



# Rugeley & Armitage Camera Club Newsletter

## 21st February 2021

[www.rugeleyandarmitagecameraclub.com](http://www.rugeleyandarmitagecameraclub.com)

**Philip Dunn** was our speaker on Zoom Monday February 15th. Titled Street Photography and My Work at the Sunday Times. Philip had kindly stepped in at the last minute due to our original speaker being ill. His photography life story was fascinating. He left school as soon as he could and secured a job on his local newspaper. I'm sure members were on the edge of their seats as each story was described. Philip told us about the dreadful train crash on 28th May 1964 at Cheadle Hulme.



Cheadle Hume and station were touched by tragedy as a special train, afterwards known as the Lollipop Express conveying over 230 school children from Staffordshire to York for a day trip to the Minster Castle and Railway Museum, derailed and crashed. Three people, two of them children, died with 27 injured. Coincidentally our member Lorraine Barker had a friend, who was one of the children in the last carriage. She rang him to confirm this and he said he had the same newspaper cutting showing the disaster.

Another member said he was actually in one of Philip's iconic photographs of the mining strike. Paddy Ruske explained he was one of the policemen holding back the miners in a picket line. He was next to the policeman who had his helmet knocked off by a brick. What a coincidence!

Philip had also reported on the mining activities at Lea Hall and Carole surprised him saying that is where we hold our camera club meetings. Click here for more info and photos. <https://proactive.co.uk/my-work>

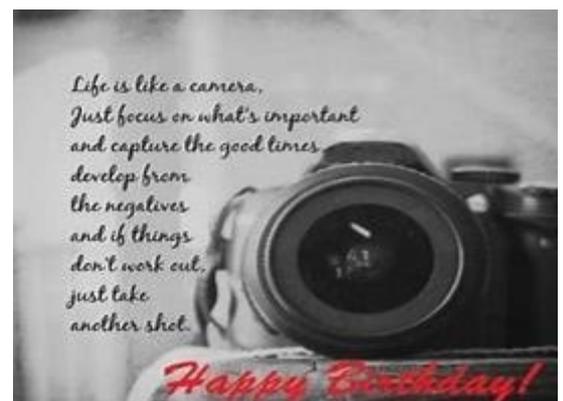
### Message from Jan Wilson

Hi Carole, I want to thank Geoff for securing such an interesting speaker who was also a remarkable photographer. I think his pictures can truly be called iconic as I certainly remember many of his press photos from his Daily Express days. His explanation as how he took many of them was fascinating—what a life he led! Whilst I can't see myself embracing street photography, it's a genre I very much admire as it captures our social history. It's refreshing to have a speaker who is not trying to impress club judges but can advise on composition and lighting etc. The committee have certainly risen to the challenges of lockdown, well done and thank you all.



### Happy Birthday

23rd February 2021  
Richard Keene



# Newsletter

## Message from the Editor

The program in last weeks newsletter turned out to be fake news. Hopefully The next three Mondays information are correct at going to press. Please also check the deadlines for the competitions. To all members . This is your newsletter, so if you have any articles you think would be of interest to other members, send them to;  
gjcaddick@hotmail.co.uk



MON  
22  
FEB  
2021

## Monthly Competition No.4

19:30

Monthly Competition No.4

Projected Digital Images

Subject 'Colour Blue'

Judge: David Lowe

Entries in by 8th February

Competition to be held by Zoom



[Polina Plotnikova](#)

MON  
01  
MAR  
2021

## Guest Speaker - Polina Plotnikova 'Starting From a Blank Canvas'

19:30

Tonight our Guest Speaker is Polina Plotnikova with her Presentation

titled 'Starting From a Blank Canvas'

This will be a Zoom Presentation

MON  
08  
MAR  
2021

## Presidents Trophy Competition

19:30

The Presidents Trophy Competition

This will now be a PDI Competition

Subject: 'open'

Judge: David Graham

Entries to be in by 22nd February



Due to the missing written reminder last week the closing date for PDI entries for the Presidents Trophy Competition has been extended to **Wednesday 24th February.** PDI's from other monthly comps can be used but not ones that have previously been entered into the Presidents Trophy.

MON  
22  
MAR  
2021

## Monthly Competition No.5

19:30

Monthly Competition No.5

Projected Digital Images

Subject: 'Architecture'

Judge: Peter Gennard

Entries to be in by 8th March

**Entries in by 8th March**



## David Lowe Is the replacement judge for PDI Competition “Colour Blue”

David at short notice is judging the next monthly competition on zoom. I have put his history and a link to his website. [www.davidlowepics.com](http://www.davidlowepics.com)

# David Lowe

ARPS DPAGB

My love for photography began as a school boy when my science teacher showed me a black and white print immersing in the tray, from that moment on I was hooked! I went straight out and bought a 126 instamatic and cassette of black & white film the very next day. Now, 40 years on, I am still passionate about my photography. In 1976 I joined the Smethwick Photographic Society and have been an active member ever since, becoming president in 2007. and 2017

In 2010 I was invited to become a member of the London Salon of Photography and honored to become Chairman of the Salon 2013-2015

I am also an Associate of The Royal Photographic Society (ARPS) and hold the distinction DPAGB awarded by the Photographic Alliance of Great Britain. I have won numerous National and International awards for my work Including several coveted London Salon medals.

For many years I have been in the fortunate position of having a job that has enabled me to travel extensively around the world, photography has been a great benefit as many of the trips have been on my own so having a hobby that I can take with me to fill the “empty” time has been a life saver.

All of my photography is now done digitally using mostly Nikon equipment and many hours in front of the computer.

I would like to thank the many friends I have made through photography especially Dave Yates, Garry James, Roger and Judith Parry and Louise Hill, not only for their help, support and encouragement but mostly for their friendship.

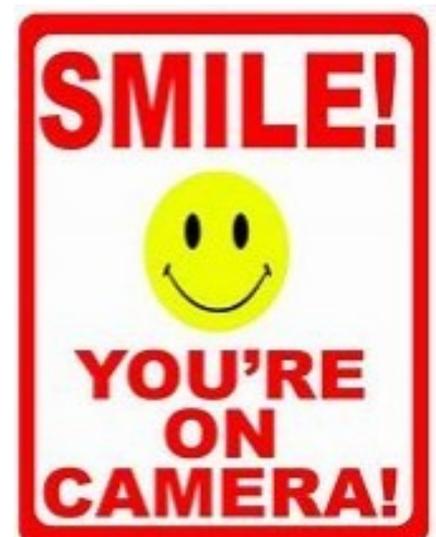


Dave Hanmer

Admin · 20 h · 🌐

For those members of the Olympus Club, especially ex Canon users. If any of you have a Canon Remote Control of the type with a 2.5mm plug similar to the picture, don't shove it in the drawer and forget about it as it will work on the Olympus OMD camera. Even if you haven't got one, a compatible wired remote off Amazon is only £7.99 inc postage. The Olympus remote is close to £50.

<https://www.amazon.co.uk/SHOOT-RS-60E3.../dp/B01M7RQFMG>



# Welcome to the LEE Filters Club Outreach Initiative

Dave Hanmer as sent out an e mail about Lee Filters Outreach Initiative for camera clubs. Simon Garrett the business development executive gives a brief overview of the project. There is a monthly newsletter, discount on insurances, free resources such as downloadable magazines articles, hints and tips etc, how to guides, interviews, competitions and anything else they feel can offer some inspiration. They may even donate a few prizes here and there.

Club Discount 10CCRUG



Quiz is in Newsletter dated 6th Feb

All entries in before 6.00 pm  
Thursday 25th February  
Email

[harrison290@talktalk.net](mailto:harrison290@talktalk.net)

Only a few entries received so far so  
a better chance of winning £10.00  
Voucher.



Roy Harrison

## **Covid-19 Casualty. Staffordshire Photography clubs Print Competition April 2021**

Due to the current national situation and the uncertainty as to when or if we will be able to meet in April, we have decided to cancel the print competition that was due to take place in April. BurtonPS will still look after the print comp when it can resume. Looking forward to November and the PDI competition. This will take place on 10th November and we have booked Lea Hall in the anticipation that we will be able to have a large indoor gathering, if not then we will use zoom. **Above message from Lu Duckett**

Go on to  
Web site  
You Need to  
book  
Appointment to  
See Neil  
Or  
Phone

**click IT**  
computer repair | support | accessories  
security | smart home | CCTV  
[www.clickit-uk.com](http://www.clickit-uk.com)

**Adam Stringer**  
IT Specialist  
11 Brook Square  
Rugeley  
Staffordshire  
WS15 2DU  
01889 579 990  
07770 740 994  
[adam@clickit-uk.com](mailto:adam@clickit-uk.com)  
[www.clickit-uk.com](http://www.clickit-uk.com)



Apologies from the editor for not getting your newsletter out on Saturday. I know some of the members like reading the newsletter while having their Sunday breakfast. My mind was else where yesterday. Maybe I'll get the sack. Anyway back to the task in hand. Carole has sent me a message for members to explain what the committee has to sort out in these uncertain times. I have used the word uncertain many times in this newsletter. Anyway enough of my waffling.



### Thank You

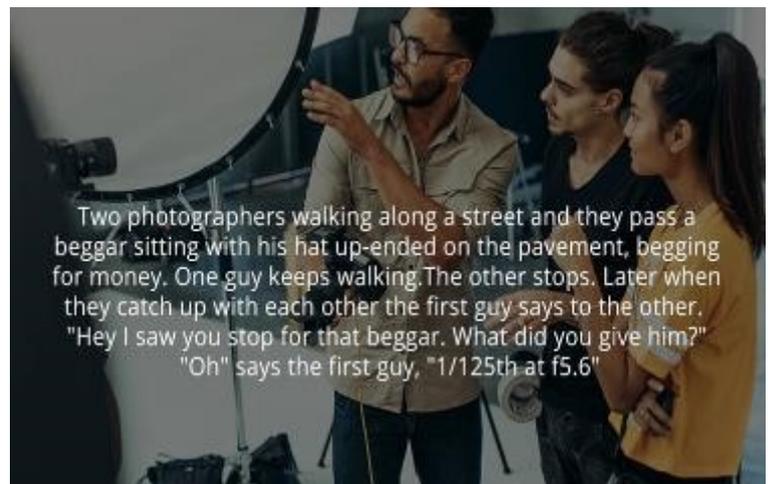
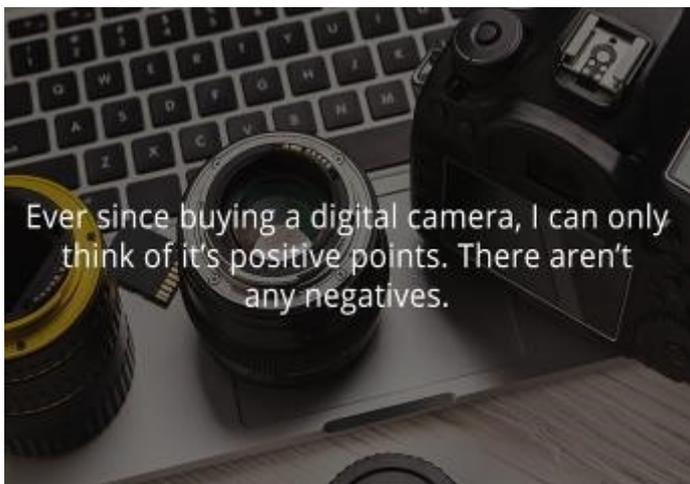
Our programme is set for the year and prior to each week Geoff or Glyn phone the speaker or judge to check that all is well for the forthcoming week. This usually runs smoothly, however just lately 3 weeks in a row things have gone a bit haywire. Kev Maslin due to illness couldn't make it, understandably, so another speaker was needed at short notice. Then Glyn found out that the judge for this Monday night's competition didn't judge on zoom. Another judge was needed at very short notice. Finally, when Geoff checked with the next speaker, he also said he didn't do zoom presentations.

I know members always say they appreciate the work that the committee does, but I'm sure you don't know just how much goes into these changes that need to be made. Here's an insight. Geoff or Glyn advise me in the first instance and then they do the time-consuming bit of finding a replacement. They re-advise me, then Graham has to know for the newsletter, Dave Hanmer to change the website programme and send out an urgent email. Linda or Andrea contact the speaker or judge about the zoom presentation, Graham has to set up Dicentra to produce the printable scoresheets and David P has to contact the judge if it's a competition, and hopefully all our members see is a smooth-running evening.

I have given you all this insight to let you know that I personally want to thank all members of our committee for pulling together at times like these to provide a programme that we all enjoy. I have to say that the changes made recently have been for better not worse. I'm sure you will all agree with me that we have had some wonderful speakers, night's not to be missed.

Thank you to all committee members and club members for supporting us.

Carole



**Editor I had another brainwave** . I suggested we do a template so members could write down their own journey in photography. Carole thought it was a good idea but did it without a template. So enjoy reading this and maybe have a go yourself.

**My life as a photographer.** If you asked me how long I had been interested in photography for, I would probably have said for the last 15-20 years. However, I was recently browsing through some old family pictures and found one of me with a camera around my neck. Okay, so it might have been a box brownie! But there I am, obviously a budding photographer at the age of 7 or 8. From then on, all family pictures must have been taken by me because I'm not on any of them. I remember I was the family member who always took the roll of film to our local chemist to have them developed. The cost was 6/- (today's money 30p) another order was for 11/3d (about 55p)

These were developed by Ilford.



As time went on, during the 60's and 70's, company's like Bonus Print always tempted you to take more pictures with the offer of a 'free film every time' you sent a film to be developed. Truprint and of course Colour Trend, were there too, as long as you didn't mind waiting maybe 10 days for the postman to deliver your prints. People miss out on that exciting expectancy of those days in this instant digital age. Of course, when they arrived maybe the inevitable heads or feet were chopped off. Oh well, 2 out of 12 might have made the album!

Time went by and David and I enjoyed many a day out, always taking the camera with us. With holidays both near and far, we had gone through the Polaroid stage, to Kodak Instamatics and a range of cheap and cheerful cameras. We took hundreds if not thousands of prints. When we married, our professional photographer took our wedding day pictures in colour as well as Black & White. We were the Bees Knees! Then our children came along, what better reason could you have than to capture every minute of their development. This was the 135mm slide era for us, much better than prints we thought. We even had a Canon Sureshot at one stage, a brilliant little camera, David was the main photographer in the household, always telling us on our days out to "stand in front of the Cathedral" or wherever. I hated posed pictures even then, but of course I always did as I was told.

Then in approximately 2007, our daughter's boyfriend introduced me to the 'digital' age. Wow! was I impressed? It was magic. There were all the pictures he had taken and hey presto like magic a click of the delete button and they were gone, I couldn't believe it, never having to buy a film again. A surprise birthday present off our daughter was a Fuji bridge camera and her boyfriend downloaded a copy of Photoshop onto my computer. Now that was a step too far! I opened up the programme and stared at it. What on earth did all the icons mean? no way was I touching that on my own, who knows what would happen? I would wait for a visit and tuition off a technical person and of course the wonder of it when I was shown! But like a lot of technical things (as some of our members know) once I've got something straight in my mind that's it, until that day who knows how long it might take to sink in!!!



In 2008 I took early retirement from work, by this time I had met Brenda. We both shared photography as a hobby in a small way and wanted to improve our digital skills. Brenda phoned me up one day to ask if I had seen the advert in our local paper advertising a 'Photographic Exhibition' at Spode Cottage on the Armitage Road. We popped down mid to late morning to have a look, where we met John & Val Sylvester. We filled our day by enjoying lunch and viewing the images that were displayed, always making the right noises in the right places. Yes, we were impressed. Could we meet their standards? or do better? absolutely!!! By the end of the day I couldn't wait to get home and tell David about my day out and from that day on the rest as they say is history.

I told John that I was keen to learn about digital photography and I was sure there were lots of people that felt the same as me. Well within 2-3 hours the camera club was formed, John could do all the organising, so he was the Secretary, I could be Chairperson, that was a scary thought, never having done anything like it before, all I can say was ignorance was bliss. I hadn't got a clue what was expected of me, (still haven't). Brenda gained the job of Treasurer and next we arranged another meeting. This time with David, who got on well with John & Val and offered to do anything that was needed of him.

Things moved very quickly at this stage, it's all a bit of a blur but it was very exciting. Our first camera club meeting was arranged, Roy Hodgkiss came along and soon gained the title of President. Our thanks always go to Roy for the introductions into the photographic world. Many of our contacts were made through Roy's extensive knowledge and the people he knew. 'Rugeley & Armitage Camera Club' were the new kids on the block. As far as camera clubs go, we still are. We have done so well in such a short space of time, we had to move premises twice as we outgrew Spode Cottage, then Armitage Village Hall. Hawkesyard Priory was a dream place for meetings, but they had problems and the room we hired was closed for business. We very quickly had to find somewhere big enough to take our membership of approximately 80 members at this time that was within the Rugeley/Armitage area. This brought us to our present location Lea Hall. We have celebrated our 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary last year and all I can say is I have enjoyed every minute of it. I am a born organiser so that helps.

To close, have I learnt about digital photography, have my skills improved since those early days? Yes they have. I now know how to delete any images where I might have chopped off people's heads or feet. My skills will never reach the great heights like some of our members but I'm happy. I still have the interest and the passion for it and I hope I always will. David & I both love our Sony cameras. I had a new one for my birthday and I'm still learning how to use it. Let's face it, this past year hasn't been easy for any of us but it doesn't matter, photography is for life. One day we will be able to go out, enjoy our travels once more, use our cameras and have the images to show for it. David bought me a beautiful 200-600 mm zoom lens for Christmas, how lucky am I. Now I can improve my nature photography. When we go anywhere nowadays, no longer does David say 'just stand in front of the cathedral' or whatever we want to photograph, he is forever saying 'move out of the way! And of course, I still do as I'm told!!!!

As told by Carole Perry



  
**Rugeley & Armitage  
Camera Club**  
  
 Presentation Evening  
Monday 17<sup>th</sup> June 2019

Rugeley and Armitage  
Camera Club

  
Now by Gary Dean (Sheddy)  
 Presentation Evening  
Monday 19<sup>th</sup> June 2017

**Rugeley and Armitage  
Camera Club**  
  
 Presentation Evening  
Monday 29<sup>th</sup> June 2015

**Rugeley & Armitage  
Camera Club**  
  
 Members Photographic  
Exhibition Catalogue  
16<sup>th</sup> & 17<sup>th</sup> May 2015 at  
Hawkesyard Golf Club,  
Hawkesyard Estate,  
Armitage.


**Rugeley & Armitage  
Camera Club**
  
Members of the Midland Counties Photographic Federation & The Photographic Alliance of Great Britain  
  
Robin Taking Off by Roy Hodgkiss  
 Members Photographic  
Exhibition Catalogue  
21<sup>st</sup> & 22<sup>nd</sup> May 2016 at  
Lea Hall Sports & Social Club,  
Sandy Lane, Rugeley,  
WS15 2LB