

# The Newsletter

Insight, Primesite, Foresight

Issue #3



## Editorial – September 2010:

The new season 2010 – 2011 is nearly here. A new programme is in place. The committee have been listening to the wishes of the membership. One key thing we were asked for is for more activities involving holding a camera. **In fact the first club evening this year will involve a practical session. So bring your cameras along everyone.** There will be a short introduction to the essential features of a camera then we'll have a go.

We are also thinking of having a short 'clinic' before each club meeting. If you think you might come along to that perhaps you can let me know and tell me what sort of things you might be interested in doing. We were thinking of a short 15 to 20 minute session. Any takers? Any helpers? Contact me.

Damon - MCC Secretary

Email the MCC Secretary  
[mccsec@marlowcc.org](mailto:mccsec@marlowcc.org)



**Buy items on Amazon via the club website.** The Amazon search box (shown above) is on the website home page. Enter the search you want and you go to Amazon. After that the club gets a small return for every purchase you make. It costs you nothing. It helps the club to raise funds.

## Has the Summer been productive?

It would be nice to feel that I returned from holiday with a large amount of disc space filled with images. Drat - disappointed by the weather again.

Some of my shots were good. However I feel my hit rate was quite low this year. Weather aside, there was a particularly busy time at work and only a short holiday too... These are not excuses. Things seem to creep up on you as soon as you want to do some photography.

How many shots should you take in a year? Is the number of shots you make related to how many good ones you get? What is a good hit rate?

I don't have any answers. These questions just seemed to be worthy of consideration. My estimate on my total shots for last year was a surprise. I keep most of my shots, discarding only the real no-hopers. As I have developed my 'eye' some shots are worth revisiting, re-editing or proved better than I thought when I took them. Hind-sight is a wonderful thing. After investigating, not including ten or so discards each shoot, I kept more than 13,000 photos from last year. Sadly, only a tiny proportion were of competition standard.

A little Internet research showed, unsurprisingly, a whole range of annual totals claimed per year. A little digging showed that keen amateurs, enthusiasts and club members tended to take between 9,000 and 20,000 shots a year. Quite a range, but it shows I am not so different to other keen photographers.

It would be interesting to get an idea of how many pictures our club members take each year. Just mail me a total number. I will do the rest. No names will be published. I promise... Damon.

## The Club Website

<http://www.marlowcc.org/>

The programme for the new season is posted on the website. Look around and see what you think. Let me have any suggestions you might have.

See the "What's New" page too. That will help you keep up to date.

The site is packed with information and explanations. For example you can find our competition rules on the site. That is sure to be useful information. I notice that some new pictures are up on the front page too. Is one of your shots there?



Oh yes, techno-fans! There is a new web function gone live. A blog... You can get to it from the home page of the site. Our new season blog will be released shortly before the first club night this season. Watch this space (well, that space actually).

### Cycle Ride – By Steven Galvin

I am taking part in the London to Windsor Cycle Ride this Sunday (5<sup>th</sup> Sept.). The aim is to raise as much money as possible for the British Heart Foundation. They are a very important and worthy charity. Their work helps to overcome congenital heart disease; improving heart health and general research into heart and circulation health and treatments.

### Some statistics:

- 1 person dies from heart disease **every 3 minutes** in the UK.
- 32% of men & 28% of women **die prematurely** of heart disease.
- **2.6 million people** in the UK are living with heart disease.

Many people have the pre-condition for heart problems. Symptoms often go

undetected until it is too late. Sufferers do not realise that they are living dangerously.

**Recently, while hosting a quiz night at my children's school, a parent suffered a massive heart attack right in front of me.** CPR was given immediately. Paramedics rushed to his aid and gave electric shock therapy. Sadly all efforts were to no avail.

Donating through Justgiving is quick, easy and totally secure. It's also the most efficient way to sponsor me. The British Heart Foundation gets your money faster and, if you're a UK taxpayer, Justgiving makes sure 25% in Gift Aid, plus a 3% supplement, are added to your donation.

Please sponsor me now! Please visit:

<http://original.justgiving.com/stevengalvin>

More information about heart health:

<http://www.bhf.org.uk/>

**Editor:** Get out and do more photography. Exercise and enjoyment go hand-in-hand with good heart health.

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### Improving your photography...

From Roger Glanville

### Bracknell & Wokingham College Exhibition

The college has a City & Guilds photography exhibition from September 7th to 9th 1000-1600, 10th 1000-1300 & 11th 1000-1400 at The Sports Hall, Church Road. Bracknell RG12 1DJ.

Go to: [http://www.bracknell.ac.uk/adults\\_-\\_leisure/student\\_showcase/cg\\_photography\\_show.aspx](http://www.bracknell.ac.uk/adults_-_leisure/student_showcase/cg_photography_show.aspx)

### Bracknell & Wokingham College Photography Courses

The college runs many City & Guilds photography courses, together with short leisure courses for adults.

Tel: 0118 984 7600 for information or go to [http://www.bracknell.ac.uk/system\\_pages/research.aspx?terms=photography](http://www.bracknell.ac.uk/system_pages/research.aspx?terms=photography)

Roger Glanville (01628 482164) has received half a dozen booklets and application forms. Please call if you would like to pick one up.

## **ElectricLandscape: digital photography courses**

Rod Bird, a regular speaker and judge at the club, has some vacancies on the following courses in Maidenhead:

- 18 Sept "Get the most from your camera" @ £95 for recent purchasers of an SLR or good compact
- 30 Sept - 3 Oct "Get the most from photography" @ £295 covering composition, camera control, image organisation, editing, photo-quality printing and mounting.

For details call 01628 627015 or go to:

<http://www.electriclandscape.com/>

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## **An Invitation from the RPS**

You are invited to hear the speaker Mike McNamee (BSc FRPS FBPPA) speaking on:

**"What makes a winner? The Devil Is In The Detail: Techniques for preparing images that win."**

The presentation will be at the next meeting of Royal Photographic Society 'Digital Imaging Group' (Thames Valley branch). The date of the event is 26/09/2010.

It sounds useful for keen competition players. Find out more about the event at:

<http://www.rpsdig-thamesvalley.org.uk/Pages/programme.html>

You can also book in advance from here:

<http://www.rpsdig-thamesvalley.org.uk/Pages/booking.html>

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## **Another RPS event coming up...**

How would you like to be a VIP representing the club? The RPS has offered us the chance to send one representative to the Presidents formal opening of:

**The Art of Photography: From Plate Camera to Computer - Riverhouse Barn Exhibition from 6<sup>th</sup> – 24<sup>th</sup> of October.**

You will be a guest of the President at the Formal Opening of the Exhibition.

If you want to represent the club - take up this offer. Mail me and I will send full details.

The exhibition is open to anyone. It sounds interesting and **it would be quite**

**instructive for those who take an interest in the history and techniques of by-gone and modern day photography.**

More information about the exhibition can be found here:

<http://www.rps.org/events/view/1653>

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## **And Finally...**

### **... a good website.**

The competition season is upon us. Looking at some other club sites can be instructive – especially since they all publish their best photos so you can see the standard of work. This month the 'good' website is actually our own links page. There you will see CACC Websites (Chiltern Association of Camera Clubs). Go to: <http://www.marlowcc.org/otherlinks.php>

### **... Contributions?**

There were not many contributions for this

edition of the newsletter. Did you all forget? Many thanks go out to those who did send me something to publish.



### **... a joke.**

My friend does lots of portraits of models; sometimes they're in bikinis or lingerie. I asked if he ever shot one nude. He said, "No, the studio floor gets cold, so I usually leave my socks on."

### **... a short joke.**

Be happy sing "the photographer's song" – "Some day my prints will come....."

### **... a great event.**

For lots of photo opportunities go to "The Mayor's Thames Festival". It's a spectacular celebration of London and its river. An exciting mix of arts, spectacle and entertainment, all focused around the River Thames, the festival is a key highlight in London's cultural life. Date: **Sat 11 – Sun 12 September 2010.** For full details go to:

<http://www.thamesfestival.org/festival/about>

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