



Bideford Camera Club

Want to take better photos ?

PHOTO NEWS

Bideford Camera Club

Jan/Feb 2025

NEWSLETTER OF BIDEFORD CAMERA CLUB



Tim's Rants and Raves

Happy New Year to One and All.

It seems the seasonal melee is now over and as I look out of my window in Okehampton I can see a liberal covering of snow and glassy ice. My neighbour has decided to go out in his car and has taken half an hour to negotiate the ten yards between his parking space and our car park entrance. As you can ascertain I am staying in writing this – I know a few of you are thinking my time would have been better spent if I had gone out!

My trip to Bristol was productive and I took in 7 different exhibitions and the Wildlife Photographer of the Year exhibition was worth the trip on its own. While I was there, I

managed to get onto a period drama film set and fired merrily away. Unfortunately, those pictures have corrupted. The files are there and download, although the EXIF data appears incomplete and no application will either display the pictures or allow them to be worked on.

If anyone has any advice, it would be gratefully received.

Anyway, the days are now gradually drawing out and the enticing prospect of spring and summer is only a snow storm away.

So on with our programme for the new year.

“When people look at my pictures, I want them to feel the way they do when they want to read a line of a poem twice”.

Robert Frank

“The whole point of taking pictures is so that you don’t have to explain things with words.”

Elliott Erwitt

So on with Newsletter 7 Jan/Feb 2025

LOOKING BACK at the Club

As previously stated, early information on the club is sparse but we know that the club was suspended for the duration of the second world war and re-established in 1946. Some of those 1946 founder members were certainly still around in living memory. One of whom Cyril Found who was a very loyal and committed member of the club until his death, and a few of his images appear in this newsletter.

Anyway, by the Millennium in 2000 the club had reached a crisis pointed with an ageing membership and a worn-out committee. Ray Turner had been chair for many years in breach of the constitutions one year limit simply because no one else came forward to take the job. The aforementioned Cyril Found had been secretary for so long no one could remember when he was not in the post. Other committee members also wanted to stand down as in the case of John Slee, while competitions secretary Maggie Smale had to undergo major surgery. Another great stalwart of the club for 40 years Bob Petherick was suffering from deteriorating health. Bob started donating the prints he had made over the years for competitions to the Sue Ryder charity shop and they proved very popular with the public, so much so that the local press made a feature of the donation.

Louis Rowson had organised the annual exhibition for 31 years and felt he could no longer continue telling the AGM “I am 83 years old this year, so next year I will be 84 years old or dead”. The last exhibition he organised was held at the Bideford School of Art from the 7th to the 12th August 2000. Obviously, the club still exists and thrives so clearly some new faces

stepped forward. More about the changing of the guard and the 60th re-founding anniversary exhibition next time.



Yelland Power Station by Cyril Found and selected for one of the club's annual exhibitions



Crowds flocked to the club exhibitions.



Another Cyril Found image selected for a club exhibition in the 1960s.

Ray Turner who for so many years was the club chair, was noted for producing superb black and white images. I remember meeting Ray at an exhibition at the Museum of Barnstaple and North Devon. He was really a quite elderly man at the time. Ray remained loyal to analogue even after digital had established itself. He maintained an infectious enthusiasm for the medium and told me how excited he was once he had exposed a film to rush (or as he put it “as much rushing as I can at my age”) home to his darkroom to develop the negatives to see what he had captured.

Coming events – some dates may be provisional at this stage of the new year.

12/01/2025 Bodmin Heights Classic Motor Trial
19/01/2025 Clee Hills Classic Motor Trial
01/02/2025 RHS Garden Rosemoor "Celebration of Snowdrops".
02/02/2025 Cotswold Clouds Classic Motor Trial
01/03/2025 RHS Garden Rosemoor Open Weekend FREE ENTRY
02/03/2025 Bideford Classic Motorbike Show - Pannier Market
09/03/2025 Bideford Half Marathon
23/03/2025 Point to Point Kilworthy Tavistock
12/04/2025 Severn Valley Rally Builth Wells
26/04/2025 Wiscombe Park Hill Climb
27/04/2025 Wiscombe Park Hill Climb
03/05/2025 Brixham Pirate Festival
03/05/2025 Werrington Hill Climb
04/05/2025 Werrington Hill Climb
10/05/2025 Wiscombe Park Hill Climb - 500 Owners Club
11/05/2025 Point to Point Upcott Cross
11/05/2025 Wiscombe Park Hill Climb -Vintage Sports Car Club
15/05/2025 Devon County Show
16/05/2025 Devon County Show
17/05/2025 Devon County Show
17/05/2025 Wiscombe Park Hill Climb
18/05/2025 Wiscombe Park Hill Climb - The Nationals
25/05/2025 Point to Point Bratton Down
25/05/2025 Bideford 10k Run
26/05/2025 Point to Point Upcott Cross
26/05/2025 Continental Food Market Bideford Quay
31/05/2025 Riviera Air Show
31/05/2025 Bideford Pride Victoria Park
01/06/2025 Riviera Air Show
07/06/2025 Point to Point Umberleigh
15/06/2025 Bideford Triathlon
20/06/2025 Goldcoast Oceanfest
21/06/2025 Bideford Regatta
28/06/2025 Plymouth Armed Forces Day
06/07/2025 Bideford Soapbox Derby
12/07/2025 Bristol Pride
20/07/2025 Bideford Water Festival
26/07/2025 Wiscombe Park Hill Climb - The Nationals
26/07/2025 Mid Devon Show
27/07/2025 Wiscombe Park Hill Climb - The Nationals
28/07/2025 Woolsey Show
02/08/2025 Bideford Music Days
03/08/2025 Bideford Music Days
06/08/2025 North Devon Show
09/08/2025 Bristol Balloon Festival
10/08/2025 Bristol Balloon Festival

- 10/08/2025 Bideford Festival of Transport Victoria Park
- 13/08/2025 British Firework Championships Plymouth
- 14/08/2025 British Firework Championships Plymouth
- 14/08/2025 Okehampton Show
- 24/08/2025 Mini Grand Tour
- 25/08/2025 Mini Grand Tour
- 06/09/2025 Wiscombe Park Hill Climb
- 07/09/2025 Wiscombe Park Hill Climb
- 08/09/2025 Bristol Balloon Festival
- 13/09/2025 Wiscombe Park Hill Climb
- 13/09/2025 Bideford Carnival and Massed Pipes and Drums
- 14/09/2025 Wiscombe Park Hill Climb
- 28/09/2025 Barnstaple Marathon
- 12/10/2025 Weymouth Beach Motor Racing
- 25/10/2025 Weston Beach Motor Racing
- 26/10/2025 Weston Beach Motor Racing
- 03/11/2025 Bideford 10miler run
- 05/11/2025 Ottery Tar Barrels
- 08/11/2025 Bristol Firework Fiesta





Some incentives to write the newsletter today.

1. Not going out in that
2. Too cold for gardening – although the next-door neighbour is out and about putting up a fence – probably something I have said!
3. Too icy to drive about.
4. Ditto to wash the car.
5. Other jobs on my list are too boring
6. Other jobs on my list that require too much intelligence

Other considerations.

1. “If it weren’t for the last minute, nothing would get done.” - Rita Mae Brown
2. “Procrastination is like a credit card: it’s a lot of fun until you get the bill.” - Christopher Parker
3. “Never put off till tomorrow what may be done the day after tomorrow just as well.”
4. “I’m going to stop putting things off, starting tomorrow!”
5. “Procrastination always gives you something to look forward to.”

Congratulations

To those awarded in the Open Black and White Competition and commiserations to those who did not quite make it onto the honours board this time.

We were able to use our new projector for the “black and white” competition, providing a better viewing experience for members. The subject proved very popular and we had to reduce the number of entries, to allow the judge a fighting chance to get through on time. The judge was Pedro Landers the President of the Western Counties Photographic Federation who provided a very informative critique. A couple of key issues were repeated – the need to ensure adequate contrast and a need to keep to a thin line framing the images rather than swamping them with a wide border. That being said there was a very high quality of images on show.

Congratulations go to all our winners on the night.

Two gold awards were made to Bryan Shanley for the image “35,000 over Alaska” and Erica Tidmarsh for “Coot”.

A silver went to David Shaw for “Chevrons” and he also picked up a bronze for “The Bill”, Judith Flacke also repeated this feat with a silver for “Last of the Bunch” and a bronze for “Wires”.

A silver also went to Ben Freer for “Dewy Web, while Martin Stephenson collected a bronze award for “The Old Man of Storr”

Finally, the awards were completed with three commended - Biddie Bix “Observatory with Sundial”, Ben Freer “Latch with a Twig” and Tim Sanders with a “Victorian Lady in Snow”.

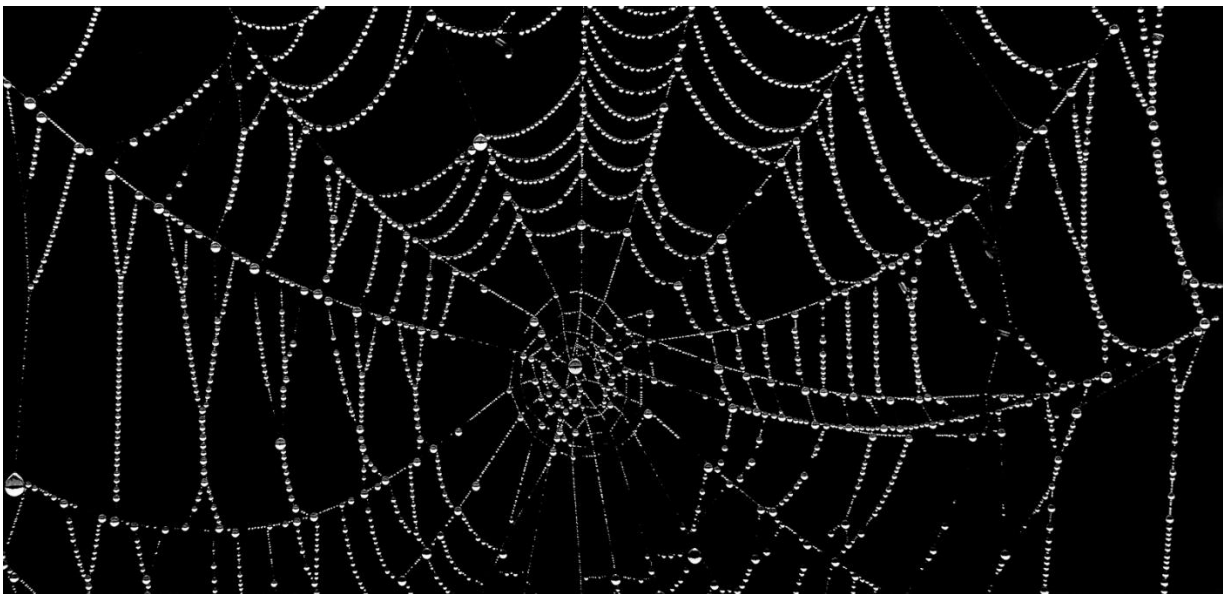


GOLD – 35,000 Feet Over Alaska.

By Bryan Shanley



GOLD
Coot
By Erica Tidmarsh



SILVER
Dewy Web
By Ben Freer



Above

SILVER

Chevrons

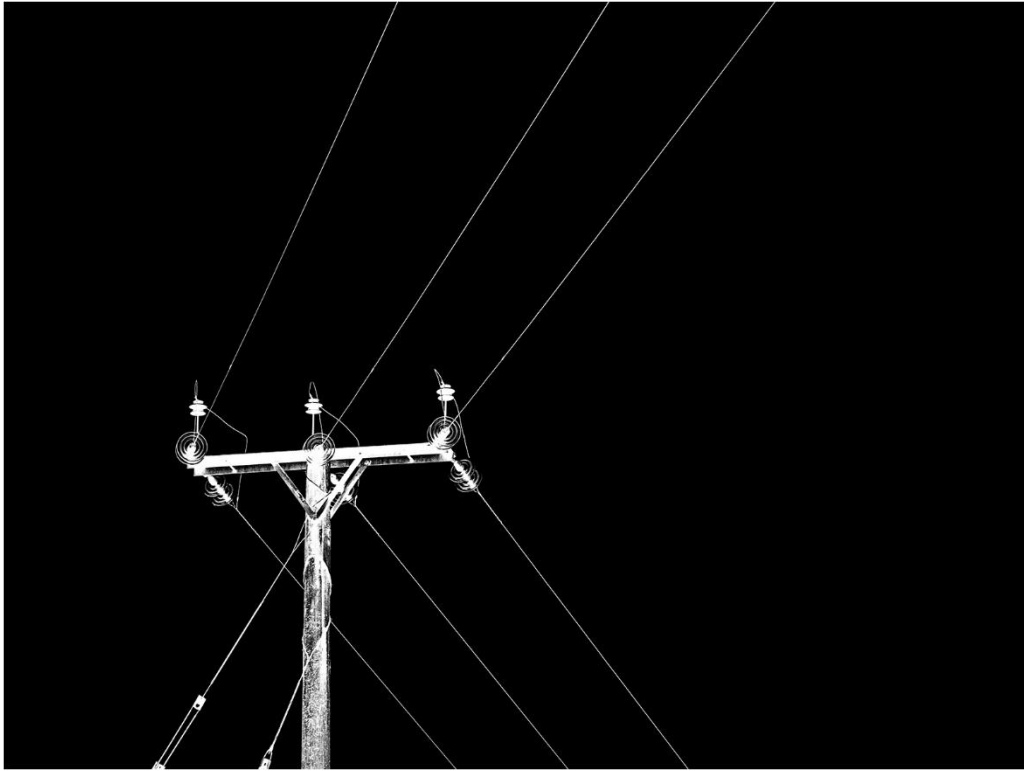
By David Shaw



SILVER

Last of the Bunch

By Judith Flacke



BRONZE

Wires By Judith Flacke

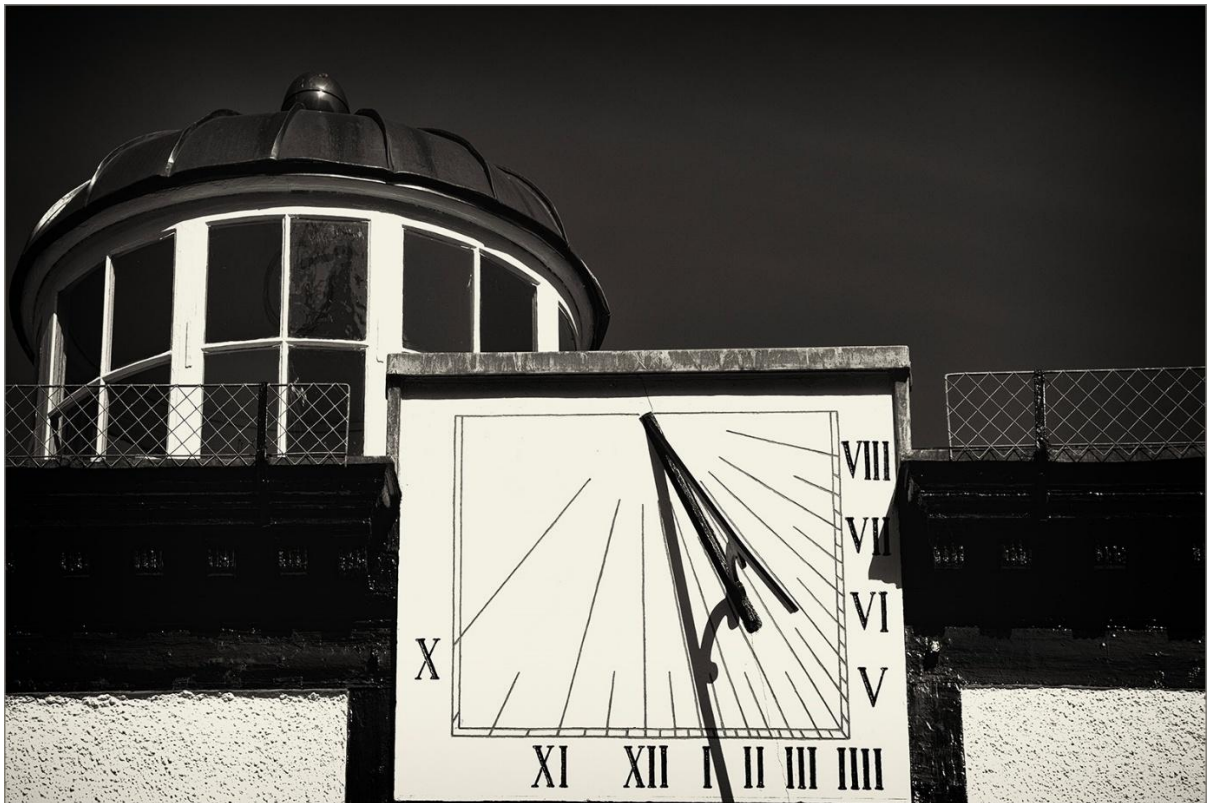


BRONZE

The Bill By David Shaw



BRONZE The Old Man of Storr By Martin Stephenson



COMMENDED Observatory with Sundial By Biddie Bix



COMMENDED

Above Latch with a Twig By Ben Freer

Below Victorian Lady in Snow By Tim Sanders



Bideford Camera Club

Want to take better photos ?

They certainly do. CLUB MEETINGS

- **14th Jan** : Talk - Long Exposure by Antony Zacharis (Zoom)
- **21st Jan** : Members Night
- **28th Jan** : Competition - "Creative" (pdi). Judge : Andy Francis
- **4th Feb** : Members Night
- **11th Feb** : Talk - My Vision – My Practice by Ruth Grindrod (Zoom)
- **18th Feb** : Members Night
- **25th Feb** : Practical (tba)
- **4th Mar** : Members Night
- **11th Mar** : **Competition** - "Urban" (pdi). Judge : Martin Patten
- **18th Mar** : Members Night
- **25th Mar** : Talk - The Wildlife Masterclass by Tesni Ward (Zoom)
- **1st Apr** : Members Night
- **8th Apr** : **Competition** - Masters (Print). Judge : Peter Hyett
- **15th Apr** : 3B's
- **22nd Apr** : Members Night
- **29th Apr** : AGM

If you have anything for the newsletter, events of interest, something to sell etc., please let me know.

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Happy photography

Tim

