



Rugeley & Armitage Camera Club Newsletter

16th January 2021

www.rugeleyandarmitagecameraclub.com



Last Mondays Zoom Meeting 11th January 2021

Paddy's Digital Ramblings

I am sure the members enjoyed Paddy's extensive and varied AV collection. The first AV was for the Lichfield Lions about sight loss. Paddy had to develop some ingenious lenses and methods, to portray visual impairment for a wide range of optical problems. It was a very visual way of showing what people would see with their ailments. This AV is used worldwide to show the different effects of sight loss.

The second AV was of the graffiti at Digbeth. Definitely a place to visit when we can finally get out of lockdown. When Paddy mentioned he'd set the images to punkish music, it was realized that members hadn't heard the music. Perhaps members could see this AV with the music, another time as the images were outstanding.



The next AV was Paddy's "My World of Macro", photographed in lockdown, in the garden. You do not have to travel far to get into the macro world. The amazing images were taken on an inexpensive bridge camera and set to a soft, gentle piece of music.

Paddy always researches his projects for future AVs. This enabled him to contact sites, to explain what he was trying to achieve with his AV. At Ypres he was allowed access to photograph various documents to include in his AV. All this research was put to good use in compiling this AV with sound effects of rain, mud and explosions. All set to appropriate music. The final AV is used by the Museum to explain to visitors what happened at Ypres in WW1.

AV's are a good medium for travelogues and Paddy's next AV was his trip to Iceland. He went to southwest Iceland Nomafjall Hverir. This landscape was probably what the earth looked like millions of years ago. His visit limited to two hours because of sulphur dioxide gases venting out of fumaroles and boiling mud areas creating sulphuric acid pools. Certainly another unique place to visit when the world gets back to normal, whatever normal will be.

The next AV was about Auschwitz. The AV was produced in black and white which tells it's own story. Paddy researched material for this AV and spoke to the officials at the museum and explained what he wanted to do. They agreed as long as they could view the final AV and gave him permission to go into areas normally restricted to the public. Paddy also got permission to show photographs and stories from the families involved. Some of the shots were in infrared which suited the storyline. The AV was at times hard hitting and difficult to watch, with the images set to music from the film Schindler's List and music composed by survivors of the Holocaust. The museum were impressed with the end result and the AV is used as an introduction to the Museum and the story that lies within.

On a lighter note, Paddy showed a trio of travelogues of his visit to Namibia. These were split up into A) The Kalahari Desert B) The Skeleton Coast C) Namib Desert, with each having it's own distinctive character. The guides did an excellent job in enabling Paddy to take some great photos.

Paddy's parting help to wannabe AV makers was that you should always plan what style the AV should take (fast or slow) and to use the appropriate music.

I'm sure all the members that viewed the zoom meeting, would like me to say a massive thank you to Paddy, for a very enjoyable and informative evening.

Thanks Paddy

Message from David Perry Competitions Secretary

The images are due in for our Ladies v Gents competition. You can submit images that have been entered into other monthly comps (please try not to submit those you entered into last years comp). The scores awarded for the images will not be added to the league table. It is a stand alone competition. It's just a bit of fun really with an element of suspense. Will the ladies win for a forth time? Or will the men get their act together. The images can be Black and white, Colour, Creative, Portrait anything goes. Ralph Duckett is the judge on the night. Lets hope it's well supported. Send your images to dave.p46@sky.com by 18th January



Our next three club evenings are:
[may be subject to change at short notice]

MON
18
JAN
2021

Monthly Competition No.3

19:30

Monthly Competition No.3

This will now be a PDI Competition

Subject 'Christmas & New Year'

Judge: Mike Sharples

Entries to be in by 4th January

This competition will be held by Zoom

MON
25
JAN
2021

Guest Speaker - Jack Perks 'Diary of a Wildlife Photographer'

19:30

Tonight our Guest Speaker is Jack Perks with his presentation 'Diary of a Wildlife Photographer'

This will be a Zoom Presentation

MON
01
FEB
2021

Members Evening 'Ladies v Gents'

19:30

This will be our annual Ladies vs Gents Competition

Projected Digital Images

Judge Ralph Duckett

This will be a Zoom Presentation



A Lockdown Project . . . [or Relieving the Boredom . . .] by Dave Hanmer

Lockdown gives you plenty of time to think. Since March we've had an awful lot of thinking time. Being a man my thinking subjects are extremely limited. Us men may think a lot, but usually we get back to the same things. Only age determines what those things are. Unfortunately it's now just football and beer but probably not in that order.

In the end desperate measures were needed. It was really that bad I actually started to think about photography. So I needed a project. Image Stabilisation, Vibration Reduction, Shake Reduction, Optical Image Stabilisation, Mega Optical Image Stabilisation, Power Optical Image Stabilisation, Anti-Shake, Super Steady Shot, Optical Steady Shot... and there's probably more. So what are they?

They are the camera manufacturer's fancy names for the bit of technology which hopefully gives a sharp hand held image at relatively slow shutter speeds. Whichever make of digital camera you have, it will contain one of the above. Wouldn't it have been nice if they could have all agreed on one simple name. Maybe something like 'Stop the Wobble'. It's a good job they each didn't dream up a different name for shutter speed, aperture & ISO...!!

Going on from this, there is a long standing argument between photographers that when using the camera on a tripod, should image stabilisation be left on or switched off? It's often said that when the camera is mounted on a tripod and the stabilisation is left on, the mechanism which detects movement tries in vain to search for movement which isn't there. This supposedly then adds movement to a movement free image, which then results in a less sharp image than if stabilisation was switched off. Hope that's crystal clear...??

As always reading the internet muddies the waters even further. Some websites say turn off, some websites say leave on. So which is it? Thankfully this is one test which you can have a go at quite easily yourself. So having plenty of time, I did.

I used two cameras. One a dSLR with 24-105mm lens and the other a Bridge camera with 24-400mm lens. My test was done under strict scientific conditions. Camera mounted on the tripod and pointed across the road aimed at the 'Cannock Chase Council' lettering on a neighbours wheelie bin. For those members who live in Lichfield you can focus on a suitable BMW or Mercedes number plate.

Note: For obvious reasons it may be advisable to be a little discrete as to where you are pointing your camera.

For each camera I zoomed in as far as each lens would go, as any camera movement is magnified at longer focal lengths. I used Live View with the 10 second delay timer to eliminate any camera shake. To keep it as constant as possible I used Aperture Priority with 100 ISO and White Balance set to Daylight.

I took four images with each camera. Two at normal exposure with stabilisation on and off, then two images with a Neutral Density filter attached to give a longer exposure time, again with stabilisation on and off. So what difference did it make to the final images?

From what I can see, naff all.... I think if each image was presented to you, you'd be hard pressed to see any difference in sharpness.

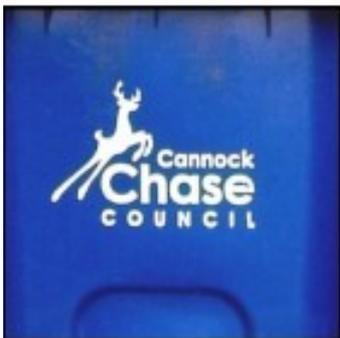
Considering all images are a very small crop of the original image I don't think I need worry about whether to have Image Stabilisation on or off when using the tripod. Just as well really because if I turned it off I'd only forget to turn it back on afterwards.

Some manufacturers, Pentax for one, automatically disable Image Stabilisation when the self-timer is selected. They assume that if you're using the self-timer then you're probably using a tripod or other support. Some modern Mirrorless cameras may do similar.

Having relieved the boredom for a while, I'm now ready to go back to thinking about football and beer. I certainly need one.....

dSLR Camera - Focal Length 105mm - ISO 100

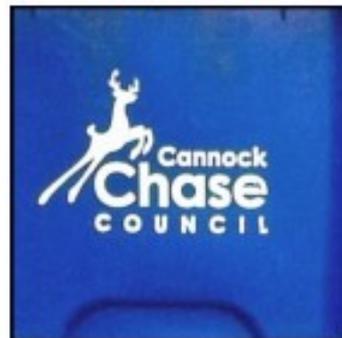
1/60 @ f8
Stabilisation ON



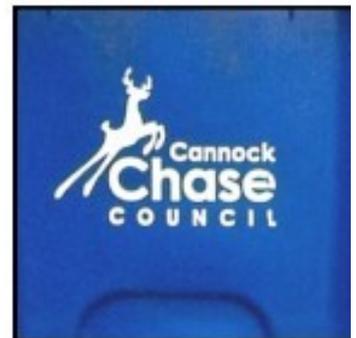
1/60 @ f8
Stabilisation OFF



20 seconds @ f8
Stabilisation ON

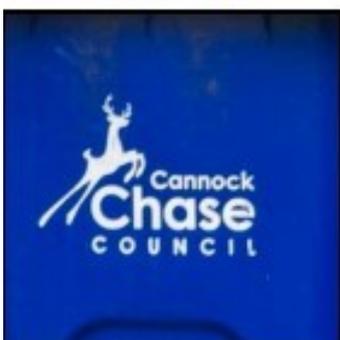


20 seconds @ f8
Stabilisation OFF

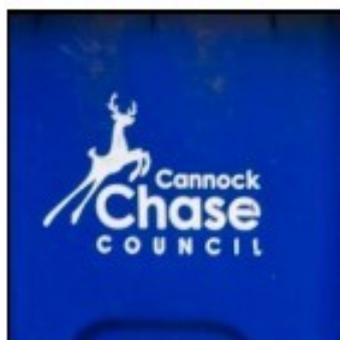


Bridge Camera - Focal Length 400mm - ISO 125

1/30 @ f5.6
Stabilisation ON



1/30 @ f5.6
Stabilisation OFF



25 seconds @ f5.6
Stabilisation ON



25 seconds @ f5.6
Stabilisation OFF



Message from Joe Thatcher PPG

Bob Bells Funeral Arrangements

Hi guys

With this funeral occurring on Wednesday of next week, I'm just confirming information for PPG members and others:

If you're not attending in person, you can view a webcast of the event by clicking on:

<https://www.obitus.com/> on 20-Jan-21 at 4.00. The chapel is Chapel Stafford

You'll need a username and password to login and these are:

Username: Fuju2612

Password: 294448

I believe the webcast may be accessible after the event, but could not guarantee that's the case.

The names of those PPG/R&A people who asked to attend in person and are therefore "on the list" are as follows:

Ian Halstead
Anne Thatcher
Joe Thatcher
Paul Davis
Arthur Davis
Les Atkins
Maurice Alden
Geoff Setterfield
Geoff Allsop
Sue Tagg
Dave Tagg
Carole Perry
Dave Perry
Roy Alexander
Marie Lakin
Graham Caddick

There is no provision for any more people under covid regulations, so if your name is not on the list above please do not attend.

Obviously masks are a requirement for entry.

Best regards

Joe