

Dear Member,

Here is a report of our meeting held on Monday 25 October 2021.

It has two parts, the Content of the Meeting and Technical details.

The content of the meeting

Ten members attended the meeting, three were by Zoom, and four had sent apologies.

The main presentation was "Photos for Gifts for Christmas and other occasions" by Brian Hillier

This showed a variety of photographic gifts offered by web-sites, mainly Jessops and the gifts that we could make ourselves, such as greeting cards, framed prints and slip-in photo albums. Members commented that when ordering gifts from web-sites to allow at least two weeks for delivery.

Links to photo gift web-sites

- General leads (*using Duckduckgo search engine*)
<https://duckduckgo.com/?t=ffab&q=%22My+photo+Book%22&ia=web>
- Snapfish <https://www.snapfish.co.uk/photo-books#size>
- Loxley Colour (reputedly very high quality printers) <https://www.loxleycolour.com/>
- Jessops Photo <https://photo.jessops.com/product-category/personalised-gifts/>
- Bonusprint <https://www.bonusprint.co.uk/>
- Photobox (Photo Gifts) <https://www.photobox.co.uk/shop/photo-gifts> - also the latest "special offer" email, and that will be updated after this one expires!

Andrew introduced the competition winners based on the number of points cast by members.

The standard of entries was very high, and many found it difficult to choose their favourites.

The competition winners for "Autumn Colours", and sent to U3A for monthly slide-show;

1. Sheffield Park - Mick Madigan

Beautiful Autumn Colours

2. Hedgerow Blackberries - Andrew Longhurst

Very clear sense of Autumn

3. Silver Birch on Upper Loch Torridon - John Clark

Lovely view, very much like an artistic painting

4. Trees on Fire - Susan Madigan

Again, beautiful Autumn colours

The competition winners for "Shot of the Month", and sent to U3A for monthly slide-show;

1. Grey Heron at Bushy Park - Ian Brown

Striking detail in the Heron's eye

2. Cranefly on Stoke Common - John Clark

Excellent detail of it's head with a very good background

3. Leaf Cover Mad Bess Wood - Malcolm Barwick

A classic prize-winning photograph, stream was a good lead-in with powerful repetition of trees

4. River Ex at Topsham - Andrew Longhurst

A lovely river scene with a vintage motor river vessel

Competition Voting was via the Spread-sheet.

Technical details

The meeting had a good integration of Audience and Zoomers. The Presenter could see their presentation on the screen with the Zoomers on the side of their laptop screen.

The Zoomers could see the presentation during which they were able to make comments which were heard by the audience, though only when people spoke clearly and not at the same time.

Though there were a couple of brief periods for setting up the presentation and Share, after which the presentations went well.

Details to be followed up by Committee

Two laptops are useful, though at the meeting only one was able to maintain its Internet connection.

More practice required with Slide presentation control buttons, sharing which of the two screens and Zoomers to select the laptop zoom options required to see presentation.

The committee will be discussing these topics and will keep you informed.

Some Reminders

1. There is NO meeting in December
2. The next committee meeting will be on 10 January 2022 3pm
3. Our next Photo Group meeting will be on 24 January 2022

4. Our next presentation will be "How to improve our photos" by John Clark
5. Our next competition topic will be "Festive Scenes", and "Shot of the Month"

Your photo entries can be submitted from NOW until Midnight Sunday 16 January 2022

The links (only provided to the members) to the Google Photo Albums are

Competition topic "Festive Scenes"

Competition " Shot of the Month"

Kind regards,
Brian