

PHOTO NEWS NEWSLETTER OF

BIDEFORD CAMERA CLUB



Tim's Rants and Raves Waffling On

What has bugged me or pleased me this month. Where has my camera taken me this month.

What's On in the coming months

Events and exhibitions - close to home and for those with passports further afield.

Maybe even further than Barnstaple or heaven forbid Exeter.

Calendar -

I will try to be as comprehensive as possible.

But if you know of an event not on the listing - please let me know. -

sanderst99@gmail.com



RANTS AND RAVES

Hi everyone,

Welcome to my second newsletter of the year. I hope you had a good Easter and the longer evenings have encouraged you and your camera to get out into the great outdoors. It really is great to see all the colours as provided by the primroses, daffodils, and even dandelions while many trees remain in their skeletal winter plumage.

While the temperatures become warmer and the fresh spring air carries the delicate aroma of the spring flowers, freshly mown lawns and that perennial favourite - manure being spread on the land.

So on with Newsletter 2 for May 2024.

A follow-up to last months rant about photobooks received from "PRINTERPIX". On March 30th they finally redeemed themselves having reprinted the photobook and delivered it properly bound to my door.

My angst this month is directed towards my car a Kia Picanto. This is classed as a small car - basically a corgi model fitted with a lawnmower engine. It has been great and put up with me for eight years without a major problem. Now it has failed its MOT and the major problem is the airbag warning light is on. Well this should not be a big deal after all it is just a big balloon is it not. So I open the estimate with no trepidation until I saw the bottom line £2500 plus VAT. I was speechless - I am sure those of you who know me will be very sad to have missed this very rare phenomenon.

After all it is just a car it is not like you can take pictures with it, and really how many balloons can you buy for that money.

Well that is the end of my rant for the month.

I have always lavished every care on my vehicle.



What is On Soon

Just a small selection of events from the calendar, with links and locations.

ONLINE

A few of these carry a small charge, but look fascinating enough to be worth it.



Critiquing Photos: Your Own and Others' Cost £3

Do you want your images to be the very best they can be? Join us for this in depth look at how to critique images. The emphasis will be on assessing your own images thoroughly, but

we'll also look at how to give helpful feedback to others, and how to receive and use the feedback you may receive from your fellow photographers. After the presentation, a useful written checklist will be provided.

[Overview : Critiquing Photos: Your Own and Others' with Judy Hancock Holland : Blackthorn : Events \(rps.org\)](#)



“I only use a camera like I use a toothbrush. It does the job”.

Don McCullen

Close-up and Macro Photography

"Derek Gale's "Close-up and Macro Photography" talk will cover the equipment required; (including add-on close-up lenses, reversed lenses, extension tubes, true macro lenses, and even most of these at the same time!), macro techniques, issues that arise - and how to solve them, and lighting for macro. "

[Overview : Guest Speaker - Derek Gale : "Macro Photography" : Blackthorn : Events \(rps.org\)](#)

EXHIBITIONS

The Burton Bideford

Devon and Cornwall by Martin Parr

Open daily | Free entry

MARTIN PARR IS A RENOWNED BRITISH DOCUMENTARY PHOTOGRAPHER, PHOTOJOURNALIST AND PHOTOBOOK COLLECTOR WHOSE MAJOR PROJECTS HAVE FOCUSED ON RURAL COMMUNITIES. HE IS KNOWN FOR TAKING AN INTIMATE, SATIRICAL AND ANTHROPOLOGICAL LOOK AT ASPECTS OF MODERN LIFE, IN PARTICULAR DOCUMENTING THE SOCIAL CLASSES OF ENGLAND, AND MORE BROADLY THE WEALTH OF THE WESTERN WORLD.

His work has been widely published and has featured in exhibitions throughout the world. This exhibition will include images commissioned by the Burton at Bideford to capture the spirit of Bideford Pannier Market.

Martin Parr is one of the best-known documentary photographers of his generation. With over 100 books of his own published, and another 30 edited by Parr, his photographic legacy is already established. Parr also acts as a curator and editor. He has curated two photography festivals, Arles in 2004 and Brighton Biennial in 2010. More recently Parr curated the Barbican exhibition, Strange and Familiar. Parr has been a member of the Magnum agency since 1994 and was President from 2013 - 2017. In 2013 Parr was appointed the visiting professor of photography at the University of Ulster. Parr's work has been collected by many of the leading museums, from the Tate, the Pompidou and the Museum of Modern Art in New York.



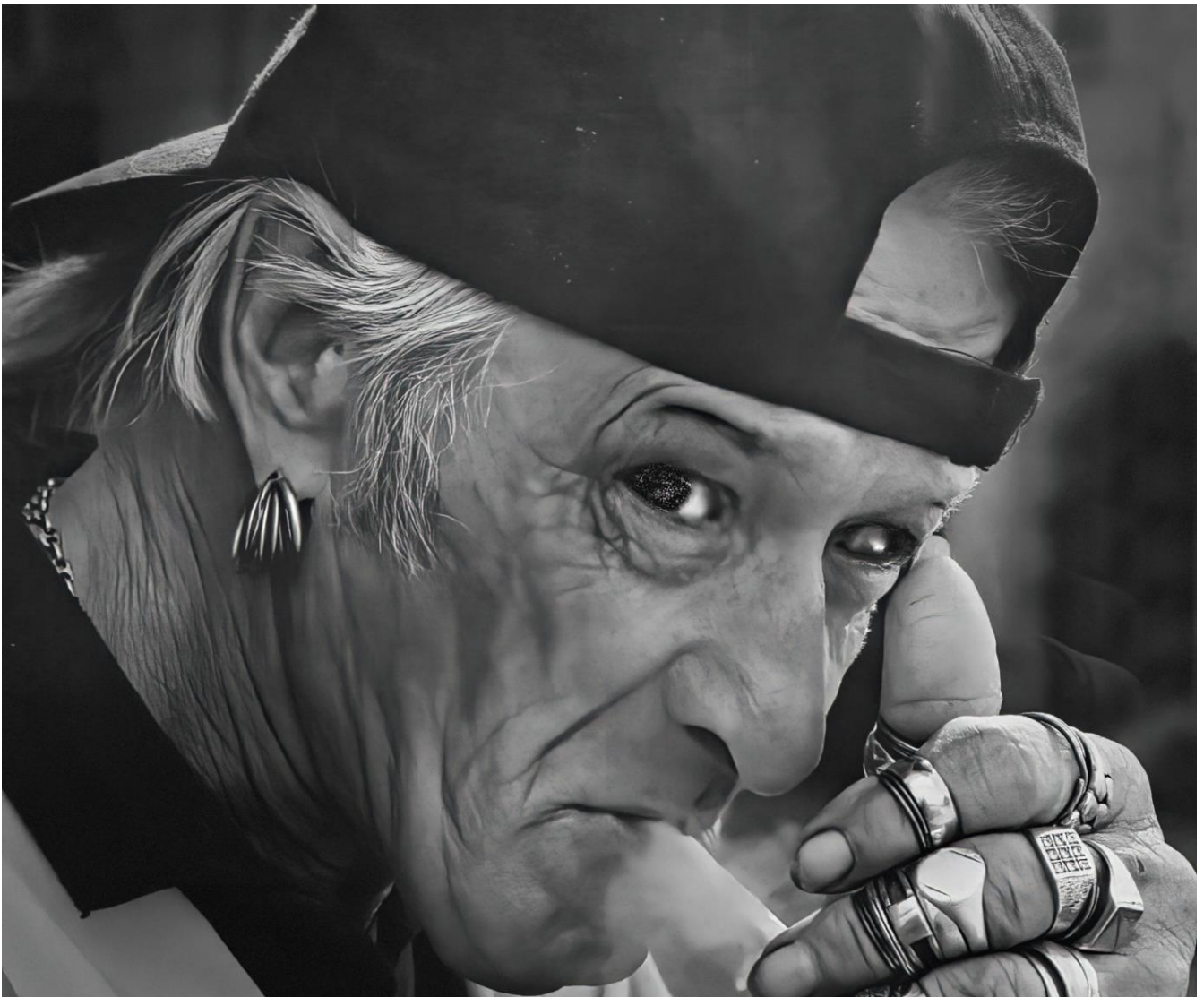
EXHIBITIONS FURTHER AFIELD

At RAMM (Royal Albert Memorial Museum) in Exeter were they currently have until June 23 displays revolving around "Portrait Photography". I have not yet had a chance to pop in and see this, but intend to over the coming weeks.

OPENING TIMES

Monday	Closed
Tuesday	10.30am - 5pm
Wednesday	10am-5pm
Thursday	10am-5pm
Friday	10am-5pm
Saturday	10am-5pm
Sunday	10am-5pm

Entry to RAMM is FREE



There are plenty of other venues in Bristol that often feature photographic exhibitions and free admissions.

Try searching: -

Arnofini

Martin Parr Foundation

Spike Island

West of England Arts Academy



Bideford Camera Club

Want to take better photos ?

They certainly do.

CLUB MEETINGS

- **7th May : (EP)** - Instow (spelling.bicker.habits}
- **14th May : (EP)** - Barnstaple (echo.joke.closes)
- **21st May : (EP)** - Kate's Farm (Nutton Farm, EX22 7XN)
- **28th May : (BLH)** - Members Night
- **4th June : (EP)** - Northam (sideboard.poetry.changed)
- **9th June : (DT)** - Exmoor Zoo (term.ownership.discloses)
- **11th June : (EP)** - Hartland Quay (hopefully. locate.snipe)

EVENTS

May 2	Torrington May Fair and Carnival
May 3	Torrington Round the Tree Race
May 4	Abseil Exeter Cathedral North Tower 9.30am - 4pm
May 4	Independent Market Exeter Cathedral Green
May 5	Merton Vintage and Classic Vehicle Rally
May 4/5	Rosemoor Hobby Weekend
	Werrington Park Hillclimb
May 4/5/6	Brixham Pirate Festival
May 6	Early Spring Steam Day at Coldharbour Mill
May 7	BCC visit to Instow
May 11	Lynton and Lynmouth Cliff Railway Steampunk Gathering
May 11	Exeter Pride March
May 12	Bideford 10k Race
May 11/12	Wiscombe Park Hillclimb
May 14	BCC visit to RSPB Reserve Chapel Woods Spreacombe
May 16/17/18	Devon County Show
May 18/19	Wiscombe Park Hillclimb
May 18/19	Pirates Weekend - Plymouth
May 18/19	Devon Truck Show - Smeathorpe Airfield
May 18	The Big Oke Abseil for Brain Tumour Research - Meldon Viaduct
May 18	Pigstock Family Music Festival at the Big Sheep
May 21	BCC Visit to Kate's Farm
May 23	Morris Dancing at The Beaver - Appledore
May 25	Dulverton Sounds Music Festival
May 25/26	Brixham Heritage Sailing Regatta
May25-27	Launceston Steam and Vintage Rally
May25-27	Exclusive Ballooning GP Series - Umberleigh
May 26	Bideford Bike Show
May 26	Seaweed Festival Clovelly
May 27	Spring Steam Day - Coldharbour Mill
May 27	Appledore Band performing on Appledore Quay
May 28	Member's night at the Blue Lights Hall

June 1/2	South Molton Vintage Rally
June 1/2	English Riviera Airshow
June 2	Tavistock Steam and Vintage Fair
June 4	BCC visit to Boathyde Northam
June 6	Okehampton Show
June 8	Classic Car Show - Newton Abbot
June 8	Bideford Summer Fair and Mayor's Parade
June 8/9	Heritage Harbour Festival - Exeter
June 9	BCC visit to Tamar Lakes
	Lyn Valley Classic Car Show
June 11	BCC visit to Hartland Quay
June 15	Independent Market Exeter Cathedral Green
June 15-July 14	Festival of Roses - Rosemoor
June 15=Sept 01	Paul Harvey Sculptures - Rosemoor
June 16	Bideford Water Festival
June 18	BCC visit to Halsdon Nature Reserve Dolton
June 21-23	Oceanfest Music Festival Croyde Bay
June 23	Classic Car and Motorcycle Show Staverton
June 29	Armed Forces Day Plymouth
June 29/30	Transport Weekend - Plym Valley Railway
July 5-7	Teignmouth Airshow
July 7	Soap Box Derby Bideford
July 13/14	Powderham Classic Car Show
July 21	Tavistock Carnival from 4pm
July 24	Dunster Country Fair
July 27	Independent Market Exeter Cathedral Green
July 27/28	Vintage Weekend - Rosemoor
July 27/28	Bideford Music Days
July 27	Mid Devon Show
July 28	Summer Fayre at the Mill - Coldharbour Mill
July 28	Appledore and Instow Regatta
July 28	Porlock Horse Show
July 29	Woolsery Show

July 31

Yealmpton Agricultural Show

Au g 10

Independent Market Exeter Cathedral Green

Sept 14

Independent Market Exeter Cathedral Green

MEMBERS GALLERY

Congratulations go to the winners in our panel competition.

David Warnes

GOLD AWARD



Rupert Stockwin - SILVER AWARD



David Shaw - BRONZE AWARD



I must also mention the excellent panels submitted by Martin Stephenson “Time Trial” which received a Highly Commended and Biddie Bix “Water Carriers” which received a Commended.

Personally I found the judge Ian Smith very interesting and knowledgeable in his advice and comments, if a liitle harsh in part. His definition of what constituted a panel and the provision of a statement of intent with panel was a bit of a revelation.



Who knew?

Certainly this was not in the brief the club sent to the judge when he was booked!

LAST CHANCE

Dingles historic fairground museum will be closing for good at the end of the 2024 season, it is situated near Lifton so makes a really good day trip which can be combined with a visit to Roadford reservoir. It is open from Easter (March 29th). Tickets booked online save 10% [Tickets - Dingles Fairground Museum \(dinglesfhc.co.uk\)](https://www.dinglesfhc.co.uk) this is also where you can check which days it is open.

It is many years since I last visited and the fairground equipment was just arriving and being installed. There was at the time lots of steam heritage equipment, which has over time been very much usurped by the fairground rides. At the time of writing, it is £12 to walk around and view and additional tokens need to be purchased if you want to go on the rides which include: - Super Dodgems, Victory Gallopers, Moonrocket, Ghost Train, Chariot Racer Ark, plus kids rides and many fairground stalls. It is incredibly colourful and dynamic and I am certainly going to visit soon before the main tourist season starts. For Satnav users their postcode is PL16 0AT.

The National Trust has launched its new book *100 Photographs*. The book was showcased with a public talk from national curator of photographs Anna Sparham at The Photography and Video Show on 17 March, followed by a launch event in partnership with the book's sponsor CEWE. Spanning the history of photography from the 1840s to the present day, the book showcases 100 photographs chosen from the more than 250,000 held in collections at Trust properties. Alongside works by photographers such as Julia Margaret Cameron, Edward Chambré Hardman, Dorothy Wilding, Angus McBean and Jane Bown are remarkable images captured by less familiar practitioners. Professional studio portraits, landscapes and images of war sit beside family groups, domestic scenes and travel photographs by talented amateurs who provide glimpses into the way we have viewed and recorded the world over the last two centuries. Many of these photographs have only recently been discovered and are reproduced here for the first time. More than 25 per cent of the photographers highlighted are women.



The book is currently available through National Trust shops and then through bookshops from 4 April 2024.

100 Photographs. From the Collections of the National Trust

Anna Sparham, with an introduction from Robin Muir

National Trust, 2024

£10, hardback, 224 pages

Order from the Trust: <https://shop.nationaltrust.or>

LOOKING BACK

A leap forward of twenty years from the last newsletter to 1985 - oh come on you must remember that. More hair on the head than growing in the ears, the days of the yuppie with more pounds in the wallet than on the waistline. However, I think you will recognize more of the general events than the photographic highlights. Certainly, the year was marked by seismic social and political unrest, tragedy and landmark charitable initiatives.

On the world stage Margaret Thatcher was our Prime Minister, in the USA Ronald Reagan was sworn in for his second term of office as President, while in the Soviet Union Mikail Gorbachev became the General Secretary of the Soviet Communist Party and therefore leader of their nation.

In the UK social unrest continued unabated as the year began. The long running miners strike would soon come to an end during March but the animosity and ill feeling certainly did not. As the year progressed the country suffered first the Handsworth Riots later to be followed by the Brixton Riots. Reports suggested much of the social unrest stemmed from poverty and unemployment. Economists predicted unemployment would remain at over 3 million for the remaining years of the decade. This was coupled with inflation during the year averaging 6.1%. The brightspot for national productivity was seen as British oil production reached its peak at 127,000,000 tonnes for the year.

Elsewhere there was tragedy at sporting venues - the Bradford City stadium fire saw 56 football fans lose their lives. There was further disaster at the Heysel Stadium where 39 fans lost their lives and with over 600 others being injured. This was perhaps the peak of English football hooliganism on whom the Heysel disaster was blamed and resulted in the Football Association banning all English football clubs from competing in European competitions for some years.

In transport two ends of the size spectrum as we saw the commissioning of the aircraft carrier HMS Ark Royal, and the appearance of the somewhat smaller battery powered Sinclair C5 car or perhaps more properly tricycle which was launched by inventor Clive Sinclair. While the cars we were driving were also about to undergo massive changes - Peugeot started manufacturing the 309 small family hatchback in the UK becoming the first foreign car producer to do so. While builder Alfred McAlpine completed the construction of Nissan's new car factory at Sunderland. It was also during his year that Spanish car maker SEAT started importing cars into the UK. Disappearing from the roads Talbot models and their badge met their demise. Austin Rover offered us the new MG Maestro 2.0L with a top speed of 115mph from £5093 for the basic model up to a top of the range model at £7280.



Technology raced ahead - Vodaphone launched the first mobile phone network in the UK as British telecom announced the phased decommissioning of the iconic red telephone kiosks. New technology employed by pioneering maritime explorer Dr Robert Ballard saw the first vision of the Titanic since 1912 in both photographs and movie film. While in medicine the first UK heart-lung transplant was performed at Harefield Hospital.



Remember these, ending up rewinding tapes with a pencil and that special tape “Hiss” that certainly didn’t help with the sound quality of anything whether classical music, jazz, pop or heavy metal.

On the high street British Home Stores and Habitat announced their amalgamation. On a lighter note we were watching the Live Aid concerts for charity from London and Philadelphia on our TVs while donating on our credit cards. Without comment about anyones taste, other programmes getting lots of viewers were - the very first episode of Eastenders, A Woman of Substance based on the Barbara Taylor Bradford book was essential viewing for many, other popular programmes included - Dempsey and Makepeace, Dallas, Miami Vice, Apocalypse Now, Bulman, Transformers, Howards Way, Cats Eyes, Saint and Greavsie and the first Blind Date with Cilla Black.

Departing this mortal coil - Sir Michael Redgrave, Laura Ashley, Wilfred Bramble, Ray Ellington, Arthur Negus, Dr Richard Beeching, Roy Plomley, Philip Larkin, Robert Graves and PC Keith Blakelock murdered during the Broadwater Farm riot.

Meanwhile entering the world crying puking and pooping were - Lewis Hamilton, Keira Knightley, Lily Allen, Mark Cavendish, Joe Wicks and Wayne Rooney.

What were we craving photographically in 1985 -

JOBO offered us equipment to process colour as easily as black and white and to produce prints in 6 minutes, process films in 15 minutes and slides in 30 minutes.

“Colour processing without getting hot and bothered”,

It you did not want to get stained with chemicals you could send your exposed films to Club 35 who offered “Professional results for the serious amateur” 6” x 4” or 7” x 5” prints - 24 exposures for £3.95 or 36 exposures for £5.25.

Professional Results for the Serious Amateur
Actual size Print 7" x 5"

FREE POST NO STAMPS REQUIRED

CLUB 35
Film Service
FREEPOST
LONDON
W2 3BR

12 EXP £2.50	24 EXP £3.95	36 EXP £5.25	For Either 6" x 4" or 7" x 5" Prints	LUSTRE or GLOSSY FINISH
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Payment refunded if not entirely satisfied.

Olympus users had a new club to join for £11.50 per annum, for which you would get a regular magazine with the enticement that the first three members were David Bailey, Patrick Lichfield and Terence Donovan.



Cameras on offer for the budget concious a £100 would buy you a Praktica BC1 with a standard f1.8 lens. This would accept films in the range 12 -3200 iso and offer shutter speeds from 40 seconds to 1/1000 second.

IMAGE KEEP YOU

MINOLTA 7000
With programmable modes covering three Exposure Modes, Aperture Priority, AE, Shutter Priority, AE, TTL, Flash and Metered Manual, the Minolta 7000 is truly a camera of tomorrow - today!
IMAGE PRICE **£299.95**

VIVITAR TEC 35
The TEC 35 is the only camera with 'Smart Flash' - the flash that senses when it's needed and is driven into position by a micro-motor. Charged and ready to go. Auto focus. Auto exposure. Auto wind. Auto rewind. Built in lens cover. Motorized pop up electronic flash.
IMAGE PRICE **£89.95**

GOSINA CT1G
Superb quality compact 35mm SLR. 135mm f2 lens. Central exposure control with viewfinder display for over/under exposure. Shutter speeds 1 to 1/1000 sec and 8. CFilm speeds 25 to 1600 ISO. 13 case included.
IMAGE PRICE **£89.95**

CANON T70
A sleek low profile design which draws on the latest micro-proc processor technology to provide a host of sophisticated functions including Multiple program AE modes, shutter priority AE, manual override and shutter priority.
IMAGE PRICE **£249.95**

PRAKTICA BCI
The top of the range Praktica, the BCI features even greater ease of operation. With automatic flash synchronization, flash photography becomes simpler and more reliable. 135mm f1.8 Pentacoat lens. TTL aperture priority exposure plus manual override. Shutter speeds 1 to 1/1000 sec and 8. Film speeds 12 to 3200 ISO. Includes dedicated flash. Includes case.
IMAGE PRICE **£109.95**

50p off
the cost of Developing and Processing your Kodacolor VR Disc 130 and 136 films
AND Go for Gold!

SUN Lenses from IMAGE

28mm f2.8	24mm f2.8	£79.95	80-200 f4.5
	28mm f2.8	£49.95	
	135mm f2.8	£49.95	
	200mm f3.5	£84.95	
	28-80mm f3.5/4.5	£129.95	
	70-210mm f4.5	£99.95	
	75-300 f5.6	£169.95	
	80-200 14.5	£79.95	

Other manufacturers had their own offerings Canon had the F1, Bronica offered SQ-A giving 6 x 6 cm negatives, Ricoh XR-P. Yashica had the FX3 Super SLR with centre weighted TTL manual metering from £109.

35mm SLR BUYER'S GUIDE
YASHICA FX-D
Steve Bavister looks at an auto plus manual SLR

Quality lens
The lens here is also performance. Arnie's range the camera quite low than very good, by open, and ring to end 1/4 to 1/8. Edge perfor likewise, in exception from being a hole with f2.8. Practical result MTF figures, promise were very sharp.

Verdict
All in all, while not particularly exciting, Yashica FX-D is well made. It off specification as a set and can be recombin elements on the rear

In the March 1985 Practical Photography headlined the Minolta 7000 as the “Camera of the Decade” offering “auto everything” and with the availability of 12 different lenses. This was claimed to be the first camera offering auto focus, only made possible by the leap forward in the development of silicon chip technology. The auto focus mechanism on this camera would not allow the shutter to fire if the subject was out of focus.

The world's first effective autofocus SLR camera.

Every SLR user's dream is pin sharp shots every time.

That dream is reality today. The Minolta 7000 is the world's first and only SLR with a body-integral autofocus system. You get all the advantages of the SLR format – plus the incredible speed of autofocus.

Imagine – crisp, precise focus for even those instant reaction shots!

Whichever of the 12 new AF lenses you use, it's yours. And so fast too.

Take a quick look at the table below. Only the human eye can focus faster. Hands are no match, even for the seasoned pro.

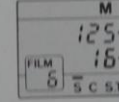
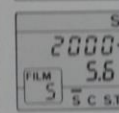
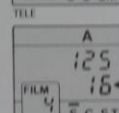
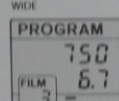
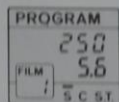
AF LENS	AUTOFOCUS SPEED
28mm f/2.8	1m – infinity 0.15 sec.
50mm f/1.7	0.45m – infinity 0.60 sec.
70 – 210mm f/4	1.1m – infinity 1.20 sec.

The World's First Automatic Multi-Program Selection.

In the Program mode, the camera automatically selects the optimum aperture/shutter combination for the lens in use. (See examples above).

Standard: for point-and-shoot photography
Wide: selects smallest possible aperture for more depth of focus in front of and behind subject.
Tele: selects fastest possible speed to eliminate subject blur.

Plus
Three more modes – Aperture Priority, Shutter Priority, and Full Metered Manual Exposure!



Now focus on the rest of the "Firsts"!

- The World's First Quick Program Shift.
- The World's First "See-in-the-Dark" TTL Flash with Autofocus.
- Auto Load.
- Motor Wind – single frame or up to 2fps.
- Motor Rewind.
- AE Lock.
- Focus Hold.
- User-interchangeable Acute Matte screens.
- Dedicated Program Flash System.
- And a whole new world of AF lenses.

Even without autofocus, the Minolta 7000 gives the rest a good run for their money. With autofocus, the brilliant Minolta 7000 is out of sight.

Except for the price. Around £300, including the 50mm f1.7 AF lens.

Not bad for a world's first. Complete your picture of the new world leader with the free 40 page colour brochure. It tells all (except for a few secrets). Fill in the coupon and you'll be one of the world's first to read it.



To: Minolta (UK) Limited, 1/3 Tanners Drive, Blakelands North, Milton Keynes MK14 5BU.

I would like to be one of the world's first to read about the Minolta 7000.

Name _____

Address _____

PP6/85

MINOLTA

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Distributed by Minolta (UK) Limited



Interestingly the photo magazines of the time seem to have lots of small ads, not always directly related to photography.

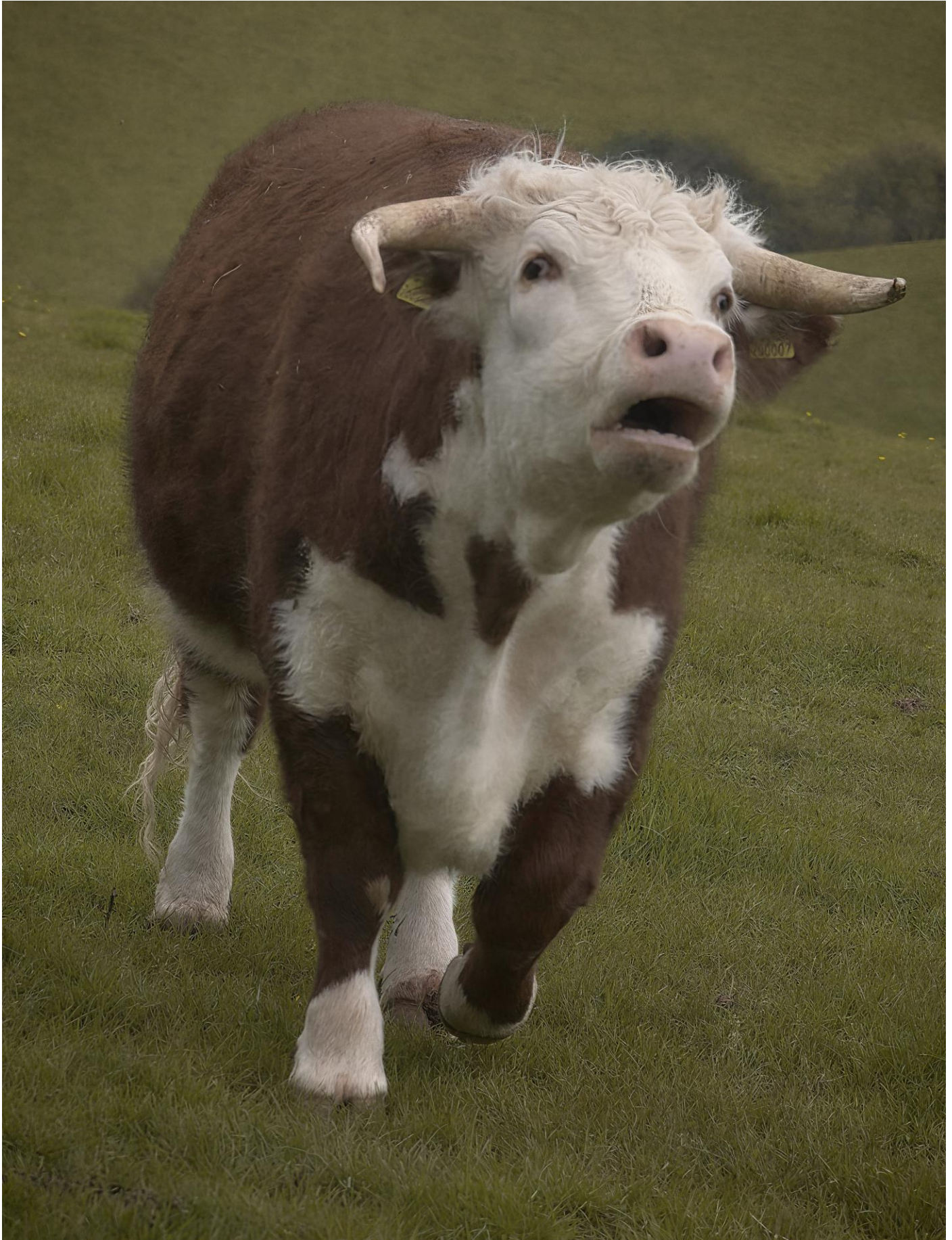
Mrs Lock was advertising “naughty, saucy but nice glamorous lingerie” and also “ a caring confidential service designed to help the physical problems within marriage”.

The mind boggles what the photographers of the day were getting up to?

If any of our older members would like to enlighten me, purely confidentially of course, I will definitely only share it with the rest of the membership.

That’s all for this month folks.

If you have any comments, questions apart from the above, items to sell, news of an event that I have not listed please do drop me an email at sanderst99@gmail.com



The Last Word