



The GDPU Newsletter, August 2009

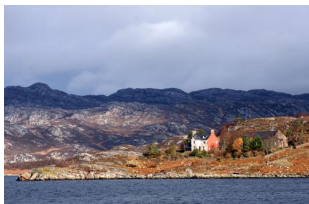


Image by GDPU club member

As another club season is about to start and I hope that your summer break has been fruitful in photographic terms. Summer time is considered by some as being a bit lean in photographic terms, however, there are lots of potential sources of images if we only look for them. How many visited the Jousting at Linlithgow Palace, some very good action shots here, or the Glasgow River Festival

where some familiar club faces were spotted. Who tried the Scott Kelby Glasgow walk as part of his world Walk day? The Glasgow walk attracted around 30 participants and was a good day out, capturing the sights in and around Glasgow University.

The GDPU is now working towards updating the web site, but some issues have to be resolved and there may be some disruption to normal service, please bear with us as we improve our web site.

I am sure many of you will be looking forward to the cut and thrust of competitions where your

new images will lead your challenge for club supremacy. But please bear in mind that you should also consider the GDPU competitions that are designed to not only be a focus for the individual, but the club as well. Beginners have their own Print Exhibition, where one image from each person will be shown in the exhibition, so encourage your clubs beginners to put in an entry.

I do hope your coming season will provide you with the enjoyment that we all look for in our hobby of photography.

Stan Miller, GDPU President

CHECK OUT THE FOLLOWING FEATURE ITEMS:

- GDPU ISLAY TOUR
- UIG SKYE SYHA WEEK-END
- GARY'S PHOTOGRAPHY ADVENTURE
- GDPU DIGITAL EXHIBITION

GDPU Digital Exhibition

By all accounts the 2009 GDPU Digital Exhibition was an outstanding success. At least that is the view of the judges, with at least one suggesting that it should go international.

The tally of entries from around 240 authors:

- Colour Entries: 912
- Creative Entries: 387
- Mono Entries: 624

The exhibition selection will be made by nationally

recognised judges:

- **Des Clinton** FRPS AFIAP
- **Jane Black** ARPS Hon. PAGB
- **Les Ayres** ARPS MPAGB APAGB AFIAP.

See the GDPU WEB site for the exhibition results, and for information

The planning is already well advanced for the 2010 Digital Exhibition. With an entry expected to

exceed that of 2009, it is planned to be spread the exhibition over two days. The judges for the 2010 GDPU Digital Exhibition are now booked: Karen Berry, Judy Boyle and Leo Palmer.

The GDPU is devoted to the promotion of club photography in Scotland, and it is hoped that there will be a stronger representation of GDPU member clubs in 2010.



Image by GDPU club member

See GDPU Web Site for your local Club Contact Details

GDPU Events, Activities and Meetings



Image by GDPU club member taken during the 2009 SYHA Spring Weekend in Torridon.

“This magical island of ever changing light provides the keen photographer with ample opportunity to capture some of the islands special magic.”



Image by GDPU club member taken during the Digital Workshop Day in New Lanark

GDPU Photography Event

The GDPU is at the forefront of organised photo events for its member clubs. These events have been a mainstay of the GDPU for a number of years and they continue to meet the needs of photographers by providing a varied and interesting program through the year.

Photo Weekend, Skye:

A GDPU SYHA Weekend is scheduled in Skye in the Autumn of 2009.

This magical island of ever changing light provides the keen photographer with ample opportunity to capture some of the islands special magic. Staying at Uig SYHA hostel gives you the opportunity to explore various parts of the Island at your own pace.

From Friday 30th October to Monday 2nd November, the 3 nights accommodation costs £40.

The stay at the hostel is on self-catering basis with places allocated on a first-come first-booked basis, so book early to avoid disappointment.

Photo Tour, Islay:

The GDPU has arranged for a tour of the Island of Islay, staying at the Port Charlotte SYHA hostel.

Islay is one of the Southern Hebrides and is commonly called the Queen of the Islands. With 8 distilleries, stunning scenery, amazing wildlife and friendly people. Islay is a five star destination and the GDPU is pleased to announce a special Islay Island photographic tour.

The tour is for 5 days, staying for 4 nights on the island, based at the modern and comfortable Port Charlotte SYHA hostel overlooking Loch Indaal

The tour of the Island is from Friday 4 to Tuesday 8 September 2009.

The tour is on a self catering basis, with meals/food excluded. There are a number of catering options in Port Charlotte, or you can prepare your own food in the hostel.

These events are always popular, and spaces are limited, so book early to avoid disappointment.

See the GDPU WEB site for the latest on these and many other GDPU organised photography events.

GDPU Workshops

The GDPU offers multiple different events aimed to provide photographers the opportunity to improve their skills.

Digital Workshop Day:

In May 2009 the GDPU hosted a Digital Workshop Day with David Rowley. David is one of the UK's best known Photoshop workers, and all that participated would agree.

Judges Workshop Day:

At a recent GDPU judge's workshop, the following successfully completed

the workshop and will be added to the GDPU judges list.

- **Dougie Hendry** from Kilmacolm CC
- **Gordon McMann** from Queens Park CC

Congratulations to both.

New Lanark Day:

In April 2009 the GDPU held a Workshop Day at New Lanark Village.

This was a practical day led by experienced photographers, and comprised of three photo tech-

nique sessions:

- The Seeing Eye: Richard Childs
- Nature in Close Up: Karen Berry
- Portraiture: Colin Wilkinson

The closing lecture was by Richard Childs, a renowned photographer based in Oban - his work ranks with that of Joe Cornish and David Ward.

Activity Day:

A Photography Activity Day is to be announced in the coming year.

GDPU Committee Acknowledgements

The GDPU would like to thank the following people who have worked on the GDPU committee over the last few years and helped the GDPU make a significant contribution to photography in Scotland.

Bob Morrison: As Exhibition Secretary and Workshop organiser, Bob has over the years brought his own ideas and knowledge into the GDPU that have been to the benefit of all. His organisational skill in the Print Exhibition and attention to detail has served the GDPU well.

Charlie Moore: As Image League Secretary, Charlie has been instrumental in the change from slide to projected digital images, thus ensuring that the competition meets the future needs of clubs and

their members. He also organised the league final each year such that the competition ran smoothly and professionally.

Sadie Turnbull: Sadie was a relative newcomer to the GDPU committee, but during her term, provided an experienced and welcome input to all activities that she was involved with.

Alastair Knox: Alastair as General Secretary, more than most, made many important contributions to the GDPU events calendar. His involvement in the GDPU Digital Day has brought such people as the late Barry Thomas and more recently Barry Beckham and David Rowley, all masters of the art of digital photography and audio visual, within reach

of the GDPU clubs. He was also a founder of the GDPU Digital Exhibition, and exhibition that has grown from a Scotland wide exhibition to a UK wide exhibition, with BPE accreditation

The current committee, the new and established members (who have also already made significant contribution), plan to take the GDPU forward to ensure that the organisation continues to grow and provide a comprehensive portfolio of events.

To each of the above, the current GDPU committee would like to thank them for their involvement with the GDPU over the years, and hope that their “retirement” will allow them to enjoy their own interests in photography.

GDPU Exhibitions and Portfolios

The GDPU has a busy calendar in 2009 / 2010, including the established exhibitions and portfolios.

John Duffy Portfolio:

Hand in at the Delegates Meeting, 13th October.

This is a prints portfolio but consideration is being given to making this a digital portfolio. Delegates will be invited to comment on this in due course.

This year it is intended that clubs will have the option of taking the prints or using a digital version of the portfolio.

Annual Print Exhibition:

One of the major event on the GDPU Calendar, the regionally renowned and locally successful GDPU Annual Print Exhibition is to be held again this year, early in 2010.

This exhibition has proved to be a great success with the public over the last several years, achieved in no small part due to the support of the member clubs that provide the work on display and the stewards that man the display throughout.

For all the latest news on events and dates please see the GDPU WEB site or contact the committee.

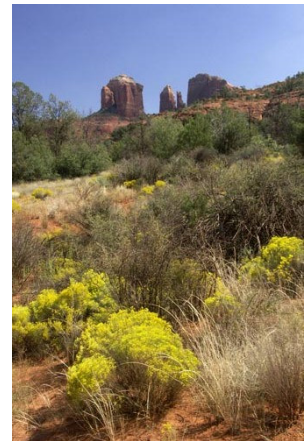


Image by GDPU club member

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The GDPU is devoted to the development and promotion of club photography ...

See the GDPU WEB Site for all the latest on events and dates ...



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Mesa Arch, Utah.
Author: Gary Fyfe

Articles Wanted:

Would you like to see something about your club feature in a future GDPU Newsletter?

To submit an article or publicise an event then submit via the Publicity Contact - see the Web site for details.

Suggestions and feedback also welcomed.



El Capitan in Yosemite.
Author: Gary Fyfe



GDPU on the WEB:
WWW.GDPU.CO.UK

Newsletter ©2009 GDPU

Camera Club Feature

This section of the Newsletter is set aside for inclusion of an article by GDPU Member Clubs - see **Articles Wanted**. On this occasion it is a case of the editors indulgence.

I experienced an extra ordinary coincident recently, while on a trip to Budapest. As I arrived early I took the opportunity to add to my travel photo collection. I crossed the River Danube via the Chain Bridge, and walked on to Saint Stephens Basilica. As I approached I heard my name being called. By random chance I had met up with Gary Fyfe, a Livingston Camera Member, in this the unlikeliest of locations.

Gary has taking a year off work and embarked on a photographic adventure, and so far he has been to some wonderful places and taken some fantastic pictures. When we met up Gary was making his way from Venice, Italy, to Krakow, Poland, and had stopped off in Budapest on route. You can gain insight in to his itinerary by reading Gary's article, written just as he was setting off on the European leg of his adventure having completed the American leg. [AC]

Gary's Photographic Adventure

The decision, when it came, was not a tough one: another year working night shifts and weekends or taking 12 months off to do nothing but photography. There is no real destination to this little journey, no plan on a grand scale, just a desire to develop my eye through the lens and hopefully take better pictures.

So far, I have been inspired over and over again. From the magnitude of the Grand Canyon, the majesty of Sedona, Arizona to the solitude of Mesa Arch, Utah at dawn. The trip has been cold to date with the higher altitudes of Yosemite bringing temperatures down to -14 degrees but the camera has been

bearing up well. The fingers and toes are a different matter ... but a hot coffee is never far away in the US and you should see the size of the scones in Moab !!

Its hard to select a favorite landscape so far as I have found the terrain across California, Arizona, Utah and Nevada to be constantly changing and always interesting. The local police have even managed to show an interest in my driving ability, 3 times in 5 weeks.

After my sojourn in the States, and on the recommendation of others, I headed for Venice in mid February for Carnivale. Although not quite Rio in size, the festival was one filled with vibrancy and

colour, not to mention the busiest streets I have seen in my life. The costumes paraded around Venice's back alleys and canals were simply stunning and provided plenty opportunity to catch wonderful colour against the muted tones of the city's faded stone walls.

And so, it is back to Europe now in the mobile home. I have a summer ahead filled with festivals both cultural and religious, and maybe a little more sunshine than I have been used too. From Semana Santa in Seville to the Palio in Siena I hope to try and improve my ability to capture just a little of the spirit and inspiration that these celebrations can bring. [GF]