



The Image – Monthly NEWSLETTER

The Abertawe Photographic Society –

Based near the heart of Swansea, Abertawe Photographic Society is an established, friendly and welcoming club, who's members both amateur and professional all share a common interest, in all aspects of photography.

Whether you are a complete beginner or a seasoned snapper, interested in digital techniques or 35mm film, there is a warm welcome by a likeminded group of people sharing in the search for the perfect image.

By sharing, not only our enthusiasm but also our skills, techniques and knowledge, we all grow as a club and by trying new things we all get the opportunity to stretch our boundaries. All members are encouraged to take part in club events.

The Society meets every Tuesday at:
Greenhill Community Centre
Chapel Street, Dyfatty,
Swansea.SA1 1NB.

This Month's Events: January

3rd Winter Wonderland Evening (weather permit)

10th Show & Tell WW Evening Photos

16th Brian Jennings Battle @ Trostre CC

17th Club Printing Evening

24th Studio Evening

31st Club Presentation Evening (Chip Supper)

2016 All Winners

Congratulations to the 2016 All Winners:

DPI – Jeff Driscoll

B&W Print – Trevor Evans

Colour Print – Darren Boxer

Night Time Photography – Using a Double Exposure

This was an idea given to me by Mike Clatworthy, who I am grateful too, great idea Mike, thanks. **As I have mentioned in other newsletters, if you have any idea for subject matter, please send them to me.**

Winter is a time when we are searching for ideas in photography, often leading to an indoor project. However, it's still great to go into the great outdoors and photograph winter scenes and night time photography, such as Winter Wonderland, star/light trails, etc. But here is a slightly different style of night time photography that you may want to try.

When you are photographing there are often times when your camera can't capture...the entire range of light in a scene. The solution in that case is to take more than one shot with your subject in the same location using a tripod to steady your camera and retain the same camera position. Then you can take two exposures of the same scene and bring them into one image using post editing in PS or Photo-Merge Exposure Technique in Guided Edit in Photoshop Elements, whereby both these images are blended together into one shot in which everything is well lit with good average exposure from the two images.

Just a tip for you when going out at night to take photographs is to be prepared, I've heard it said that its 90% preparation and 10% execution. Make sure you have the minimum equipment with you and your camera:

- Suitable lens, probably around an 18-55, or whatever you prefer.
- Tripod.
- Lens Hood (to prevent unwanted light)
- Torch.

As the first image is shot at an ISO of around 1600 to 3200, and with the shutter open for no longer than 25 seconds, so as to avoid star trails, it's important that you pick a location away from street lights, and on a clear night. To help you with getting to the right spot you can use an App called Dark Sky Finder, it costs about £2.95, cheap enough and well worth it. When taking this first shot you need to ensure that you get the night sky correct, and not bother about the land, being in a dark area will help with this.

The second image can be taken at low ISO, say 100 or less, at f/16 or more and try various exposure times until you get the optimum exposure. During this shot you can either try painting with light, or simply the moons natural light.

You are now ready to merge the two images in either PS or Elements. There are a few ways you can do this, and maybe the simplest is as follows. Open both images in your preferred program and, drag and drop one image onto the other. This will instantly create a second layer automatically. On the top layer add a mask and then paint out the areas you don't want to be seen with a black brush, preferably with a soft edge. If, like me, you make any mistakes then just paint the area back in using a white brush.

Quotes and Sayings

As we have just had Xmas and with the New Year ringing in, the season of good cheer and all that, I thought I would write something a bit different. So

here are some quotes and sayings that I have dug up. I'm sure you can relate to some of them!

I wonder if any of the judges we have had understand the first one:

"A picture is a secret about a secret, the more it tells you the less you know." — **Diane Arbus**

One from the past, the old ones are always the best!

If you saw someone drowning, and could either save them or record the even on camera...what sort of film would you use? - Anonymous

Here's a definition that some will follow, for sure!

A definition of a professional photographer: A "pro" NEVER shows anybody the mistakes. - Anonymous

Would not be complete without a lightbulb joke!

How many photographers does it take to change a light bulb? 50. One to change the bulb, and forty-nine to say, "I could have done that!" - Anonymous

Here's one for Photoshop:

People say photographs don't lie, mine do. - David LaChapelle

Is there money in photography?

The quickest way to make money at photography is to sell your camera. - Anonymous

I'm sure this is me sometimes!

Everyone has a photographic memory. Some don't have film. - Stephen Wright

And I'm sure this is also true of my wife, but I'm not going to tell her!

The rarest thing in the world is a woman who is pleased with photograph of herself. - Elizabeth Metcalf

Now for some of those deep thinkers amongst us:

"You don't take a photograph, you make it."

— **Ansel Adams**

"Taking pictures is savoring life intensely, every hundredth of a second."

— **Mare Riboud**

"When you photograph people in color, you photograph their clothes. But when you photograph people in Black and white, you photograph their souls!"

— **Ted Grant**

"The camera is an instrument that teaches people how to see without a camera."

— **Dorothea Lange**

How many of us can relate to this?

"Your first 10,000 photographs are your worst."

— **Henri Cartier-Bresson**

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"There are no rules for good photographs, there are only good photographs."

— Ansel Adams

"The Earth is Art, The Photographer is only a Witness "

— Yann Arthus-Bertrand, Earth from Above

"There is nothing worse than a sharp image of a fuzzy concept."

— Ansel Adams

"The eye should learn to listen before it looks."

— Robert Frank

"Photography is a reality so subtle that it becomes more real than reality."

— Alfred Stieglitz

"A photograph is usually looked at- seldom looked into."

— Ansel Adams

"The painter constructs, the photographer discloses."

— Susan Sontag

"To consult the rules of composition before making a picture is a little like consulting the law of gravitation before going for a walk."

— Edward Weston

"Patience is the essence of clicking great Photographs!!"

— Abhijeet Sawant

Finally, the final word from Ansel Adams, again could be said to some judges:

"To the complaint, 'There are no people in these photographs,' I respond, 'There are always two people: the photographer and the viewer.'"

— Ansel Adams

The Final Word

I hope you all enjoyed your Christmas, had a great time with friends and family. I look forward to seeing you back in Club very soon, and if you ate too much over the festive period at least we will see more of you!
