

Forest of Galtres Camera Club

25th February

We Should All be a Judge

Mike Barnard and Doug Batty

Mike and Doug travelled all the way from Bridlington to Easingwold to share their thoughts on judging photographic competitions. Mike has judged for more than three decades. The aim of the evening was to give an insight into the thought processes of a judge who was considering the work of amateur photographers. This was approached in two ways. Initially, both men shared their views on the judging process and then members worked in pairs to judge twenty selected images.

A judge should be confident, be able to project his/her voice and have clear diction -obvious but that is not the case with all judges. They need to recognise the range of skills within a club and highlight the best work. There is much more but perhaps one important aspect of judging, is handling conflict well. There is always the risk that the moment will arise when someone, having heard the judge's views on what they consider their best image, is less than happy and may wish to voice that disagreement.

The aim of the evening was predominantly, to encourage members to view photographs entered in competitions with a judge's eye. Adjustments can then be made, if necessary, and an image presented of improved quality that could earn higher marks.

The previous week, 18th February, was the judging of the Club Competition category, Water. The winners were Amanda Moore with Waiting for Supper and Dip a Toe in the Water and Martin Pegler with Wet Dog.

Next week, will be the judging of the three print competitions: Portrait, Open and Monochrome.