

Forest of Galtres Camera Club

4th November

Mike Kipling - My People

Mike is an award-winning photographer someone with an extensive portfolio of images covering all that embodies the North of England. His travels abroad add another dimension to his vast collection of images. He realised that amongst his images of landscape, coasts, towns and cities, there were so many people often incidentally included. This prompted a change to thinking more consciously of portraits and figures in his photography.

One striking landscape of Roseberry Topping was shown first followed by family shots of his young sons on their mountain bikes. This compared to the dramatic image of one of his sons, now adult, mountain biking down a cliff face. Often people are used to support the story behind an event. Such events included: Masham Sheep Fair, Egton Bridge Gooseberry Show, brass bands, a circus, heather burning on the moors and Newcastle Station amongst others. In the latter, he caught the resigned faces of those waiting.

Mike had interesting stories to tell about the subjects of his photography. He likes to take pictures of people as naturally as possible, candid rather than posed. But occasionally, he may ask someone to look in a certain way. He always asks permission to use the images he has taken. Occasionally this has involved a payment willingly given. In some of the parts of the world he has visited, e.g. Cuba, parts of the states, it may be all the earnings available to some of the locals.

Mike sets himself photographic challenges; the current one is all about beards, an example of which you can see below.

Mike's portfolio of work is extensive, varied and brilliant. His talent has been used by local authorities, tourism agencies, Reader's Digest, English Heritage and more.

Next week, Mike Barnard LRPS ABPPA BPE2 will judge members' entries for club competitions: Close Up and Trees.



