

# Phoenix Photographic Group

## Newsletter from Meeting of 8<sup>th</sup> October 2018

### **Introduction**

Joe opened the meeting, welcoming 17 members. He explained, the activities planned for the afternoon. A short report with the results of a survey Alan conducted several weeks ago. Then onto the reworking of images selected during last week's Members Pics.

### **News Items**

Introducing to the meeting a revised screen arrangement. The screen has been borrowed from Rugeley Phoenix at Sheepfair. This screen is the model used for presentations during coffee mornings and is roughly a 1/3rd larger. This means the projector can be located more to the centre of the room and we have moved the leaders table to the side of the room by the windows. Thus, keeping any trailing power cables along the edge of the room.

This change is to try and improve and ease reading of text displayed on the screen, when sitting at the back of the hall. With the previous arrangement some people found text illegible.

Consensus around the room thought the new arrangement to be an improvement. We will continue to use the revised arrangement as an experiment until Christmas. Late entry – see end!

### **Activities**

Alan Shaw then took the floor. Showing the images and the results from members in the Perception Survey conducted in August. These took the form of a bar graph against each of the categories listed for each of the 20 images. Every image shown was an award winning picture. Because of the intricate nature of the survey and the results which created a long and deep discussion which ran way longer than planned, I asked Alan for comment. At the end of the discussion it was decided we would run a photo opportunity, similar to the Black and White challenge which Bob Bell organized using 1980's cameras.

The subject would be "Autumn Landscapes". Each photographer would submit 3 images. Once these are available we will select a date to view and compare against the criteria of Alans Survey. More information will be discussed in "News" in the next meeting or so.

Below is Alan's report, including a graph taken from the discussion:

### **Results of Survey into Compositional Elements in Award-winning Photographs**

In early August. Alan conducted a perception survey with 12 PPG Members consisting of 20 Sony Award-winning photos and asked the members to identify (with a tick) which of the 20 elements of composition they could perceive in each picture. Because the survey form has 20 rows and 20 columns, there was a potential for a total of 400 ticks!

Alan entered the results of the survey into a Excel spreadsheet and analysed the results. At our meeting he showed the results of that analysis as an overall summary and then on a picture- by-picture basis.

The initial impression was that there was quite a wide variation in the responses to this survey. For example, the total ticks per sheet ranged from 68 (17%) to 140 (35%) and the number of ticks per picture ranged from 3.2 to 6.9, with an average of 4.7.

The analysis was shown as a bar chart (in pareto fashion) indicating how many people identified which element for each picture (see illustration below). Overall, Viewpoint, Focal Point(s) and Depth of Field came out as the top 3 on average, but scores for individual pictures were sometimes very different to this.

After the bar charts for each of the 20 pictures had been shown, a slide showed 3 questions in order to prompt discussion. These questions were:

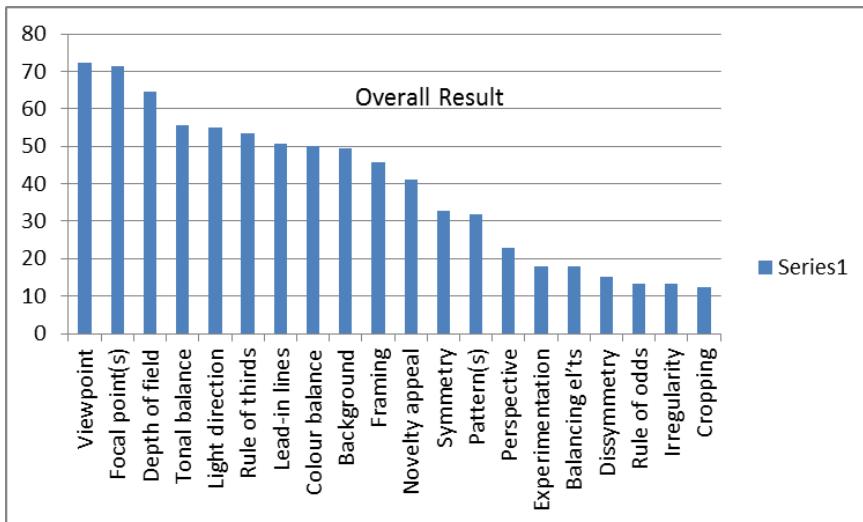
What do these results show us?

Did you learn anything new as a result of this exercise?

Where do we go from here?

The lively discussion that followed was rather unstructured and demonstrated that there was not a common understanding of a number of the elements of composition used in the survey. This was probably because not all the elements had been fully explained before the survey was conducted, leading to a degree of misunderstanding. One suggestion was made that perhaps in future we could use illustrated examples of some of the individual elements of composition so that there could be a clearer and more common understanding in the group. It would seem reasonable to give some consideration to this.

## % of people who scored this element



Joe then finished the meeting by quickly showing some of the pics chosen the previous week at Members Pics. He used GIMP as the chosen photo software.

## Next Meeting

15<sup>th</sup> Oct 2018 at Etching Hill Village Hall. When Joe will be leading you with Stop Frame Animation. You will require Camera, Tripod and remote trigger bits.

## Members Pics

### Topics

Autumn Colours

Holiday Snaps

Transport

Dereliction

City Life

Please send your images to: -

[ianchalstead@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:ianchalstead@yahoo.co.uk)



Car in picture



Car Gone



Line across drivers face



Line gone



Telegraph pole in background, rope and cloth in foreground.



All gone

Last, but not least, an excellent Giveaway Of The Day suggestion from Bob Bell. Sometimes a card gets corrupted, or you delete when you didn't want to ... Recovering Images from Bob:

This might be worth telling PPG members .....

I don't know if it is good, bad or whatever, but the giveawayoftheday today is Green Data Recovery for getting back image files.

Of course, you won't need it until you lose your images, then you will wish you had recovery software.

<https://www.giveawayoftheday.com/>