



## AWARDS FOR PHOTOGRAPHIC MERIT Our first Online Adjudication



**Forever Blowing Bubbles by Jill Toman DPAGB**

Our first Online Adjudication ran very smoothly, thanks mainly to a lot of hard work by Adrian Lines and Libby Smith. We were determined that we should view the entries at maximum quality and, although we used Zoom for communication, the images worked directly from our website so that we saw them exactly as they were uploaded by the entrant. Our thanks also to the Adjudicators who complied with our technical requirements for remote viewing and who worked hard throughout the day.

Judging on a large monitor at close range is obviously not the same as viewing on a 8' screen some distance away. Some faults, such as over sharpening, were much more obvious on a monitor, whilst other issues were less obvious than they would be if projected. As a result, some images which had been used in previous submissions scored worse or better than might have been anticipated. This is an unfortunate disadvantage of the different method of viewing but, on this occasion, our Review Team looked at every image submitted, and I am happy to still be able to claim that no-one failed who should have passed. It is of course possible that some failed or passed with a lower total than they might have expected.

*Rod Wheelans MPAGB. Chairman of the Awards for Photographic Merit*

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**41 applications were adjudicated at CREDIT PDI level and 18 were successful.**

<b>Cathy Holgate</b>	<b>Hertford &amp; District CC</b>	<b>EAF</b>
<b>Ellen Bell</b>	<b>Morecambe CC</b>	<b>L&amp;CPU</b>
<b>David Boam</b>	<b>Macclesfield CC</b>	<b>L&amp;CPU</b>
<b>Roger Johnstone</b>	<b>Nelson CC</b>	<b>L&amp;CPU</b>
<b>Leslie Price</b>	<b>Darwen CC</b>	<b>L&amp;CPU</b>
<b>David Elder</b>	<b>Cheltenham CC</b>	<b>MCPF</b>
<b>Kylie-Ann Martin</b>	<b>Great Barr PS</b>	<b>MCPF</b>
<b>Jill Orme</b>	<b>Stratford Photo Group</b>	<b>MCPF</b>
<b>Graham Clegg</b>	<b>Deepings CC</b>	<b>N&amp;EMPF</b>
<b>David Kissman</b>	<b>Keyworth CC</b>	<b>N&amp;EMPF</b>
<b>David Mangan</b>	<b>Nottingham &amp; Notts PS</b>	<b>N&amp;EMPF</b>
<b>Dean Irvine</b>	<b>Catchlight CC</b>	<b>NIPA</b>
<b>William G Strain</b>	<b>Catchlight CC</b>	<b>NIPA</b>
<b>Chris Tostevin-Hall</b>	<b>Spectrum (Guernsey)</b>	<b>SCPF</b>
<b>Neil Treloar</b>	<b>Middleton CC</b>	<b>SPA</b>
<b>Steve Batchelor</b>	<b>Barnstaple CC</b>	<b>WCPF</b>
<b>Andy Francis</b>	<b>Barnstaple CC</b>	<b>WCPF</b>
<b>Jeff Kirby</b>	<b>Stroud CC</b>	<b>WCPF</b>

**16 applications were adjudicated at DISTINCTION PDI level and 6 were successful.**

<b>Marion Rapier</b>	<b>Edmonton CC</b>	<b>EAF</b>
<b>Roger Geldard</b>	<b>South Manchester CC</b>	<b>L&amp;CPU</b>
<b>Tony North</b>	<b>South Manchester CC</b>	<b>L&amp;CPU</b>
<b>Kenneth Gillies</b>	<b>Edinburgh PS</b>	<b>SPF</b>
<b>Jane Kearney</b>	<b>Barnstaple CC</b>	<b>WCPF</b>
<b>Elizabeth Jane Lazenby</b>	<b>Wakefield CC</b>	<b>YPU</b>

*Congratulations*

to everyone who was successful and commiserations if you were not lucky this time.



**Wreck Diver by Ken Gillies DPAGB**



Common Blues on Wild Marjoram by Tony North DPAGB



Hoopoe Feeding Chick by Richard Geldard DPAGB



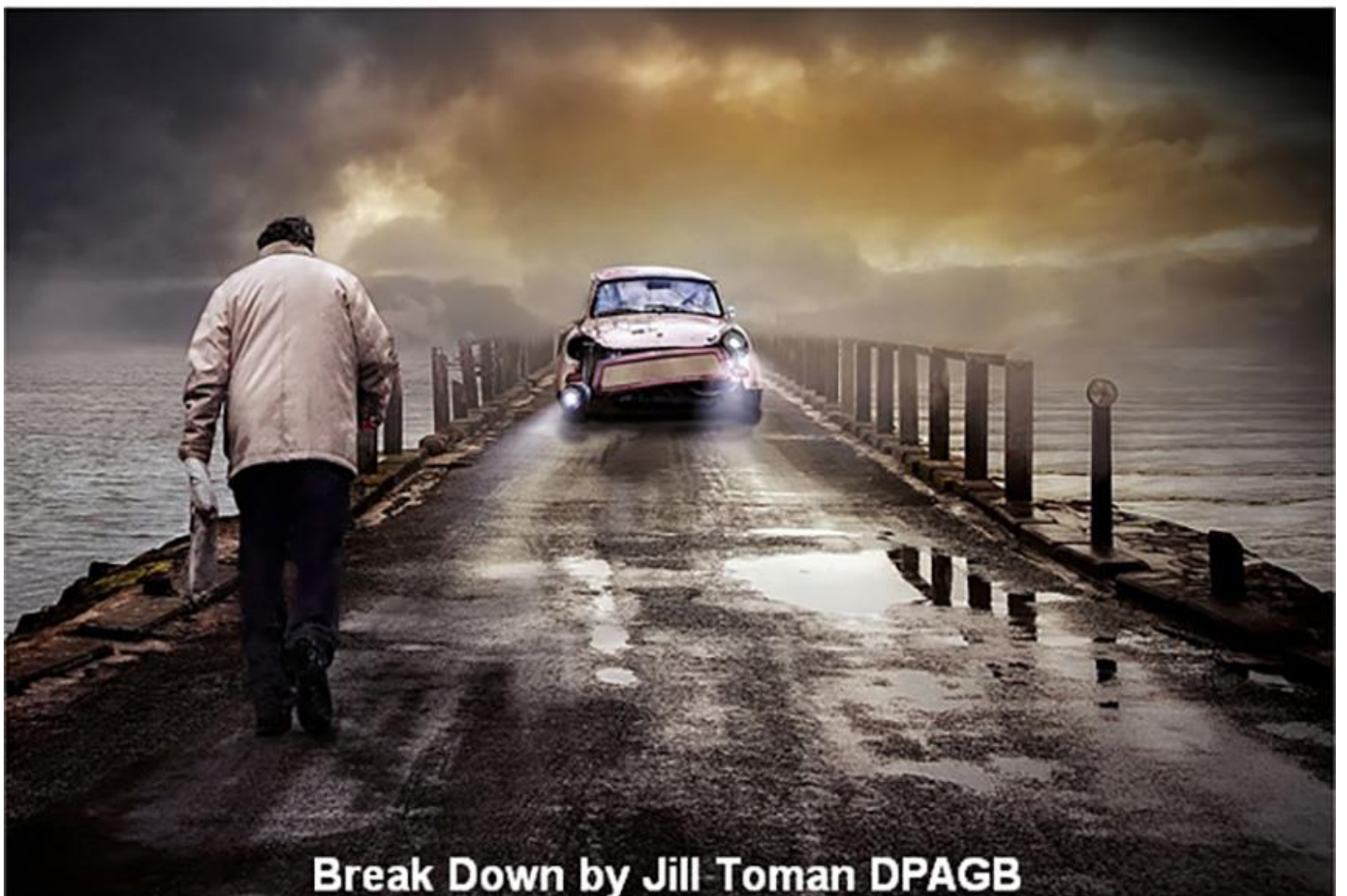
Reddish Egret with Fish by Richard Geldard DPAGB



Green Sea Turtle by Ken Gillies DPAGB



Dark Green Fritillaries on Wild Marjoram by Tony North DPAGB



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THE PHOTOGRAPHIC ALLIANCE OF GRETA BRITAIN  
AWARDS FOR PHOTOGRAPHIC MERIT



ADJUDICATIONS ARE

**YES** or **NO**

At an Adjudication, your photograph is shown, and a score is announced. Except it isn't a score but a summation of the votes by each Adjudicator, as shown by this slide from one of our Recorded Lectures.

However, we ask our Adjudicators to **VOTE** rather than score

**YES** which they indicate by pressing **4**

**Near Miss** which they indicate by pressing **3**

**NO** which they indicate by pressing **2**

**Next Level** which they indicate by pressing **5**

We understand how confusing this can be, especially if you receive a much lower score than you expected, but the Adjudicators are just voting *Yes* or *No* with some *Near Misses* and some good enough for the *Next Level*. A score of 12 does not mean that the picture has no merit, and we aren't attempting to rank it amongst the other entries. It simply means that all 6 Adjudicators

didn't think that it achieved the standard required. It may have missed by very little but is still **No**. If it is very close, much nearer to **Yes** than it is to **No**, some of the Adjudicators may vote for a *Near Miss* resulting in a "score" from 13-18. There can be a very fine line between a 12 and 18.



At CPAGB and DPAGB level you can pass with just 20 "points" per photograph, but it is risky to apply if all of your work is at this standard. 20 is only 2 Adjudicators saying **Yes** and 4 voting for a *Near Miss*, 4+4+3+3+3+3, and you should be aiming for 6 **Yes** votes for 24 "points". Ideally you need at least a couple of images which are good enough for the *Next Level* so that they can "score" 25-30. This compensates for any of your borderline images "scoring" less than 20.

Only the applicant sees their Total "Score" and these are never published by the PAGB although the applicant often chooses to do so on social media.

It can be even more confusing if you have succeeded at one level and you are now applying for the next.

If you have an image which scored 24 at CPAGB, you may think that this is a "banker", but it is not! 6 Adjudicators thought it was good for CPAGB and voted **Yes**. None of them thought that it was good enough for DPAGB, otherwise they would have voted by pressing 5. When this image appears at DPAGB the very best you can hope for is that 6 Adjudicators will vote *Near Miss* for a score of 18. It is more likely that that most of them will vote **No** for a lower score, possibly even 12. It won't be the same Adjudicators and, although they are very experienced and carefully briefed, we don't pretend that there isn't a little bit of luck involved and we have seen many entries which have done better than might have been expected from their score at the lower level.

**"No one has ever failed who should have passed".**

*Good Luck* is always beneficial, and we have a Review Panel to cater for any *Bad Luck* you may have. As non-voting Chairman of the APM since 1997, I remain happy to state that no one has ever failed who should have passed.

*Rod Wheelans MPAGB*

You can download a useful leaflet with lots of information, a full description of the standard required and answers to frequently asked questions at [http://www.thepagb.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/apm\\_leaflet\\_1.pdf](http://www.thepagb.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/apm_leaflet_1.pdf).



Winning match point by David Kissman

David Kissman [www.davidkissman.co.uk](http://www.davidkissman.co.uk)

I had never considered seeking my CPAGB until I contemplated starting to judge competitions, when I felt that I needed to demonstrate some level of my own photographic competence. I registered via N&EMPF way back in December 2019 expecting to have my prints ready for an assessment event in 2020. I was given a date in November 2020 in Newton Abbott. I then began to review my portfolio and to select a number of images that were to be narrowed down for the entry.

Then COVID came along, and plans were thrown into understandable disarray. However, all was not lost and, despite the planned assessment day at the Photography Show being cancelled, Rod Wheelans assembled a group of volunteer advisers to assist applicants and I applied to be part of the scheme.

How lucky I was to be paired with Colin Westgate. He has years of experience and his knowledge, skills and advice proved invaluable to me in bringing down my shortlist to the final 10. I switched from Prints to PDI and submitted my images.

I was delighted to get the confirmation of my success in January.

Thanks to everyone involved in making this happen in the challenging times we face, including my supportive colleagues at Keyworth C.C., where I have been a member for 12 years.



Riding the Dust by Marion Rapier DPAGB



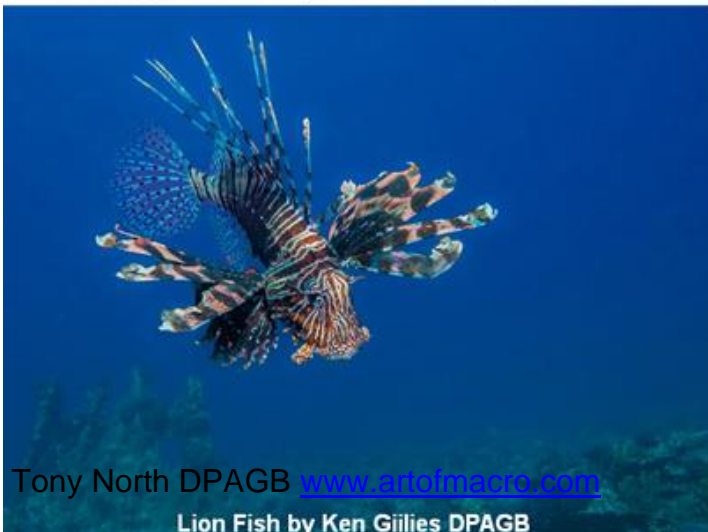
Ready for Action by Marion Rapier DPAGB



Leather Jacket by Marion Rapier DPAGB



Milky Way over Tryfan by Tony North DPAGB



Tony North DPAGB [www.artofmacro.com](http://www.artofmacro.com)

Lion Fish by Ken Gillies DPAGB



The Collector by Jill Toman





**Red and Blue Damsels by Tony North DPAGB**

My DPAGB was hard work, but very rewarding. After I achieved my CPAGB award, I decided that I needed a macro photographer to mentor me for the D, as most of my images were going to be of insects.

I asked L&CPU luminary Christine Widdall, and to my great fortune she agreed. She was very generous with her time and gave me extremely valuable advice. Much of that was on my post processing, helping me to fix my colours and contrast. And, of course, Chris also helped me select the final 15. My photography has improved dramatically, over the year and a bit that she advised me.

The DPAGB results indicate that macro is indeed my strength, with the highest scores going to my shots of two or three butterflies.

Next is the M, but that will be an enormous challenge. More hard work ahead!

**Tony North DPAGB** [www.artofmacro.com](http://www.artofmacro.com)



**On The Rocks by Chris John Tostevin Hall CPAGB**



**Left Out by Cathy Holgate CPAGB**



**The Scowl by Kylie-Ann Martin CPAGB**



**Mind the Gap by David Boam CPAGB**



Australian Team Sprint by Richard Geldard DPAGB



Angels Plea by Jill Toman DPAGB



Death Of A Great Horse by Elizabeth Jane Lazenby DPAGB



Wuthering Heights by Elizabeth Jane Lazenby DPAGB



Making Their Way Down by Marion Rapier DPAGB

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**Mycena Arcoangeliana (Angels Bonnet) by Roger Johnstone CPAGB**

Many thanks to the PAGB for recommending a highly qualified adviser who gave lots of useful advice and made the whole selection process very enjoyable. His attention to detail and constructive criticism were most helpful.

Also thanks to the PAGB who, in these difficult times, have made it possible for the awards to be given.

**Roger Johnstone CPAGB**



**Aggression-Colne Cycling Grand Prix by Roger Johnstone CPAGB**



**The Frozen Princess Elsa by Kylie-Ann Martin CPAGB**



**Boiler Room Ballet by William G Strain  
CPAGB**



Early Morning Flight by Neil Treloar CPAGB



Red grouse - Up periscope by Jeff Kirby



Brown Hare by Leslie Price CPAGB



Kingfisher exiting Water by Neil Treloar CPAGB



Kingfisher by Jill Dyson Orme CPAGB

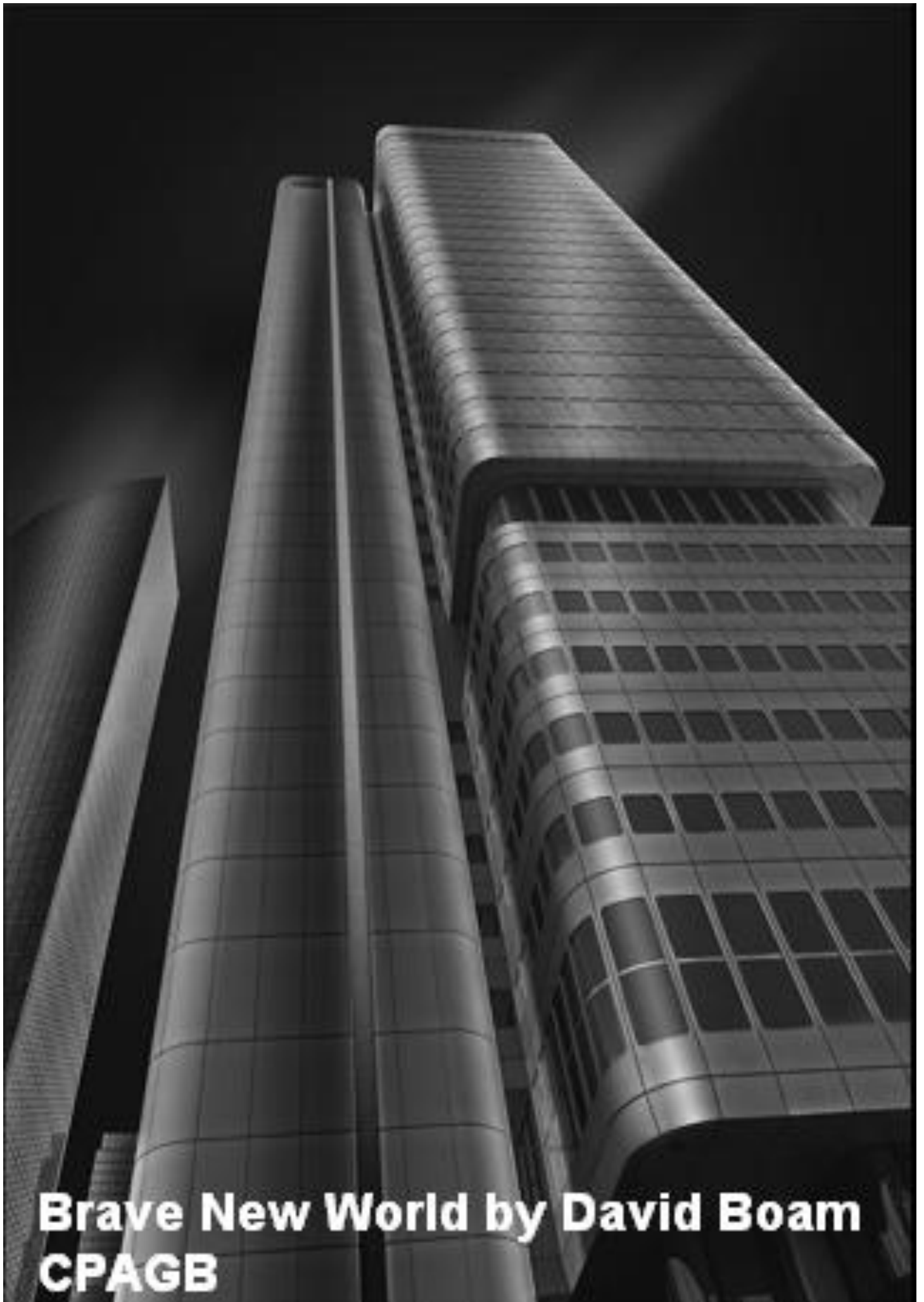


Chrysopilus cristatus (male) by Chris John Tostevin\_Hall CPAGB



Crested Tit by David Elder CPAGB

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# **Brave New World by David Boam**

## **CPAGB**

Jane Lazenby. [www.ejlazenbyphotography.co.uk](http://www.ejlazenbyphotography.co.uk) [www.ejlazenby.com](http://www.ejlazenby.com)

My first distinction was in 2017, after joining Wakefield C.C. and, realising how working for a goal made my work improve, I decided to aim at a distinction every year. The goal for 2020 was a DPAGB. I love having purpose and a D panel would really need to be my best work.

Initial feedback on my images seemed poor, thankfully making me more determined to succeed! The majority of my images were equine based which I felt could be good enough, but did I need more variation?

Rod Wheelans was on hand to provide the first of two advisers, Hunter Kennedy, who was really thorough giving me a list of recommended tweaks, and by Spring 2020, my images were in and awaiting the APM... and then the rest is Covid history! After the first postponement I took the chance of a second adviser, Leo Rich, who filled me with confidence and I really felt I was ready!

But the APM date was extended again, then cancelled and Covid carried on to its second and third wave. I'd agreed to enter the closed adjudication as I'm always so nervous during judging, but it came as a surprise last week to open an email congratulating me on my success! It had totally slipped my mind that the closed APM had been scheduled for January 2021.

The horses had all scored well, so I was delighted that both advisers had agreed with my 'horse heavy' selection. Looking back after nearly a year in the starting stalls, the images seem very dated, so I think it's time to start working on my distinction for 2021 and new creations.

I like how the PAGB run their Awards, with each image being judged on its individual merits, rather than a coherent panel. It makes the selection much less complex.

A big thank you to all the team involved in the first totally online Adjudication.



Footloose by William G Strain CPAGB



Jab by Dean Irvine CPAGB

**Dave Mangan CPAGB** [https://www.instagram.com/david\\_mangan/?hl=en](https://www.instagram.com/david_mangan/?hl=en)

Taking part in club photography at Nottingham and Notts Photographic Society had raised both the technical and artistic quality of my photographs. I had some success in competitions and a few members of the society suggested that I should apply for a CPAGB award. I felt that I might have enough good images, reflecting my interest in sports, seascape, and nature photography to start the application process. I downloaded the information leaflets from the PAGB website and, with the help of one of the club members, selected 20 images that I could take along to an advisory day organised by the Midlands Counties Photographic Federation.

The feedback I obtained on the day was very valuable, allowing me to clarify which images of my selection were the best to submit. I was offered a further opportunity to receive feedback online and received detailed and very helpful comments on all my images. I submitted my images for the April 2019 adjudication. Once the adjudication had been able to take place, I was delighted to receive an email to say that my application had been successful. The process of selecting and refining my images was challenging but rewarding and I intend to apply for the DPAGB award in the future.







**Wisteria Beauty by Graham Clegg CPAGB**



**The New Boss by Kylie-Ann Martin CPAGB**



Red Grouse by David Elder CPAGB



Meadow pipit moment by Jeff Kirby



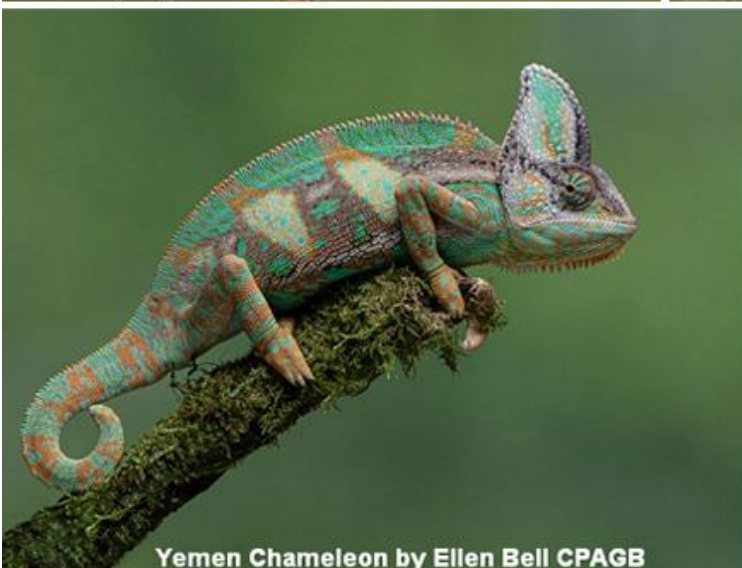
Preying Mantis by Ellen Bell CPAGB



Red Squirrel by David Elder CPAGB



Mallard chasing a Heron by Neil Treloar CPAGB



Yemen Chameleon by Ellen Bell CPAGB



Lesser Hornet Hoverfly by Jill Dyson Orme CPAGB



Fighting for Control by David Mangan CPAGB



Kiki by Graham Clegg CPAGB



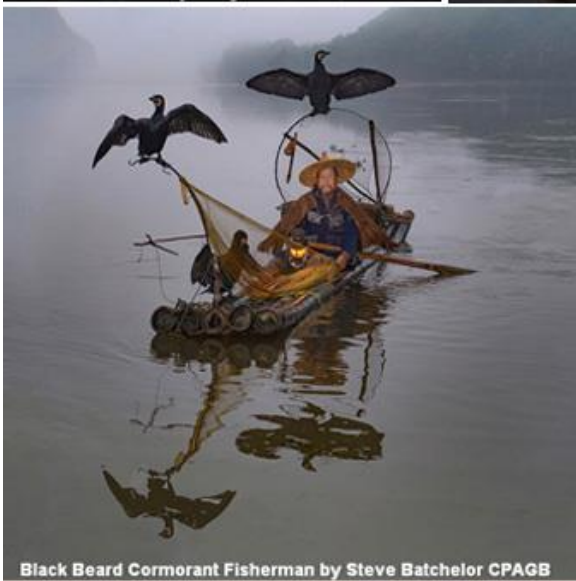
Superstretch by David Kissman CPAGB



Dont fear the reaper by Dean Irvine CPAG



Georgia by Graham Clegg CPAGB



Black Beard Cormorant Fisherman by Steve Batchelor CPAGB



Atlantean queen by Dean Irvine CPAGB



African Lion and Lioness by David Kissman CPAGB



All arms and legs by David Kissman CPAGB



**Red Rose by William G Strain CPAGB**



**Mrs Pan Looks Out by Steve Batchelor CPAGB**



**Misty dawn at Rydal Water by Leslie Price CPAGB**



**St Annes Jetty by David Beam CPAGB**



**Wasp Reflections by Ellen Bell CPAGB**