

COLCHESTER PHOTOGRAPHIC SOCIETY

COLCHESTERPHOTOSOC.CO.UK



"Ruppell's Griffon Vulture"
by Jennifer Brett

PROGRAMME OF EVENTS 2023/24

The Society meets on Tuesdays at
Christ Church, Ireton Road (off Maldon Road), Colchester, CO3 3AU
www.colchesterphotosoc.co.uk

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COLCHESTER PHOTOGRAPHIC SOCIETY

Aims of the Society

To promote and encourage interest in the study and appreciation of photography. This is achieved by inviting top lecturers, both amateur and professional, to present their work and demonstrate techniques. In addition, the Society provides practical demonstrations and competitions, as well as encouraging members in advancing their photography.

Programme 2023/24

All meetings commence promptly at 7.30pm.

- 12th Sept** **“Smartphone Photography”** - Talk by **Jeanette Lendon**. During this presentation Jeanette will go through how to get the best out of your smartphone camera, from composition, exposure, macro and lots of other useful tips and tricks. (Visitors £5.00)
- 19th Sept** **“Our Members Present”** - Short presentations by members of the Society. This is an opportunity to share your images with your fellow members. Volunteers required please! If you would like to take part, please inform Steve Ball, Programme Secretary (programmesecretary@colchesterphotosoc.co.uk).
- 26th Sept** **“The Beauty that is Scotland”** - Talk by **Roy Essery** MPAGB. The United Kingdom is a small country compared to many. However, the amazing beauty and variety it has within its landscape is like no other. Nowhere is this more true than in the highlands and islands on “Bonnie Scotland”.
- 3rd Oct** **Projected Digital Image League Competition (1st round)**
Appraisal by **Dr. Julie Hutson** ARPS DPAGB
- 7th Oct (Sat)* *Chelmsford 4C's Shield Inter-Club Panel Competition at Chelmsford*
- 10th Oct** **“My Kinda Streets”** - Talk by **Tony Bramley** FRPS . Techniques, ideas and styles to help you tackle the difficult genre of street photography. A talk covering the varying aspects of my street photography: incl London City & West End, Travel, Social Documentary, Low Light, Fashion and Abstract. Abstract Street Photography is an unsung hero of the photography genres, outside of popular subject matter. It requires complete knowledge of your equipment with a ready-to-go attitude in a very dynamic environment. Being bold, patient and not afraid to make others or yourself uncomfortable, all add to getting the shot. This presentation provides insight into my street photography and how I go about a typical day shooting. (Visitors £5.00)
- 17th Oct** **CPS 8 X 8 Trophy Competition**
Eight clubs compete with an entry of eight prints, each by eight different photographers. Appraisal by **Mike Fuller**
- 24th Oct** **Colour Print League Competition (1st round)**
Appraisal by **David Robinson** ARPS

31st Oct **A Practical Still-Life Evening** - Halloween themed evening “*Still Undead*”, plus props for other still-life set-ups. Remember to bring your camera, tripod and any props you might have to support this fun night.

7th Nov **Monochrome Print League Competition** (1st round)
Appraisal by **Tom Peck** LRPS CPAGB

14th Nov **The Essex Challenge**
An open PDI competition for images of any subject but which must have been taken in Essex. Two entries per person allowed.
Appraisal by **Nick Bowman** ARPS LSINWP

16th Nov *Halstead & Dist. P.S. International ‘Twin Town’ PDI Competition, at Halstead. Appraised by Mike Fuller.*

21st Nov **“Twenty Feet from the Stars”** - Talk by **Howard Denner** AFIAP..
A profusely illustrated account of 16 years photographing rock, blues and jazz spanning the transition from film to digital. (Visitors £5.00)

28th Nov **Projected Digital Image League Competition** (2nd round)
Appraisal by **Tony Bramley** FRPS

5th Dec **“Northern Winter - Survival in the Snow”** - Talk by **Sarah Kelman** ARPS DPAGB.
The northern taiga is the largest land biome on the planet but also one of the harshest for the animals that live there. When the winter snows arrive, many species migrate south. This is the story of those animals that remain to overwinter in these harsh conditions. (Visitors £5.00)

12th Dec **Annual CPS vs Wetzlar PDI Competition**
(by Zoom) Appraisal by **Paul Radden** DPAGB EFIAP/S PSA4*

19th & 26th Dec - No Meetings during Christmas Period

2024

2nd Jan **Projected Digital Image League Competition** (3rd round)
Appraisal by **Steve Carroll** ARPS DPAGB

9th Jan **“Photographing the Night Sky”** - Talk by **Nik Szymanek**.
An introduction to techniques used to take images of deep sky objects. The talk covers the use of film, DSLR cameras and dedicated astronomical imaging equipment. Lots of pretty pictures and suitable for all audiences. (Visitors £5.00)

16th Jan **Colour Print League Competition** (2nd round)
Appraisal by **David Portwain** ARPS CPAGB

- 23rd Jan** **“Nature to Landscape”** - Talk by **Colin Brett** CPAGB BPE 3*.
I have always wanted to be outside birdwatching and taking photos from a young age. In my talk I wish to show how my enjoyment of being outside shows in my style of nature and landscape images. The talk is in two halves, nature in the first half and landscape in the second.
- 30th Jan** **MIPS Challenge Trophy Interclub PDI League Competition**
Appraisal by **Sarah Kelman** ARPS DPAGB
- 6th Feb** **Monochrome Print League Competition** (2nd round)
Appraisal by **Naomi Saul** ARPS ASINWP EFIAP DPAGB APAGB BPE4*
- 11th Feb (Sun)* *EAF Annual General Meeting and PDI Championship at Fulbourn*
- 13th Feb** **“Imaging reality – a history of documentary and street photography”** - Talk by **Tom Peck** CPAGB.
Images show what has happened, don't they? They depict reality, they are 'proof'. Documentary photography gives insight into events and street photography allows us to glimpse other people's behaviour. This talk will take us through the history of documentary/street photography using well known photographs liberally mixed with the author's own photography. We will ask the question: is what we see in the photographs actually reality? Can we trust these 'documentary' photographs? . (Visitors £5.00)
- 20th Feb** **Projected Digital Image League Competition** (4th round).
Appraisal by **Caroline Preece** LRPS
- 27th Feb** **“Mainly Landscape”** - Talk by **Chris Aldred** ARPS DPAGB BPE1*.
A retrospective view of some of Chris's favourite prints, not all of which are landscape. Many of these will be fresh to the club audience as most would have been made before joining CPS.
- 5th Mar** **Colour Print League Competition** (3rd and Final Round)
Appraisal by **Penny Reeves**.
- 10th Mar (Sun)* *EAF Print Championship at Fulbourn*
- 12th Mar** **“The Little Print Show”** - Talk by **Jonathan Vaines** LRPS CPAGB AFIAP.
This talk comes with an artistic approach to photography, stepping out of the club mainstream. Along with individual images, we see the motivational benefits of working with Projects, Sets and Groups of images. Most of my images are created using “in camera” techniques and the focus of the evening is about “Thinking Inside The Box”. The talk is primarily a print talk but presented via PowerPoint with 60 prints to display. (Visitors £5.00)
- 19th Mar** **Three-on-a-Theme (Prints) and Digital Triptych (PDI) Competitions**
Appraisal by **Jane Barrett** LRPS DPAGB BPE4*

- 26th Mar.** **SPECIAL EVENT to be held at The Rugby Club , Raven Park, Cuckoo Farm Way, Colchester CO4 5YX.**
No meeting at the church hall
- 2nd Apr** **Projected Digital Image League Competition (5th Round)**
 Appraisal by **Jonathan Vaines** LRPS CPAGB AFIAP
- 9th Apr** **Monochrome Print League Competition (3rd and Final Round)**
 Appraisal by **Clive Tanner** FRPS MPAGB FIFP AWPf APAGB
- 16th Apr** **“Photography and Me”**- Talk by **Doug Wyatt**. This is a talk by a local photographer, his passions, processes and what he has learnt along the way. (Visitors £5.00)
- 23rd Apr** **Projected Digital Image League Competition (6th and Final Round).** Appraisal by **David Steel** DPAGB
- 29th Apr (Mon) Annual Colchester vs Ipswich Battle, at Ipswich*
- 30th Apr** **“A Panels Evening”** - Talk by **Chrissie Hart** ARPS DPAGB. I love producing printed bodies of work and have produced numerous panels which have constantly won awards at my local clubs (Colchester & Ipswich) and have also gone on to win the Chelmsford 4 C's annual panel competition and the Great Barr Open Panel. I have panels of 3, 4 and 6. I encourage the audience to engage with me, participate, ask questions and discuss the basics, techniques, pitfalls and sense of achievement when producing a body of work.
- 7th May** **Image of the Year Print and PDI Competitions**
 Appraisal by **Rob Howarth** DPAGB, LRPS, BPE5*
- 14th May** **“Life Through My Lens”**- Talk by **Colin Edwards**. This is a talk based on Colin's life as a wildlife photographer, the highs, the lows, his favourite images and the moments that have stood out in his life as a professional. (Visitors £5.00)
- 21st May** **Annual General Meeting and Presentation of Awards, followed by a presentation after the break.**

COMPETITION RULES & CHECKLIST 2023-2024

ADVANCED and INTERMEDIATE GROUPING.

In order to provide a degree of equality, members entering competitions are split into groups. The first of these is the “Intermediate” group, being members who are either relatively new to photography or those who, whilst being a little bit more than a beginner, are not yet at what might be considered a highly skilled level.

The “Advanced” group is comprised of those members who are at a higher level than the aforementioned.

- ◆ New members, upon joining the club, should suggest their preferred grouping, having a view to their personal experience, to be agreed by the Print and PDI Secretaries. Members who have come from other clubs and who have regularly achieved success in their previous club competitions or have a photographic accreditation will be placed in the higher category.
- ◆ Members can go up from Intermediate to Advanced but not normally the other way. At the end of the season and at the discretion of the committee, those members who reach the top places at the Intermediate Level may be promoted to the Advanced.

In addition, promotion of other members may also occur in order to maintain a reasonably fair balance between the two groups. Such advancement will only occur after discussion and agreement between the parties concerned.

PRINT COMPETITION ENTRIES

Mounting: Advanced Section:

- ◆ An image **MUST** be on a 50cm x 40cm mount. This is a universally specified size of print mount which was established to avoid damage caused by smaller prints to others when placed in a pile prior to judging. Any prints offered on mounts of a different size to that stated will be rejected. Prints should be in a Window Mount, however a “full-page-bleed, flush mounted image”, namely one that covers the whole area of the mount, is also acceptable but please note that damage to the print edges during handling may occur. Please ask if you need help cutting mounts.
- ◆ Image title and the name of the photographer to be clearly shown on the rear of the mount in the top left-hand corner when viewed from the back.
- ◆ The front of the image shall not show any identification as to the photographer.
- ◆ Printed borders – as required by yourself.
- ◆ Note that pre-cut-to-size mount-board, backing board and framing tape can be purchased through the club at bulk prices. Please speak to Chrissie Hart for details.

Mounting: Intermediate Section:

Same rules as above but:

- ◆ Members may want to take advantage of our 50cm x 40cm off-white pre-cut mounts with window suitable to take either landscape or portrait A4 size prints – please ask Vic.
- ◆ We will allow prints to be surface mounted onto 50cm x 40cm board but note that this increases the chance of prints getting damaged. Please also note that prints so mounted will not be able to be included as part of the club's entry into external competitions because of risk of damage. However, in such situations the selection committee may consider having such prints remounted to avoid this problem.
- ◆ Please ask if you need help cutting your own mounts. Speak to Chrissie Hart or Vic.

P.D.I. (Projected Digital Image) COMPETITION ENTRIES

- ◆ Size: Max 1600 pixels in width. Max 1200 pixels in height. Note that as pixel dimensions are given “Resolution” can be ignored.
- ◆ Save as JPEG/Quality12 (note: Quality 12 means maximum quality)
- ◆ Borders – optional, as required by yourself.
- ◆ The image shall not show any identification as to the photographer.
- ◆ It is important that you insert certain information within the image file (this is called “Metadata”) and please keep your name under “Author” constant so that all your images will be grouped together. This aids the PDI Secretary in scoring, image display, etc on the night.

Easy to follow instructions on how to do this in Photoshop, Photoshop Elements and Lightroom are available as a download from the club's website.

- ◆ Save file as Image Title only and without the name of photographer (example: “**Pink Flower**”) in both upper and lower case as above. Mac users are asked to respect the advice given about not embedding files in emails.

Images will be shown in alphabetical order of title name. It is, therefore, best to avoid prefixing the image name with words like “The” or “A”.

- ◆ If in any doubt please follow the clear instructions on our website under “Preparing Images for PDI Competitions”. A link for this is on the CPS Website. Failing this, please speak with the PDI Secretary for advice.

THE COMPETITIONS

Print League Competitions

There are two open print league competitions, namely Colour and Monochrome. The term “Open” meaning any subject of your choice. There are three colour print and three monochrome print rounds, which collectively are spread over six evenings.

◆ A maximum of three prints may be submitted for each round of both the colour and monochrome print competitions. The maximum number of entries for each competition over the season will therefore be nine images in each competition. The overall winner of the colour and mono print competition leagues is derived by adding together their six highest scores, from their maximum of nine images. In the event that one or more members have an equal total at this stage, their seventh highest score will be added and, if a tie still exists then their eighth and, if still necessary, finally their ninth print score to establish a winning total. If one or more members still have the same cumulative total at this stage then a tie-break image will be offered to the last judge and their preferred image attracting a single point, thereby defining the season’s overall winner in that particular print category. This can either be an image presented during that evenings last competition or another one you have used in the current season, in which case you need to submit it with your final image selection.

◆ A PDI of images entered as prints must also be submitted with the requisite Exif file information in exactly the same format as for PDI competitions prior to the competition taking place.

◆ All images must be submitted via the PhotoEntry system. Please speak with the PDI Comp. Sec. if help is needed. These images will be used on the website for members’ galleries and the top images from each competition will be displayed on both Facebook and the clubs’ website. Mac users are asked to respect the advice given about not embedding files in emails.

Projected Digital Image League Competitions

◆ There are six rounds in the PDI League. Again the subject is “open” and therefore any subject of your choice.

◆ Images can be any combination of colour or monochrome.

◆ Members in the Intermediate Section. - A maximum of two images per competition can be entered in rounds 1-4, with one image only permitted in the fifth and sixth rounds.

The maximum number of digital entries in the Intermediate section will therefore be ten images. The overall winner is derived by adding together their seven highest scores. In the event that one or more members have an equal total at this stage, their eighth highest score will be added and, if a tie still exists then their ninth and, if necessary, their tenth and final score to establish a winning total. If one or more members still have the same cumulative total at this stage then a tie-break image will be offered to the last judge and their preferred image attracting a single point, thereby defining the season’s overall winner in that particular print category. This can either be an image

presented during that evenings last competition or another one you have used in the current season, in which case you need to submit it with your entry for the sixth and final round.

◆ Members in the Advanced Section. - A maximum of one image per competition can be entered in rounds 1-4, with two images permitted in the fifth and the sixth rounds.

The maximum number of digital entries in the Advanced section will therefore be eight images.

The overall winner is derived by adding together their six highest scores. In the event that one or more members have an equal total at this stage, their seventh highest score will be added and, if a tie still exists then their eighth and final score to establish a winning total. If one or more members still have the same cumulative total at this stage then a tie-break image will be offered to the last judge and their preferred image attracting a single point, thereby defining the season's overall winner in that particular print category. This can either be an image presented during that evenings last competition or another one you have used in the current season, in which case you need to submit it with your entry for the sixth and final round.

◆ All images must be submitted via the PhotoEntry system. Please speak with the PDI Comp. Sec. if help is needed.

THE FOLLOWING COMPETITIONS WILL NOT BE SPLIT INTO ADVANCED AND INTERMEDIATE:

Essex Challenge Trophy

◆ PDI competition with a maximum of two images following standard PDI guidelines.

Three-on-a-Theme Print Competition

◆ Prints - Maximum of two panel print entries.

◆ Each set presented as a panel of three inter-related images and individually mounted (three images on a single mount is not acceptable).

◆ Each image in the panel shall be clearly labelled in the top left corner on the back of each print with the individual name of the panel and the name of the photographer.

◆ Each image shall be clearly marked under the panel name with its position within the overall panel when viewed from the front (e.g. Left, Centre or Right).

Triptych PDI Competition

◆ Digital Images – Maximum of two digital, inter-related Triptych* images following standard PDI guidelines.

◆ Each image file name shall clearly display the title of the triptych image, followed by the name of the photographer. See rules for filling in File Info under Digital Images for Projection.

* Triptych = For the purpose of this club's competition, a triptych is a presentation made up

of three (and only three) distinctly separated photographic images displayed on a common background, which must be of a single colour or tone and not an image, pattern or texture. It cannot be one image split into three elements. The only restriction on the arrangement of the triptych's three images is that they must not meet or overlap. There is no requirement that the three images must be either the same size or the same shape. Added borders, drop shadows etc. are allowed.

Image of the Year Competitions

- ◆ These are one-off competitions in two categories, namely projected digital images and prints, which take place towards the end of the season. There will be a winner in each category.
- ◆ A maximum of two entries per member can be entered, either 2 PDI's, 2 prints or 1 of each.
- ◆ Entries must be selected from those images already entered into any competition (including "fun competitions") in the current season. There are no restrictions on which category images can be entered into (i.e. an image previously shown as a print can be entered as a PDI for this competition or vice-versa). The selection of an image from the digital triptych PDI competition is permitted.

GENERAL COMPETITION RULES

- ◆ An image or similar variation of it can only be entered **once** in the League Competitions, either as a print or a PDI, colour or monochrome.

However this image may also be entered in any other competition but only in the same season, including the Image of the Year. Minor processing tweaks are allowed, but the image must otherwise be similar to your previous entry. In other words, you cannot change it from colour to mono or vice-versa etc.

- ◆ Images entered must be entirely the work of the photographer, including that of any post processing. This does not preclude trade processed prints being entered.

Royalty Free and Clip Art Images are not permitted and neither are images freely available on the web, or elsewhere, or copyright images that you have purchased the right to use but did not take. The use of images or part thereof that was generated by the use of Artificial Intelligence, which samples pixels or objects from another photographer's work, is also not allowed. The use of software that helps make a selection, such as Photoshop's "Replace Sky" filter is permitted provided that the image used for the sky's replacement was one you photographed yourself and not a stock image or one contained in the software library.

All images entered into a competition must have been captured by a camera, mobile phone or a scanner and under your full and direct control. Images produced by natural means, such as salt prints, cyanotype, etc. are allowed. A copy of the original file containing its metadata shall be

presented if requested.

If you are unsure always seek guidance from the club's Chairman or another Committee Member please.

- ◆ If joining from another club or organisation, previous competition images that are more than twelve months old shall not be offered up for a C.P.S. competition.
- ◆ All entries for the Print Competitions shall be brought along on the club evening one week prior to the competition, or earlier if you are likely to be absent, and handed to the Print Competition Secretary.
- ◆ All entries for any of the digitally projected competitions shall be uploaded via the PhotoEntry system by no later than the Thursday evening prior to the date of the competition.
- ◆ The Member agrees to the use of their images for publicity purposes, on the club website and to enable the club to enter a number of external competitions. Members may request that their images are not used in this way by informing the Club Secretary. The image shall not show any identification as to the photographer.
- ◆ If re-using mount board please ensure that any sticky residue is removed or securely covered. This is to prevent marking to other prints that might come into contact.

You are urged to review the rules and other details relating to our competitions above and take careful note of the changes that may have occurred from last season.

Please speak to the Competition Secretaries if you have any questions or need some guidance. We really do want to see your work, irrespective of the level you are at. This is especially true for those new to photography. Everyone is here to help you in the submission of your images and to guide you in the improvement of your work and overall enjoyment.

DATA PROTECTION POLICY

The Colchester Photographic Society (CPS) is established with the objects set out in its Constitution, and is a data controller within the UK.

The personal information referred to in this Policy may include name, contact details, records of entries to events, and such other information as may be necessary for the effective management of the legitimate interests of CPS. Any person wishing to verify the information held by the CPS may apply to the Secretary.

Colchester Photographic Society collects and holds personal information about:

1. Its members, as defined by the Constitution, and which is shared with members of the CPS Committee.
2. Those offering their services to the CPS e.g. as judges or lecturers. This information is used to facilitate administration, services and the general organisation of CPS and its various activities. This information is shared amongst the members of the CPS Committee.
3. Details relating to members of the Committee are published each year in the annual programme.
4. Photographers as the creators of images used in the activities of CPS. This information is managed subject to the Constitution and Rules of CPS.

CPS may retain historical archives, for example but not limited to, records of meetings, competition entries, awards and other events and results.

PARKING

*Please note that **parking** for Club Members is only permitted to the left hand side of the car park. The spaces on the right hand side, under the windows immediately alongside the church, are reserved for others. When parking, can you please make sure that the front of your vehicle is facing the wall, so that reverberation noise from exhausts does not inconvenience the neighbours.*

Subscriptions

£60 for individual full membership

£96 for joint full membership

£45 for Associate Membership

£36 for student/disabled/country membership

**Normally £3 per night for visitors, unless specified otherwise
in the programme.**

Associate Membership – The Society has a limit on club membership numbers and, in the event of the limit being exceeded, potential members may apply to go on the waiting list to join when a vacancy becomes available. Associate Membership has been introduced, allowing people to join the club and enjoy all the benefits of full membership, except that of being able to enter the formal PDI, Print and Image of the Year Competitions. A reduced annual fee exists to reflect this. The category of Associate Membership is only open to potential new members. Upon a vacancy becoming available and offered to the individual concerned, their Associate Membership shall be relinquished and Full Membership shall be adopted.

Full Membership – Full membership of the Society occurs when a vacancy becomes available, most usually occurring at the start of a new season. Factors taken into account when assessing membership applications will include, but are not limited to, considerations such as existing Associate Membership, length of time on the Waiting List, known character and prior attendance as a visitor on club nights and other Society events, such being seen as a demonstrable keen interest in joining the Society.

It should be noted that selection based upon “waiting list, first-come-first-served basis” will not necessarily apply.

Membership selection is generally made by the Committee taking full account of the foregoing and their decision is final. The Society maintains the right not to provide a reason in the event of a refusal. This applies to both categories of membership.



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"Male Banded Demoiselle Roosting" by Ben Heather CPAGB



"Constable Country" by Ian Carter