



Rugeley & Armitage Camera Club Newsletter

7th December 2019

www.rugeleyandarmitagecameraclub.com



Last Week 'George Lamb Trophy'



1st
Autumn Mist
Linda Shaw



2nd
Portland Bill
Brian Wheatley

Highly Commended

Low Cloud Over Storr - Linda Shaw
The Lone Tree - Steve Higgins



3rd
Brecon Beacon Waterfall
Margaret Beardsmore

Commended

Winter Beaches - Richard Moore
Maughold Head - Richard Keene

Many thanks to everyone who both entered and contributed to the evening. There were many excellent prints on show. Choosing a winner was never going to be easy. Interestingly, the members who finished 1-2-3 were the same as those who finished 1-2-3 in the Judge for a Night . . . and the winning image was taken less than a mile from the authors home proving we don't need to travel the earth to get good landscape photographs. As he always does, our judge for the evening Howard Bagshaw donated his fee to St Giles. Money from the competition raised £252.00. Thank you everyone.

Well that's the end of another year. Next meeting will be on 6th January 2020. This will be a Practical Evening. There's plenty of time over the next couple of weeks to take pictures for the next competition on 20th January 'Monochrome'. I hope you all have a good Christmas & New Year and Santa is good to you. Next newsletter will be on 4th January 2020.

Final words for 2019

Going back to my Photographic Roots.... Well almost....

I had my first 'real' camera for my 18th (or was it 21st) Birthday. Whichever it was back then I still had hair. It was a Russian made Zenit B single lens reflex. Built like a tank and probably from the same armour plating. The only damage you would do if you dropped it was it would break all your toes or the concrete it fell on. By today's standards it was pretty primitive. Totally manual in all respects. No metering so it required a hand held light meter for exposure. Point it at the subject, read off the exposure value and select a shutter & aperture combination to suit the result you were after. No need to worry about ISO (or ASA as it was then) that was determined by the film you used. How would we cope now?



Cameras back then were rarely sold 'body only'. No matter what you bought they almost always came with a 'Standard Lens'. This was similar in principle to the kit lens you get nowadays but instead of being a zoom lens it was a 'prime lens', usually with a fixed focal length of around 50mm. If you needed to 'zoom in or zoom out' you used your feet. Good experience but not really practical if you were on the wrong side of the river. Back then the few zoom lenses which were available were expensive and frankly the quality was pretty poor. If you were well off you may have had a few prime lenses in your bag, usually 28mm + 50mm + 135mm. Now of course one zoom lens can easily cover this range and more. Spoilt we are....

So how have I gone back to my Photographic Roots...??

Some time ago I was loaned (probably permanently) a Canon 6D full frame dSLR plus 24-105mm lens. Have to admit technically it's excellent. Far better than I am. However that can only be so if I used it. It's heavy. In fact the lens is even heavier than the camera. Every time I went out with it I developed a stoop. So I've bought a 50mm prime lens. Very small and very light and less than a hundred quid. Now I have a camera I can at last walk out with just like I did 50 years ago. Progress at last

Of course that's where the similarity ends.... The Zenit was a vastly superior camera....