

Forest of Galtres Camera Club

23rd October 2017

Members' Night

This was an evening of two distinct halves. Pam Pope shared her experience of Svalbard, a Norwegian archipelago halfway between mainland Norway and the North Pole. Kamal brought us to the majestic Dolomites of north eastern Italy, shared his interest in photographing waterfalls and reflections as well as some of his experiments with different photographic techniques.

Svalbard is one the world's northernmost inhabited areas. Pam showed us its rugged landscape of glaciers, icebergs and tundra. There were closeup photographs of polar bears curious about the humans in their territory as well as polar bears in action. There were images of the Svalbard reindeer, Artic fox and cubs and the Brunnich Guillemots amongst other seabirds filling the air around the towering cliffs. There were the remains of whaling stations and the remains of their trade - decaying whale bones slowly decomposing releasing some nutrient benefit to low growing plants choosing to colonise on or around them. Pam captured the atmosphere of this harsh environment beautifully.



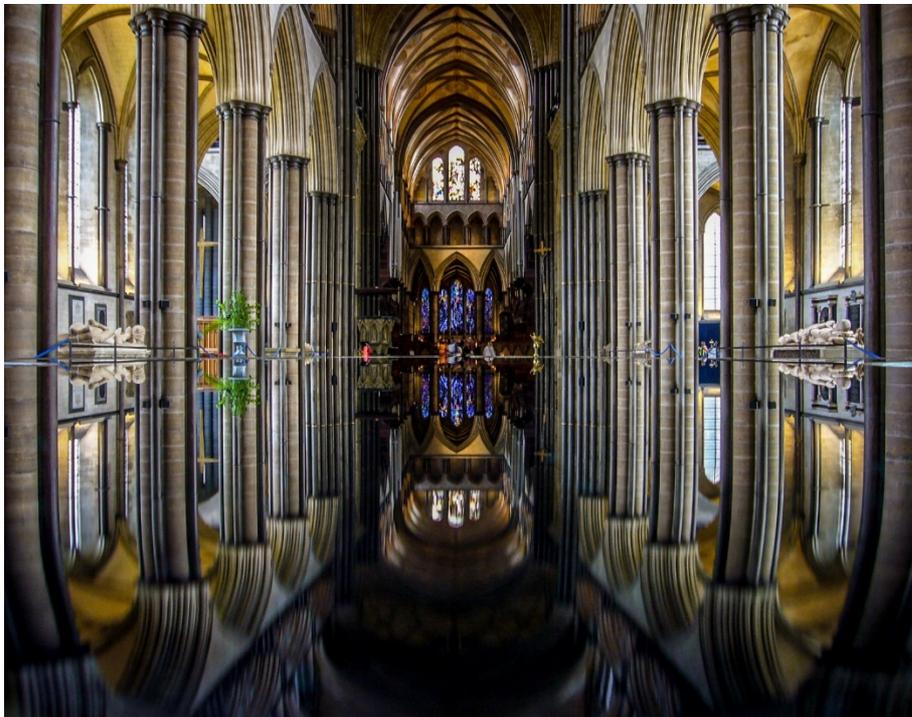




The second part of the evening was centred around the photography of Kamal. The audio/visual based on his visit to the Dolomites in June fully captured the dramatic contrast between the deep green valleys and the towering rock walls and sculptured pinnacles of this World Heritage Site.



Kamal's has explored the process of taking waterfalls and reflections over the last three years. He presented some very beautiful examples of his work.



He has been particularly inventive when exploring manipulation of images processed in Lightroom as well as directly through his camera.

The latter created the repeated image of a cyclist moving through his image as he used the panoramic facility to capture landscape from one viewpoint.



Here, Kamal has created an artist's impression to ring the changes with a more traditional outcome.



And finally, the quality of a flower head enhanced by the elimination of all background distraction.



Pam and Kamal ensured the members enjoyed an evening of variety of subject and interest. Many thanks to both.

Next week, Peter Thompson will be judging two of this season's club competitions, Food and Fun.