

Croydon Camera Club Newsletter – 23 March 2020

Chairman's Viewpoint

It is less than two weeks since our club celebrated its 130th anniversary. During that short period the World has changed in ways previously unimaginable not so long ago. Regrettably, it has proved necessary to cancel most of the remaining programme for this season. Everyone's priority is now the physical health of themselves and those around them. Yet we should not forget our mental wellbeing, which continuing to engage with our hobby will help.

I had previously announced that we will complete this season's DPI competitions, anticipating that the judge would score our images at home and inform us of the results. Council has been investigating alternative options and I pleased to announce that we will hold the next round on 1 April as scheduled with members being able to join in. Given the current environment, it will not be possible to assemble in the church hall so we are moving the meeting online. Croydon Camera Club might have been founded in the Victorian era but this is the 21st century and we are going virtual.

We are going to use a videoconferencing facility called Zoom so that everyone can connect from home. All you will need is one of a desktop computer equipped with speakers or headphones, laptop, tablet or smartphone and an Internet connection. We will run the competition from the club's laptop; you will see the images appear on your screen and hear the commentary and marks from the judge. The main difference to usual is that we will not be physically present together in the same location.

While it is not necessary to have the Zoom application installed, the experience will be better if you do. If you use a desktop computer but do not have a webcam, other participants will not be able to see you. Most of the time it will be images which are being displayed so that is not an issue. If you have a microphone, you will be able to speak to the other participants.

You will receive further instructions ahead of the meeting. Zoom is easy to use and connect to meetings, but we will provide details of how to do this. See also the Zoom website, link below.

<https://zoom.us/>

Personally, I am very excited by this development. If the DPI competition is successful, Council will consider holding further meetings this way until we can resume our normal activities. Despite reduced opportunities for movement and social interaction, our club can still play a role in our lives.

Club Matters

DPI Competition 4th Round – 1 April 2020

This competition is now open in PhotoEntry for entries, with a closing date of midnight on Monday 30 March 2020. The judge will be Rob Bonfield. This will be a videoconference, as described above.

Links for PhotoEntry and Instructions

<https://compent.photoentry.uk/compent/>

<http://croydoncameraclub.org.uk/WebSiteArchive/PhotoEntryGuidance.pdf>

Mike Farley

Chairman

Croydon Camera Club