

Croydon CC Newsletter – 2 May 2021

Chairman's Viewpoint

Translated literally, the word “photography” comes from the ancient Greek for “drawing with light” and the essence of photography is indeed light, rendered at a moment in time. The inspiration for Henry Fox Talbot to experiment with photographic processes was his inability to sketch what he saw around him and he wanted another way to record it. The principles he established in the 1830s have formed the basis of photography ever since. The introduction of digital notwithstanding, analogue imaging remains popular with many.

The photographic process implies it is a factual medium. However, it did not take long before images started to appear that owed their origins as much to manipulation in the darkroom as the original capture on film. I recall the late Harry Cundell, one of our life members, showing me a book at a meeting in which the images could have been made with the assistance of Photoshop. Except the book was published in the 1960s, long before the first iteration of the software.

At our last two meetings, we have seen how two people have used digital manipulation to produce distinctive images. Most recently, Colin Harrison shared not only his creative flower photography with us but showed us his methods as well. While Photoshop does feature in his work, he also uses other less well known applications. Colin has very generously supplied extensive notes to accompany his talk which are included with this newsletter. As Colin demonstrated, experimentation is the key to producing new and different styles of work, for which I hope the talk and notes will provide inspiration.

For the past few months, Covid-19 restrictions have meant it has not been possible to hold print competitions. Our meeting this week sees their return, albeit in a modified format to comply with current regulations. We collected the entries last weekend and these have been with the judge for the past few days so that he can assess them. He will give us his verdict while we show the digital version in our online meeting. We will repeat the exercise for the 3rd and 4th rounds on 2 June and hold the Print of the Year competition on 14 July. For the latter, three of the entries in this season's print rounds will be eligible.

Club Matters

5 May 2021 – Print Competition Rounds 1 and 2

After an extended absence, print competitions are back. See what Darren Pullman has to say about the entries submitted to the first two rounds.

12 May 2021 – Colour in Nature, Visible and Invisible with Adrian Davies

Adrian makes a welcome return to our club with an intriguing talk about the world around us, both what we can see and that which is beyond our perception.

Links for PhotoEntry and Instructions

<https://compent.photoentry.uk/compent/>

<http://croydoncameraclub.org.uk/WebSiteArchive/PhotoEntryGuidance.pdf>

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