

1. Our Meeting

At our 25 September meeting there were 15 members in the hall , 3 on Zoom and 6 had sent their apologies.

2. At the end of this report are links to our previous presentations and competitions.**3. We welcomed Martin Butcher**, a new member who joined our group on Zoom.**4. Backgrounds and Composition was the presentation by Len Fenton**

Len presented us with a range of Backgrounds and Compositions, with examples, that we should consider when either taking or editing our images, such as;

Backgrounds;

- Distractions - Bright spots or lighted areas
- Protrusions - Trees coming out of people's heads
- Effect of Lens - Focal length, aperture, focus and framing
- Symmetry - Often gives a pleasing result
- Unwanted - Image spoilt with one or other person in the background
- Leading lines - Help to conduct eye into the image
- No direction of eye - The eye cannot concentrate on the main subject
- Check Background - Reposition camera or subject to improve image
- Depth of field - is greater with shorter focal length lens
- How to make subject stand out -
 - Subject is sharp and within depth of field
 - Blur the background perhaps with software, but do not overdo it.
 - Fill the frame

Composition

- Explanation of "Thirds, Golden Circle, Golden Triangle, Boken and paper sizes"
- With many funny examples of forced perspective, eg. Hands holding the "London Eye", "Propping up the Leaning tower of Pisa", Holding small people
Search the Internet with "Forced perspective photos" for more examples.

We are perhaps fortunate that our images do not contain all the errors that one should try to avoid.

It was an excellent and very interesting presentation by Len. Thank you Len.

5. The Chesham Photo-shoot

Chesham was an excellent place for a photo-shoot. There were old village buildings dating from the 1700's, and a variety of shops that had been built since then. Also, there were interesting and amusing street scenes.

Eleven members were able to go to Chesham, though not all on the same day.

On 30 August six of the eleven met in Chesham, took photographs and then enjoyed a convivial lunch in the George and Dragon.

6. Competition Results - "Chesham Photo Shoot" - 28 entries

Some comments on the entries

- **Down the Alley** - had an air of mystery, one wanted to explore the image
- **George and Dragon No 1.** - Lovely bright colours, pleasing crop
- **Bicycle Stand** - Vintage bicycle painted purple and 'joke' about Zone 9
- **Old Chesham No 2** - This image took one back 100 years to earlier times
- **Bury Lane** - Showed the original village nature of Chesham
- **When you C something missing** - Amusing, shop owner may not have seen it.

| U3A Hillingdon Photo Group September 2023 | | | |
|--|--|------------|--------------|
| Photographer | Title - Chesham Photo Shoot | Pos | Total |
| Andrew Longhurst | Down the Alley | 1 | 9 |
| Margaret Dorigan | The George and Dragon No.1 | 2 | 6 |
| Norma Shirley | Bicycle Stand | 3 | 5 |
| Brian Hillier | Boutique Shops | 3 | 5 |
| Malcolm Barwick | Old Chesham No.2 | 3 | 5 |
| Malcolm Barwick | Bury Lane | 4 | 4 |
| Denise Buckingham | When you C something missing | 4 | 4 |
| Norma Shirley | Artists Hub | 5 | 3 |
| Ian Brown | Clock Tower 2 | 5 | 3 |
| Margaret Dorigan | Old Chesham No.1 | 5 | 3 |
| Ian Brown | St Mary's Church 1 | 5 | 3 |
| Sue Finch | Chesham Old Soldier | 6 | 2 |
| Steve Binysh | Fishmonger | 6 | 2 |
| Steve Binysh | Gaol | 6 | 2 |
| Denise Buckingham | Love a mural | 7 | 1 |
| Norma Shirley | Restricted | 7 | 1 |
| Steve Binysh | Warrior | 7 | 1 |
| Margaret Dorigan | An interesting shop | | 0 |
| Denise Buckingham | Back Streets in Chesham | | 0 |
| Sue Finch | Baptist Church, Chesham | | 0 |
| Brian Hillier | Chesham Cottage | | 0 |
| Andrew Longhurst | Citroen in the Shade | | 0 |
| Andrew Longhurst | Clock Tower 1 | | 0 |
| Sue Finch | For sale with front door flood defence | | 0 |
| Norma Shirley | Passing By | | 0 |
| Ian Brown | School House | | 0 |
| Brian Hillier | Sun House, 44 Church Lane | | 0 |
| Malcolm Barwick | The George and Dragon No.2 | | 0 |

7. Competition results - Shot of the Month - 39 entries

Some comments on the entries

- **London prepares for hot Summer** - Fascinating shapes and contents
- **Nicely Spaced Out** - Strong image of swimmers entering very realistic water
- **Titanic Museum** - Strong image, Name, buildings, young couple links to film
- **Wait for Me** - Lots of action, swimmer's cap colour indicates group's identity
- **Where's Kermit** - Fun, taken in France, proving that there are frogs there.

| U3A Hillingdon Photo Group September 2023 | | | |
|---|---------------------------------------|-----|-------|
| Photographer | Title - Shot of the Month | Pos | Total |
| Janet Nicolas | London prepares for a hot summer | 1 | 14 |
| Mark Buckingham | Nicely Spaced out | 1 | 14 |
| Sue Finch | Titanic Museum Belfast | 2 | 6 |
| Mark Buckingham | Wait for me | 3 | 5 |
| Margaret Dorigan | Where's Kermit | 4 | 4 |
| Andrew Longhurst | A Speckled Wood | 5 | 3 |
| Norma Shirley | Passing by | 5 | 3 |
| Andrew Longhurst | Big Old Tree | 6 | 2 |
| Malcolm Barwick | Cacti Collage | 6 | 2 |
| Tony Mitchell | Mind your ice cream! | 6 | 2 |
| Mark Buckingham | Up Around the Bend. | 6 | 2 |
| Karol Schlachter | An Oak Farm Sunset | 7 | 1 |
| Andrew Longhurst | Berry Nice | 7 | 1 |
| Margaret Dorigan | Reflections | 7 | 1 |
| Denise Buckingham | Bah bah black sheep have you any wool | | 0 |
| Ian Brown | Bath Abbey | | 0 |
| Steve Binysh | Brass Lamps | | 0 |
| Malcolm Barwick | Cacti special | | 0 |
| Brian Hillier | Chesham Cat | | 0 |
| Mike Briskman | Dont leave your car here | | 0 |
| Mike Briskman | Earth has 2 moons! | | 0 |
| Margaret Dorigan | Eu Parliament | | 0 |
| Denise Buckingham | Follow the leader | | 0 |
| Malcolm Barwick | Food Bank | | 0 |
| Karol Schlachter | Getting Ready for Christmas | | 0 |
| Norma Shirley | Grass Tree | | 0 |
| Brian Hillier | Healthy Rose-hips | | 0 |
| Ian Brown | Jacks of Bath | | 0 |
| Steve Binysh | Juicy Tomatoes | | 0 |
| Ian Brown | Longleat House | | 0 |
| Karol Schlachter | Once in a Blue Moon | | 0 |

| | | | |
|-------------------|--------------------------|--|---|
| Brian Hillier | Pine by St Mary's Church | | 0 |
| Steve Binysh | Reflective | | 0 |
| Norma Shirley | Sunrise over Northolt | | 0 |
| Sue Finch | Tenders or Lifeboats | | 0 |
| Mbib Bibi | The Sunday Coffee View | | 0 |
| Sue Finch | Too Stunning to Eat | | 0 |
| Denise Buckingham | Waiting for the train | | 0 |
| Mbib Bibi | Walking Together | | 0 |

8. Interesting use of Crop and Clone

You might like to know how I edited my photo "Boutique Shops".

Before editing



Adjustments made

1. Straighten the verticals using a perspective tool
2. Crop to remove the black beam top left and vertical post on the right
3. Clone the greenery on the left to remove car and lamp-post



9. Competitions for 23 October

Theme - "**THREE**" - as interpreted in any way by members.

Also, "**Shot of the Month**" - Photos taken in the past three months.

- Date for submission of entries - Midnight Sunday 15 October
- Date for submission of Votes - Midnight Saturday 21 October

10. Format for our Group Meeting on 23 October

There will not be a presentation

We will welcome, Amanda, a judge from the Chiltern Association of Camera Clubs.

First session - Amanda will judge our themed competition "**THREES**"

Break for Teas and Coffees

Second session- Amanda will judge "**Shot of the Month**"

There may not be time to compare the voting results with Amanda's judgements but members will be able to compare the results after the meeting.

11. Technical Problems that involved Zoom**11.1 Presenter on Laptop**

- Open the links to two competition Google photo albums
- Open PowerPoint presentation
- Connects to Zoom link
- Presenter sees other Zoomers
- Presenter "**Shares**" screen using Album 1, Album 2, or PowerPoint

11.2 After the Tea/Coffee, *The Presenter is called the host*

- Host started to "**Share**" but the Albums had disappeared from desktop.
- Host told Zoomers he was restarting and Zoomers may have to re-join Zoom
- Host closed Zoom, which ended Zoom meeting
- Host restarted as in 11.1 above, other Zoomers re-joined
- Andrew was then able to "**Share**" the Competition albums.

12. Thank you to

Tony for taking the Attendance register

Judy and Malcolm for making the coffee and teas

Andrew for chairing the competitions

13. The Links to Hu3a-Photography Group website

- <https://u3asites.org.uk/hillingdon/home>
- Select Groups -> Photography -> Then links to
- Competitions and Shot of the Month - 2016 to 2023 Galleries
- Photography Meetings and Presentations - Digital Photography Index
- Photography Group Calendar - The Photographic Angle
- Many thanks to John Allen and Tony Kemp for maintaining this information

I look forward to meeting you again at our next Group meeting on 23 October.

Kind regards, Brian, Photography Group Leader