



# Rugeley & Armitage Camera Club Newsletter

9th June 2018

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

## This Week - Roy Hodgkiss Natural History Trophy

Our last competition brings the seasons meetings to a close. It's not really fair to say we've saved the best until last, as there have been many excellent meetings over the last nine months, but once again this promises to be another wonderful night. Now in its sixth year which member is going to have their name added?

Competition groups count for nothing in this. We all start equal. Everyone is in the same rabbit hole so to speak.

The Natural History Trophy was founded by our Vice-President Adam Belcher in recognition of everything Roy did for both Adam's photography and for our club. Adam will once again have the difficult task of judging the competition and the pleasure of presenting the trophy to the winner. We're sure he'll have a very enjoyable time.

## Last Week - Guest Speaker John Hartshorne 'New Horizons'

Our final speaker of the season was John Hartshorne with his presentation titled 'New Horizons'. It would have been easy to think that this would be a bit of an anti-climax to the season when considering some of the excellent speakers we've had, but we needn't have worried. John carried on where others left off and gave us a great evening both with his spoken word and many stunning images. John's selection of A2 sized prints were extremely impressive, especially his 'blue hour' pictures of Salford Quays. Just a couple of comments from other members:

*"I just wanted to drop you an email to say how much I enjoyed your presentation at Rugeley and Armitage Camera Club. The work you presented I thought was breathtaking and I really enjoyed your friendly and sharing style of delivery. I really hope to see another presentation from you and your wife in the near future. A fantastic evening."*

*"I am not really "into" landscapes. Ansel Adams rebuked someone when they said he was being creative. He said that the landscapes were created by God and were there for anyone to see and photograph. All he did, he said, was wait for the lighting and weather conditions he liked and take a good photograph. He also is on record as saying that if he couldn't drive his car to the vantage spot, he didn't shoot (his camera was on the roof). His aim was fidelity. The idea of cloning in a different sky or cloning out an unwanted object would have been abhorrent. He did selectively dodge his photos in printing but that was only to accommodate the huge dynamic range in the scene (about 2,000,000:1) onto a print with a limited dynamic range of 25:1.*

*So, with this jaundiced attitude in mind, I attended the talk by John Hartshorne, expecting to see the "usual" string of prints that had been fiddled and diddled. Not so with John.*

*Brilliant stuff. What a fresh change. A superb photographer. Every picture was created in the camera. No diddling around in Photoshop to clone stuff out that should not have been in the shot in the first place. No adjustments because the camera position wasn't right or the exposure or focus was wrong. Filters on the lens to adjust the dynamic range. The proper use of grids and high vantage points to eliminate parallax convergence; and so on. Proper photography.*

*Dozens of the shorts, especially those in low light, presented major photographic challenges – all done expertly. Then the use of the Color Monkey to calibrate paper, ink and printer.*

*A true photographer who knows his craft and has a decent tripod. A Great session. Thanks to R&ACC and to John."*

Received this contribution from a club member. Much appreciated, keep them coming.

*"Recently Leica stopped all production of its 35mm film cameras. That's not too much of a surprise. It was struggling and was delisted from the Stock Exchange and passed into private hands (Kaufman family). It is worth about \$800 million (Canon is \$50 billion and Nikon is about 1/8<sup>th</sup> the size at \$6billion).*

*But the massive news is that Canon has just announced that it will cease production of its flagship Canon EOS1V film camera. It is the most advanced 35mm camera of all time. It hasn't changed much since 2000 because there was nothing to add or improve. It was and still is the workhorse of professionals because of its toughness and incredible performance.*

*Canon EOS 1s are so tough that, unlike others, they will still be going strong by 2025 when Canon drops its service support. They cost about £1,600 when new and now sell for about £600 used, but prices are now climbing again.*

*In many ways 35mm film is superior to digital (e.g. dynamic range) but this is a milestone – or is it a tombstone? All camera makers are suffering from something invented by Sharp Electronics – the camera phone. There are now more high resolution camera phones in the world THAT ARE NOT USED FOR PHOTOGRAPHY than there are digital SLRs in the world. Film is not dead but it is in the minority. Photo prints have already gone the same way."*

## Birthday Wishes this week go to:

June 12th: Ann Cooper

June 12th: Jacky McPeake

Hope you both have a great day



## 'The Blue Hour'

Our speaker last week showed quite a few images taken during the 'Blue Hour', that period between day and night when there's still some light left in the sky.

Good info here: [Blue Light Photography](#)

[Blue Light Times](#) Phone App [Google Play](#) [Apple Store](#)

# St Giles hospice

*"On Thursday eight of us visited St Giles Hospice at Whittington.*

*We were met with a friendly welcome and a cup of coffee before being given an overview of the administration side of St. Giles. This illustrated discussion could have carried on all day it was so interesting. None of us quite realised the level of support that they offer in the community as well as at the Hospice. However that was the talk side, then we started the tour. This included all areas from the lively day therapy centre, dining areas, library and computer rooms. We came across music, chatter and laughter as we walked through the various areas, and finally upstairs to meet with members of staff and see the patients rooms which were more like a 5 star hotel suite.*

*It was great to see the pictures that we have donated in the past, and where our cash donations are being put to good use.*

*We couldn't thank the staff at St. Giles enough for this thoroughly informative visit.*

*If anyone would like to go on a future tour please let me know."*

*Carole Perry - Chairperson*



## **St Giles Summer Solstice Walk**

Come on all you ladies. On Saturday 16th June, hundreds of women from all over the region will gather in Lichfield to get involved in the fun that is this ladies-only night time walk around the city. Grab your fairy wings, round up your friends and family, and revel in the unforgettable atmosphere while raising vital funds for your local hospice.

Full information here: [St Giles Summer Solstice Walk](#)