

# WCC NEWS

Worcestershire Camera Club

Editor: w-news@worcscc.uk

## This Week - Tuesday

Anne Sutcliffe FRPS EFIAP PPSA - presents Annie's Land - a varied selection of prints of monochromatic landscapes, buildings and interiors.

Tuesday is also your last chance to buy a ticket for the club's Christmas celebration evening on **16<sup>th</sup> December**. See Anne Burrows.

For those who have already got their tickets, **please remember to send your baby photo to Maddy ASAP!**



Gloucs	Worcs	Hereford	
249	242	231	<b>Prints</b>
236	247	235	<b>DPI</b>
<b>485</b>	<b>489</b>	<b>466</b>	<b>Total</b>

## Three Counties

This year's 3 Counties Battle was held at Gloucester on Tuesday 2nd December and the host club was keen to knock us off our perch as winners for the past several years. The evening got off to a bad start for me as I must have had a brain-storm and on leaving the M5 for the A40 - in the wrong direction! We eventually arrived just before the meeting was to start.

After the first round, which was prints, we were trailing by 7 points and Gloucester were smiling but we more than made up for this with the DPIs with the final scores as you see in the table below left.

No print nor DPI scored 20 for any club but Natural History specialists Bob Tunstall and Roy Reeves did us proud with several 19s. Alex Isaacs also scored 19 with his PDI "Window on the World". Some of our images that had done well in internal competitions failed to impress the judge but our opponents let themselves down with some

## Contents

[Programme](#)

[Members' News](#)

[LRPS Help](#)

[WCC in the News](#)

[Diary/Out and About](#)

[Solid State Drives](#)

[MidPhot 2015](#)

[Commercial](#)

[Dictionary Corner](#)

[Around the Web](#)

[Free Donations Appeal](#)

obvious blunders such as trees "growing" out of an animal's head and some bad cropping.

The final outcome was that by the skin of our teeth Worcestershire Camera Club lives to fight another day, with Gloucester licking their wounds and vowing to book a judge who doesn't like Natural History next time they are hosts. We had better watch out because they are determined to win! The full details of all the individual scores will be posted on the Club notice board.

*Bob Oakley*



## Members' News

### Smethwick Acceptances

Brian Eacock ARPS has had three images accepted into the prestigious Smethwick International this year. Congratulations!

*Parent and Juvenile Green woodpecker (right)  
Gilly (below left) and  
Tess (below right)*



### PAGB Success



*Image: John Burrows DPAGB, BPEZ\**

John Burrows says:- We had 3 entrants in the PAGB Distinctions adjudication on 29/30 Dec at Kegworth - 2 for 'C' and 1 for the 'D'. I accompanied **Mike Hadley** on Sunday and am pleased to say that he is now a CPAGB to add to our list.

The photo was taken at the end of the proceedings and Mike is pictured with Leo Rich who is both President of the PAGB and National Organiser for the PAGB Awards for Photographic Merit.

See next page for Mike's images & comments.

See the latest awards (and lots more) in the latest [PGAB news 128](#).

Congratulations also go to former member Colin Trow-Poole on gaining MPAGB, and Ric Harding of our neighbouring Droitwich Camera Club on his MPAGB.



Mike says: I have to thank my advisors John Burrows and Bob Tunstall. John took me up to Kegworth which took a great deal of pressure off me. I did not think it was going to be like it was, especially when my first 4 images were in the twenties. When the results came through and my name was included with the passes it was great sigh of relief and satisfaction!



*Grey Heron Nesting*



*Leftt: Goldfinch  
Above:  
Female Kestrel,  
Kestrel feeding,  
Right: Kestrel with prey.*



*Images: Mike Hadley,CPAGB*

*Congratulations!*

*Above Left: Goldfinch, Above Right: Long-tailed tit.*

*Below: Kingfishers: Right: Goldfinch on Teasel*



## Help in Going for LRPS

There's a level of interest within the club from a few members wishing to present work for LRPS assessment in the spring of 2015.

If you would like to be part of this small 'L' Group', I'm arranging a get-together on **Friday 19<sup>th</sup> December, 10.00 am** at my home in Worcester.

At this meeting I'll describe what you need to do, we'll look at ideas you have, view work in progress and begin the early stages of making a panel.

If you would like to know more about this please get in touch with me. If you're interested but can't make the date, contact me anyway and we'll take it from there.

It's worth bearing in mind that Licentiate applications for March are full and April is filling up. It would be best to apply a.s.a.p. to avoid disappointment. Please note that if you have to postpone the assessment (with reasonable notice), you don't lose any money, it's simply deferred.

See also the [RPS Distinctions page](#).

Clive. [clive@crhfoto.co.uk](mailto:clive@crhfoto.co.uk)

*For your information, a list of current members' distinctions was circulated with the newsletter email this week. If we've missed anyone out, do let us know!*

## WCC in the News

The new Club exhibition at the Worcestershire Royal Hospital made the news this week.

WRI sent out a tweet that we have donated the photos and the full article can be found [here](#).

Colin Nash says: "Last seen it had been retweeted to lots of other Twitter users, including Robin Walker MP who had sent it to his followers."

It also made the [Worcester News](#) and I spotted it in the hospital's Daily Brief on Friday.



You can see all the exhibition images [on the website](#).

## Digital Group Photos

The Digi Group's Birmingham [Street Photography e-book](#) is now on the website!

It's a bumper bundle of over 100 pages, and one of the best so far, I think. (A caution to those of you with slower connections - it's a 59Mb file)

Well done to all concerned!

## Croome Update

Don't forget to look at the upcoming events list published last week and now [on the website](#), and please contact Pam if you can cover any of the requests or just want to know more..

Henry sent in some pics last week which were much appreciated.

*"Henry - these are lovely. Will be putting some on our social media sites later today."*

This already made it to Twitter...



...and my Santa from last year is still turning up on Facebook and Twitter, so why not help out with some shots of this year's Santa?





## Dates for the Diary / Out and About

**Friday 12<sup>th</sup> December 6.30 pm** Try a bit of seasonal night photography with the Droitwich [Lanterns in the Park](#) procession starting at the 'bridge' by St Peter's. Carol singing, the Salvation Army Band, festive refreshments and a bar. it's free. Ideally also bring a lantern using a **LED fake candle** (see [instructions](#)).

**Saturday 20<sup>th</sup> December** Janet Stott alerts us to this photo-opportunity :-  
The [Welsh Border Black Face Morris](#) are coming to **Pershore** on 20 December from **1030-1200**-ish. They are great fun and very photogenic. They will be at other venues after Pershore - Upton on Severn and other places but I live here so know the form!! They dance on the corner of High St and Broad Street, opposite the Angel Hotel.



**23<sup>rd</sup> January 2015** [The State of Photography Symposium](#) Early Bird discount before 31 December.

**Now open to 15 Feb Birmingham Museum & Art Gallery** [West Midlands Open](#) The exhibition showcases a stunning array of work, including painting, sculpture and photography. Free entry, Gas Hall.

**Now to 1 Feb 2015 Visual Impact', Photography Exhibition** [Gloucester City Museum & Art Gallery](#), Touring Gallery. A collection of photographic artwork by talented local photographer Aleks Gjika. From the Albanian landscape where he was born, to the rolling hills of Gloucestershire where he now lives, Aleks has built a reputation to rival even the most accomplished professional photographers.

Also **Saturday 24<sup>th</sup> January 2015, 2pm 'Behind the Lens', with Aleks Gjika at City Museum**  
Tickets [£5 per person](#) online or telephone the City Museum on (01452) 396131.

**Sunday January 25<sup>th</sup>** [Fotospeed Lecturers' Day](#)

*Victorian Fayre - Funfair Impressions by Clive Haynes FRPS*



# Solid State Drives

Roger Plant responds to Bob's cautionary tales of woe with some useful advice:-

I read Bob's alert (December 1<sup>st</sup>) twice but still couldn't understand why both friends didn't just purchase a new inexpensive replacement external secondary hard drive (HD). These then to store the data which could easily have been copied from the internal drives that their damaged secondary external hard drives had presumably backed-up in the first place?

If the first friend could afford to spend (seemingly unnecessarily) several hundreds of pounds to recover 80% of duplicated data then he could easily have afforded to purchase two Solid State drives (SSDs). These are more robust than HDs and therefore far less likely to fail as a result of hard knocks. There are no moving parts to break in SSDs. Bob's friends' external back-up HDs were more exposed to accidental knocks and damage and therefore less "safe" than protected internal back-up drives. They almost certainly failed as a result of the knocks to vulnerable fragile moving parts. Subsequently the recovery of data was likely more to do with the mechanics of those moving parts. I may have misunderstood Bob's report of his friend's external backup drive woes. Other-

wise I trust that he will explain why recovery of duplicated data from an external back-up HD was necessary in this case.

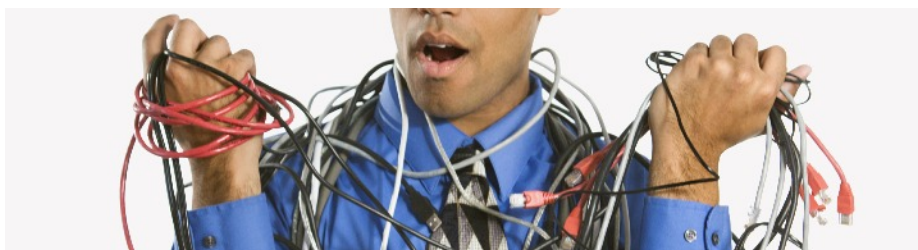
Here is a quote from a 'PC World' website explaining the durability of SSD versus fragility of HD. ...

**"Durability: An SSD has no moving parts, so it is more likely to keep your data safe in the event that you drop your laptop bag or your system is shaken about by an earthquake while it's operating. Most hard drives park their read/write heads when the system is off, but they are flying over the drive platter at hundreds of miles an hour when in operation. Besides, even parking brakes have limits. If you're rough on your equipment, a SSD is recommended."**

Readers may recall that Colin Nash and I have recommended local computer expert Andy Major for all repairs. I should have also included, in my appraisal of his expertise, that he has special data recovery software and does not charge when data cannot be retrieved. He has a notice in his shop window clearly stating "No Fix, No Fee". His repair shop, in St. Johns, is open on five

days per week (9.30am-1.30pm) closed Sundays and Mondays. Recently he recovered all of the image data from one of my CompactFlash memory cards which had somehow become corrupted and unreadable by my software. His charge was minimal. I've witnessed other customers express more than satisfaction with his service and his very reasonable charges. He takes great pride in his work and abilities to please customers. Recently I spotted a thank-you card on a shelf behind his counter. I saw that it's a hand-written testimonial in gratitude. To paraphrase ... to discover there are still people in the world who appear to do the work for love and not the money.

Andy has been in the personal computer hardware and software industry for so long that he has seen it all where user error or damage is involved, from accidentally spilling a G & T over a laptop keyboard, to deliberately in a moment of rage, throwing a desktop PC through a window on a third storey! I made that last bit up but I do vaguely recall him telling me a similar tale!





## MidPhot 2015

Enclosed with this week's email are the Rules and Entry Form for the **2015 MidPhot Exhibition** organised by our Federation the MCPF. **Any Club Member can enter.** As in past years I will collate the Club's entry and be responsible for taking it to Smethwick in early February. I will also collect your Prints after the closing date of the Exhibition. Entry fees are modest by comparison with those charged by other external exhibitions and Prints can be entered without incurring carriage and packaging costs. Please read the Rules carefully and let me know if you have any queries. For your information I put all the Club's PDI entries on to one CD in separate folders by Section and Author. You may either put your PDI entry on a CD for me, or on a memory stick, or email them to me. In the latter event I will acknowledge by email so that you know that they are safely received. I will check your entry to confirm that everything is in order. Whichever method you use I still require an application form and your entry fees which can be cash or cheque made payable to MCPF.

*John Burrows DPAGB*

## Commercial

Sign up for [Picanova's newsletter](#) to get regular offers, particularly for large canvases at low prices. (Newsletter sign-up bottom right on home page)

Wildlife 'togs interested in [camera traps](#)?

If you're not ready for the 25<sup>th</sup> yet, see the Paper Spectrum [greeting card range...](#)

## Dictionary Corner...

Dear Editor,

With regard to familiar or unfamiliar English words used by members when commenting upon and describing their response to images posted on Google+. Clive's use of the word 'septentrion' in a recent Google+ comment upon one of James's northern captures had James and me reaching for a dictionary. The word is considered obsolete in a reference I found online. As with search engines one thing leads to another and before long I found a [list of other obsolete words](#) which the author has deemed "delightful" and worthy of revival. (*Ed - do take a look!*) One of my favourites here. . .

Obsolete word: **Apricity**

Meaning: The sun's warmth on a cold winter's day.

Origin: 1620s

As in: Even in darkest December you sometimes get a moment of beautiful apricity.

Had I been cognisant of the word before commenting on Douglas's December [Google+](#) posting of beautiful images of exotic butterflies in flight I definitely would have used it. Unlikely, but just maybe, for once, perhaps . . . had Clive reaching for a dictionary too.

*Roger*

*(Contact Martin if you need help joining the WCC Google+ community)*

## Around the Web

Peter McCulloch found these [well-hidden creatures...](#) [Ask the right questions.](#)

[6 types of photos to try](#)

[Storytelling winners](#)

[Maheshwari Obituary.](#)

Adrien Tache's Fotografrika project - a [short intro](#) and the [full portfolio](#).

[Portrait to sculpture....](#)

## Free Donations - Appeal

This is a personal request - she who collates the newsletter takes brief editorial advantage...!

Many of us enjoy the [woodland and other reserves](#) of the Worcestershire Wildlife Trust and I know a few of us are members. If you wish to help the Trust with their work to ensure that we and others can continue to enjoy the reserves, at no cost to yourself, please read on...

Worcestershire Wildlife Trust is raising free donations this Christmas (and beyond) through easyfundraising. If you're shopping online then you could help, and it won't cost you a penny!

Here's how easy it is:

Just visit a retailer (like John Lewis or Amazon) via the [easyfundraising website](#) and any purchases you make will raise a free donation for WWT. It's that simple!

easyfundraising have already helped raise over £7 million for charities and good causes across the UK. They work with leading retailers including Amazon, John Lewis, Argos and Marks and Spencer to name but a few.

It takes just a couple of minutes to register for free and **no payment details are needed**.

Please visit [the WWT page](#) to find out more.

If you already support another cause on easyfundraising, remember you can change your chosen cause at any time, so you can share the benefits across your causes!

Thank you!

