



# The Viewfinder

Newsletter of the Peterborough Photographic Society

May 2019

Editor: Judith Bain

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## President's Message By Margaret Hamilton

### Farewell

Well, my tenure as President ends this month, and I'd be remiss if I didn't first thank the entire membership for your support. I've had the distinct pleasure of working with an executive that was committed to making this club a place where all feel welcome. Each brought their points of view to the table and oftentimes their ideas were creative, considerate, and positive.

I hope that I've added something personally to this wonderful club. Along with an amazing team, we tried to provide you with some insight, some levity, and some entertainment.

There are always challenges that any club faces both positively and negatively, but we did our best to work through each situation and uniformly made decisions we all thought were best for the club.

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To Claude, who at this writing is about to take over as President, I wish you much success, and I look forward to what you and your team bring to PPS.

I continue to urge all members to make suggestions that will continually improve our club. As I've said before, a club is for all the members and as such, each member has a voice.

Thank you and take care! Happy shooting!

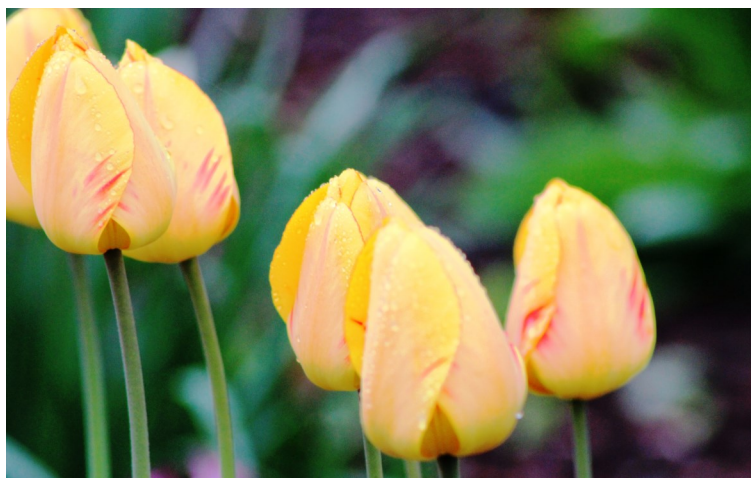
Marg



Cont'd on Page 2

# President's Message Continued

## Spring is Busting Out All Over





## Program Notes By Terry Carpenter

### APRIL MEETING

Thank you to the few members who participated in the Brown Bag Challenge. There were some excellent and very creative interpretations of the contents of the bags they received. Thanks to those members for such great, imaginative contributions!

I must admit that it was a little disappointing that so few members participated in the Brown Bag Challenge. We will try to do better next year, won't we?

Also, many members commented that they enjoyed the video on Landscape Photography by Thomas Heaton. One comment he made that struck home was, "above all else, get out and take pictures".

### JUNE MEETING

As you may know, and look forward to attending, the May Meeting is our election night, and also, the presentation of our members' five-minute slide shows. The shows can be of any subject you want. They can be accompanied by music, or if you wish, just manually show your images and talk about them. The one stipulation we have is that any individual show **cannot be any longer than five minutes**. Send your show to the Slide Show Dropbox no later than midnight, on the last Tuesday before the meeting. This will enable the Projectionist to check that they all will run properly.

There are some good programs out there for creating a show including my favourite Pro Show Gold. There are also some free ones that do a pretty good job, such as Photo Story Three for Windows, FastStone Image Viewer, XnView, and many others you may find on the internet.

#### 2019 PHOTO THEMES

May: What Is It?

June: Clouds

#### May Outings

##### Breakfast Outing

May 11th

Mark S. Burnham Park

##### Regular Outing

May 25th

Jungle Cat World

## Program Notes Continued

### 2019 - 2020 Themes

Here is the list of themes for the up-coming season of PPS. Please note that when submitting for the theme images, that they must be taken from June 1<sup>st</sup> 2019 through the last meeting of the year in June of 2020.

I hope you have fun shooting for these new themes.

*Terry*

- September: Sand Patterns
- October: Dilapidated Buildings
- November: Leaves
- December: Simplicity
- January: Long Exposure
- February: Moody Landscapes
- March: Nature's Abstract
- April: Shadows
- May: The Colour Purple
- June: Peeling Paint





## The Story Behind the Photo by Dawn Macklin

### Peru

Paul and I just returned from a two-week trip to Peru. Definitely the trip of a life-time. Of course, the must-see of the trip is Machu Picchu. It is stunningly beautiful, and so rich in history. However, there were other unexpected highlights during the trip, and a couple of them had quite an impact on all 18 people in our group.

A 3.5-hour mountain trek was exciting enough, given the incredible scenery, but add to this the Peruvian flute music surrounding us and echoing off the hills as we followed the trails. (It made me think of "The Sound of Music", when Julie Andrews is on the mountain top, and the music is playing and you feel as though you are there with her celebrating such splendour.) The effect was magical, and the music followed us the entire time.

Eventually, we spotted the local musician on the lower trail, while he kept pace with our travels. He did connect with us at one point, and I had the chance to take his photo. He hoped to receive a tip in appreciation for his music, or sell one of his flutes. I doubt that he realized the extent of the impact he and his music had on all of us. Here we are, back at home, yet still being transported back to those trails and surrounded by such hauntingly beautiful sounds.





## The Story Behind the Photo Continued

# Peru

Ruins are everywhere in Peru, and even more so is the terracing on every type of slope, some dating back 1500 years.





## Location Challenge By Brian Crangle

### Peterborough City Hall

Hi, Folks ...

Last challenge for the year. I hope you get images like this one. Once again, I encourage creativity. Get out there, and show us that you had some fun, These images will be shown at the June meeting.

Brian C







## Terry's Tip of the Month By Terry Carpenter

### The Rule of Thirds

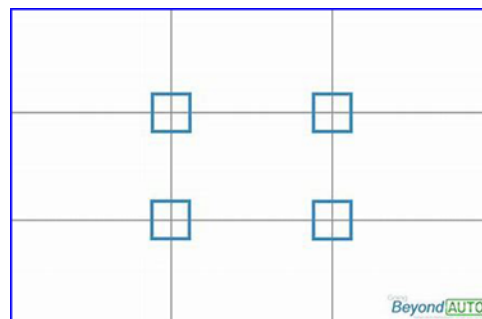
This one of the most useful rules of composition. The Rule of Thirds can help us compose photos that have a “wow factor” and a sense of balance. The Rule Of Thirds can be one of the most useful aids in composition.

Don't think of it as being set in stone, but use it as an aid or rule-of-thumb; to be used as a starting point which usually gives a much better-balanced image.

#### **WHAT IS THE RULE OF THIRDS**

Placing your subject off-centre usually creates a more pleasing image. To do this, imagine four lines; two horizontal and two vertical, over your image. This would create nine squares over your photo. By placing your centre of interest at one of your intersecting lines will usually create a more pleasing composition. Keep in mind, though, that some images will look better if the main subject is positioned in the central area. It is your image and, therefore, up to your discretion. You are the artist. Please see illustration below.

Check your camera's instruction manual as some cameras allow you to set an overlay or grid pattern on your viewfinder. This certainly helps take the guesswork out of the use of thirds.



I have included a couple of images on the next page to help show the effects of the Rule of Thirds.

*Terry Carpenter*

# Terry's Tip of the Month Continued

## The Rule of Thirds



TERRY CARPENTER ©



TERRY CARPENTER ©





## Outings By Dave Duffus

### May Outings

**NOTE:** If you plan to go on one of the Outings, please sign the sheet at the meeting, or send Dave an e-mail. It's much easier to make reservations when we know how many will be attending. Thank you!

**Breakfast Outing: May 11th**, at Mark S. Burnham Park . We can meet there at 8:30 a.m., and go for breakfast after our shoot.

**Regular Outing: May 25th**, at Jungle Cat World. For directions, check the web site: [junglecatworld.com](http://junglecatworld.com). Cost is \$20 per person. We can meet there at 11:00 a.m.



Photo courtesy of the Jungle Cat World web site.

If you are unable to drive, or you need a lift to an Outing, please be sure to call another PPS Member who will be attending the Outing and ask for a ride.  
There will always be someone available to help.



# Outing Photo By Lydia Dotto





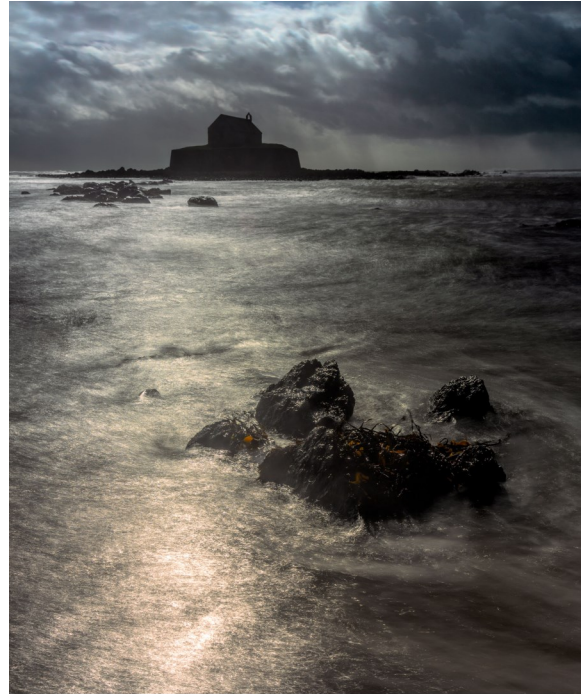


## Travel Photography By Guy Ridgway

### The Gales of Wales

Shooting images in extreme weather isn't something I'm in the habit of pursuing, but after my experience in north Wales I'm beginning to reconsider what it takes to chase down an ideal photo. Gale force winds certainly aren't needed for that, but maybe they don't have to be such an impediment. Or, perhaps it's just that I found myself in another one-week photography workshop where we didn't have the luxury of waiting for better conditions. This March, my wife, Caroline and I, and our friend and fellow photographer, Tanya, once again found ourselves in the UK with Colin Jarvis, a professional landscape photographer and instructor (see "Over the Sea to Skye" in the May, 2018, edition of The Viewfinder). This year our residential workshop home was a cottage just outside the castle town of Conwy, from where we set out each day to sites throughout north Wales and the English Yorkshire Dales. The typically five-day workshop was extended by two days at our request and ran from March 8 through the 15th.

Our trip came in two parts: the three of us in the Wales workshop with Colin (9 days) and the remaining time Caroline and I spent on our own in Dorset (8 days) and London (4 days). We continue to find March to be suitable for our UK workshops. The weather throughout is typically much like the cool spring climate we enjoy in Peterborough in late April. This is still off-season for tourists; many of our photo venues would have been inundated with visitors if we had gone in the summer months.



ST CWYFAN'S CHURCH, ANGLESEY, WALES



MALHAM ESCARPMENT, ENGLAND



## Travel Photography Continued

The emphasis in this year's venture shifted somewhat. Colin impressed upon us the importance of composition and trying to get to the essence of what makes a captivating image - the one that truly resonates with the viewer. One powerful way to do this is to look for a scene that concentrates the viewer's attention on the simplest elements of the landscape. Examples are the Llandudno images and "Talacre Beach, Wales". The jetty disappearing into Llandudno Bay exemplifies a minimalist approach to achieving what I wanted.

To properly get a handle on composition it helps to have a "vision" of how you would expect to see a finished rendering of a scene. This way of thinking is what I find to be the most difficult aspect of the entire photographic process, but also the most satisfying if I get it right. I'm convinced that composition is 90% of the photographic process, and presents the greatest challenge to achieving a compelling image. I'm very much endeavouring to learn what separates a good image from a stunning photo.

On a typical workshop day we rose early for quick showers and a full English breakfast, loaded our gear into the Škoda, and set out for our first photo site. We could visit anywhere from one to four sites in a day, depending on distances. We might stop at a café for a mid-afternoon tea break (with Welsh cakes!) between sites, and our return journey to the cottage would include a trip to the nearest grocery to purchase dinner supplies. We spent our evenings in the comfort of our cottage socializing over gin and tonics and editing the day's images in Adobe Photoshop and the Nik Collection of plugins.



TALACRE BEACH, WALES



LLANDUDNO, WALES



LLANDUDNO, WALES



## Travel Photography Continued

Tanya and I had our own MacBooks and Colin used a tower PC with a large monitor that he'd use for instruction. The powerful processing techniques we learned from him can be applied to any type of landscape photography.

As equipment goes, Tanya uses a Nikon D610 and I use a Canon 5D Mk III. As a welcome addition, Colin brought along his Nikon D70s, converted for infrared photography, and instructed us in how to take a proper infrared shot and later process the black and white image in Photoshop. I was able to capture the image, "Ynys Llanddwyn, Anglesey, Wales", along the high ridge that led to the Twr Mawr lighthouse with Colin's camera and his expert instructions for composition and exposure settings.

After Tanya returned to Canada on completion of the workshop, Caroline and I made our way to the Dorset town of Swanage in the south of England. Swanage is located at the eastern end of the Jurassic Coast, a World Heritage Site. With the generous help of our B&B proprietor, Claire, we took a day to explore the coast from Portland to Lulworth Cove and several points between. My image of Durdle Door might have been out of the question without her offer to take us on a tour.



YNYS LLANDDWYN, ANGLESEY, WALES



THE OLD PIER, SWANAGE, ENGLAND



DURDLE DOOR, DORSET, ENGLAND



THE PIER, SWANAGE, ENGLAND



## Travel Photography Continued

Before we set out on our trip I suggested that we may have been rather fortunate with the weather on our previous year's Isle of Skye workshop and that things might be a bit different this time. "Different" turned out to be an understatement. On an elevated ridge on the small tidal island of Ynys Llanddwyn we endured gusts of more than 110 kph to capture images of the Tŵr Mawr Lighthouse. We bore down on the tripods just to attempt a sharp image. Caroline had to save one of our loaded photo backpacks from being blown off the ridge altogether. On the Newborough Warren, one would swear that the entire beach was in motion with the sand swirling across its entire expanse as we walked back to the car after sundown. On Talacre Beach, blowing sand presented a hazard to our equipment and our ability to capture the shots we wanted. Following the workshop, our train from London to Wareham was cancelled, and the one Caroline and I managed to catch to Bournemouth was speed-limited because of strong winds, thereby turning a two-hour trip into four hours. She and I appeared on the doorstep of our Swanage B&B looking like drowned rats in the pelting rain. Some time after we arrived home in Peterborough, Tanya informed me that the storm we endured in north Wales was only the third named event of the year - Storm Gareth. It certainly seemed like an impressive force of nature at the time, but even more so once we realized it had a name.



TŴR MAWR LIGHTHOUSE, ANGLESEY, WALES



SCALEBER FORCE, YORKSHIRE DALES, ENGLAND

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# Travel Photography Continued

And what's in store for next year's March workshop? Northumberland, along England's east coast sounds about right, and with that I'd say, "damn the weather, let's go!"



ESHTON COPSE, YORKSHIRE DALES, ENGLAND



LLYN PADARN, LLANBERIS, WALES



MAN O' WAR COVE, DORSET, ENGLAND



POINT OF AYR LIGHTHOUSE, TALACRE BEACH, WALES

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# Travel Photography Continued



NEWBOROUGH BEACH, ANGLESEY, WALES



TALACRE BEACH, WALES



MOUNT TRYFAN IN THE OGWEN VALLEY, SNOWDONIA, WALES



## Word Images By Murray Palmer

### The Mystery of White, Grey, and Black

Murray Palmer, Copyright 2019

Once upon a time when the world was much younger,  
Homo's thoughts dwelled on ways to sate their hunger.  
They tried to lure the camp scavengers on a whim,  
The ones seen running after prey much larger than them.  
Responding to food and shelter, some came on a run.  
The gradual domestication of dogs from wolves had begun.

When the Bering Strait land bridge was traversed,  
Wolves following herds, and natives with dogs dispersed  
Throughout the continent on the coast, forest, and plain.  
From chance matings with dogs, wolf gene pools gained  
The former's K-locus gene mutation for melanistic fur;  
An obvious species survival advantage it must confer.

Black wolves occur more often in the southern forest belt,  
But what exactly is the evolutionary advantage of a black pelt?  
Does it come with other genes that fight disease or parasites?  
Why are black wolves on the tundra rare in a sea of whites?  
As forest invades tundra, will black wolves endure climate change?  
Could there ever be a mystery more intriguing as it is strange?





## In Memoriam: Bill Brookes

It is with some regret that I inform you of the passing of Mr. Bill Brookes, on April 24th, after a brief illness. Bill had been an avid member of PPS for many years and was a devoted photographer. He loved to take images of orchids and butterflies. Many of you would have seen these wonderful images in the past. He was always trying new ideas to achieve the ultimate photograph. Bill was a real gentleman and had a great sense of humour. He will be missed by many PPS members and friends.

Terry Carpenter







**From the Editor's desk** By Judith Bain

## Your Newsletter Needs You!

This is a reminder to all PPS members that ***The Viewfinder*** is YOUR newsletter.

We can only continue to publish our monthly editions if we have contributions from the membership. Please contribute to the PPS by sending articles, photos, and photography-related information for inclusion in *The Viewfinder*. Thank you!

**Please Note:** If you like to participate in photo contests, please look at this web site:  
<https://www.photocontestinsider.com/>

### Equipment Sell / Swap

A table will be available at every meeting so members may display any photography-related gear that you wish to sell or trade.

### May Meeting

Tuesday, May 7th  
 7:00 p.m.  
 @ the Lions Centre,  
 347 Burnham St.,  
 Peterborough, ON.

### Viewfinder Seeks Submissions From Members

*The Viewfinder* invites PPS members to submit their work for any of the following features:

- The Story Behind My Photograph:** Send in one or more photos and the story behind them.
- Photo Essay:** Send in a series of photographs on a topic or location.
- Insights:** If you would like to contribute an essay with photos on anything to do with photography, you are welcome to send it to us.
- The Parting Shot:** Send in a photo with date, time, location, aperture, shutter speed, and ISO.



# The Viewfinder

Newsletter of the Peterborough Photographic Society

## Editorial

Editor: Judith Bain

## Columns

**President's Message:** Margaret Hamilton

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**The Projectionist:** Terry Carpenter

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**Terry's Tip of the Month:** Terry Carpenter

**This is My Photo:** Terry Carpenter

**Word Images:** Murray Palmer

## Contributors

Guy Ridgway, Dawn Macklin, Lydia Dotto, Judith Bain

## Viewfinder Submissions

We encourage PPS members to submit their photos and personal news, as well as articles, poetry, writing, and humour about photography and our club.

Text submissions should be in one of the following file formats: .doc, .rtf, .odt, or .pub. Image files in formats such as .jpeg, .tiff, .gif, or .png graphic file.

The editor reserves the right to edit all submissions for size, content, and style without consultation.

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## PPS Executive

**President:** Margaret Hamilton

**Vice-President:** Claude Denis

**Secretary:** Pat Carpenter

**Treasurer:** Kathryn Danford

**Past-President:** George Dimitroff

**Outings Director:** Dave Duffus

**Program Director:** Terry Carpenter

**Membership Director:** Dawn Macklin

**Member-at-Large:** Paul Macklin

**Member-at-Large:** Guy Ridgway

**Projectionist:** Terry Carpenter

**The Viewfinder Editor:** Judith Bain

**Website & Social Media Director:**  
George Giarratana



## Contact Us

*The Viewfinder* is the newsletter of the Peterborough Photographic Society. It is published 10 times a year from September to June.

Write to us or send us your stories, images, articles, poetry, ideas, and your humour, here at [ppsviewfinder@gmail.com](mailto:ppsviewfinder@gmail.com). You can also visit our website at:

[www.peterboroughphotographicsociety.com](http://www.peterboroughphotographicsociety.com).

We're also on Facebook! You can find us at [www.facebook.com/PeterboroughPhotographicSocietyCanada](https://www.facebook.com/PeterboroughPhotographicSocietyCanada).



# The Parting Shot

By Judith Bain



“Trillium Time is Coming Soon!”