

14th January 2020: - Pegasus Trophy. Cowdray Hall Thurrock RM20 3BJ.

This knockout competition is held over 10 rounds between 5 Essex Clubs. 2 Images representing one of 10 "Subject Categories" are presented together on a screen and the winner goes forward to face the next image. The winner of this pair is then forwarded to compete against another image until each club has entered an image and a winner for that "Category" is announced. The winning club can then select the next "Subject Category" and the process is repeated.

Last year we were one of 3 teams scoring 3 Subject Category wins, but lost the final knockout round to Thurrock.

Because of the format and projection system, images can appear at different sizes unless they are all prepared homogenously. Previously this has resulted in some unfair competition, and to their credit, after being made aware of this last year the organisers published strict rules this year, not only highlighting this in the written rules issued with the invite, but repeating this specifically on the 2nd reminder note sent to the entering clubs. Upon starting the competition however, it became obvious that at least one club had not adhered to these rules, resulting in a disadvantage to those teams, such as photofold, who had followed those pre-published rules. Again to the credit of the organisers they tried to resize images on the go, but without success in the first half – so at the half time break they visited each team to request each club to resize their images allowing a fairer competition. The Naming of the Files is not used at any point.

Photofold Representation: Jim Brewster (Committee member) and Dave Hussey (Ext Comp Secretary).

Judge: Graham Parrish. (Paul Raddon had cancelled)

Final Results: Showing the number of winning rounds.

Club A Dagenham	1 win
Club B Hornchurch	1 win
Club C Thurrock	1 win
Club D Benfleet	3 wins
Club E Photofold	4 wins and Overall 1st Placed Place



The competition has been held yearly since 1966 – it is actually called a "slide" competition, and this is the first time that Photofold has Won. I would like to thank all those photographers who have entered DPI's

throughout the last couple of years allowing our club to select some great images, and special thanks go out to **Ray Waters, Steve Stringer, Jenni Alexander and John Davis** who achieved "Wins" in this year's competition.



Photofold Entry:

Geisha – Barry Harrington

Winner:

Dancer – Benfleet (Club D) Unfair Bloody LARGE!!

1 Portrait (Not Child): 1st image shown was a B&W Audrey Hepburn type image – all gloves and hair, up against a ladies smiling face! The Judge appeared to like the emotion and gloves so through went Audrey. Next an image of an Indian Lady, again beaten by the gloves. As the next image was displayed Jim reached over to hold me back - The image appeared massive on the screen as the Owner club had obviously not followed the rules – such a point of contention the year before!! that image of a male ballet dancer won through. The photofold image was next and it was Barry's picture of a Geisha. We had scrupulously followed the rules and our image looked "Tiny" occupying only 25% of the Benfleet entry. The judge's comments "umbrella dominating the image" may not have been said had our image been shown in the same (Illegal) format, as the dancer. Travesty! – We Was Robbed!!

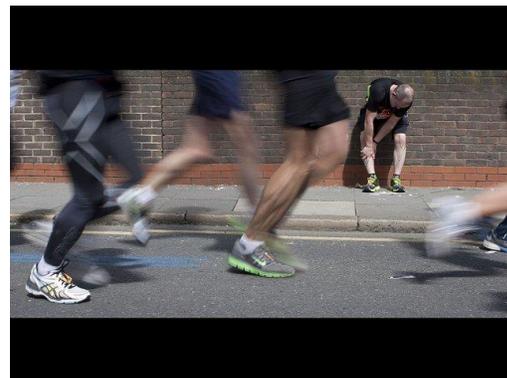
2 Action: A boxing close up against Photofold's running feet. I was contemplating leaving in protest at this point but stayed to hear that we lost against the B&W Boxer (It was a good shot!). Next up, 2 Dogs running, they lost, another not so good B&W boxing image doesn't displace it.

Photofold Entry:

Cramp – Steve Stringer

Winner:

Boxers – Benfleet (Club D) correct size at least!



3 Natural History: 1st image is a bird on a stick up against a backlit Cheetah. The Judge again mentioned the contrast between the two images. Although the Judge considered that the Cheetah could have been in a zoo he liked the backlit effect so it wins. Next an Owl in flight through some reeds. "Owl" a bit small so judge stays with the backlit Cheetah. Next a family of Cheetahs is up against "backlit" Cheetah - the family wins. Finally Ray's Osprey and Fish appears - the judge eulogises about it – "did it hear the camera shutter and then look down at the photographer" – all sorts of stuff he came out with... But I don't care.....– We Win!!! Well Done Ray!!!!



Photofold Entry: Osprey Dinner – Ray Waters WINNER (It rhymes!)



4 Landscape: Our DPI winning St Pauls reflection up against a Black and White Landscape which looks like Iceland - a church in front of some mountains. The Judge can't work out why the telephone box isn't Red. We lose. Next a man standing at the bottom of a waterfall with a partial rainbow in the spray - the Sky is too vibrant so it loses. Next a ploughed field appears - it loses. Finally a B&W very binary image of trees in the snow they lose. Winner Icelandic Church.

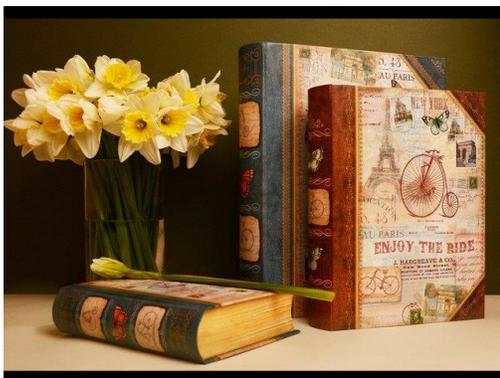
Photofold Entry: Rain at St Pauls – David Hussey (Loses 1st Round)
Winner: The Icelandic B&W – Thurrock (Club C).

5 Natural History (2nd Time): First image is a crab up against a Damselfly. Judge likes the crab's shadow which is directly below the animal (don't know where else it would be but there you go...). Great vibrant colours. Judge loved the damselfly detail and close up quality, and this wins by a whisker. Next it's Ray's Weevil on Moss. Judge doesn't like the size in the frame so that it – Weevils out!. Next up Grebe with a fish, which he likes – it wins. Finally an OVERSIZED B&W Heron again much too big on the screen as again someone hasn't followed the rules (Jim restrains me for the 2nd time!). Grebe wins.



Photofold Entry: Weevil on Moss – Ray Waters.
Winner: The Grebe with fish – Club A (Dagenham I think).

Coffee Break: 8:55 so we are almost on schedule. The organisers, to their credit, tour round the tables reminding each club about the sizing rules, spending quite a lot of time ensuring the 2nd half should be fairer.



6 Still Life: Couple of Jugs in B&W against a bunch of daffodils – nothing inspires me, or the judge, Jugs edge it. Next up some liquorice all-sorts on a mirrored surface with subdued colours. Jugs still winning. Then it's Tina's "the reader" Books and Daffodils. Judge likes it but starts to moan about the reflection of the books in the water in the vase, and it should have been full or empty... (what the.... Jim restrains me again!) but he selects Tina anyway. It was definitely the better image. Final image is 3 spoons of honey, very well lit, and lots of consideration to the subject matter, it is a good image, it beats us! *****!!!!

Photofold Entry: The Reader – Tina Reid CPAGB
Winner: Three Spoons of Honey (D Benfleet).

7 Child Study: First images are both B&W, A child boxer, a studio shot, and a little girl in the playground, very natural picture., Boxer wins. Next it is Steve Stringers dual child shadow shot. The Judge likes shadows, and ours has a shadow. Ours is chanced upon, the boxer is obviously "Staged" and he gives the win to Steve. Next we are up against a child looking through a net. It does almost have a story and a lot of colour, but it loses. Finally a child sitting on a desk in a school , Steve just edges it for the Win

Photofold Entry: Bad Hair Day – Steve Stringer WINNER

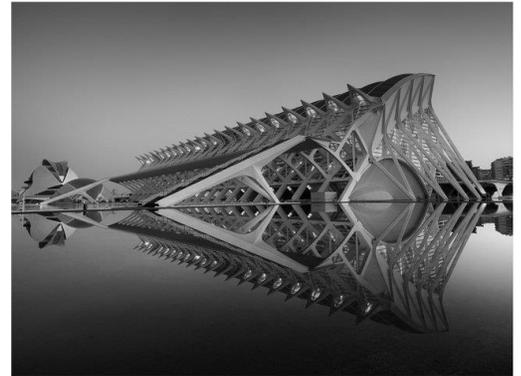


8 Landscape: We're up first, I like this image, I have been saving it. It's actually from our "Jakes" trophy group. John Davis – Rising Sun Dovercourt. It is paired against a Sheffield park image He likes our Orange and loves the almost Black and White look of the Sculptured Sands, he also likes the composition and balance. The Judge uses the word "Masterful". Although he also likes the colours of the Sheffield Pak image he retains John's. Next some Sea Groynes. He likes the separation and recession of that image but there is an oddity to the Left. It's rejected – he sticks with John! Next a Snowscape image, low cloud, very atmospheric. It's close but he stays with John. The last contender is a colourful sunset with a marbled sky, but the colours are a touch overblown. John wins – the crowd (well Jim and I) go wild!

Photofold Entry: Rising Sun Dovercourt – John Davis WINNER

9 Architecture: The first image is Jenni's Palace of Arts and Sciences – Refection. The Judge has seen this building before but not seen this view. He questions whether the reflection has been added it's so perfect! He gives the benefit of the doubt and Jenni's through. Next a couple of textured Triangles. No Contest - Jenni wins through. A triple reflection of St Pauls - the Symmetry is not perfect. Jenni prevails. Next the Spiral staircase in the Queens building. It's a good shot, Exceedingly well taken, definitely one of the best staircase shots he has seen, But Jenni edges it out. A B&W Leadenhall market shot is the final contender, again symmetry lets it down slightly, and perhaps the conversion to B&W means it lost something. Jenni Wins!!!! .

Photofold Entry: Reflections – Jenni Alexander WINNER



10 Off Beat: Tension mounts the computer wont eject the memory stick correctly and we are being rushed - But our final image makes it onto the screen. "Face-Off" The Judge questions why it has been entered into off-beat, but then he starts to weave a story into it about two boxers, he likes it, it grows on him – were through against a definitely "Off-Beat" jigsaw photo. The next image is two police men taking a selfie against a police van. Less said the better. We are through again. Next is a very good "Coloured Water Droplet shot" – you know the sort of thing!, it's a very good shot and we are out. He describes the droplets as masterful and its through. Next picture man wearing a dogs head mask. Droplets win

Photofold Entry: Face Off Author TBD at a future photofold competition.

That's it. It's over. Despite some teams not reading the rules (and therefore perhaps performing in the first half better than they should have done), Photofold have Blitzed the 2nd half, 3 wins out of the 5 rounds. The stars (and Judge) have aligned for Photofold, and Ray Waters, Steve Stringer, Jenni Alexander and John Davis have produced winning images for Photofold. Well Done!! The Trophy is ours!!! Now off home for tea and Medals!!

Dave Hussey: - Photofold External Competitions Secretary.
15th January 2020.