

Phoenix Photographic Group

Newsletter from meeting of 8th Jan 2018

Introduction

A busy and interactive session with 21 members attending. Opened by Ian who outlined the agenda which was to be mostly Members' Pics, but kicked off with an AV from Sue Tagg.

News Items

Ian made a vote of thanks to Sue tag for organizing a very successful Christmas meal after which there was general support and applause.

Joe updated on the status of a suggestion by Anton Mans that we have a further shot at high-speed photography. John Simon's collaborator in this, Franco Kowleski, has been contacted by Joe; he's happy for the 'hardware' to be used by PPG; he and Joe will meet to pass over knowledge etc. Hopefully the 'kit' can then be used by the group in the same way as one might use a mobile phone or a TV. However, it might be that PPG need to adapt this kit or build their own 'controllers'. For this reason Joe has purchased an Arduino and started to get comfortable with programming and interfacing. He asked who would be interested in participating in this more 'deep dive' aspect. Barry, John Turner, Bob Bell, Ian, John Ford. Objective here is that anyone who wants to learn more and participate in the 'under the covers' stuff will get a chance to do so.

'Outings' were discussed, once again a possible visit to Curborough trials track. Sue, Les, Barry, Sandra, John T, Bob B, Ian & Joe all declared an interest in going.

Hednesford Raceway was also put forward for a possible visit.

Joe agreed to find out from Peter Sidgwick if we could again take photos of any upcoming dramatic events at the Prince of Wales Theatre.

Ian is going to itemize and list the items we have in the club that are available for loan by members.

There will be a CAC meeting on 17th Jan. Rob will check his diary to see if he can attend; if not notify Ian and Joe.

Activities

First up was an excellent AV put together by Sue and depicting a holiday in Cornwall. Thoroughly enjoyed by all.

Then Ian drove the members' pics, generating the usual exchanges of information and ideas etc about many aspect of subjects and the pictures themselves. During this dialogue several places were mentioned which members asked to be noted with details I this newsletter. I'll include them all for completeness:

British Ironwork Centre & Shropshire Sculpture Park

<https://www.britishironworkcentre.co.uk/>

Open 7 days a week and free

Oswestry, Shropshire, SY11 4JH

Very rough directions Take A5 around Shrewsbury and onwards. About 12 miles past Shrewsbury and roughly one mile before the A5 junction with the A483, the Sculpture Park is on the right.

Haughton 'Christmas Lights' village

Directions: Take the A518 out of Stafford towards Newport. After approx. 4 miles you'll reach Haughton.

Croome Park (National Trust)

<https://www.nationaltrust.org.uk/croome>

Directions: M5 south, exit at Jn 7. B4084 south to Drakes Broughton. Right on Mill Lane to Wadborough. Left onto Sidings Road and follow to Croome Park.

Local 'Troglodyte Caves'

Directions: A51 out of Rugeley towards Wolseley Bridge. In the middle of the speed camera registration marks there's a farm track/lane left, hidden in the hedgerow. Walk up that track for about 300 yards.

A very enjoyable meeting was thus concluded.

Next Meeting

We will meet at Etching Hill 1.45pm on 15th January for a model shoot. Please bring Christmassy props and ideas of how you want the model to pose. Come determined to talk to her (Sue Day)!

Members Pics

Current topics:-

Coverall
Autumn / Winter Colours
Holiday Snaps

Mainstream
Novel
Food
Family & Friends

As usual there's a collection of photos below. Please bear with us this week as we've had an issue shipping them around. Quite a few are therefore Ian's or Joe's plus some archive ones that were not shown at the meeting. Hopefully interesting, none the less. Normal service should be resumed next week!



Brixham Harbour

Photo taken in 1928 by Ian



Mate of the wall eyed collie! Joe



Shipping Container Restaurant, Bristol Joe



He's not the Messiah, he's a very naughty boy ...

Roy



Holcombe Hill

Photo taken is 1878 by Ian