	32	18	17	35	158 188	0	0	62 63	30	66 95
Howarth	Ray Rob	19	20	31	16	20	33	15	15	30	14	15	38	18	16	32	14	19	33	226	0	0	76	30	95
Bilbie	Robert	19	20	39	10	20	38	16	19	16	19	19	38	18	19	3/	18	19	37	16	0	0	0	37	0
Cole	Sid	18	18	36				10	16	35	17	17	34	16	19	35	15	15	30	16	0	0	71	35	64
Dillon	Steve	10	10	50			-	15	10	35	1/		34	20	17	37	14	19	33	70	0	0	37	0	33
lvy	Steve	18	18	36			0	16	17	33	16	15	31	14		14	16	1.17	16	130	0	0	50	33	47
Barber	Terry	10	10	0			0			55	10	15	5.			14	10		10	0	0	0	0	0	0
Lewis	Terry			0			0					1								0	0	0	ő	0	ő
Green	Tommy			0			0													0	0	0	0	0	0
Wood	Tony						5											1		0	0	0	0	0	0
Cox	Trevor			0			0	16	13	29	16	15	31	17	16	33	17	17	34	127	0	0	33	29	65
Davey	Wayne	19	19	38	20	19	39	20	20	40	20	20	40	20	20	40	20	20	40	237	0	0	78	40	119

Due to not being able to return to the hall we have taken the decision to push back the print competitions to the end of the season. The new order of the competitions are as follows. 25th November - PDI Open Mono and theme "Portraiture"

13th January - PDI Open Colour and theme "Castles"

10<sup>th</sup> February - PDI Open Mono and theme "Food photography" 17<sup>th</sup> March - Prints Open Colour and Open Mono 7<sup>th</sup> April - Prints Open Colour and Open Mono

12th May - Prints Open Colour and Open Mono

#### The Lowestoft Photographic Club Newsletter

#### November 2020

#### How I got involved in Judging Photographic Images by Derek Leak

On 20th June 1983, I took the first picture on my first Single Lens Reflex camera - I am sure of the date because it is written on the transparency, together with the subject's title. My generous Mother had set me up with a "Canon AE1 Programme" body and two "Canon" zoom lenses. Having been a member of what was then "The Lowestoft Photographic Society" for a decade I thought I had learned enough to justify the expense of a "proper" camera. The LPS had been a regular oasis of calm from the rigors of earning a living. I greatly enjoyed the meetings every Wednesday night. Despite often feeling tired at the outset, I usually went home refreshed. The Society provided interesting and varied company and taught me almost everything I knew about the hobby.

This elevation in equipment status seemed to turn me into appropriate material for Committee fodder and over the next 30 years was elected to every office within the LPS, except the Programme Secretary. However, my wife, Judy, did that job for several years. By the way, this is not bragging. I was not the best person to do these jobs, but simply the mug who was prepared to have a go. While acting as Chairman, I first understood what the "East Anglian Federation of Photographic Societies" was and how it operated. I discovered that the LPS was a member and this came with lots of benefits. One of these was "Judging Courses" - concentrated, one day affairs where an attempt was made to explain the techniques used for judging images.

I with other LPS members attended these courses and several of us were offered the opportunity to become EAF Judges at the lowest of three levels. For a time the LPS had the largest number of judges listed by the EAF of any club in its catchment area.

My first effort at judging a club competition was on Thursday 16th October 1997. It was for the North Norfolk Camera Club and was held in the Village Hall at Cley-next-the-sea.

I remember it vividly and immediately discovered that it was a good idea to chat to as many members as possible - and NOT ONLY to the "important" ones. Judy almost always accompanied me to these events. Together we had already been giving "Lectures" to East Anglian Clubs, mainly in the form of Audio-Visual shows, which in those days involved humping around large amounts of equipment - and so Judy was there to do all the heavy lifting! We became a duo, sometimes judging Exhibitions and Competitions together "live" on the night. This "Judy and Derek show" became very popular with some clubs in Norfolk. Judy had been offered EAF Judges Status, but declined to take it, so she knew what to do.

After a year or two I was elevated, first to level "B" and then the top EAF level "A" for judges. Altogether we judged and lectured 318 times and enjoyed every minute. In 2018 we decided to give up Judging and Lecturing. We had both seen people carry on for too long and decided to try to avoid that pitfall. As clubs continued to try to persuade us to come back and do more, we probably succeeded.

Now to the point of all this rambling!

This is a summary of what we have learned in judging and entertaining Photographic Clubs.

1. Entertaining is EXACTLY what you should do - the punters need to go away happy.

2. It follows that the worst thing a judge can do is cause the club to lose members.

3. Consequently NEVER heavily criticise an image because to the author, it plainly has some merit. It is up to the judge to find that first and then perhaps make suggestions for improvement.

4. No judge can ever be DEFINITIVELY RIGHT about what he decides.

5. It must be made clear that the scores given represent the judge's opinion at the time and in the company of the other images submitted.

6. An attempt should be made not to overuse any word or comment. This is always obvious to the audience, but rarely to the judge himself.

7. In order to do this, a wide vocabulary is needed.

8. To achieve this, there is no disgrace in reading other people's criticism - I sometimes used the Arts Column in the "Guardian" for new ideas of saying the same thing using different words.

9. In Open Competitions it is important to praise all types of Photography.

10. Consequently, where it was merited, I would score highly - give a ten - to what I thought was the best Landscape, Natural History Image, Record Image, Creative Image, Portrait, etc.

At the end, if asked for a winner of the competition, I would look again at the best pictures and say to the audience, "You see how difficult it is to judge one of these against another and if you ask me for a winner, it will be my personal preference".

11 It is my belief that, "putting a picture to one side" shows a lack of conviction. It is much better to give several images 10 marks - and if required put into operation point 9.

12. At least once in the evening be overwhelmed by an image. "This is wonderful! 10 marks!", always goes down well.

13. Always judge what you SEE. Don't fall into the trap of studying metadata to form your opinions.

I sometimes wonder why competitions are so popular and have come to the conclusion that it is mainly so that the judge can be pilloried for his decisions, by those who know they can do it better!

Derek Leak

#### November 2020



How is your memory these days?

I thought I'd take a moment to ask you to have a think about how your store your digital images. In the (distant?) past, storage was a cardboard box containing your photos / slides / negatives and if the box broke then at worst it meant a few bent photos. Nowadays we all transfer our digital images from our cameras to our computers without a second thought. However, most computers still use mechanical hard drives that have spinning discs inside. These can 'crash' (the read head - think record stylus - can hit the spinning discs causing data loss) or electronically fail (ask Glenn!). What would you do then? Do you have any backup plan if you lost your computers hard drive?

Can I suggest that at least you have an external drive that you copy your precious information onto. Another thought would be to copy your digital photos to the 'cloud'. This might sound daunting, but think of it as a remote hard drive somewhere at the other end of the internet - one that doesn't fail! Its advantage is that in the event of something catastrophic (theft / fire), the information in the cloud would be unaffected. Also it can be accessed from other computers and devices - such as your mobile phone.

If considering using Cloud storage, have a shop around as there is a big price difference between companies. If you intend to store RAW files and JPGs, then you could use more cloud space than you think, so pick a provider that is generous - also pick one that will be around for a long time!

Something worth considering is that if you are an Amazon Prime member, then you already have a photo cloud store. Whats more it is unlimited - and includes the storage of RAW files!! In fact, as Amazon Prime membership costs either £7.99 a month or £79 a year (equates to £6.58/month), then it may be worth considering joining even IF you could use their other services (deliver, music and video).

Else something like Google gives 200GB @ £25 a year or 2TB at £80/year - with unlimited storage of up to 'high quality' images (not FULL resolution and not RAW files).

Of course there are a whole host of other providers out there. Some food for thought for you.

Andy Biglin

## Items for Sale

John Pitts has the following items for sale

Jessops Canon fit auto extension tubes. £15/20

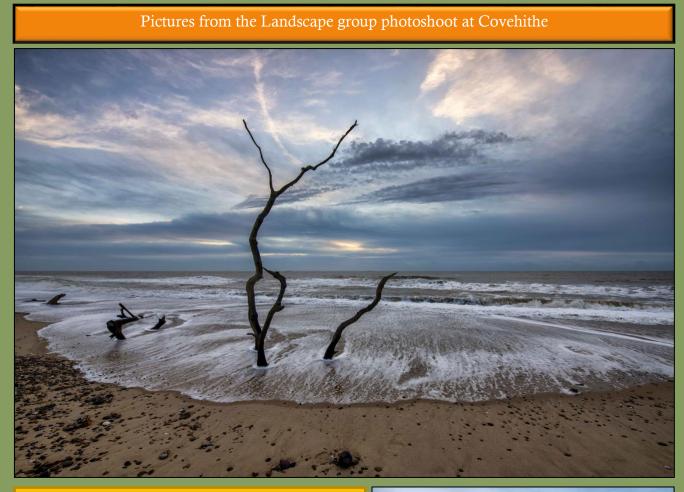
Jessops Canon fit auto 2X converter. £15/20

Seagull angel finder assume Canon. £20/30

Hoya 72mm circular polariser. £15/20

Please email pitts57@yahoo.co.uk

#### November 2020



The landscape group photoshoot was well attended with 13 members joining us at 6am on the day. It was a lovely morning with wispy clouds around adding to the impact and drama of the pictures.

Everyone seemed to come away with some fantastic pictures many of which have been posted on the Facebook members page, even some had a dramatic sunrise that I seemed to have missed!





The November landscape group shoot which was due to be an afternoon shoot at Dunwich Heath will have to be cancelled as we are moving into the 2<sup>nd</sup> Lockdown but hopefully we will be able to plan another landscape shoot in December.

> Pictures by Derek Leak and Rob Howarth