

# Newsletter

December 2019



*Quick question, who's the bane of Santa's life? Answer on the last page.*

## **F.C.C. Exhibitions**

This has been an outstanding year for exhibitions from members of Falkirk Camera Club. First, our 2018 - 2019 Annual Exhibition was extended into January 2019. During June and July A Photographic Journey In The Natural World by David Jones illustrated birds, mammals and insect life in spectacular detail often highlighting the behaviours and habitats of the subjects. The Royal Photographic Society exhibition in August featured work from Agnes Clark L.R.P.S. and now we have Voyage To Antarctica, photographs by Frank Owens in: The Gallery, Falkirk Town Hall, East Bridge St., Falkirk. FK1 5RS. On Now, until 29th January 2020. Admission Free

Like earlier exhibitions the standard of photography is exceptional. In addition, each photograph is supported by highly detailed and informative notes resulting in a most factual and educational presentation.

The Gallery at Falkirk Town Hall is open most days from 10am to 4pm and also before evening entertainment events. If travelling, you can 'phone them to check opening times on 01324 - 506177. Frank's exhibition will be immediately followed by our 2019 - 2020 Annual Exhibition. 2020 has been designated as Scotland's Year Of Coast And Waters so, with the help of Club members, we will endeavour to have a section on that theme within the exhibition. The capacity of the gallery is now 40 Prints and this exhibition will again aim to succeed with its broad appeal. Please can we have member's submissions for our Annual Exhibition by 16th January 2020. Many thanks.





## William Risk

As Club members know, we were recently saddened by the passing of a most influential F.C.C. member, friend and photographer. Our thoughts remain with William's family and these three images are just a small sample of his expertise.



Woodpecker  
Colour Print of the Year  
1997



Blue Tit  
Slide of the Year  
1998



Redshank  
Colour Print of the Year  
2007

## International Salons of Photography

There are several F.C.C. photographers exhibiting their photographs in these events so we thought you might be interested to learn how International Salons, sometimes referred to as International Exhibitions, operate.

You may already be aware of the structure of camera, or photographic, clubs. F.C.C. is a member of the Scottish Photographic Federation, a representative organisation for almost 100 clubs in Scotland. The S.P.F. is a member of the Photographic Alliance Of Great Britain, a representative organisation for Federations throughout the UK. Many countries have similar structures. There are then organisations covering continents, or are global, involved in promoting and advancing the art and science of photography and often with relationships to national organisations like the S.P.F. or the P.A.G.B. Those national organisations, and their individual members or affiliates like F.C.C., can stage an International Salon where photographers around the world are invited to submit entries. A Salon may be for Prints, Projected Digital Images or both. There are usually separate Colour and Black & White sections and there may be other categories too such as Natural History or Travel photography.

Global organisations include the Royal Photographic Society, the Fédération Internationale de l'Art Photographique and the Photographic Society Of America among others. All the aforementioned organisations have websites.

A Salon organiser will seek accreditation, sometimes referred to as patronage, from one of those global organisations. That involves complying with stringent operational standards and using accredited Judges, sometimes referred to as Selectors, who will choose which submissions are accepted into the Salon. There will often be a requirement to hold a Salon exhibition which is open to the general public and there will be Salon awards for entries of the highest standard. Judges / Selectors too will be able to make their own individual additional award choices and the global organisation/s offering Patronage to the Salon will also offer individual Salon awards. Some of those global organisations will offer their own additional awards recognising consistent acceptance into Salons around the world.

There are typically 3 Judges / Selectors, per section per Salon. They meet to view the images, with each image only viewed for around 5 seconds. Each Judge / Selector then privately awards up to 5 Points per image so the total available points per image is 15. The qualifying mark for acceptance to the Salon will be around 10 or 12 points and there is no critique feedback to the photographer. As a matter of interest the recent S.P.F. Digital Championships was judged to Salon standards with F.C.C.'s Nancy MacArthur and Vikki Macleod each with images awarded 14 Points.

There is an entry fee to help cover the costs of running International Salons and entrants receive, often even if not accepted into the Salon, either a printed Salon catalogue or given access to an online catalogue featuring many of the accepted photographs. It is that which allows entrants to compare their own images with others submitted and accepted into the Salon.

Among others, the Holland International Image Circuit closes on 12th January 2020 and offers entry to various Salons throughout The Netherlands while the Bristol International Salon of Photography 2020, run by Bristol Photographic Society accepts entries up to 25th January 2020. See their respective websites. The Scottish International Salon of Photography 2020, run by the S.P.F., usually closes in early April. Details will appear through a link on the S.P.F. website early in 2020.

On the F.C.C. website under the Information Tab, select Records > Achievements, you will find Falkirk Camera Club : Individual Member Successes. This comprehensive guide details many of the achievements of F.C.C. photographers back to 1959. The compilation of this document is an ongoing project so if you know of any personal or family achievements not listed then please contact our General Secretary using the Contact Us facility.

Club member's seeking more information on entering Salons should speak to a Club member from the recent additions to the I.M.S. list. Best of luck.

# Themed Monthly Competition No. 4. Final Photoentry Hand-In Date - 23rd January 2020

Repeated from the November Newsletter

The subject of Themed Monthly Competitions was raised at the A.G.M.'s of 2017 and 2018. The subject had been raised during both seasons with member's seeking the challenge of being given a new subject to photograph.

The result is that Monthly Competition No. 4 will be Themed across all categories and there is a choice for all entrants of two Themes.

1. Image to Music - the Title should be that of the piece of music and the image should seek to interpret that Title or, the music itself. You may need to abbreviate the Title in Photoentry.
2. Speed - the photographer should apply their own Title and the image should seek to interpret Speed.

## Notes

- Entries must be taken between 5th September 2019 and 23rd January 2020 inclusive.
- If a Theme matches the speciality of any entrant, then they must choose the alternative Theme. If both Themes match an entrant's speciality subjects, then the entrant should contact the Internal Competition Secretary for guidance.
- The Club Member who nominated each Theme should choose the alternative Theme if entering the competition. If the alternative Theme happens to match a specialist subject, then the Club Member should contact the Internal Competition Secretary for guidance.
- In the case of Themes with a broad interpretation, entrants with a particular area or expertise, perhaps described as a speciality subject, must enter the competition using a different subject.

Please contact the Internal Competition Secretary with any queries. It's a long time since we have had this type of competition so it will be a refreshing challenge. Good luck.

## Presets

[Scottish Photographic Federation Print Championship](#). Next February we will participate in the S.P.F. Print Championships. Held in the Stirling Court Hotel on the University of Stirling campus it is a club and individual competition for both colour and monochrome prints. It's also an opportunity to see International Salon class judges at work as they adjudicate on entries from clubs from all over Scotland. The F.C.C. entry will be compiled from Prints submitted by members with the same Print requirements as a Monthly Competition. Please give your submissions to Iain Jamieson by 16th January 2020. Print selection is a precise process involving identifying images with the characteristics which succeed at these events. Club members interested in learning about, or assisting with, selection and preparation for this event should contact Iain. Many thanks.

[3 From 6, 2019 - 2020](#). F.C.C. photographers are asked to submit up to 3 Projected Digital Images from 6 topics. This is an exercise in exploring photography and not a competition. Your P.D.I.'s can be on different topics or, all the same topic. This year's topics follow and are also under a yellow tab on the Notice Board page of the F.C.C. website. Please make your contributions through Photoentry by 16th January 2020, 3 From 6 night is during early February 2020 in the F.C.C. Syllabus. The topics are: **Self Portrait**. Whether captured with a Mobile 'Phone or a Camera there are many ways of representing yourself and remember, a self portrait doesn't need to include your face. **Commuting**. The commute to work happens in all sorts of weather conditions, all year round on every means of transport available. People walk, cycle, carshare, use the boat, bus or train and perhaps even an aircraft. **Exasperation or Determination**. Photograph that moment when the going gets tough or, when the tough get going. **Interpret a Book Title**. Think of a favourite or familiar book then produce a photograph which interprets the title. **Hope**. Positive or poignant, produce a photograph to signify optimism for the future. **White**. Photograph something white. Can you retain the texture or detail or, will it be impressionistic ?



## Exhibitions

**City Art Centre, Market St., Edinburgh.**

**On Now, Until 8th March 2020  
Admission Free**

**Classical Edinburgh.** If the use of shape, form, light & shade interest you then drop in to the City Art Centre adjacent to the Market Street entrance to Waverley Rail Station. The exhibition features the work of two architectural photographers. Edwin Smith ( 1912 - 1972 ) provided the photographs for The Making Of Classical Edinburgh, written by A.J.Youngson and published in 1966. It is still considered to be the finest and most articulate record of the city's architecture and a new and revised edition has just been published. Present day photographer Colin McLean has spent the last two years visiting those same locations, among others, and producing photographs as a homage to E.S.'s inimitable style.

**Scottish National Portrait Gallery, Queen St, Edinburgh.  
&**

**On Now, Until 16th February 2020  
Admission Free**

**National Library of Scotland, George IV Bridge, Edinburgh.**

**On Now, Until 15th February 2020**

**Scotland's Photograph Album at S.N.P.G. & At The Water's Edge at N.L.S.** These two unparalleled exhibitions represent a collection of approximately 14,000 photographs taken in Scotland between the 1840's and 1940's and acquired by these two institutions from a private collector. The people and places of Scotland are photographed, often for the first time, and presented to illustrate life, work and progress.

Hope that you all have a **Merry Christmas** and a **Happy & Peaceful New Year.**

Take Care



## In The Picture

The *In The Picture* spot in the Falkirk Herald is still open for submissions from F.C.C. photographers. Please continue to email P.D.I.'s sized at 1600 x 1200 maximum to [editorial@falkirkherald.co.uk](mailto:editorial@falkirkherald.co.uk). Use *In The Picture* as the Subject line in your email, state your name and Falkirk Camera Club and add a couple of lines about the photograph. The F.H. look for something reasonably local or from surrounding counties. Best of luck.

## *Closing Quip*

the aim here is to present people from the wider photographic community whom you might want to research online

Last time it was Martin Parr ( b.1952 ) who said, “ My biggest television weakness is ‘Dragon’s Den.’

This quote just fits this photographer perfectly. MP is described as a chronicler of our age who photographs human behaviour in all its shapes, forms and quiriness. His own perspective adds a dimension to his work making it unique and irrepressible.

This time, who said:

Light makes photography. Embrace Light. Admire it. Love it. But above all, know light. Know it for all you are worth, and you will know the key to photography.

Was it:

James Clerk Maxwell FRS FRSE, George Eastman, or Frederick Scott Archer ?

*Quick question answer,*

*The elf & safety officer.*



**FALKIRK CAMERA CLUB**



**PHOTOGRAPHY SINCE 1889**