

Ludshott Photographic Club.

16th March 2020. Club PDI No.3. Entry Class. Judge: Royston Williamson

A faithful friend by Chris Ray. **8.5**

I am a great fan of dogs, after all I have two. This is a lovely shot and I appreciate how you have caught that eye with its catchlight. Such doleful eyes. Colour is good, background nicely out of focus. Maybe a little lightening with either the Dodge control or Shadows would lighten up the hound's darker left eye.

Bad hair day by Sally Williamson **8**

Wow! This image certainly does have impact doesn't it. Background is nicely soft. The left side of the image is well lit and sharp, especially and importantly the eye. I'm not worried about the softness of the bird's neck. I would have preferred more light on the right-hand side though.

Baptismal Font by Christine Smith **7.5**

Yes, the subject is sharp and the high contrast between the font and the black background is a good idea as is the colour differential between the font and its "lid". There are three slightly burnt-out areas on the face of the font which would benefit from being toned down – if you shot in RAW, look at the highlights slider.

Buff-tail on Purpletop by Lesley Coombes **7.5**

These shots are a good idea and extremely rewarding when they are successful. I prefer a log lens and a fast shutter on summer days. It's a good effort but I would have taken many, many shots hoping to capture the bee when it turned around to face you and if it flew off then patience would give another chance.

Cardiff Bay 2 by Ann Wright **7.5**

I can certainly see why you photographed this tower. The reflection is attractive and the sun peeking around its edge give interest and is not too bright. I guess that it wasn't possible to move around for a better angle, but it is a little bit of a shame that the leaves interfere with the top of the tower.

Caught in the fog by Sally Williamson **8**

Goodness! At first glance I thought this was a lifeboat, but it is a much larger ship and its angle shows the difficulty it is having in a rough sea. I like the spray at the foot of the image, but I would suggest losing about half of the depth of sky which is bright and featureless.

Chipmunk Mealtime by Jack Crook **8**

My feeling here is that the chipmunk blends in too well with its background, a quirk of nature's camouflage working well. Maybe try using a subtle bit of the Dodge tool and Clarity on the Chipmunk's body.

Daydreaming by Jonathan Plummer **Held back and then 10**

A cracking image. I do like to see photographers who are not afraid to get into a close crop. The eyes are nice and sharp and the baby's expression and hands are great. The monotone treatment works well. Well Done!

Highest Note by Jonathan Plummer **Held back and then 9**

Good action shot and lit well. You have captured the situation well with the lighting reflecting the effort the singer is putting in bringing on perspiration. Obviously, a hand-held shot so you have done well to produce a sharp photo in challenging lighting.

It's cold out here by Ann Wright **Held back and then 9**

Luckily, the bird is lined up all in the same plane which makes for a really good sharp photo. Doesn't the bird's colouring work well against the background! There are those that might say that the background is too busy but maybe you could crop down from the top to remove most if not all of the branch.

Ready for Take Off by Lesley Coombes **7**

The thing about digital photography is that taking shots is completely free and you can cheat in Photoshop or similar afterwards. The background and the flower are really good but sadly the bee is way too dark which is a shame. Probably it will not benefit from lightening I'm afraid.

Red Arrows by Jack Crook **Held back and then 10**

Brilliant capture with your 300mm lens! A good sense of composition too as whilst it was important to get the jets in the frame, you needed to include enough of the smokes in order to describe the action. Lucky with the dull sky to show off the colours. The jet on the left being brighter gives a good lead-in to the others and well done for getting separation between the jets at the speed they are going.

Rest a while by Chris Ray **7.5**

Perfectly positioned in the frame and the background is nicely out of focus with good colour. However, parts of the flower are a little burnt out. The butterfly itself has good colours but again the white parts are a little too bright.

Skellwith Falls by Barry Andrew **8.5**

A good angle which pleases my eye to travel up the curve of the falls to the top. I'm pleased that you have not used a slow shutter or filter as sometimes it is easy to overdo it and get water looking like cream. Maybe the water is a little too bright half-way down.

Slipper Orchid by Barry Andrew **Held back and then 9.5**

Lovely image. Good colours and exposure. Its one of those images where it is difficult to know whether to zoom out to include the petals and leaves on the right or to be brave and not worry about it. I think you made the right choice.

Squirrel by Stuart Frohmaier **Held back and then 9.5**

Its lovely in almost every aspect. Personally, I would crop in a bit and then mover the squirrel to the right a little bit keeping the fork in the branch inside the frame.

These Boots are made for walking by Christine Smith **8.5**

Certainly, different and amusing and I like the letterbox crop and the placement either side of the puddle.

Watching the Watcher by Stuart Frohmaier **Held back and then 10**

There are many things to appreciate in this image. The girl is placed perfectly in the frame and she is sharp. Look at that man in the doorway looking at her disdainfully from the darkness. Is it because she is smoking? The mono treatment is brilliant and the tones are excellent