

# RPS Documentary Group Bi-monthly competition

November, 2019

## A Finely Balanced Image Maker by Gavin McGuire

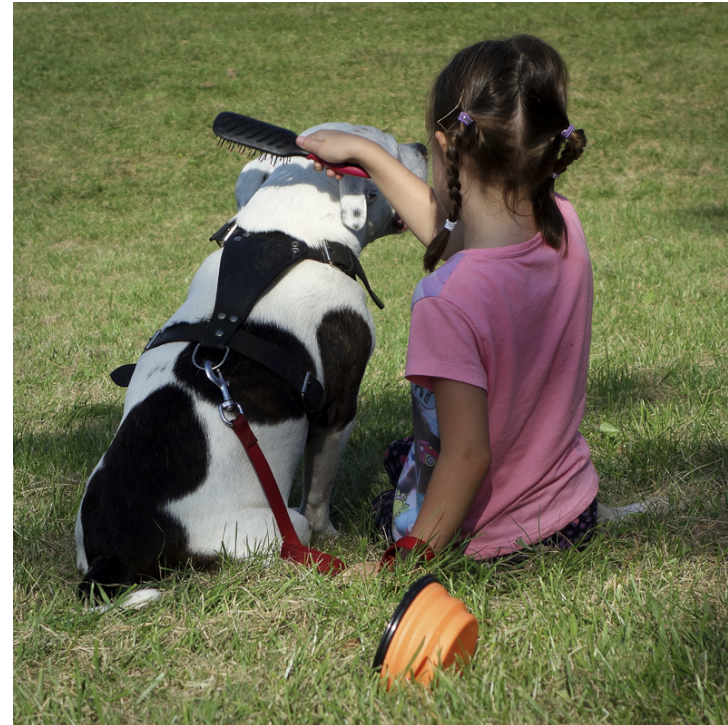
The subject is an archaeologist is carrying out research at the main workshop (apothiki) of the Belgian School Athens and is a specialist in Aegean Bronze Age seals, particularly recovered from an excavation at a Minoan palace in Sissi, Crete.

As photographic resident involved in a 17 year-long imaging project (2009-2026) of the human interaction with the ancient past at the excavation, I make regular visits to the workshop and photograph the work of colleagues dealing with conservation programmes. As is often the case the imaging is spontaneous. This lucky shot was made more interesting when the photographer later admitted that she had to make two rope balls as weights to stop the tripod from falling over.



## A Girl's Best Friend by Dawn Clifford LRPS

Taken at the Carshalton Environmental Fair in Surrey. This girl was sat in front of me with her dog watching the band, when she produced a hairbrush and started to brush the dog! The dog seemed quite happy...



## Blessing the flock by Simon Maddison LRPS



A cold June day in the little village of Le Vivier in the Pyrenees Oriental France. A priest originally from the Congo blesses the flock of a local shepherdess after afternoon Mass on a Saturday.

I have documented this village over 30 years but this was a chance photo opportunity that I came across. There is loads of incongruity: there is no history of blessing the flock in the village; the shepherdess is the first female shepherd and the first village shepherd for about 25 years; mass is no longer held on Sundays due

to a shortage of priests who serve many village parishes, and in this village is only monthly; the priest is from Franco phone (ex Belgian) Congo due to shortage of French priests.





Bosun's mate supervising the fishing by John Clement Hunt ARPS

Taken on board a fishing vessel off the coast of Flamborough Head  
Yorkshire



## Bulk grain barges on Chao Prayha River in Ayutthya by Nicholas Reuss ARPS



I came to this spot to photograph the temple on the opposite bank in the beautiful evening light. The intrusion of the barges changed the focus of my attention as the scene had become far more interesting with the contrast between part of the sun lit temple and the plain but well illuminated barges being towed to Bangkok down the water hyacinth clogged river. The river is an important highway in Thailand.



Come and get it by Andrew Frisby



I was visiting my family in Leicester on Sunday morning and came across this bustling Asian Sunday market. The colours and the excitement struck me, so I captured some shots on my iPhone.





## Cooling off by Lynda Morris LRPS



Taken from Bournemouth pier on a hot weekend in June as youngsters egged each other on to jump off the pier into the water. They kept on going jumping and running round to jump again. I liked the circle of people watching in this frame. I took many more.





## Dads at a wedding by Joan Ransley



About the photo. I saw these young Dads with their babies and loved the way they were holding them and interacting with them. They were even attempting a conversation. The baby in the yellow dress looked so tiny in her father's arms. The wedding was on the banks of the River Isis, Oxford.



## Defending Margate by Gordana Johnson



In this imaginative play these two children "defend" Margate from their imagining pirates. Imagination is an important factor in children's intellectual and physical development. Sadly, in my opinion more and more children are getting attracted to computer games.



Drama by Christopher Lawrence



Captured on a trip to Brick Lane - couldn't resist the bright colours of the graffiti and the fun these two girls were having with their photography.





## Egg catching competition, Malham Show by Valerie Mather LRPS

I shoot a lot of monochrome at the moment, but visiting the Malham agricultural show this August Bank Holiday weekend, I knew I had to choose colour, in order to capture the heatwave and the glorious setting. I took a number of images that day of the various events, but I chose this one because the boy is so intent on catching the egg. I like the fact that the viewer, like the judge and the spectators on the day, wonder will he win or will it break on impact. I know I was holding my breath when I pressed the shutter! The image, I think, is made stronger by the choice to make an environmental portrait, by including something of its remote location. This reinforces for me, that this is a traditional family country show.





## Enchantment by Bill Brooks LRPS



The photograph is called "Enchantment" and was taken on August 14th at the Tate Modern's Olafur Eliasson exhibition.

The two young children seemed quite captivated by the ethereal rainbow colours in Eliasson's water-mist installation, "Beauty (1993)". Art galleries don't always appeal to this age group, but it struck me that this was a perfect introduction to the art world, an exhibition that appeals directly to our senses, as well as the mind. This photograph forms part of a larger, ongoing series, "At the Gallery", that I have been working on since 2012



He's gone by John Gough ARPS



This was taken in McDaid's Pub in Dublin.



In an ages of lies by Tim Munsey



This is a grab shot which I was drawn to take by the animated speaker at this climate protest in Norwich.





Keeping Cool by Patsy Southwell ARPS



Taken in the area around Bristol Docks on a very hot day. People enjoying the colourful fountain.





Make up by Graham Evans LRPS



This young lady was making use of her waiting time on the station to adjust her make up. It seemed an unusual place to do this and is part of a series of pictures of passengers and staff at a main line station.



## No Frack Off by Peter Knight LRPS



Protesters against Shale Fracking groups and individuals have been physically present at the fracking site just outside of Blackpool every day since the fracking started. Fracking has had to be stopped many times due to earth tremors. On the 26th August 2019 the largest tremor so far occurred, a magnitude of 2.9. I knew that many local people would turn out that day protesting that this large tremor should be the final straw and that fracking should now be permanently stopped. I caught this moment of greeting between two colourful protesters. The protesters are peaceful and good natured but very determined that they want fracking to come to an end.





## On the run by Gary Jones ARPS



The shot is part of a series of images exploring everyday life of the inhabitants in the densely packed Barangay of Pembo in the city of Makati, Manila. I was attracted to the worn patina of the environment, also the placement of the chicken, dog and guy with the mobile phone. I wanted to get some layering in the image, so I sat on the opposite side of the road and waited for something interesting to happen in the foreground. I took many shots over a 15 minute period, during which time the guy never looked up from his mobile phone, this image was by far the best. Strangely, I never noticed the guy in the top right when I took the shot - but

he certainly adds something to the overall.



## Park Life by Lorraine Poole LRPS



Walking through town (Bournemouth) this summer with my trusty Canon I nipped through the park and came across this 'gang' of young men and their dogs. They were just sitting, chatting and chilling together. At first, they weren't too sure about me and my camera but it wasn't too long before I was feeling like the newest member of the crew! I just love spontaneous photography and I get to meet so many great characters!





## Pow wow dancers by Sheila O'Brien



This was taken as part of a project I undertook this summer to meet First Nation people (in Canada) having been moved by reading 'Bury my heart at wounded knee' earlier in the year. A pow wow is a celebration gathering with dancing, competition dancing, drumming and socialising. There are customs to be respected by all, one of which was removing headgear and no photographs

when an eagle feather fell to the floor from someone's regalia and a ceremony was performed to retrieve it. The photograph attached is not part of that.



Reflections by Neil Goodwin LRPS



The image is part of an ongoing street-based documentary project exploring the seaside town of Blackpool, specifically the dichotomy between the glitz of the sea front and the realities of the town's economic and demographic challenges, for example high social deprivation and a high number of people claiming benefits.





## River detritus by John Walker LRPS



I am a member of the RPS East Anglian Documentary group and our current project is to record any aspects of East Anglian life of our own choice. The groups offerings will then be put together for some sort of publication or exhibition.

As I started collecting images to submit to the group I realised I was gaining enough material to do put together a project of my own as well, and am planning a book. The working title is "Rem-

nants" and consists of a potpourri of images capturing things" left behind" with a definite topographic leaning. Most images have been captured using my Nikon Z6 or Olympus OM10.

As luck would have it when I came across the subject of my submission for this competition I had neither with me, so had to capture it with my mobile phone. The location is the bridge over the River Waveney at Ellingham Mill on the border of Norfolk and Suff-





folk, UK and shows items dredged up from the weir by local fresh-water fishermen.



Sink or Saved by John Clement Hunt ARPS



Part of a project on slalom racing taken at Lee Valley canoe centre in Essex



## Space walk by Rolf Kraehenbuehl



another example of my imagination :-) I don't see a worker cleaning the cupola of the British Museum, I see an astronaut doing a space walk in the early days of such activities... it tells you something about what's going on in the space behind my eyes :-)





## Steam by David Smith LRPS



From the steam railway depot in Wirksworth. I liked the wheelbarrow and the enormous amount of coal ready to produce the steam required by the locomotives. The coal was at one time produced from local pits but is now imported from Poland.



## The 50th Anniversary by Geoff Hughes ARPS



I was fascinated by the reflections that seemed to act as a metaphor for reflecting on the events of the last 50 years. The celebration was by a graphic designer who had been in business for that time. The composition that includes Horizontal and Vertical lines and Triangles also reflect much of the basic procedures of graphic design layouts. The printed table decorations with the 50 lettering appears on both thirds although this was not seen at the time of exposure.



## The Assessment by Brian Etherington ARPS



This image is from a series I have been working on about "Teaching the Craft of Bookbinding". Taken June 15th 2019 at Linton village in Cambridgeshire this was the 3rd in a series of workshops by Designer Bookbinder Mark Cockram for members of the Society of Bookbinders. I had taken a number of images, mostly environmental portraits of the teacher and student relationship. I wanted to abstract that relationship a little and was drawn to the face printed on the pocket of Mark's overall as he was assessing a student's work. It was not exactly set up because I saw the idea for the image as Mark was working and interacting with the students,

but I positioned the student's work on the bench at an angle for leading lines and asked Mark to stand next to it as he carried on talking to the student.





## The Preacher by Chris Barbara ARPS

I was photographing Brighton Pride when I came across a group of Christians who had come down from London to preach their beliefs on the pavement next to the main parade. They were fenced in from the public with police protection. I have a series of images documenting the vibrant happy pride paraders dancing and making their own placards in good humored protest against the protestors.



## The Traveller by Simon Revington



The photo is part of a series of Black and White street photography I am shooting on film that looks the identity of London and the people who choose to live one of the world's most fascinating cities. I chose HP5 for this series as both a classic street film as well as for its grittiness which often complements the look and feel of the city.

I love that this shot could have been taken at any time in the last few decades and that often the city serves as something of a time warp with its rich history weaving throughout every day life.

I used the overhead light of the platform spotlight to light the tube

passing the subject, as well as his face, with a slower shutter speed to give movement to the passing train through the frame. With his hat, glasses and suit, The Traveller is something of a throw-back and the notebook in his hand adds an element of intrigue and interest to the viewer.



## The Waller by Mike Kitson LRPS

This is part of a series taken across at a Dry Stone Walling competition run by the Dry Stone Walling Association at the recent Penrith Show (20th July 2019). I have been photographing some of the Association's activities across this year in order to create a photo essay on Dry Stone Walling Competitions. These images will form part of an exhibition on Cumbria and the Yorkshire Dales, possibly a photobook and some will form part of my forthcoming A Panel (Documentary Photography).





The beach at Margate by David Pollard ARPS



MISSING Description



## Tories Against Brexit by Stephen L Marsh

I was on the March Against Brexit through Central London in July and was surprised to see the small group. To keep things simple I just had a Lumix 20 f1.7 on my GX9.



Untitled-6 by David Gleave LRPS

Taken on Sunday at Manchester Pride.





## Waiting for the gilets jaunes by Gerald Phillipson LRPS



I was caught up (again) in a Gilets Jaunes demo in Toulouse. Fortunately there was no teargas this time! The police warned me not to try and take photos of the demonstrators themselves but seemed quite happy for me to photograph them as they awaited the massed marchers.



## Who's looking at who by Thomas Byrne



I photograph various genres, but I really enjoy street photography where I take off with my camera and a prime lens into town on a walkabout ready for what may interesting scene / subject (cameras I use are: Nikon D750 and Nikon D850 with a 35mm f/1.4G, and also a Fujifilm X-T2 with a 23mm f/1.4mm prime lens - NB: Nikon cameras are my main choice).

The photograph submitted was taken on outside the Cartier jewellery shop in New Bond Street, London. It depicts two ladies from the middle east on holiday, taking photographs of a Romanian busker. While the ladies are looking at the street musician, unaware of the photographer, the musician is looking at the camera.



content by Stephen Bywater



My self imposed challenge for August has been to only take black and white photos. I've been holidaying in Corfu and the photo opportunities have been brilliant. Great light and interesting people. This man was so happy and chilled, his constant smile says it all as he relaxes taking in the sun. His wife is the background and has a distance that adds to the irony of the mans content smile. This is summer holidaying!

