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Merthyr Tydfil Camera Club

Affiliated to the Photographic Alliance of Great Britain through the Welsh Photographic Federation

Newsletter

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2023 Annual 3-Way Battle

On Friday 17/11/23 the club travelled to Rhiwbina in Cardiff to compete in our annual 3-way battle with Rhiwbina Camera Club and Barry Camera Club. With Barry being the defending champions and Rhiwbina and us, look to regain some pride after last year's battle it was always going to be a tough contest and that is what it turned out to be. With so many excellent images on show judge Gareth Martin found it difficult to separate the three clubs and awarded the top score of 20 to number of images in both the Prints and PDI sections. After a very good print section we held a slight lead over the other two clubs as the battle moved into the projected digital images section and the end of which it proved to be a very successful evening with the club coming away as overall winners for the first time in many years. Out of 10 prints and 10 PDIs 6 our images scored 20, these can be seen below.

The final score was as follows: -

Merthyr Tydfil CC - 369 points

Barry CC - 351 points

Rhiwbina CC - 340 points

All three club would like to give a big thank you to Gareth for judging the images.

The full scores of the club's images from the battle.

2023 3-Way Battle Marks

Prints				PDIs			
Number	Title	Author	Mark	Number	Title	Author	Mark
1	Tram	Roger Hawkins	18	1	After the Rain	Alan Kirby	18
2	Wing Walker	Roger Hawkins	20	2	Gethin Woodlands	Martin Eaglestone	17
3	1920's Flapper	John Morgan	19	3	Great Created Grebe	Alan Kirby	20
4	Look at me I can fly	John Morgan	20	4	High Kicks	John Morgan	17
5	Puffin with Fish	Alan Kirby	15	5	Kiln	Geoffrey Taylor	18
6	Flower	Alan Kirby	18	6	Night-time Departure	Norman Cahill	17
7	The Homeless and the Harlot	Norman Cahill	20	7	Portrait of Vicky	Norman Cahill	19
8	Peaceful Contemplation	Norman Cahill	19	8	River Danube	Roger Hawkins	16
9	Doorway	Geoffrey Taylor	19	9	The Fixer	John Morgan	19
10	Holocaust Museum Berlin	Geoffrey Taylor	20	10	Winter's Day	Alan Kirby	20
			Prints Total				PDIs Total
			188				181
							Combined Total
							369

The following images that scored 20 in the Annual 3-Way Battle



High Kicks by John Morgan (Print)



Look At Me I Can Fly by John Morgan (Print)



Winter's Day by Alan Kirby (PDI)



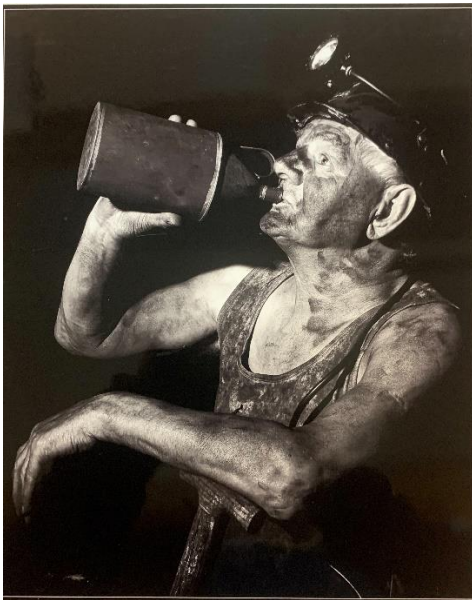
Wing Walker by Roger Hawkins (Print)



Great Crested Grebe by Alan Kirby (PDI)

2023 Stanley Chell Cup

After several years of not entering images into this competition this year saw the club enter four images selected by the members to represent the club, one each from members Norman Cahill, Alan Kirby, Geoffrey Taylor, and John Morgan. The competition run annual by Aberdare Camera Club is a highly prestigious competition in the Welsh photographic calendar and attracts images from camera clubs from over Wales. The judging took place on Saturday 25/11/23 at the Cynon Linc Community Hub in Aberdare and was judged by Peter Weaver LRPS, CPAGB, APAGB of Hanham & Kingswood CC. This year proved no exception with many high-quality images in every field of photography from Natural History to Portraiture with Tenby Camera Club coming out overall winners with 18 points out of a maximum 80 followed by Afan Nedd CC in second place on 77 and Gwynfa CC with 76 in third place. The club finish joint 12th place on 71 points out of the 23 clubs that took part in the competition. The four images representing the club can be seen below: -



Thirsty Work by Norman Cahill Scored 19



Great Crested Grebe by Alan Kirby scored 18.



Cocktails by John Morgan scored 17.

2023 Afan Nedd 11-Way Battle

This competition run annual by Afan Nedd Camera Club in St. Theodore's Church Hall in Port Talbot and attracted entries from camera clubs in both England and Wales. The judging took place on Wednesday 29/11/23 and was cold judged last minute by Peter Weaver LRPS, CPAGB, APAGB of Hanham & Kingswood CC, who had recently judged the Stanley Chell Cup in Aberdare. Once again after several years of not entering images into external competition the club enter five images selected by the members to represent the club, one each from members Norman Cahill, Alan Kirby, Geoffrey Taylor, Roger Hawkins, and John Morgan. It proved to be enjoyable evening listening to Peter critique each of the 55 images from first impressions only, with scores ranging from 16 to 20, it made for a very exciting contest with Bridgend come out on top with an amazing 5 scores of 20 out of 20 giving them an unassailable maximum total of 100 points.

The club was very disappointed to finish the evening in last place with a total of 84 points with the individual images scored below: -

- Admiration by Geoffrey Taylor – 16 Points
- A Portrait of Peter by Norman Cahill – 17 points
- Mairwen – 1920's Flapper by John Morgan – 16 points
- Shauna by Roger Hawkins – 17 points
- Racing by Alan Kirby – 18 points

2023 Annual Competition

Wednesday 13/12/23 seen the club hold an evening of judging for the 2023 Annual Competition, the competition is judged over six categories, Action, Close Up/Tabletop, Landscape, Miscellaneous Pictorial, Natural History, and People with the best print and PDI being selected in each category. The judge was former MTCC member Barry Hill AWPf EFiAP. These are the winners in each category.

Action



Best Print Action - No 6 at Aberdare Races by Norman Cahill



Best PDI Action - Tackled by Norman Cahill

Close Up/Tabletop



Best Print Close Up/Tabletop - Spitfire by Roger Hawkins

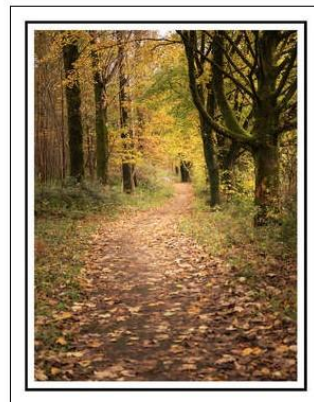


Best PDI Close UP/Tabletop – Chrysanthemum by Norman Cahill

Landscape



Best Print Landscape – Lonely Photographer by Alan Kirby



Best PDI Landscape – Autumnal Path by John Morgan

Misc Pictorial

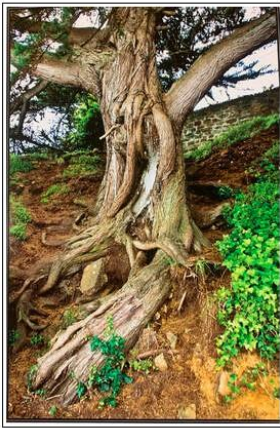


Best Print Misc. Pict – Somewhere Over Crickhowell
by Martin Eaglestone



Best PDI Misc. Pict – Fireworks by Alan Kirby

Natural History



Best Print Nat. History – Twisted Tree by Norman Cahill



Best PDI Nat. History – Great Crested Grebe by Alan Kirby

People



Best Print People – Pride By Martin Eaglestone



Best PDI People – Halloween Bride by John Morgan

Important News

Due to the decreasing numbers in the club membership and the effect this has on the club's financial position, the members has unfortunately decided to revert to holding Club evening fortnightly commencing on the 10 January 2024 when we return from our Christmas break. The club will be looking for ways to increase our revenue in the new year when there is several funding possibilities available during January.

Merthyr Tydfil Camera Club
would like to wish everyone a very

Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year