

## **Hoylake Photographic Society Fact Pack 2008**

### **The Society**

The main group meets once a week between September and May, venue and time according to the syllabus, which is published each season. Meetings include photographic lectures and competitions involving members' work, such as monochrome or colour prints, colour slides and digital images. Lecturers are usually invited to be both entertaining and informative, and they may be from other societies or from professional photographic backgrounds. Interclub competitions and the more lightweight battles take place regularly.

The Committee consists of five officers – the President, the Secretary, the Treasurer, the Competition and Syllabus Secretaries. The members are elected at the AGM in April and we are always on the lookout for people who would like to help on the Committee.

The Projected Image Group or PIG for short, has its own leader, who is on the Committee, and meets twice a month at the venue and time stated on the syllabus. It holds competitions for which the subjects are chosen at the previous AGM. At present these will be for slides only, but as the focus of members' interest changes to digital then this will gradually also change. Other meetings are a mixture of slide and digital entertainment, provided by the members or workshops on new techniques.

The slides for the PIG supporters' competitions are brought on the night, must be titled and spotted and must fit the specific competition title. They are judged by the attending members, and points awarded over the season are accumulated and the winner takes the Colour Slide Cup, presented at the AGM. Because the group is informal and usually attended by a small number of people only, it is a friendly get together of like-minded people, with the opportunity for discussion. It also means that each image can be constructively commented on and help given if required. New members are always welcome and there is no additional cost involved.

### **Processing**

If you are interested in processing your own slides, film or prints do seek advice from club members, who mostly have come from the traditional background of using a darkroom, although digital now seems to reign supreme.

### **Interclub activities**

We have the opportunity to meet members of other clubs at joint meetings- eg Heswall with whom we have a regular meeting -and especially at Wirral Photographic Alliance (WPA) seminar meetings, which are held annually and advertised on our syllabus. Some of our members are frequent judges for other local and national clubs' competitions. Some members give talks to non photographic or photographic groups.

There are a number of interclub competitions throughout the year such as at Chester, the Whitby club or South Liverpool. Members' images are used either as individual pictures or as part of a panel. We have an External Competition Secretary who organises this, usually using images from last year's exhibition. This means that prints are retained for a while after the exhibition to enable

us to put together a good selection of panels. However, if you want your pictures returned quickly, you only have to ask.

### **Lancashire and Cheshire Photographic Union(L&CPU) and the Photographic Alliance of Great Britain (PAGB).**

The L&CPU is a regional organisation with a membership of about 100 clubs in the North West area, including Hoylake. It provides a register of judges and lecturers, which is useful when building the syllabus and arranges a number of functions for photographers.

The L&CPU organises an annual competition for prints, slides and for the first time in 2008, digital images in April/May. The regulations change slightly from year to year and work has to be submitted through the External Competition secretary. Entries are judged separately but there is a club element as marks are totalled and a league table produced. Folios are afterwards produced from the year's entry and these are available to the syllabus secretary for an evening's entertainment. A participating club will have been asked to produce a commentary, although these have been of varying quality in past years. We usually see three or four of the folios.

The L&CPU also provides Public Liability insurance for participating clubs.

The PAGB is the National organisation of local groups such as the L&CPU. It also arranges an annual competition, and the best of the annual L&CPU entry is retained and forwarded for this. Trophies are awarded to the successful federation. Images accepted for the PAGB exhibition tour the country, giving everyone the chance to see some of the best of club photography.

In 2008, for the first time, the PAGB organised a national digital competition in which clubs could choose to enter, either as a 'small group', with less than 8 individuals contributing 20 images, or as a 'large group' with more than 8 contributing. Hoylake entered the small group with images which had been entered successfully by seven members to National and International competitions and won! Wigan 10, another northwest club entered the large group and won! Next year will be interesting!

### **Monthly competitions and the Annual Exhibition.**

We have regular monthly competitions, which are judged by external judges and the results are then the basis of an evening's entertainment. The regulations and guidance are available from the Competition Secretary. Images are handed in about a fortnight before the results night, using a specific entry form. For next year, as we introduce digitally projected images as part of the normal monthly competition, the overall total number you may enter is 8, with a maximum of 4 in any one element. The judges give constructive comments on the images and are always kind to beginners. You may not agree with his decisions but it gives you the opportunity to assess your pictures' standards against others. Certificates are awarded and there are some trophies for the best images in each competition. There are 6 throughout the season, with at present an additional Digital Open and a Digital Audio-visual competition, the latter providing the entertainment for the Christmas social.

The Annual Exhibition is held in April/May and again in September and is the result of another judging. This means that you can have your monthly photos entered for a second time, either as

they were or improved as a result of the monthly judge's comments. The exhibitions are the showcases for our year's work although we are unable to display more than a small percentage of each person's photos. Everyone who enters has some on display. The Annual competition has the same categories as the six monthly competitions. The slides are judged by a small panel, of people from another club and the prints are judged by one person in a mammoth session on a Saturday, when you can come to watch the process. In the past projected digital images were not part of the annual, but will be from 2009.

The display of prints takes place in the Concourse in West Kirby on the Library mounting boards. If you want to be able to improve our exhibition, then it would be good if you wrote to ask for better boards from Wirral, as the more who make such a request the more chance of any improvement. It has to be said that we have been asking for some years now! Help is always needed to put up the exhibition, although the Competition Secretaries have already chosen and arranged the panels and produced titles and some comments.

### **National and International Competitions and their awards.**

If you want to take your photography to a wider population, then you might consider entering some of the many competitions available. Some in Britain are part of the British Photographic Exhibitions—the BPE— through which you can gain Crown awards: and some are part of the world wide FIAP or Fédération Internationale de l'Art Photographique. For the BPE Crown awards, you need to have a specific number of images accepted in participating exhibitions – eg 25 for BPE1\* with no time scale. For the FIAP, you need acceptances, to have gained awards and to have supported the exhibitions for a minimum of 5 years. A number of members have either or both BPE and FIAP letters to their name and can give advice to anyone wanting to start the process. Nowadays, although there are still clubs operating print and slide exhibitions, many of the foreign ones are purely digital and the entry can sometimes be done completely online. The only disadvantage to entering is the entry fee, which varies enormously. Some of the competitions are part of a circuit and will forward your entry to the next salon. In the Northwest, we have Southport which is a BPE exhibition for prints, slides and digital projected images and we have the Wirral slide exhibition.

The other way in which you can have status is by joining the Royal Photographic Society of GB and entering for their 3 levels of award – the LRPS, the ARPS and the FRPS. This requires much time and effort and again is a costly business. We have members at all three levels who can help in the early stages of preparing an entry. The RPS organise local and national meetings for members and non members and have an annual competition.

## Competition regulations

### 1. Competitions

The Committee may at appropriate times hold competitions amongst members as set out below. It may cancel or promote additional competitions, make extra regulations, amend or annul existing rules for all or any competitions.

### 2. Grading of members.

Members shall be graded by themselves into two grades – Advanced and Novice/Intermediate. Members must indicate at their first entry which grade they are in and then stay in that grade for the entire season. Images can be trade processed, home processed or digitally produced prints in any grade. There is no grading of members for the projected images, whether these are slides or digital.

### 3. Grading subcommittee

In the event that it is deemed necessary, the Committee shall appoint a Grading Committee, consisting of no less than 3 and no more than 6 members.

### 4. Application for grading.

In the absence of a Grading Committee, new members may seek advice from an experienced worker or the Competition Secretary. Usually, we expect to look at some samples of your work.

### 5. Conditions of entry

Competition entries, whether prints, slides or digital projected images may be home processed or trade processed. However, all parts of the image must have been produced by the photographer, such that you have the copyright. Clip art or copyright free material cannot be used within an image and any computer manipulation must be carried out by the competitor or under the competitor's direction. Substantially altered images are not allowed in the Nature category.

### 6. Print mounting

Prints can appear on any standard mount of any format or colour up to a maximum of 20"x16" or equal to 48square inches in area, with a maximum longest size of 20". If you wish your entry to be used for the L&CPU competition, then the mount size must be 20"x16", with a flush backing board. We suggest you consider using black, grey or cream as your normal colour mount as these do not detract from the photo. The club at present buys these colours and sells them as 20"x16" mounts at a reduced cost through the season. We also have backing board, which we suggest you use as they help to protect your prints.

### 7. Colour slides

These must be 2"x2" and mounted between glass for all monthly competitions, except the Projected Image Group. They must be spotted, titled and named. It is also sensible to put HPS if you are intending to enter the L&CPU.

### 8. Submission of entries

All entries must be accompanied by a specific entry form, available either from the Competition secretary or downloaded from the website. This includes information which makes life easier for the competition secretary. The Annual entry forms are only available from the Competition Secretary just before the competition and are colour coded. Entries without the correct form may be disqualified.

9. Eligibility of entries

A print from a particular negative, whether colour or mono, and a slide or digital image may be entered once only for a monthly competition, and then these are eligible for one future Annual competition. Having been entered in an Annual, an image is then not eligible for any further internal competitions. The Committee may request it to represent Hoylake in external competitions.

A slide may be used once in the PIG and then in the monthly and annual competitions. Elements of a digital capture may be used repeatedly if the resulting image is substantially different from any other. For example, a cloud image could be used in several photos.

10. Limitation of entries

In normal monthly competitions, the total number of entries per worker must not exceed 8, in any combination of prints, or projected images, with a restriction of 4 in any of the three elements. This means you can put in any combination of (1)mono print, (2)colour print, and (3)slide or digital projected image. If you choose to enter 4 in one section, then you are only left with 4 for the other two media. In the Annual, the number per category will be 8, with the same restriction, so a total of 48 is possible, spread over prints and projected images.

11. Acceptance of entries

The Committee reserve the right to reclassify any entry and to refuse to accept any entry for non-compliance with the regulations, or for any other reason it may think fit. Prints may be submitted to the Annual Exhibition on a non-competitive basis, such prints to be hung at the discretion of the Committee.

12. Judges

The judge or judges for any competition shall be appointed by the Committee, usually by the Syllabus secretary.

13. Reproductions

The Committee reserve the right to make copies or reproductions of any work submitted for competitions but shall not have copyright thereof.

14. Disputes

All matters in dispute shall be referred to the Committee, whose decisions shall be final and binding on members

15. Awards

The judge's decision is final and binding.

## **Annual Awards**

The following trophies are awarded during the Annual Competition or for the Monthly competitions. They are awarded either on the night of the results or at the AGM. They are held for one year only. The monthly are returned at the beginning of the season and the Annual are returned just prior to the next year's AGM. All the trophies come with a box or package and are numbered for easier recognition. Some of the cups have been reassigned to new competitions so they may have an inappropriate title. Please remember to clean your trophy before returning it.

### **Annual Cups**

1. 'Novice Cup' – best colour print- new worker from N/I section
2. 'Intermediate Cup' –best mono print- worker from N/I section
3. Grenfell –best mono print- worker from Advanced
4. Guy Farrar – best mono A&R
5. McBirnie – best mono panel of 3 prints from 3 sections
6. Keith Lowe Memorial –mono landscape
7. Colour print – best colour print from Advanced
8. Colour panel – best colour panel of 3 prints from 3 sections
9. Colour print shield – best colour print worker through the season
10. A.Lewis Landscape- best colour landscape
11. A Lewis Rose Bowl – best colour A&R
12. A.Lewis Illustrative – best colour illustrative
13. M Connor Rose Bowl – colour portrait print
14. J.Johnson Rose Bowl – colour nature print
15. Colour group cup – best worker through the season from PIG
16. Colour slide cup- best slide in exhibition( will be projected image in future)
17. Derivative – best creative slide ( will be projected image in future)
18. Roy Lewis Portrait Cup – best portrait slide ( will be PI)
19. G.Wyborn league Cup – best slide worker through the season ( will be PI)
20. K.Lewis Nature – best nature slide ( will be PI)

## Monthly awards

21. Illustrative	mono print
22. Hutchison landscape -	mono print landscape ( was an annual cup)
23. Pictorial	mono print pictorial
24. A&R	mono print
25. Portrait	mono print
26. Natural History Cup	
27. Illustrative shield	colour print
28. Landscape shield	colour print - missing
29. Pictorial shield	colour print
30. A&R shield	colour print
31. Portrait shield	colour print
32. Natural History	colour print nature
33. Illustrative shield	slide/PI
34. Landscape shield	slide/PI
35. Pictorial shield	slide/PI
36. A&R shield	slide/PI
37. Portrait shield	slide/PI
38. Natural History shield	slide nature
39. HH Shaw Landscape cup	landscape colour print
40. Summer folio	
41. Open	best image from slide or print
42. Illustrative cup	best N/I monthly image
43. Nature Rose Bowl	best N/I monthly image
44. A&R Rose bowl	best N/I monthly image
45. People pewter cup	best N/I monthly image
46. Pewter cup	best N/I monthly image
47. Pewter cup	
48. Pewter cup	
49. Diana Dance Medal	best digital image monthly