



# BSCC NEWSLETTER

Volume 2 Issue 2

March/April 2011

## COMMENT

Many thanks for all the comments re Volume 2 Issue 1.

Well here's Volume 2 Issue 2 for March/April 2011.

I hope you are all enjoying the season to date. I know I am !!

By the time this edition is off the press it will be almost time for the Club Photo Outing to York in April.

To all new members who entered the last Digital Competition for the first time well done and thank you!

To all the "old hands" who also presented their work a big thank you from us all.

The evening was expertly judged by Ron Tear, and I found it to very enjoyable, lively and diverse in its con-

tent.

All photographs projected were interesting and demonstrated great ability from all members.

The natural history photos were fantastic—I wish mine would come out like that..

How about a Master Class Kevin ??

The landscapes were full of colour, and showed that club members go out in all weathers !

It was nice to see that the rule if thirds can be broken, and be given the reasons why by Ron.

I hope there were no "Tears" after the evening closed.

**Just for the record we have**

**on the 14th March, won the Mouslham Shield for the first year ever after entering for many years !! See page 10 !!**

Articles for the next issue would be appreciated. Planned for June/July.

Activities for the "close season" could be included with contact names and details.

My email address is:  
woodsdrv@aol.com

I look forward to hearing from you by email and at club meetings.

Thanks  
David

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## CLUB OUTING YORK APRIL 2011

The much anticipated group visit to York for club members and partners/friends is coming around very quickly. Currently, around 24 members are traveling up to York on Friday 8<sup>th</sup> April for a weekend of photogra-

phy and socializing.

*Please note, if you decide you would like to attend the York trip at the last minute, Emma is happy to help you arrange this, as there is currently still availability at the hotel.*

Members are traveling up

independently. Please feel free to arrange group transportation between yourselves to try and make a saving.

Trains from Stevenage take around 3 hours and cost from £21 per head.

**BISHOPS STORTFORD  
CAMERA CLUB**

**MEETS WEEKLY ON TUES-  
DAYS FROM SEPTEMBER TO MAY,  
7.45 FOR 8.00 P.M.  
AT::**

**HOCKERILL SPORTS & SOCIAL  
CLUB  
BELDAMS LANE,  
BISHOP'S STORT-  
FORD,  
HERTFORDSHIRE  
CM23 5LG**

**WEBSITE:**

We've arranged for some entertaining group activities during the trip, but there will be plenty of free time for members to spend as they please.

The first activity we've lined up is a trip to the Minster. We'll be leaving the hotel at 1:30pm as a group, in order to meet our booking for 3pm on the Friday. During this visit, we've kindly been given permission to use our tripods, provided rubber feet are fitted!

Other highlights include a Ghost Walk, which should prove unmissable, given its setting in one of Britain's most historic cities. This will be followed by a candlelit supper The Black Swan, which has the somewhat dubious honour of being Britain's most haunted pub. Mwahaha-haha!

Emma will be finalizing the details of the trip and collecting outstanding monies in the next couple of weeks, at which point attendees will be given a printed itinerary providing more precise details on the trip and its various events.

Any requests or ideas for additional activities during the trip will be gratefully accepted.

Thanks  
Emma



## CLUB MENTORS A NEW ROLE AND DIRECTION

The sheets for mentors have now been posted on the notice board and its great to see so many members willing to assist others.

We now need to look at these lists and try to arrange workshops/outings around the areas of expertise that have been offered in order to develop our individual skills and knowledge base.

This is our chance as a club to grow and develop our abilities, enrich our own levels of attainment and satisfaction with our own photographs at all levels.

### CLUB MENTORS REQUIRED.

Can we as a club go on beyond "Beyond" .....

Please contact Kevin or Geoff if you feel you are able to participate in the above.

### COULD THIS BE YOU?

The sheets are now up on the Notice Board and now require your input.

Once the club has this input workshops can be arranged for members

Thanks to all who have signed up.

## EXHIBITION RESULTS

The Clubs 2010–2011 Exhibition has now been judged and the results follow.

They will be posted to the web site in due course.

It is a key event in the club calendar, competition is high, as are the standards and judging, which takes up a full afternoon of the committee and appointed judges time.

I am sure there are many surprises for all over the next 3 pages of results.

I also feel that it shows how subjective it is to have your work judged and marked by several judges throughout the season. It is a valuable source of where you are going... and demonstrates how different judges tastes vary and how their "point of view" affects the numbers on the board at the end of the day in the club competitions over the year and in this event marked by one judge.

On behalf of us all many thanks to those who arrange and preside over this event each year and the time it takes them.

And finally a vote of thanks ...

The Digital Image entry was high and I am sure that we would all like to thank Geoff for the effort he has to put in to ensure that all the images are scaled correctly and loaded into the respective software for scoring and also to Janet for maintaining the score sheets and listings.

To all those who submitted digital images, printed images, and slides many thanks for supporting the club in this event.

Results follow on pages 4, 5, and 6.

If I have miss spelt anything apologies.



## CLUB ANNUAL DINNER, EXHIBITION AND AWARDS EVENING 2010/2011 SEASON

The Clubs Annual Dinner Exhibition and Awards Evening has been arranged for Saturday 16 April 2011 at Great Hadham Golf & Country Club. Pre dinner drinks and social chat starts at 7.00 pm for 7:30 pm Meal.

The menu is:

### **Starter**

Prawn Cocktail or Vegetable Broth Soup

### **Main Course**

Roast Turkey or Poached Salmon with Tarragon Sauce

### **Dessert**

Apple Crumble or Crème Brule

The presentation of trophies and awards for the 2010/2011 Club Competitions and Annual Exhibition will follow the meal. The Judge, David Steel, and his partner will be in attendance to present the awards and the winning Photographs and Digital Images will be on display.

This is your chance to see the winning entries for both the Club Exhibition, and Inter Club Competitions, as well as meeting members and their partners.

It promises to be an interesting/fun evening and there should no "Oscar" type speeches thanking the world, producers, mums and dads for making it all possible etc !!

Tickets are priced at £20.00p per person and are available from Jean Platt. Please advise Jean now if you intend to come. Cheques to be made payable to Bishops Stortford Camera Club and paid to Jean before or at our meeting on the 6th April. If possible please bring a prize for the raffle.

Looking forward to seeing you all there.



Digital Images		
Award	Author	Title
Best Image Overall	A. Bishop	Art of Steam
Best Three from Same Author	K.Scott	Blue Tit Foraging in Winter
		Female Sparrow Hawk Feeding on Pigeon Prey
		Waxwings Eating Berries
Best Open Image	A. Bishop	Art of Steam
Best Portrait Image	E. Evans	Jim's Mug
Best Record Image	M. Gottelt	INRI at St Albans Cathedral
Best Natural History/Nature Image	K Scott	Bittern Fishing
Certificates of Merit	D.Woods	Pershore Abbey
	J. Godfree	Cock Pheasant
		Hover Flies
	K.Scott	Blue Tit Foraging in Winter
		Waxwings Eating Berries
	M. Smith	Pearls in The Dark
	B. Edwards	Path to The Trees
	E. Evans	Shell Collecting Dungeness
	A. Bishop	Church of the Spilled Blood
	G. Eldridge	LNER 6013 Tornado at Loughborough
	M.Gottlet	Water Lily
Highly Commended	M. Thorpe	Millenium Eye at Sunset
		The Moment of Release
	J. Hosforth	Crucifixion
		Altar in Eglise De Montreal
	N.Otter	September Evening
	E.Evans	The Barista
	M.Gottlet	Eye Contact
	J. Hosford	Carved Head
	S. Debbah	Astrantia
	G. Eldridge	Heading South
		Off to The Pub
		The Ghost Train
		Waiting Game
	B. Egerton	Coffee Break
		Oriental Poppy
		Street Life
	J. Godfree	Nuthatch
		Greenfinch
		Female Stag Beetle
	M. Smith	I Don't Think So
		Tree Cow Field
		Lost Soul
	K. Scott	Lions Mating
		Female Sparrow Hawk Feeding on Pigeon Prey
	D. Woods	The Sky at Night
		St James The Great
	A. Bishop	Into The Night
		Rekindling The Past



Colour Prints		
Award	Author	Title
Best Print Overall	K.Scott	Male Pygmy Falcon
Best Three from Same Author	K.Scott	Male Pygmy Falcon
		Gross Beak Weaver Bird Female
		Superb Starling
Best Open Print	A.Macpherson	St Andrews Church Much Hadham
Best Portrait Print	—	—
Best Record Print	I. Powell	Architectural Reflections in Gaudis Windows
Best Natural History/Nature Print	K.Scott	Male Pygmy Falcon
Certificates of Merit	N. Otter	Minus Ten
	B. Egerton	Early Morning on the Isis
	A. Macpherson	Giant Crane Gothenburg
		Dawn Abington Marina
	D. Woods	St James the Great
	J. Godfree	Hover Fly Feeding on Michalmas Daisy Flower
	K.Scott	Superb Starling
Highly Commended	N. Otter	Morning Fog
		Greek Sunrise
		Rue Merciere
	B. Egerton	Blue Reflection
		Bluebell Wood
		Oak Leaves
		Oak Leaves in Stream
	A. Bishop	Ready for the Off
	J. Godfree	Female Green Finch
		Green Finch (Carduelis Chloris) Female
	K. Scott	Gross Beak Weaver Bird Female



Monochrome Prints		
Award	Author	Title
Best Print Overall	D. Woods	Broughty Ferry Castle
Best Three from Same Author	D.Woods	Ullswater
		The Village Souk 1977
		Broughty Ferry Castle
Best Open Print	David Woods	Broughty Ferry Castle
Best Portrait Print	—	—
Best Record Print	A. Macpherson	Royal Pavilion Brighton
Certificates of Merit	B. Egerton	East End London
		Saffron Walden Library
	D. Woods	Ullswater
		Beijing Artist
Highly Commended	B. Egerton	After the Rain
		Under The Boardwalk
	I. Powell	Un Moulin De Paillas
	D.Woods	Troutbeck
Colour Slides		
Award	Author	Title
Best Slide Overall	D.Rome	Papaver Somniferam
Best Three from Same Author	D.Rome	Sepervibum
		Papaver Somniferam
		Aquilegia
Best Open Slide	D.Rome	Papaver Somniferam
Best Portrait Slide	G. Dann	Valerie
Best Record Slide	J.Hosford	Window at Ste Barbe
Best Natural History/Nature Slide	G.Dann	Helilionius Charitonia
Certificates of Merit	G.Dann	Atlas Moth
	J. Hosford	Pyrenean Ponies
Highly Commended	B.Edwards	Baguettes
	D. Rome	Gladiolus
		Isle of Barra



## PHOTO WALKS

Andrew Macpherson has advised the following:

The worldwide photo-walk will be over the weekend of October 1&2 this year

Suggestions/help from members would be greatly appreciated. If the past few years are anything to go by, it'll be a bit early for full autumn colours, but a route should encompass that possibility. Finishing spot with light refreshments required ...

Ideas to Andrew please .....

Also any ideas for the close season.

Thanks

David

## WORKSHOP

It's the Club's intention to include a workshop article or Photo tips in each Newsletter.

This month's workshop has been prepared for the Newsletter by David Woods.

Please feel free to email me any tips or articles that you want to pass on.

Available resources to us NOW are:

Photographic Magazines donated by members —Great articles and tips can be found within them.

Useful internet links for the link section would be appreciated.

*"Our Club has much to offer each member singly or as a group. If we learn to share we can all grow together and benefit each other and the Club as a whole"*

## DIGITAL WORKSHOP— COMPLEX SELECTIONS

This month I would like to share how complex selections can be made within both Photoshop and Photoshop Elements and copied to Layers and Layer Masks.

It is by making such selections and using layer masks that defined areas of your image can be adjusted independently of the image as a whole.

It must be remembered that all the selection tools in both versions of Photoshop

CS3-5 and Elements can be utilized at different times to add to or subtract from selections.

Selections can also be saved which saves you time and effort when you want to use them again.

Selections can be transferred to Layers and their respective Layer Masks and turned on/off by their colour, black, white or blended using the opacity settings of the brush tool.

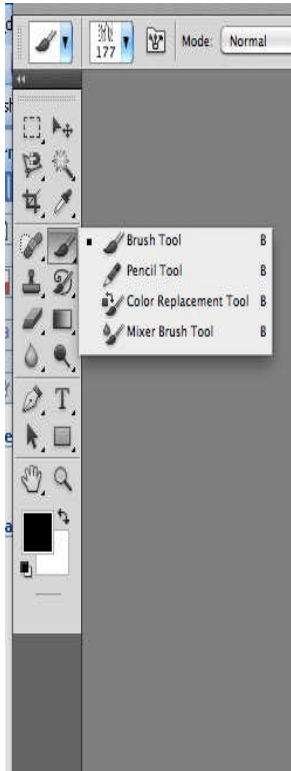
My interest in HDR photography has given me a greater understanding of the above techniques and I hope to share what I have learnt to date with you.

There are many methods of making selections in Photoshop these are some of the methods I use.

There are also many tutorials out there on the internet.

Where possible I will include web links in the web link sections .

The tool palette in Photoshop / Elements is detailed below. By left clicking and holding down the button the tools hidden under each picture are displayed.



Once displayed you can select the exact tool you require.

The menu above the tool palette will change dependant on the tool selected.

The following selection tools are available to you:

- Rectangular Marquee Tool
- Elliptical Marquee Tool
- Lasso Marquee Tool
- Magnetic Marquee Tool
- Polygonal Lasso Tool
- Quick Selection Brush/ Tool
- Magic Wand Tool
- Selection by Colour Range

The following adjustments can also be used to create basic selection masks which can then be modified via the use of the brush tool and the basic mask colours of black and white and feathered by altering the opacity of the brush and painting around the edge.

- Levels Adjustments
- Threshold Adjustments

And the channels in CS3/4/5 can also be used.

Channel Layers— Red , Green or Blue

When using the Rectangular Marquee Tool or Elliptical Marquee Tool the shape can be changed to Square or Circular by holding down the shift key whilst selecting.

The magic wand tool selection is based upon the average pixel values of the surrounding areas pixels and is further defined by the tolerance set in the tool bar to the colour being selected.

The size of the sampling area is controlled in the eye dropper tool.

Try various settings.

The preferred setting is 3 x 3 pixels.

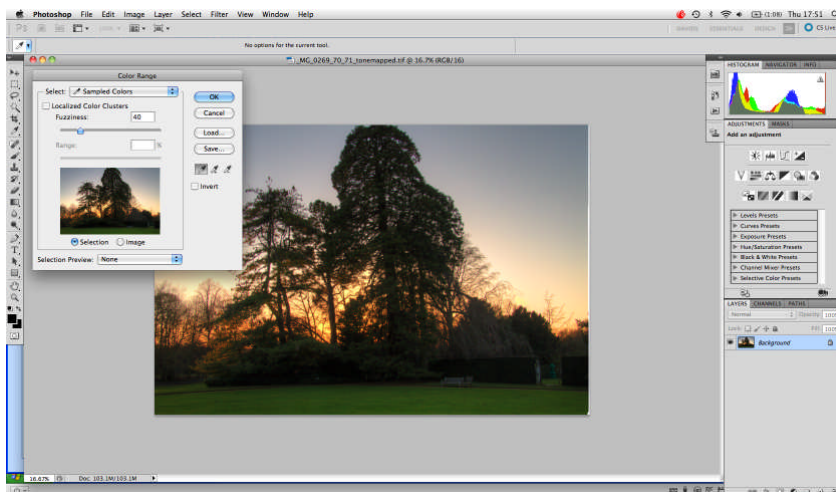
When selecting you can use any combination of the selection tools in the tool palette.

Remember to set the add to selection or subtract from selection buttons before using the new tool !!

Also if making complex selections save the selection at regular intervals—this can save hours of work !!

The Selection by Colour Range is found under the Selection Menu in CS5

And looks as follows When it is first opened:



Select Lets you choose Sampled colours, a specific colour or Out of Gamut Colours

Localized Colour Clusters—Select if you wish to constrain your selection to a

specific area. The Range slider determines the distance to use with the localized colour selection.

Selection or Image Lets you view the Selection Mask or The Image

Selection Preview changes the view of the image in the document window. None, Grayscale, Black Matte, White Matt or Quick Mask

Use the Eyedroppers to add or subtract colours from the selection

The Fuzziness slider increases the colours selected (values range 0 to 200)

Select Invert to reverse the selection mask.

In this mask white represents the selected areas of the image and the black the masked areas of the image.

As with all methods experimentation is the key.

Once you have made the selection you can refine its edge with the refine edge tool.

To use the Threshold Adjustment to create a selection the following can be done.

1. Add a layer mask to the layer you require to hold the selection.

2. Add a Threshold Adjustment Layer.

Move the sliders to highlight what you want selected in black and white.

Return to the layer in 1 and click on the image and then Select All in the selection menu.

Select the layer mask you have added.

Press the Alt Key and Left click to load the white mask only

Then Paste the copied Threshold Adjustment into this screen.

Select the Threshold Adjustment Layer and delete it.

Now reselect the layer mask and press

the Command and Left Click together. This loads the mask as a selection and you can now refine it as required.

The levels method is exactly the same but uses a Levels Adjustment to achieve the same end.

Use the sliders to change the image tones and try different values in the Output Boxes try 5 and 195 as start values then move the sliders.

Remember to refine your Selection by Refine Edges or painting on the mask using black and white and varying the opacity of the brush to feather the effect of the mask.

And a final note save the selection as required !

## AGM NOTICES AND NOMINATIONS

Advance notice of AGM.

The Clubs AGM is on the 27th April 2011. Members are advised that the following must be received by the current committee TWO WEEKS prior to the date of the AGM. The last date for proposals/nominations is therefore the 12th of April 2011.

1. Any proposed amendments to Club Rules or Constitution.
2. Nominations to the Club Committee

Please note that ALL proposals and nominations must be signed by the respective member and seconded by another member.

## USEFUL INTERNET LINKS

### HDR Photography

[www.stuckincustoms.com](http://www.stuckincustoms.com) - Travel Photography in HDR and HDR Tutorials

[captainkimo.com](http://captainkimo.com) - Travel Photography and HDR Tutorials

### Photoshop Goodies

[www.psdbox.com](http://www.psdbox.com) - Photoshop freebies

### Photographic Magazine Sites

[Www.photoradar.com](http://Www.photoradar.com) - Photographic Site—Reviews and Tutorials.

### Photoshop Tutorials

[www.thelittlephotoshop.co.uk](http://www.thelittlephotoshop.co.uk)— Photoshop tutorials

[Www.computer-darkroom.com](http://Www.computer-darkroom.com) Photoshop tutorials

*The internet is a source of amazement to us all. There is so much knowledge out in "the cloud" it is often hard to find. The following links have proved useful to members. It must be noted that the Club have no responsibility for the recommended links content*

## MOULSHAM SHIELD WIN FOR BSCC

**The Club are now the proud holders of the Moulsham Shield for the current year 2010/2011 by a margin of 10 points.**

As a club we have entered this competition for many years and NEVER won until this year !!

The committee would like to thank all members for their support in enabling the club to utilize their photographs in external competitions and feel that this is major award for both the club and its members.

This achievement also clearly demonstrates the high standards of photography that our club members are achieving in both prints and digital images.

**Well done to us all** and keep it up the good work for next years external competitions!!

The final scores were as follows:

Bishops Stortford CC	146
Moulsham Lodge CC	136
Braintree CC	136
Ingatestone CC	136
Maldon CC	129
Witham CC	124

The photograph below shows Kevin being presented with the trophy by the Judge - Vic Hainsworth.



## MOULSHAM SHIELD SCORE SHEET

The score sheet is as follows:

IMAGE No	CLUB					
	Bishops Stortford	Braintree	Ingatestone	Maldon	Moulsham Lodge	Witham
1	16	19	18	15	18	14
2	20	15	16	17	16	12
3	20	18	14	14	14	16
4	16	18	18	15	18	14
5	17	19	16	15	16	16
6	19	15	15	20	14	15
7	18	15	20	15	20	20
8	20	17	19	18	20	17
<b>Total</b>	146	136	136	129	136	124
<b>Placing</b>	1st	=2nd	=2nd	5th	=2nd	6th

Images presented :

Image No	Author	Title
1	Barbara Egerton	Coffee Break
2	Nigel Otter	Morning Fog
3	Kevin Scott	Sparrow Hawk Feeding Pigeon Prey
4	Geoff Eldridge	Ghost Train
5	Nigel Otter	Minus Ten
6	Emily Houghton-Dodd	Solitude
7	Mark Smith	Lost Soul
8	Kevin Scott	Adult Male Pygmy Falcon