

# Bide News & Views

Bideford Camera Club Newsletter

December 2021

Issue 4

Volume 1

Welcome to issue 4.

# SEASONS GREETINGS TO YOU ALL.

I hope you all have a really good Christmas and that 2022 will prove to be kinder to us all than 2021.

Well we do not meet again until January 4<sup>th</sup> 2022 for the judging and critique of the "People" DPI competition by Ann Owen CPAGB, EFIAP. Hopefully with booster jabs inserted and COVID regulations permitting.

Well for months now I have been giving details of some fantastic photographic exhibitions for you to attend , so over the last week I have taken my own advice and visited a few.

Firstly the "Wildlife Photographer of the Year" at the Royal Albert Museum Exeter. This is a superb exhibition and well worth the journey, although some of the images on animal exploitation are very hard hitting. One of my group was really angry about

the treatment of animals in these pictures and he did not simmer down until tucking into tea and cake afterwards. This exhibition is also showing at M-Shed in Bristol.

Secondly off to Bristol for the "Pink Lady Food Photographer of the Year" at the Royal Photographic Society Paintworks exhibition centre. Some really diverse images from all over the world. I am really pleased to have seen this – but you are too late it closed last Sunday, but it was really fantastic and not to be missed – but you have. Then I just popped next door to the Martin Parr Foundation for "I Am Not Invisible" by Thilde Jensen this series of portraits of homeless people in America provided a very strong juxtaposition to the food photos displayed at the RPS. There were a number of extremely powerful and thought-provoking images. You have nearly missed this one as well it closes on the 19<sup>th</sup> December.

Thirdly a slight change of culture, but still in the city at Bristol Museum and Art Gallery I visited "Grayson's Art Club" which was displayed over three floors ( it was actually on the walls) and this was really enjoyable with a really diverse range of art over a number of mediums, from ceramics to paintings. Not to be missed is the portrait of Grayson Perry himself, photographed by David Baily. I found the whole experience highly enjoyable – although my wife commented that I seemed to spend more time taking pictures than looking at the exhibits.

**Then finally a visit to the Arnofini – also in Bristol for COMING UP FOR AIR: STEPHEN GILL – A RETROSPECTIVE**

Saturday, 16th October 2021 to Sunday, 16th January 2022, 11:00 to 18:00  
Free entry. Exhibition slots bookable in advance. Walk-ins may be available on the day.

Well to say this was different and thought provoking would be an understatement.

The best bit for me was an audio visual featuring surreal like images and haunting cello music. However down to the nitty gritty – his portfolio of images entitled "the post" featured a post (no surprise there then) and a wide range of birds that perched upon it. So, if you love blur, birds' bums and other odd bits of their anatomy, things that are out of focus – this is the exhibition for you. My wife liked it!

On the second floor the diversity of his range of mundane, blurred and out of focus images continued. Although some of his pictures taken through pond water were quite interesting and pleasing in a polluting sort of way. My wife did not like this. In fact, to quote "that was shite and I have seen lots of your photographs to recognise shite when I see it". My ex-wife will not be coming next time.

Below is one of the better in focus ish images from Mr Gill.



Until next time.

**Best wishes**

**Tim**

Facebook.

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/bidefordcameraclub>

**The group is open to any member of Bideford Camera Club.**

**I have recently made the group "private" and removed those who are not members or the partners of members. The group cannot be found by those searching on Facebook.**

# BIDEFORD – The Burton Art Gallery

## [An English Eye – James Ravilious](#)

I have visited this and never tire of James work and this proved as fascinating today as it did when I first viewed it at the opening of his retrospective at the Octagon Bath back in 1997.

6th October - 30th December 2021. Photographs by James Ravilious.  
Recently acquired by The Burton at Bideford, An English Eye is a collection of photographs by renowned local artist-photographer, James Ravilious. The collection provides an important record of life in North Devon between 1972 and 1997, and also represents the best of James Ravilious' work as a whole.

Son of Eric Ravilious (war artist, engraver and designer) and Tirzah Woodward (artist and wood engraver), James Ravilious worked as an art teacher in London before moving down to Devon in 1972 where he took up photography professionally. Beaford Arts commissioned him to take images for a project called Beaford Archive, set up to capture the fast disappearing traditional landscapes and practices of rural life in Devon. During the lifetime of the project, James Ravilious took more than 80,000 black and white photographs.

The English Eye is a retrospective exhibition of James Ravilious' work. Curated by the artist himself alongside the photographer and writer Peter Hamilton (1996-97), the series of photographs grew out of a monograph of James' work published by The Royal Photographic Society's Pictorial Group in 1989. It showcases James' natural ability to perfectly capture the inner narrative of his subjects, and chronicles both the people and the landscape of rural Devon from the 1970s to the late 1990s.

Working primarily in black and white, his work was influenced by English landscape artists as well as photographers such as Henri Cartier-Bresson and Edwin Smith. He developed a distinctive technique using older, uncoated lenses on his Leica rangefinder camera. A compensatory development process gave his photographs a subtle and 'silvery' quality.



## ONLINE TALKS

# The Art of Travel Photography - Paul Sansome

### DATE AND TIME

Saturday 15th January 2022  
17:00 India time (11.30 UK Time)

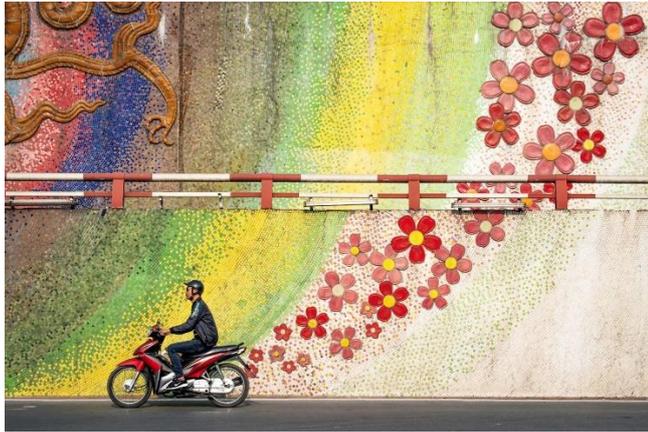
### Overseas participants

Please check the time of the workshop if you are outside the UK. This link will help you to calculate the timing of the online workshop: <https://www.timeanddate.com/worldclock/custom.html>

Paul is a professional fine art and travel photographer based in the UK and Vietnam. His artistic photography is produced to the highest standards and is released in strictly limited editions through exhibitions and online sales. Paul is also an experienced photography tutor and has led many tours to countries such as Italy, India, Vietnam, Iceland, Myanmar and Morocco and also travels on commissions.

### Book Here

<https://rps.org/events/chapters/india/2022/january/paul-sansome/>



## **The Last Words**

Well that's about it for this time.

If you have any suggestions, contributions or pictures for future editions please send them on. [Sanderst99@gmail.com](mailto:Sanderst99@gmail.com).

*Best Wishes*

*Jim*