

4th December Pictorial Session.

Tutorial -DSLR/Compact/Bridge Cameras

John Harding gave us a good comparison of the features of his Canon DSLR and Cannon Compact. He outlined the reasons why he is using the compact more and more, especially how it was becoming his camera of choice when wanting to save space and weight when on walks. There was little obvious difference between the image quality of the two cameras.

Tony Wright went through the reasons for selecting a range of Bridge and Compact cameras which also served as a history of recent technical developments in these sectors.

His presentation is attached.

Set Subject

There was a good range of Places of Worship, many of architectural and atmospheric merit, lots of interesting buildings and a number of creative interpretations of the subject.

18th December Digital Session

Seasonal Offerings

A fun video from Mike Hender introduced the meeting – enjoy:

www.youtube.com/watch?v=sUn4AurqNY8

Jim Lukemanji showed his latest calendar creation featuring several photos taken on U3A walks and photoshoots, templated in Photoshop and printed on poundshop paper but using OEM inks.

Themed Topic

We looked at a number of examples of restoring images associated with Family History. We examined a variety of techniques mainly involving manual and content aware cloning. There was an example of repairing a completely torn photograph by scanning the two halves then

selecting one portion and moving it close to the other. We touched on the use of OCR and could return to the subject of Text in Images in due course. We were left with an overriding respect for the detail in old professional photographs and gratitude for the permanency and resilience of the medium.

Scanning Demo

Once Tony Wright had overcome a rather strange technical hitch when trying to use the software on a tablet form factor (incidentally the software returned to normal when connected to a monitor) we looked at the options available on Epson scanners used in Professional Mode. Other manufacture's and third party software may offer the same level of control.

The demo took us through the basic set up to make the first test scan and we will look at modifying this image at a later date. This video covers most of the areas we looked at: www.youtube.com/watch?v=aBFqtvfK1E

We also talked about handling and conserving the original photographs and the level of restoration that was appropriate in various circumstances. A source of high quality storage solutions can be found at www.conservation-by-design.com/home.aspx?pagename=home

A good specialist photographic conservation company is www.paperconservation.co.uk/ with the added benefit that you get a free pass to the Duxford Museum if you visit them!