

The Newsletter

Insight, Primesite, Foresight

Issue #15



Editorial - October 2011

Always thought October to be the month when autumn really begins, with the start of cooler weather and evenings drawing in. Well as I sit down at my secretaries desk to start this Newsletter, we are basking in a mini heat wave, temperatures reaching 27/29c despite the gorgeous weather, I find myself still cutting the lawns on the secretaries estate, whilst clearing up the leaves that are rapidly falling.

Having lived in the area for forty four years, I consider myself so lucky to live in a part of Buckinghamshire that is so beautiful, with stunning house views across the valley, autumn tints appearing in the surrounding woodlands, whilst in another direction rolling unspoilt farmland, all seems just perfect, now where's that camera to capture the moment.

In complete contrast just three weeks later, school half term gave the opportunity to meet up with my younger son and family. St Ives Cornwall, was the chosen short break destination, an area I have not visited for over forty five years (must really try to get out more). From what I remember, it was as beautiful as ever. Certainly it has kept its magical quaint Cornish charm. Despite such narrow streets and limited available parking, it seems to cope remarkably well with today's high volume influx of visitors and traffic.

Another thing that has not changed is our unpredictable weather. In contrast to the early October mini-heat wave it's turned cold, windy and wet. Some parts of Cornwall had flash flooding, temperatures, so they say, back to seasonal average of 16/19°C. The chilly winds certainly made it feel a lot colder. Well, as always looking on the bright side, if we were unable to complain about the British weather, what would we talk or write about.



Cornish Views...



As I covered in the September Newsletter, issue 14, Feathers and Fur Birds of Prey photo shoot, at Ladds Garden Centre a local venue just a short way along the A4, between Maidenhead and Reading.

For members that were unable to make to this great shoot just see below the kind of photographic action you missed, I bet you are kicking yourselves now. Not to worry there will be other future outside photo shoot events the club will be organising. I recommend you always keep an eye on the club Forum site.



Workshop practical evenings just seem to get better and better, Damon and the MCC team set about delivering the first of a number of planned such evenings for this season. Commencing with theory and practicalities of cropping, merely understanding the basics of cropping your photograph, using it as a feature and compositional tool beyond the normal photo cropping as a square or rectangular. Moving onto Lightroom and exposure, RAW file and jpg creation which all occur in camera and how they affect the file content.

Damon has written a comprehensive report of the evening programme delivered, which I would thoroughly recommend an early visit to the MCC Blog site.

John Newth MCC Secretary

Email the MCC Secretary
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Out and About

MCC is busily organising its photographic participation in this years, Veterans Lunch 12th November, immediately followed by Remembrance Day parade on Sunday 13th, full details will be published in the November Newsletter.

Naturally we will be asking MCC members for their camera support to cover both events.

Note Book Corner

Well-publicised cost saving ideas, abbreviated extracts taken from a recent Practical Photography Magazine. Photo DIY Supplement.

Bed Sheet a quick and easy way to create a giant soft box perfect for portraits.

Baking Paper Any opaque surface could be used to diffuse light, some have a more pleasing effect than others. Baking paper and tracing paper create a soft diffuse glow that gives a lovely end result.

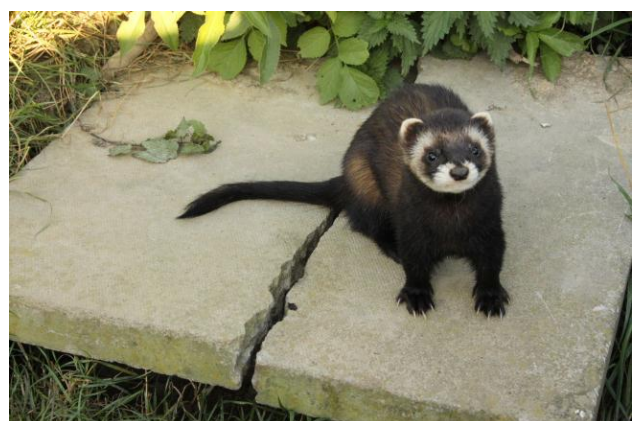
Bubble Wrap can be used as an effective diffuser for example using window light; the use of bubble wrap softens the rays.

White -T- shirt makes an excellent make do reflector to bounce backlight.

Outside MCC Events Calendar

Simply a wonderful photographic day spent at The British Wildlife Centre Newchapel, Lingfield, Surrey. A wildlife sanctuary to so many animals that are native to the UK. Perhaps our own species are often overlooked in search of the exotic. Place this venue on your must visit calendar. How often do you get the chance to photograph an Otter, Polecat, Badger, Fox, Red Squirrel, they and many more live at, The British Wildlife Centre, just waiting for you to take that special photo.

Certainly another photo shoot day to be remembered, thanks to Dick Fielding who organised this for MCC members.



Have you heard this one?

When Jack London had his portrait made by the noted San Francisco photographer Arnold Genthe, London began the encounter with effusive praise for the photographic art of his friend and fellow bohemian, Genthe, "you must have a wonderful camera it must be the best camera in the world. You must show me your camera" Genthe then used his standard studio camera to make what has since become a classic picture of Jack London. When the sitting was finished Genthe could not contain himself "I have read your books, Jack and I think they are important works of art. You must have a wonderful typewriter"

If you saw a man drowning and you could either save him or photograph the event, what type of film would you use?

Above jokes taken from Tag Photography "Joke" Quotes on PhotoQuotes.com

...A quote

Photographers are a willing participant in the universality that is art.

A. Nother Smartguy

...and a photography funny

Taken from Cuizine.com



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