



## HARROGATE PHOTOGRAPHIC SOCIETY

### Competition Categories

The following categories apply to the Annual Print Competition and to the Annual Projected Digital Image (PDI) Competition. They do not apply to the Monthly Competition or Open Panel Competition.

### Important Notes:-

1. Images that do not comply with these category definitions and guidance notes are not acceptable and will be disqualified. It is your responsibility to ensure that your entries comply.
2. If you are in any doubt about the category in which your entry should be submitted please consult the Competitions Teams for advice.
3. Images that qualify for any of the following categories – Architecture and General Record; Creative; 'Scapes; Nature; Portrait, People and Figure Studies; Sport and Action; Street Photography; Travel – must be entered in the appropriate category and must NOT be entered in Pictorial.
4. Each of these categories is designed to allow entrants to demonstrate their skills in specific photographic genres or disciplines.
5. The final arbiter of the validity of entries will be the Competition Judge, who shall decide whether your entries comply with the category definitions and guidance below.
6. No debate or correspondence will be entered into by the Competition Teams on the merits of the Judge's decisions and awards.

### ARCHITECTURE AND GENERAL RECORD

Entries should be buildings or other inanimate objects such as vehicles, machinery, statues or other objets d'art. **The emphasis is on a high technical quality image which makes an accurate record of the subject.** Artistic interpretation is not acceptable in this category, although direct monochrome conversions are acceptable. Digital manipulation should be limited to cropping, sharpening, contrast, colour corrections and correction of converging verticals. Only minor distractions or blemishes may be removed from the image. Any adjustments should not alter the main content of the original photograph. Titles should be factual, simply naming the building, feature or object.

**Guidance:** This category includes details of parts of buildings and other man-made objects, photographed in an informative and thoroughly realistic manner. The subject matter must form the dominant part of the image.

**Trophies:** Annual Print: The Ackrill Trophy

Annual PDI: The Allen Trophy

## CREATIVE

Images for this category are often highly manipulated and may contain elements from several images which produce a final image which stimulates the imagination of the viewer. The image may be of any subject matter and must obviously display a change in natural colour, form, shape or any combination of these three. All images must be original and may not incorporate elements produced by anyone else. Artwork or computer graphics generated by the entrant may be incorporated if the original photographic content predominates. Images may not be constructed entirely within a computer.

**Guidance:** Images submitted in this category should be works of the imagination created through the use of camera techniques and/or post-processing manipulation. Arrays of multiple unmodified images, or enhancements which do not alter the reality of a scene - such as pasting in or cloning out features - are not permissible. The use of effects filters, HDR, art brushes, special lenses, camera movements and similar enhancements and distortions of an otherwise 'straight' image can be regarded as Creative only if a new meaning or interpretation of the subject is achieved.

**Trophies:** Annual Print: The Menwith Hill Trophy

Annual PDI: The Brown Trophy

## 'SCAPES

A 'scape image shows a vista. Included, but are not restricted to, landscapes, cityscapes, seascapes, waterscapes and skyscapes. An image may include a single tree, building or people – they must not dominate but be part of an overall image providing a mood or atmosphere of the environment captured.

**Guidance:** A 'vista' means a broad view, not a close detail of part of a landscape. Skills tested include image composition, mood, atmosphere and use of light. Infra-red photography is acceptable. Post capture image manipulation is allowed provided that the character and features of the view are retained.

**Trophies:** Annual Print: The Cartmel Trophy

Annual PDI: The Civil Service Trophy

## MONOCHROME

Any subject, in monochrome only, produced either by traditional darkroom techniques or by computer and printer.

**Guidance:** An image rendered entirely in shades of grey or a single colour. Images using partial toning of a greyscale image, or any toning involving a second colour, are not acceptable.

**Trophies:** Annual Print: The Ogden Trophy

Annual PDI: The Counter Trophy

## NATURE

Images that depict living, untamed creatures and uncultivated plants in a nature habitat, and the wide diversity of natural phenomena.

**Guidance:** Images may include microscopic subjects, geology, botany, zoology, meteorology, astronomy etc. Minimal evidence of humans is acceptable for nature subjects, such as barn owls or storks adapting to an environment that has been modified by humans. Natural forces such as hurricanes, tidal waves etc. affecting and reclaiming the environment from mankind are also acceptable. Creatures in reserves, wildlife parks and zoos are permitted provided there is minimal evidence of humans. Subjects such as “falconer’s” birds are acceptable although only minor retouching is permitted, which would not, for example, include cloning to remove jesses in post processing. Also allowed are images of “wild” flowers growing in parkland or “wild” gardens provided they have not been modified by such cultivation. Creatures photographed under “controlled conditions” in order to record species behaviour that would be very difficult or impossible to record in the wild, such as in burrows, vivaria or aquaria, or microscopic subjects which may have to be anaesthetised, are eligible.

**NB:** Photographs of pets and animals that are domesticated, cultivated or hybrid plants, dead or mounted specimens, museum groups and the like are ineligible. Artistic skill and composition in the image may be assessed. Creatures in poor condition, perhaps due to their captivity, may be judged less favourably. Ringed birds and tagged wild creatures in a nature habitat are acceptable. Entries should be accurately titled – although Latin names are not essential – but not on the front of the image. Any manipulation of or modification to the original image is limited to minor retouching of blemishes, cropping, colour correction for accuracy, contrast, sharpening and tone corrections, and must not alter the content and truth of the original scene.

**Trophies:** Annual Print: The Campbell Trophy      Annual PDI: The Harrogate Corporation Trophy

## OUTINGS

An image taken on an outing in the current HPS season.

**N.B.** A club outing is one organised by the current President on a specific date / range of dates.

**Trophies:** Annual Print: The Alan Steel Trophy      Annual PDI: The Eric Downer Trophy

## PICTORIAL

An image that does not fit into any other category.

**NB:** This category must not be used as an extra opportunity to enter additional images that would better fit any of the other category descriptions.

**Trophies:** Annual Print: The Newey Trophy      Annual PDI: The Simmonds Trophy

## **PORTRAIT, PEOPLE & FIGURE STUDIES**

Shall include figure studies, groups of a portrait nature and animal portraits.

**Guidance:** This category includes images of the human or animal form in part or in entirety.

**Trophies:** Annual Print: The Brotherton Trophy                      Annual PDI: The Marshall Trophy

## **SPORT AND ACTION**

Any sport or action image.

**Guidance:** Sport: Competitive and individual sports, between people, animals or vehicles, including those with specialist equipment or machines; horse and motor racing, windsurfing, skiing, fishing, cycling, running, skateboarding, etc.

Action: Includes activities such as dancing, juggling, skipping, or other activity not generally considered to be a `sport`, but where human influence and active movement of the subject is involved.

**NB:** Skills tested include image composition and the ability to capture movement; images may 'freeze' a moment in time or convey movement in the sport or action portrayed.

**Trophies:** Annual Print: The Murgatroyd Trophy                      Annual PDI: The Preston Trophy

## **STREET PHOTOGRAPHY**

An image that illustrates modern life in the British Urban Environment.

**Guidance:** Images should show candid aspects of life of the city, town, suburb, and public spaces in an interesting way, and may include people (usually complete strangers), buildings, traffic, situations, features, elements and objects within this environment that illustrate the influence of the human character. Images should demonstrate the photographer's observational skills, and may include curiosity, irony, humour, 'the critical moment', shock, chance encounters, the ordinary, mundane, familiar and other aspects of life in the current era. Images may be in colour or monochrome, but must not be altered other than in tone, colour, contrast, sharpening and cropping. This category includes social documentary photography and photo journalism in the British Urban Environment.

**Trophies:** Annual Print: The Vessey Trophy                      Annual PDI: The Dabell Trophy

## **TRAVEL**

A Photo Travel image expresses the characteristic features or culture of a land as they are found naturally. There are no geographic limitations. Images from events or activities arranged specifically for photography, or of subjects directed or hired for photography are not appropriate. Close up pictures of people or objects must include features that provide information about the environment. Techniques that add, relocate, replace or remove any element of the original image, except by cropping, are not permitted. The only allowable adjustments are removal of dust or digital noise, restoration of the appearance of the original scene, and complete conversion to greyscale monochrome. Other derivations, including infrared, are not permitted. All allowed adjustments must appear natural.

**Guidance:** Subject matter may include the land, its use, forms of habitation, and the indigenous people - their everyday lives, their customs and their environment.

**Trophies:** Annual Print: The Bass & Bligh Trophy

Annual PDI: The Davidson Trophy

Revision 18 : April 2022 (JM) & July 2022 (MJH)