

U3a DIGITAL PHOTOGRAPHY

Notes of Meeting on 8th May 2024

1. Apologies

Apologies were received from Mark, Sallyanne and Paul

2. Review of Port Sunlight Photos

The field trip to Port Sunlight last month was attended by 5 members (John, Alan, Mick, Mike and David). Unfortunately, the weather was not in our favour with heavy rain throughout the morning and early afternoon. Despite this, the group managed to take photos, outside, of the different building styles, as well as inside, in the Museum and Leverhulme Gallery.

The photos taken on the day, together with a number that had been taken on previous visits by other members of the Group, were reviewed.

Prior to the meeting, Nick had pointed out that the nature our photo reviews had drifted away from the main purpose of helping to improve the quality of our photography. It was agreed that we should be aiming to make / accept constructive comments as part of the process. The review of the Port Sunlight images was carried out with this in mind.

3. Quarterly Theme

Photos taken on the current theme of 'Uniform(s)' are due to be reviewed at our June meeting. The outcome of a discussion at the meeting was that any theme images will only be acceptable if taken within that quarter.

ACTION – ALL / DSF

4. Use of AI

AI technology is becoming increasingly more capable and available – it is important that we develop a set of ground-rules for its use within the Group. A slot will be found in a future meeting so that we can have the discussion.

ACTION – DSF

SPS arranged for an AI Expert (Joe Houghton) to give them an insight into some of the software capabilities (and pitfalls). A video of his presentation will soon be available and may provide a useful basis for our discussion. A copy will be sought

ACTION – PF / DB

5. Technical Item – Projects

Mike gave an interesting input on improving photographic technique by selecting a subject (he used as examples a. door furniture and b. circular shapes) and taking a

set of different photos related to that subject. The photos are then combined and laid out in a collage.

6. Technical Item – Restoring Old B&W Photos

Peter described the process he is using to restore some old WW2 black and white photos using Photoshop. He led us through some examples, pointing out the techniques he has found to give good results (and those that don't) and left us with a set of recommendations on how best to approach this sort of work – these will be circulated.

ACTION – PF

7. Next Meeting

Will be held at 2pm on 12th June in Louise House

Items on the agenda will be

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|--------------------------------|-----|
| • Review of Themed Photos | All |
| • Street Photography | MN |
| • July Field Trip Arrangements | MN |
| • July FT risk assessment | MT |
| • Review of 2024 Programme | DSF |

8. AOB

It was suggested that we should include a discussion on long-term storage for photos at a future meeting.

ACTION - DSF

Regards, David