

WINCHESTER PHOTOGRAPHIC SOCIETY

Report on Panels Group for 2012 AGM

The Panels Group is now in its 5th year and continues to hold enthusiastic meetings every two months. We have had 7 meetings since the last AGM with 41 members on the list and an average of 17 attending each meeting. The format of evenings usually begins with presentation of panels produced on a challenge topic or other new work, followed by reports on interesting photographic news and exhibitions, looking at other photographic items such as photo books, cards and calendars, and presentation of prospective distinction panels for discussion and comment.

As many as 12 or 13 people will present work which means we sometimes see as many as 100 new pictures during the evening. It is always interesting to see how imaginative and different the interpretations are and the thought processes behind creating the pictures. The challenge topics covered have been: Abstract, Sound, Black and White and Unplace. The object of the last unusual title, Unplace, was to take pictures in an environment or of a subject which was outside your normal photographic comfort zone.

The challenges are not competitions but a forum for producing exactly what you want as a panel of pictures - there are no rules and no judging. Working with a panel of pictures as opposed to one off competition pictures is quite different and very rewarding. It gives an opportunity for you to be as imaginative and creative as you like.

Our Focus on Panels group presentation has now become part of the club's annual programme and seventeen people presented their work on Tuesday 1st November 2011. A programme was produced giving details of each photographer and the work they were showing. The topics covered included A Day at the Races, Auschwitz, Seeing is Believing, Summer Flowers, Inspiring Landscapes, Gaudy Gaudi, Birds and Abstract Revolution.

We meet at Littleton Millennium Hall and the next meeting is on **Wednesday 11th July 2012** at 7.30 pm. The challenge is "Book Titles". We will begin planning our next presentation to the Club which is in next season's programme for Tuesday 6th November 2012.

All members of the Society are welcome to attend. You do not have to participate in the challenges to come to the meetings but we do like you to bring along some new work.

My thanks to those who help in setting up the meetings and the organisation of the presentation evening and particularly to all those who come along for their continuing inspiration and enthusiasm.

Anne Ruffell ARPS DPAGB
Organiser, Panels Group.

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