

Western Counties Photographic Federation (WCPF) Audio Visual Competition 2023

Saturday 29th April 2023 Woodbury Village Hall

Richard Brown FRPS FAcI (M) APAGB EFIAP FIPF was the judge for the day of 38 entries from 25 entrants from 10 WCPF clubs which included seven first time entrants. Richard's critique was most

helpful, suggesting where appropriate the use of a more enthusiastic voice, whether the music matched the sequences, especially at change over points and consideration about timings and endings. He placed particular emphasis on telling a good story and trying to avoid a list of facts. Overall, Richard's comments were well considered with positive and encouraging feedback to all the entrants, highlighting particular strong points such as the use of third images, well matched music and sound effects, blends and transitions and excellent photography.



The Prizes

There was an 'electric' mix of all types of sequences including humour, thought provoking work, animation, composites, mono and much more. Something there for everyone.

It was Exmouth Photo Group's day as not only did we host the session we also had entries from ten of our members: Ian Bateman, Jenny Baker, Christine Chittock, Nova Fisher, Sheila Haycox, Derrick Holliday, Mo Martin, Lynn Middleton-Flynn, Ernie King and John Perriam. Of the 19 awards 12 were given to seven of our members; a real achievement. All so well organised by Ian Bateman – see the full results on:

<https://www.thewcpf.com/wcpf-av-2023>



Vice-President Pedro Landers presents Cathy Fordham with her award

The Presidents Salver for the winner of the 'Long AV Competition' was awarded to Cathy Fordham of Sodbury and Yate Photographic Club for her 'The Custodian'. This was an AV with a difference, captivating the audience from start to finish with every twist and turn, with walls that had heard many scary stories over the years in one household, with a cellar that was best to avoid. A master at story telling with clever use of images and well-timed sound effects. Ian Bateman (EPG) and Robert Albright (Swindon PS) were awarded joint Second place. The audience also recognised Cathy's talented AV work with the Audience Award for Best AV.



John Perriam wins the Photo Harmony Trophy

'Behind the Mask' by Sheila Haycox from Exmouth Photo Group made superb use of wonderful images mostly captured in Venice. With vibrant use of colour throughout the audience were drawn to the eyes behind the mask, giving us a glimpse of who was behind the mask before moving on with clever transitions. The music was well chosen and timed with the audience anticipating the next images, not being disappointed and left wondering about the characters behind the masks. A well-deserved winner of The Coote Challenge Cup for a 'Short' Sequence.



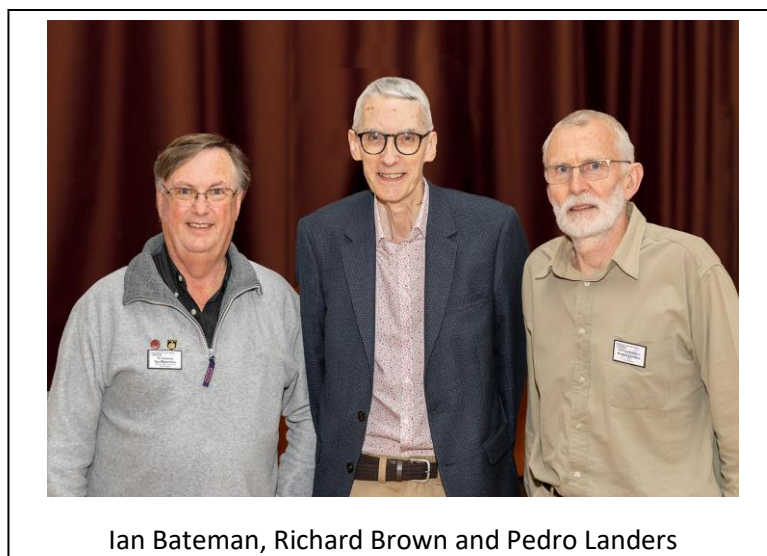
Sheila Haycox wins the 'Short AV' Trophy

Mo Martin, Exmouth Photo Group was placed second with 'The Camargue'. David Faulkes, Honiton Camera Club achieved two awards in this category with third for 'Mania' and Highly Commended for 'A Reluctant Warrior'.

Another award for Exmouth Photo Group was given to John Perriam for his 'God's Own Country' winning the Photo Harmony Trophy. Some of Yorkshire's Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB) were shown in his sequence starting and ending with the majesty of waterfalls so well captured with long exposure photography and just the right sound effects to set the atmosphere. A large amount of green in a landscape can be difficult to pull off but John managed this well with his great compositions showing off the barns and trees with every photo of the highest quality. Second place was awarded to Ian Bateman, Exmouth Photo Group for 'Shades of Autumn' and Jane Lee, Dorchester Camera Club came third with 'Impressions of Autumn'. Highly Commended was awarded to Christine Chittock, Exmouth Photo Group for 'Frosty Morning'.

Norman Horsham from WAVES had tackled Britain's most northerly point – Hermaness National Nature Reserve (NNR) with great skill. We were shown the dramatic cliff-top haven for thousands of seabirds via his stunning photography. Gannets from every angle were very well captured showing us squabbles over food, with close ups of their plumage with the whites all well exposed leaving us to admire their steely eyes and magnificent beaks. Puffins too with their brightly coloured beaks all sharp and not easy to capture given the terrain. Through his sequence of images Norman worked his magic and showed the audience a lesser-known nature reserve and his AV was justly awarded 'The Judges Special Award'.

Altogether an entertaining, informative day with much creativity and superb photography. All shown so well via the excellent projection facilities of a superb hall in a relatively small village.



Ian Bateman, Richard Brown and Pedro Landers

Review by Christine Chittock, CPAGB AFIAP – *Exmouth Photo Group*

Photos by Chaz Madge – *Exmouth Photo Group*