

Chairman's Blog

October 2019

'Tis the season of mists and mellow fruitfulness – a photographer's dream. All those wonderful rich golds, yellows and browns. And this time of year also gives more scope for night time street photography. Modern cameras are able to handle much higher ISOs – 3,200 or even more – which makes hand held night photography quite possible. I hope you have a productive time with your cameras.

At our recent committee meeting a number of ideas were put forward to attract and retain members. One suggestion was that we should offer new members a 'mentor/s' who could answer questions and be a friendly face at the Club. Another was that we should have 'user groups' for the main brands of cameras so that members know who to ask if they have a technical question or problem. (this could be extended to post processing software if people are interested). We also considered the possibility of having some technical sessions either just before the main Monday meeting, or on another evening in the week, to cover issues like framing, resizing and printing. Finally, the Committee wondered if we should restart the members discussion forum on the website. I will mention these ideas at our next Monday meeting, but in the meantime if you have any views on the above suggestions please let me or one of the committee know.

Turning to another topic which regularly comes up for discussion – judges. I know that not everybody agrees with judges' comments or marks, but I would urge you not to get too hung up about scores. Judging is very subjective and as we know one person's Mona Lisa is another's fish paper. However, I do recognise that at times images may not receive the credit the author believes they deserve! So, this year for the first time we have included an evening when you can present those images that you believe deserve a 'second viewing'. This will be on 6th April, so you will have to bottle up your frustration until then!

Best wishes

Mike Mitchell