

Croydon CC Newsletter – 16 May 2021

Chairman's Viewpoint

Colour does not exist. In reality, it is the way that our eyes and brains interpret the small section of the electromagnetic spectrum that is visible to us. If I were to stoop to such a pun, I would say it is a pigment of our imagination. Nor is what we perceive common to other species with which we share our world. As one example, nocturnal animals often have a visual capability that is better than ours, extending into the realm of infrared. There is one creature, the Mantis Shrimp, which has photoreceptors that stretch across a wide range of the spectrum, relying on its extended senses to detect when its prey is nearby.

Adrian Davies, a naturalist and photographer, was our presenter last week and spoke about colour in the natural world. During the first half of the talk, he described how fungi and plants, including flowers, appear to us. After the break, he demonstrated how different they are when viewed with ultraviolet light. The transformation was astonishing but explained by the need to attract pollinating insects whose visual range reaches into ultraviolet.

Adrian also showed how we can use ultraviolet light in our own photography. There are several challenges involved, partly due to modern lenses not transmitting UV and partly on account of the care needed to avoid damage to our eyes. However, it is possible to create imagery with a distinctive look using an inexpensive UV torch to make the subject fluoresce.

Our regular print competitions for this season will conclude on 2 June, when we will again hold two rounds on the same evening. Images entered into any of the rounds are eligible for the Print of the Year competition in July, details of which will be announced closer to the date. The competition is open for submissions in PhotoEntry and closes on **21 May**. The usual arrangements put in place during the pandemic continue to apply and we will collect entries at Shirley Methodist Church on **22 May**.

Club Matters

19 May 2021 – DPI Competition – 5th Round

The conclusion of this season's digital competition when Andy Smith LRPS CPAGB makes a welcome return to our club to judge our images.

22 May 2021 –Print Collection at Shirley Methodist Church

Between 12:00 – 13:00, hand in prints for the 3rd and 4th rounds on 2 June and collect prints entered into the first two rounds.

26 May 2021 – “Capturing movement, wildlife and sport” with Nick Rogers

A talk about action photography.

Links for PhotoEntry and Instructions

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

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

Mike Farley (Chairman)