



# Southern Focus

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

The official organ of the Southern photographic Federation.  
Published four times yearly, February, May, September and December.

May 2009

## President's Piece

I cannot believe that I am just coming to the end of my first year as President, it has passed by very quickly and I must say I have enjoyed myself. It has been a challenging year with many obstacles to overcome and changes to bring about.

The major change being the introduction of digital imaging into the league and the exhibition. This coming year will be a learning curve for us all and I hope clubs will be able to work together to ensure the smooth running of the league.

I also urge judges to be patient with the clubs they are visiting if things do not run as smoothly as they should. The main thing is for clubs to ensure they talk with each other early enough to overcome any problems before the judging night. It would be re-

ally great if more members could support their clubs away rounds as well, I always feel sorry for the visiting clubs when is all they have in attendance, is the competition secretary and perhaps one other, after all this competition is run for all members to enjoy, not just a selected few. It is by seeing many images on a regular basis in competitions and exhibitions that we get ideas and enthusiasm for our own photography and learn to improve.

Can I remind the programme secretaries when setting out their new programmes for 2010 to remember to try and book the new judges we enlisted last November, also don't forget to use the preliminary judges as the more judging they do, the more likely they are to go for an assessment to upgrade to panel B at our next judging seminar. These people are enthusiastic to come to your club and share their knowledge and experience.

Another plea to the programme secretaries, when booking judges for a league round, please inform them it is a league match and ask first if they already have any bookings within your region.

If you are already a panel B judge and want to upgrade, remember to keep a note of the bookings you have had, as it will be asked for when you apply to upgrade to panel A.

We hope that the next judging assessment will again en-



courage high numbers to people to come forward. If you are thinking that you might like to be assessed as a judge then please log your interest with our secretary so we can make a decision on when to hold the next judging seminar.

In the meantime, keep taking pictures, remember it's good for your health to be out walking come rain or shine and apparently there are good pictures to be had in the rain – I must try it sometime.

Lynn Lambeth.

## FOR SALE

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### RAMBLING THOUGHTS....

I was thinking that women should put pictures of missing husbands on beer cans!

I thought about making a movie for folks my age and call it "Pumping Rust."

You know when people see a cat's litter box, they always say, "Oh, have you got a cat?" Just once I wanted to say, "No, it's for company!"

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## Editor's Notes

As I sit at the computer compiling this newsletter for the May meeting, on this sunny Bank Holiday Monday, I am wondering why I am not out getting some fresh air and of course enjoying taking a few photographs. It is then that I realise that as usual we have the problem of enticing volunteers to the SPF Council.

Every Club in the region knows that posts come up for renewal each May and every Club is reminded of this, but do we get volunteers come forward, NO! Though it has to be said that in recent weeks, Council have been able to co-opt Les Lloyd onto the Council to help in updating the website and also take on the League Competitions. On a personal note, I would like to thank Les for relieving me of looking after the website, as my other commitments (work etc.) have been taking up so much of my time.

It could be that Club members are not informed that Council are looking for people to take on posts (shame on you), but it is often mooted in the

newsletter and you do not have to wait until the AGM to express an interest, just contact the President or the Secretary and let them know that at some stage in the future you would be willing to join the Council. The Council are not getting any younger and will always be looking for new blood. So do your bit for the Federation.

As you hopefully have noticed, Les Lloyd has been trying out a new web layout. He has hopes that by the time that you read this it will be live. It certainly has a different look about it and hopefully will be easy enough for all to navigate through. A lot of the archived material will still be there - Newsletters, Roll of Honour, Quarterly Minutes etc. - but there will be a whole lot more. The front page will include adverts from our sponsors and some of these may also appear on specific pages. Upcoming events will also appear on the front page as will the Diary. Les will take any constructive criticisms should anything not be to your liking, though it should be emphasized that not every idea can be incorporated.

If you have something coming up within your Club that

you would like others to know of, let him know and he will add that to the page also.

Now for some very advance notice - I will be away in October this year and would appreciate anything for inclusion very soon after the September meeting, so that I can get as much done as possible before I go away. If you have anything which is not time sensitive you can send it to me anytime from now and say that it is for the October issue. That doesn't mean to say I wouldn't need anything for the September issue as items are required for every issue.

What is happening in your Club? - let me have a couple of paragraphs to include in the next issue(s). I can also include photographs and/or cartoons, photographic jokes and letters or questions.

Take care during the summer and collect some great images.

Trevor

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Jennie Pearson. Alton Camera Club. Tel:- 01420 88743

These prices were correct for the March 2009 order

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## THE SOUTHERN PHOTOGRAPHIC FEDERATIONS 3<sup>rd</sup> INTER CLUB DIGITAL PROJECTION CHAMPIONSHIP.

There were just Twenty One clubs participating this year. This being the same as last year, although two clubs had dropped out and two new clubs entered. Even the attendance was very similar, although the weather was quite different from the snow the previous year.

The three Judges all of whom had judged similar Championships and Internationals were surprised that a Federation our size had such a small club entry. Even there own Region with less clubs had a larger input. The 3,3,4, Trophy they thought was very novel and would be suggesting this to there own Region.

The judges scored to the standard that one might expect at the P.A.G.B. Championships, which many thought very harsh. The Winning and Runner up clubs never had a 15 or 14

awarded. The only 15 was by the club which came 19<sup>th</sup>. For the 3,3,4, Trophy there were only two clubs who had 10s in double figures. If you thought that a lot of 10s were awarded then 25% of the entry were awarded them.

The full results have been well published on the Websites so there is no need to reiterate them here. It was a pity that none of the recipients for the P.A.G.B. Medals were in attendance, but were accepted on their behalf by there clubs representative.

I did have a possible Sponsor for future Digital Projection Championships but this has now been withdrawn due to the poor response in clubs participation with no increase seeing the number of clubs we have. They were looking for 50% or more where we can only muster 30% and that is not guaranteed.

Our thanks must go

to Rita Robertson and other members of the Newbury C.C. for the part they played in making the day the success that it was. One must also thank Tristram Reed for compiling the entries and providing help to many with their entry. George Walsh and Steve Kirby for there help on the day.

Let us hope that the Winning Club and Runner up both of whom will represent us in the P.A.G.B. Championships do well.

Ernie Fullbrook. BEM, APAGB.  
D.P.C. Organiser for Council



## HAVANT CAMERA CLUB EXHIBITION

Havant CC is holding its annual exhibition shortly.

This year, for the first time, we are members of the British Photographic Exhibitions (BPE) circuit and are expecting a greater number of entries and an even better exhibition. Anyone who has images accepted will be able to count them towards the BPE Crown Awards – see their website for more details: <http://www.bpe.uk.net/>

I would be grateful if you could remind your members of the closing date for the exhibition which is **Saturday, 23rd May 2009** and encourage them to enter.

An entry form can be downloaded from the website at <http://www.havantcameraclub.co.uk>

# IMPORTANT NEWS ABOUT SPF WEBSITE

Can I please ask you to ensure all members of your club are sent this note.

We are fortunate to have Les Lloyd join the Council and he is already working with Trevor to redesign our website. You will see the front page is very different than previously and we have many good ideas for improving on the old website. Please take time to visit the new site and see how it is developing [www.southernfed.org.uk/newWeb/spf/](http://www.southernfed.org.uk/newWeb/spf/)

I would like to say this is in development stage and you will see if you visit the site regularly that it is being phased with all new information in the new format but with the old information still available in the old format, the new site is being built in parallel to the old site which we hope to switch off in a few weeks time, so I ask you to be patient, but

to let our secretary have your comments on what you see and any content that you would like added, such as a club exhibition or major event.

We will also be having a gallery of images included within the site and will display winners of the League and Championships so you may even see one of your images on the site at some point. We are also considering including a small ads section, if there is enough interest for people wanting to sell equipment.

The new site will be very easy to navigate and we hope you will all use it a lot more to find out the information including; Club Reps meetings, competitions, Newsletter and also what events are happening around our region.

Don't forget all our sponsors are advertising on the website do please use them and let them know where you saw their advert - the money generated from these sponsors directly works to keep your subscriptions lower.

Lynn Lambeth, President.

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## SPF Annual Exhibition at Salisbury

Don't forget the entry forms must be returned to George Walsh by 31st August 2009. This is before most Clubs start the new season.

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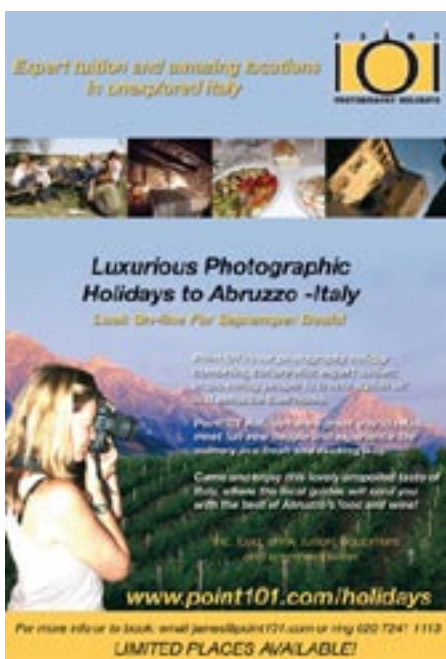
# Resizing in Photoshop & Preparing images for Digital Projection Competitions

Before you open the file you want to resize, open the Colour Settings using Shift + Ctrl + K (or look under the Edit menu). Make sure your RGB Working Space is set to sRGB, as this is the most compatible option for projectors, and will be compatible with your printer too. Make sure your RGB Colour

Management Policy is set to "Convert to Working RGB", with the Profile Mismatch and Profile Missing, Ask When Opening/Pasting boxes are checked.

Now all the files you open will be converted to the sRGB Colour space and will be automatically compatible. (If you prefer to print in a different Colour Space/Gamut, remember to convert the file for digital projection to sRGB to ensure the closest colour match to your original is projected. If the colour space is not set to sRGB, the image colours may be projected differently.)

Once the file is open in Photoshop,



open the Image menu (top left) to bring up the Mode, make sure 8 bits/channel is ticked, and either Greyscale or RGB Colour is selected. If not change the mode to RGB and 8 bits/channel.

Now you need to make sure you have no extra Layers, Channels or Paths in your file. You can do that easily by looking at the relevant palettes. F7 opens the Layers palette, (or use the Window Menu to open it. You will probably have it open in the bottom left of your screen already). If you have more than one layer, or any layer masks, go to the Layer Menu (top left) and Flatten Image, now you should have only one thumbnail visible in the Layers Palette.

In the Paths Palette, make sure you have no Working Paths thumbnails, if you do delete the paths (right-click on the thumbnail, and choose delete path).

Moving across to the Channels Palette, you should have four visible channels in RGB Mode; RGB, Red, Green and Blue. Greyscale mode has only one channel, if you have any excess channels in either mode, delete them.

Nearly there, now you just need to resize the image. Select Image Size from the Image Menu, or Alt + Ctrl + I, before altering the sizes make sure the Constrain Proportions box is selected. Then if you have a Resample Image choice, choose Bicubic or Bicubic Sharper for the best quality reduction. Now you can enter the Pixel Dimensions, for OSPS Competi-

tions the current rules are a maximum of 1024 pixels wide, by 768 pixels high.

Other external competitions will vary, and it is best to supply images in the native resolution of the projector where possible so you could change the pixel dimensions on the original to be larger than the 1024 by 768 format. I strongly recommend that you never scale an image up to make it larger, it will degrade the quality.

If you do not have a larger file to scale down from, just project the image at the size you have it.

DPI has no relevance for digital projectors and will not change the size of the file or the projected image, but 96dpi is an accepted if somewhat irrelevant choice. Click OK, and now you just have to save the file, USE Save As, so that the changes do not alter your original image, and now you can save it under the preferred file naming format for either internal or external club competitions.

Wow, what an effort! But now you will have the image set up correctly to be projected in the optimal format!

Congratulations, and good luck, I hope you get the mark you deserve.

For further advice or One-to-One Photoshop tuition, on your own computer using your images as teaching examples, contact Chris Neill-Griffin 01794 501104 or email: [chris.neillgriffin@gmail.com](mailto:chris.neillgriffin@gmail.com)

## Diary of Events

- May  
8 Council Meeting at Valley Park Community Centre, Chandlers Ford, @ 7.30pm  
21 Summer Representatives Meeting at Littleton Millennium Memorial Hall, @ 7.45pm - Prints for PAGB Inter-Fed Competition should be handed in at this meeting.
- June  
4 Council Meeting at Valley Park Community Centre, Chandlers Ford, @ 7.30pm
- July  
8 Council Meeting at Valley Park Community Centre, Chandlers Ford, @ 7.30pm  
9 Last date for Handbook information  
TBA PAGB Inter Club Slide Championships Warwick
- August  
12 Copy for Southern Focus deadline
- September  
7 Council Meeting at Valley Park Community Centre, Chandlers Ford, @ 7.30pm  
15 Autumn Representatives Meeting at Littleton Millennium Memorial Hall, @ 7.45pm.  
30 PAGB Inter-Fed Projected Image Competition hosted by CACC. A disc of images for consideration must be handed in at the Autumn Reps Meeting.
- October  
7 Council Meeting at Valley Park Community Centre, Chandlers Ford, @ 7.30pm  
12 Copy for Exposure deadline but please send earlier if you can  
24 Inter-Club Print Competition at Connahs Quay
- November  
5 Council Meeting at Valley Park Community Centre, Chandlers Ford, @ 7.30pm  
16 Winter Representatives Meeting at Littleton Millennium Memorial Hall, @ 7.45pm.  
22 SPF Exhibition Judging/Christmas Lunch  
28/29 PAGB Awards for Photographic Merit organised by Scottish Photographic Federation
- December  
4 Council Meeting at Valley Park Community Centre, Chandlers Ford, @ 7.30pm

## The Council 2009/2010

### PRESIDENT:

**Mrs Lynn Lambeth**  
*president@southernfed.org.uk*

### VICE PRESIDENT:

**Ms Terri Neill-Griffin**  
*vice.pres@southernfed.org.uk*

### IMMEDIATE PAST PRESIDENT:

**Ian Bigg LRPS CPAGB**  
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### SECRETARY:

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*treasurer@southernfed.org.uk*

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### PAGB Executive Member:

**Leo Rich ARPS AFIAP DPAGB BPE2**  
*PAGBExec.Member@southernfed.org.uk*

## Non Council Members

### Assistant Exhibition Secretary:

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