

PHOTOGRAPHIC ADVICE FROM THE PROFESSIONAL

Ever have that “I couldn’t do that” feeling, such as watching Wimbledon and wanting to burn your tennis racket? On Tuesday 3 March a gathering of members, mainly from our photographic groups, attended a presentation by Glyn Bareham, LRPS, CPAGB, which showed us what high standards look like but made them accessible. Glyn has visited us before as a competition judge, but this time he shared his own photographs with us. He set out to show how we **can** all get better results by looking carefully at what we want to capture, looking for certain features, and controlling our cameras instead of letting them control us.

Glyn showed us a range of his photographs, many of which had won praise and/or awards, and told us the story behind them and what techniques or features they displayed. Too much to mention in detail, but some points stood out for this observer at least and feature in the photographs shown below.

Grabbing the moment – “Brighton Pier”:



Catching the natural lightscape – “And the rain came down...”:



“Day’s end at Sandymouth Bay”:



Lines, diagonals, patterns –

“Storm lighting over the Needles”:



“A new dawn, a new day”:



Club and stage shots, using b/w and fast “grainy” effect: *“Bo Diddly 2”*:



Colour impact in portraits – *“And the eyes have it!”*:



Using b/w for strong landscapes - “Bosham”:



In the workshop afterwards, Glyn gave us some more guidance for better pictures:

- **Composition:** have an obvious Centre of Interest. Remember the Rule of Thirds: divide the image into nine (3 x 3) boxes and place the Col at one of the 4 intersection points. Look for a Lead Line to take the eye into the image. In landscapes, don't put the horizon in the middle: put it higher or lower depending on whether the land or sky is more interesting. Odd numbers (of people or objects) are more satisfying to the eye than even. Allow space for moving objects (cars, trains, walkers) to “move into”.
- **Colour:** don't have red or white patches at the edge of pictures: those colours catch the eye. Use black and white to emphasise strong shapes – colour can sometimes distract.
- **Aperture settings** are the key to getting shallow or deep depth of field.
- **Learn what you can adjust** on your camera: even simple ones allow for different photo styles.
- **Changing the ISO setting** helps you to get better shots in different lighting.

- AND – look at the **White Balance** settings available. If you can adjust it, set it on Cloudy and leave it there! That's what Glyn does, and it works for him...

Literally, an eye-opening session. Our thanks go to Glyn for his presentation and to Barbara Coleyshaw for organizing it.

Jeff Lee

Note: Glyn is a Licentiate of the Royal Photographic Society; Credit, Photographic Alliance of Great Britain. You can see more of his work at http://www.invictacameraclubmaidstone.co.uk/gallery_432999.html

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