



Preparing for Competitions

8th September 2023

www.bmbcc.weebly.com



BMBCC Competitions

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Competition Programme

- 2 Themed competitions planned this season

Definitions for Themed competitions

Engineering (3rd November 2023 Judge John Smith)

Photos containing Engineering images: examples are bridges, roads, switchgear, pylons, transformers, pipework, chimneys, structures, factories, jet engines, wind turbines, printed circuit boards, engineering workshops or engineers at work.

Action (16th February 2024 Judge TBA)

Action photography is about capturing subjects in motion.

It can encompass wildlife and sports photography though you can apply the techniques involved to any number of subjects. Whatever you plan to shoot, the key to action photography is careful planning and a thorough understanding of your subject. Examples are jumping people, animals, waves, high energy sports, birds, flying insects, camera panning with slow shutter speeds, water drops.

See: <https://www.thephotoargus.com/40-awesome-examples-of-action-photography/>



Competition Programme (Print & PDI)

- 6th October 2023 1st Open Print & PDI Judge Dave Custance
- 13th October A4 Print & PDI in-house club competition (judged by members)
- 21st October (Saturday) PAGB Inter-Club Print Championship Westholme School, Blackburn (Prints only) Mold and BMBCC representing North Wales
- 3rd November 2nd Competition Theme ENGINEERING (Judge John Smith)
- 4th November NWPA PDI Challenge at Craig y Don, Llandudno
- 24th November 6 way battle Judge Chris Kay (provisionally booked)
- 19 January 2024 3rd Competition Open Print & PDI Judge Rev Dr Richard Hainsworth



Competition Programme (continued)

- 16 February 4th Competition Theme **ACTION** Judge Andy Polakowski
- 6th March (Wednesday) 2 way battle at Llandudno Club, Judge TBA
- 15th March 5th Competition OPEN Judge TBA
- 5th April Annual Trophy Competition Judge TBA



External competitions / exhibitions

- The PAGB inter club PDI championship is held each July
- Top 2 clubs in North Wales are selected for entry from the NWPA PDI Challenge held 4th November 2023 at Craig y Don, Llandudno (BMBCC came 3rd!)
- GB Trophy for clubs (Open Prints and Nature Prints) opening date 1st September 2023 no pre selection - closing date 7th January 2024 free entry
- The GB Cup for clubs (Open PDI, Nature PDI and Limited eligibility) entry fee 60p per PDI.
- 16th September - 21 October 2023 NWPA Exhibition RCA gallery, Conwy.
- Mold and BMBCC both came near the bottom in the PAGB inter club PDI championship in July this year
- Mold and BMBCC came 40th and 41st out of 41 clubs after the first round (deliberate tactic!)
- In the Grand final Mold came 37th = with 167 points and BMBCC 40th with 162 points out of 41 clubs, Northallerton CC came bottom with 160 points



Using Photoentry

- A cloud based software for managing photo competitions
- <https://compent.photoentry.uk/compent/>
- New members should contact me so I can add you to Photoentry
- All members to be assigned a User ID - (normally your email address)
- Temporary password will be initially assigned by Photoentry and emailed to you
- 38 active users and 1 non paying user (life member). The club has Licenses for 40 users. (13 members have never signed in). Licenses based on number of members not actual users. (licence cost £1.50 per member per annum)
- Your membership No. required on sign up.



Using Photoentry

- All competition links for the 2023-24 season will be added to Photoentry by the Competition Secretary
- If you have forgotten or lost your password let me know and I will send you a reset password link
- See the [HELP/Downloads](#) page on the club's website
 - Competition Rules
 - Paul Roberts crib sheet on using PhotoEntry (requires updating for the 2023-24 season as refers to the 2022-23 season)



Using Photoentry

- If you try and upload an image which doesn't meet the following criteria you will get a warning in Photoshop:
- Wrong colour profile - frequent warnings received due to wrong colour profile used - check your settings in Photoshop, lightroom etc. Colour Space must be sRGB or sRGB IEC61966-2.1 (same thing). Any other colour space (Adobe 1998, ProPhoto, etc) may not project accurately.
- file size is not critical but for external competitions it is usually restricted to 2 MB
- File type must be 8 bit JPEG only not 16 bit GIF, TIFF or RA
- Maximum width 1600 pixels, Maximum Height 1200 pixels
- If you load a portrait image 1200 pixels wide and 1600 pixels high Photoentry will attempt to resize your image to 1200 pixels high!



Reminder of competition rules - Prints

- Print can be any size up to 40 x 50 cm but the mount must be no bigger than 40 x 50 cm (400x500 mm)
- Mount prints securely to their mount board - use of sticky tape (e.g. Rhino Picture Frame Tape) or spray glue must be used carefully so that it cannot adhere to another image.
- Peelable or reusable types of sticky labels on the back of mount boards are best avoided.
- Prints that have exposed sticky tape that may cause damage to other Prints will be excluded from competitions unless made good.
- Please Bear in mind that rules for External competitions can have restrictions on mount size.
- For the PAGB Inter-club print championship, to be held in October this year and which Mold and our club will represent NWPA, the following rules apply:
 - “Each Print may be of any size, but **MUST** be mounted on lightweight board(s) of size 500x400mm”
 - “The mount **MUST** not carry any fixings or other material likely to damage Prints when stacked.”



Competition Rules – New for 2023/24

ALL COMPETITIONS

- EVERY constituent image forming part of an entry must be originated by photographic means by the author who must hold the original copyright of all such constituent parts.
- For the avoidance of doubt, use of images from any other source including, but not limited to, stock images, royalty-free image banks, clipart and AI (Artificial Intelligence) generated imagery is not permitted.
- Use of AI image editing tools should be limited to enhancing the author's own image(s) and should not introduce any new elements into the image(s).



Prints

- When viewed from the back identification labels should be placed as close as possible to top right corner of mounted prints
- For club competitions the following information is required:
- Sequence number assigned by Photoentry when you upload the Print PDI.
- Title (It is highly desirable, and is best practice, for the Photographer to give each Image a unique title - more important for external competitions)
- Date of competition

PAGB Inter-Club Print Championship Westholme School, Blackburn (Prints only)



- 1st Round (21 October 2023) - 12 prints at least 5 monochrome prints and 5 colour prints by at least 5 different members
- No more than 3 prints by each member
- Maximum 3 nature prints
- I will be asking members to bring in Prints that have been shortlisted.
- Following round 1 scores totalled. Top 8 and equal clubs may compete in Final (15 prints) - our tactic is to keep our best prints for the Plate.
- The Plate - 8 prints no more than 4 prints may be re-used from Round 1. At least 3 monochrome, at least 3 colour. Max 2 prints per member no more than 2 Nature prints.



Prints in small Print Box (ex NWPA comp.)

- a.2 Architectural illumination (6205) 17 points M.B (Monochrome)
- a.3 Lindisfarne Castle and boat shed (4817) 17 points P.N
- a.6 OK the front brakes work (7394) 17 points P.N
- a.7 Fly (3348) 17 points P.N
- a.8 Reed warbler (4191) 19 points B.S



Prints required from members

- a.1 May I have this dance (19 points) C.C
- a.4 Porth y Post (17 points) S.C
- a.5 Spirit of Lustentyre (20 points) S.C
- Cleo (J.W)
- Making a splash (J.W)
- The Corn Exchange, Leeds (M.B)

Prints in large print box

- Padarn Bevy under yr Wyddfa (S.R)
- Quick rinse and drip dry (D.W)
- Geometry in motion (M.B) Monochrome
- Man in the mirror (P.N) Monochrome
- Last light at Llanddwyn (P.N) Landscape print Trophy competition Mono
- Last light at Llanddwyn (P.N) Print No 2 Monochrome
- Bird on a frosty branch - No details on back of print B.S
- Kestrel in flight (B.S)



Prints in large print box

- A common blue eating fly (6433) B.S
- Artic tern with Sand Eel B.S
- Honey Possum B.S

Monitor Calibration

IF IT AIN'T BROKE DON'T FIX IT!

"Why are my prints so dark?"

"Why do my PDI's look different on the club's projector?"

- Monitor calibration is the first step in a colour managed workflow
- Club members can borrow the club's i1 Display Pro calibrator for a week
 - See Committee Member to sign out
 - See the [HELP/Tutorials & Other Resources](#) page on the club's website
 - Club's i1 Display Pro Calibrator (from ~£150)
 - Links to the calibration software to download
 - Printable User Guide
 - 5 ½ min YouTube video
 - PLEASE BRING IT BACK THE FOLLOWING WEEK



Preparing PDI's

- See the [HELP/Downloads](#) page on the club's website
 - Competition Rules
 - Paul's crib sheet on using PhotoEntry
 - Wolverhampton Photographic Society's guide to Preparing Photographs for Projected Digital Image Competitions
 - YouTube videos on preparing PDI's using Lightroom and Photoshop
 - Photoshop and Photoshop Elements resizing actions



Printing

- Print yourself or use an on-line printer
 - See the [HELP/Retailers & Services](#) page on the club's website:
 - Suppliers of printing paper, ink, etc.
 - On-line printing companies
 - Suppliers of mountboard and pre-cut mounts
 - Suppliers of mount cutters
- DIY Printing:
 - A3/A3+/A2 Printer (Canon, Epson): >4 inks, ~£450 - >£1,000
 - Paper from ~£30 for 25 x A3 (Portrait White ~£72 for 25 A3 sheets, £2.88 ea)
 - ~ Cost of A3 inkjet print: £ 2.70 (£1.50 OEM ink + £1.20 paper)
 - + Any test prints

Mounting

- DIY Framing:
 - Allows you to cut the mount to match your image size
 - Mount cutter from ~£70
 - Mountboard: from £16 for 10 x 500 x 400mm
 - Backing Board: From £6 for 10
 - Tapes
 - Total Cost of DIY Mounted A3 print
 - At least £5.00 (£1.50 ink + £1.20 paper, + £1.60 Mountboard + £0.60 Backing board)
- Pre-Cut Mounts
 - From ~£2.50 each
 - + Backing board and Tapes