

*Editor: Katie HeyKoop*

Volume 1 Issue 1 2020-2021

## Presidents Report

Hi everyone: Since our last Board meeting, we have begun our regular programming season. We have an exciting program on offer, and I know we are all looking forward to learning new skills and showing them off in our upcoming clinics. There has been a lot of activity happening behind the scenes to ensure we have a successful year.

Our principle mode of delivery has now shifted to Zoom, and most members appear to now be getting used to this technology. Although there have been some minor glitches, I believe everyone understands that this is new for most of us. I want to thank Vartkes, Derek and Virginia for their hard work in getting us up and running. This new norm permits us to expand beyond our local borders, reach out to presenters worldwide and to promote our club in ways we had not yet seen. Let's use this to our advantage to share our knowledge, photographic talents and learn while enjoying our wonderful hobby!

Our membership drive has been underway with a new twist. Since we couldn't meet in person, Cathy and Pat have worked out the online and mail-in processes to enable people to register using whatever method they prefer. Thus far, we have over 40 members signed up and are still accepting applications, so please encourage your friends to join. The club has lots to offer and don't forget that as paid members we also have access to the NFRCC member club programs.

I wish everyone a great 2020–2021 photographic year. I am looking forward to seeing your photographic skills on show!

Sincerely,

Steve Hops

## Message from the Editor

Hello Everyone:

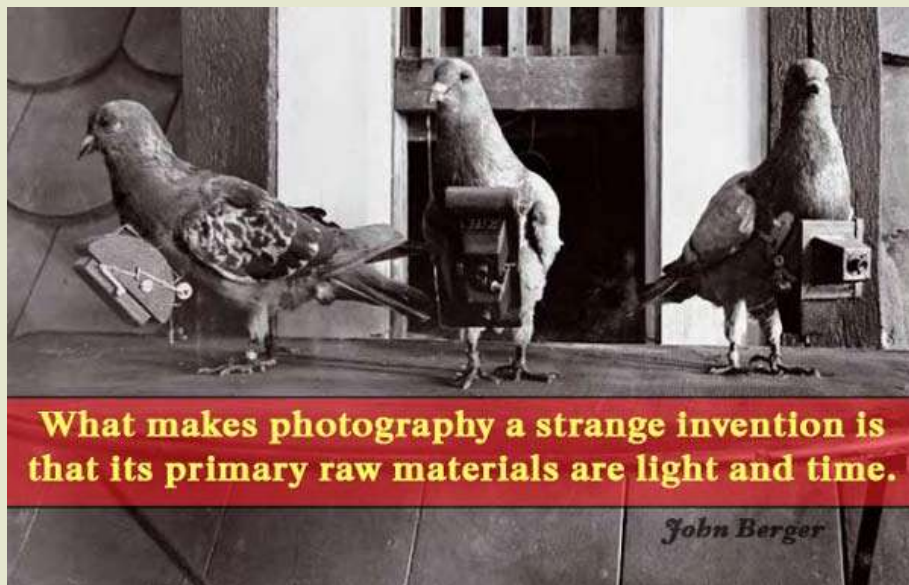
I hope you all are well and staying safe. It has been a rather interesting year so far, so many new changes that unfortunately may stay in place for a long time to come. All we can do is embrace these new normals in our lives as we work together through this pandemic. I know it is not easy for us, I have been struggling and I am sure I am not the only one. This too shall pass. I wish everyone a great year and hope we can strive to come together one day soon.

I want to wish one member good luck in his move to Manitoba this past summer, Steve Tugwell, you will be missed, wishing you all the best.

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Happy shooting everyone!!

## QUOTE:



# PHOTOS BY MEMBERS



Photo by Stephen Hops



Photo by Dave Bauer



Photo by Paula Cheese



Photo by Donna Speranzini



Photo by Ludmila Krammer



Photo by Dave Van de Laar



Photo by Carl Krasnor

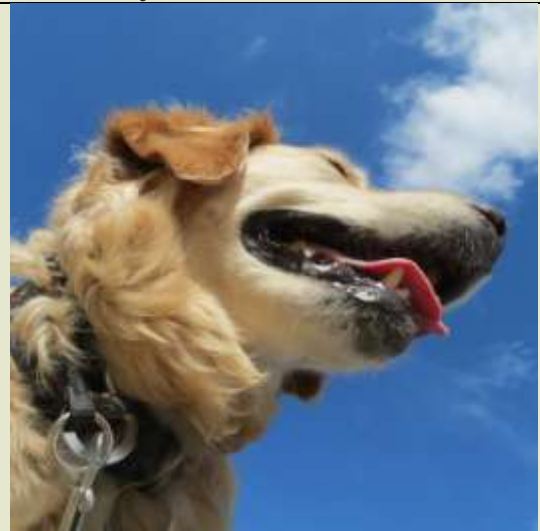


Photo by Linda Rose Krasnor



Photo by Cathy Swain



Photo by Lawrence Robson

# CLUB OUTINGS

## Royal Botanical Gardens



*Photo by Katie Heykoop*



*Photo by Paula Cheese*



*Photo by Cathy Swain*



*Photo by Derek Bottomley*



*Photo by Katie Heykoop*



*Photo by Cathy Swain*

# Neowise and Sunset Outing



*Photo by Ludmila Klammer*



*Photo by Donna Speranzini*



*Photo by Steve Tugwell*



*Photo by Lawrence Robson*



*Photo by Paula Cheese*



*Photo by Katie Heykoop*

# CAPA NEWS

## Nature 2020



**Herman Ouwersloot**  
**Bee on Dandelion score: 22.5**



**Dave Van de Laar**  
**Eastern Bluebird score: 26**



**Paula Cheese**  
**Fox Puppy score: 25.5**



**Cathy Swain**  
**Fox score: 26**



Vartkes Peltekoglu  
At Eagles Cliff score: 20

**No scores for McKellar #1 and#2**

**I will post the scores when I receive them, I just thought we could enjoy the beautiful photos, good job everyone. It is going to be a good year.**



McKellar Clinic #1 2020-2021



**Kathy Heykoop Leopard Profile**



**Bryan Urquhart Female Oriole**



**Dave Van de Laar Darby**



**Paula Cheese The Fox**



**Virginia Stranaghan Fruit and Veggies**



**Cathy Swain Frozen Leaf**

# McKellar Clinic #2 2020-2021



**Herman Ouwersloot Bee on Dandelion**



**Vartkes Peltekoglu At Eagles Cliff**



**Kathy Heykoop Western Hat and Boots**



**Dave Van de laar Eastern Bluebird**



**John Weibe Fly**



**Heather Halfyard Sunflower Pedals and Drops**

# FUNNY CORNER



## A Glance and a Giggle

Members can send in a funny story, cartoon or photo as long as it is photography related, just for fun.

# In Conversation with Clive Nichols, Britain's Best Garden Photographer

For more than 30 years, the celebrated garden photographer Clive Nichols has been photographing some of the world's most beautiful gardens. Here, Clive talks to Jessica Jonzen about what makes a garden special, how lockdown made us all appreciate the importance of a garden, and shares some his favourite autumn photographs



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- (LEFT) ACER PALMATUM; (MIDDLE) AUTUMN AT SHEFFIELD PARK IN EAST SUSSEX; (RIGHT) VIBURNUM PLICATUM 'POPCORN' AT BLUEBELL ARBORETUM IN SOUTH DERBYSHIRE. IMAGES: CLIVE NICHOLS

As we crawl towards the final months of the year, one thing is certain: 2020 will go down in history as one of the most significant and unforgettable years of modern times. And while it has brought with it a previously unimaginable amount of loss and uncertainty, there have undoubtedly been positives: a reconnection with our communities, and a re-setting of our priorities. It has also been the year in which we fell back in love with our gardens, or realised the importance of having some outside space.

In the height of lockdown, there was record demand for seeds as we took to our flower beds and window boxes. There was a powerful collective instinct to create beauty and new life in the face of the chaos in the world around us. It also gave us something to do.

For the celebrated garden photographer Clive Nichols, 2020 has been the year when he's created some of his best work. "Those first two or three weeks under lockdown were amazing – I've never seen light like that in England. It was very crisp, clean light – the sort you see in Corfu or Provence. I got some of the best photographs I've ever taken."



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(TOP) THE AUTUMN BORDER AT PETTIFERS, WARDINGTON; (MIDDLE LEFT) CLIVE NICHOLS ON LOCATION; (MIDDLE RIGHT) A COBWEB ON A DAHLIA IN THE MORNING DEW; (BOTTOM) THE KLIMT BORDER AT PETTIFERS. IMAGES: CLIVE NICHOLS

Described as ‘Britain’s best garden photographer’ by *Photo Plus*, Canon’s magazine, Clive Nichols has been photographing some of the world’s most beautiful gardens for more than 30 years. Usually travelling the globe photographing private gardens for clients including Condé Nast, *The Sunday Times*, *Country Life* and Nicholas Haslam, 2020’s travel restrictions clipped Clive’s wings but led him to focus on photographing English gardens, including [Pettifers](#) in his home village of Wardington in Oxfordshire, and [Morton Hall](#) in Worcestershire.

“I’ve been shooting mostly big country gardens on dreamy mornings and when the evening light drips into them. It’s definitely been a mental release for me and people seem to love the pictures we put on [Instagram](#) – it’s pure escapism,” says Clive. “People are realising that gardens are a sanctuary where they can get away from all the mainstream media nonsense and get some sanity back in their lives. It’s also a perfectly safe environment because you can potter about on your own and socially distance easily.”

Clive first discovered a love for photography while reading Geography at the University of Reading. He started out as a travel photographer, travelling everywhere from the Falklands to Hong Kong on assignment before he spotted an opportunity to work closer to home. “The photography in the gardening magazines in the early 1980s was really poor. I thought I could do better so I started taking photos of gardens. *Homes & Gardens* magazine bought my first set taken at [Westonbirt Arboretum](#). The editor asked if I could do some more and it exploded from there – I’ve never looked back.”







(TOP) THE PARTERRE AT PETTIFERS WITH DAHLIAS ‘PREFERENCE’ AND ‘AMERICAN DREAM’ WITH BETULA ERMANNI; (BOTTOM LEFT) ECHINACEA PURPUREA AT LADY FARM IN SOMERSET; (BOTTOM RIGHT) ACER PALMATUM AT SHEFFIELD PARK, EAST SUSSEX. IMAGES: CLIVE NICHOLS

Clive’s photography is alive with atmosphere. He captures the morning dew hanging on a cobweb like a necklace; the warm glow of the evening sun glancing through tall grasses, and shows plants and gardens in all their glory. Clive’s favourite time of day to photograph a garden is at dawn, and in the summer months he will often rise at 1am to drive 100 miles to photograph a garden at sunrise. “You have to be very reactive,” he says. “I have clients who keep a watch on their gardens and will call me to say ‘you have to come now!’ A garden can change so quickly so you need to act quickly.”

Such is Clive's skill that he was commissioned by *Country Life* to photograph HRH The Prince of Wales' private garden at Birkhall on the Balmoral estate when the Prince edited an edition of the magazine in 2013. "I was extremely lucky with the weather and conditions for the shoot and got a beautiful morning. My approach was exactly the same as shooting other gardens but the panic levels were higher!"

So what are the elements which make a garden truly special? "It's the atmosphere of the place combined with the structure and planting, I think," he says. "I think there are a lot of mistakes which people make, such as trying to put too many plants into their garden and it becomes a mess. Structure is so important – you want to put plants in which look good all year to give you strong bones. Then just a few highlights, like some beautiful tulips in spring and dahlias for late summer and early autumn."







(TOP) FORDE ABBEY IN DORSET IN AUTUMN; (BOTTOM LEFT) MORTON HALL IN REDDITCH; (BOTTOM RIGHT) CANADA GEESE BESIDE THE LAKE AT SHEFFIELD PARK. IMAGES: CLIVE NICHOLS

“Background foliage and the hardscaping is so important in a garden – if you get the structure right, you can play with it. I’ve just planted lots of pines in pots and containers in my own courtyard garden to give it structure and year-round interest. Also, people put silly little pots in their garden – if you think something should be a certain size, make it twice that because it will have far more impact. I’ve got quite a lot of big terracotta pots in my garden and they just look bolder.”

The rich autumnal colours in arboretums such as Westonbirt are some of Clive’s favourite to photograph, “the light is so rich and crisp and the colours are outstanding” but it is spring’s

tulips which have his heart. “I love the shape of them – they’re very photogenic. There’s a garden called [Kuekenhof](#) in Holland and it’s just sensational in April and May. They plant something like 4 million bulbs – it’s mind-blowing – and you can’t take a bad photo. Unfortunately, it was closed this year because of Covid, but if you’re feeling depressed and want to be happy, go there – you cannot feel unhappy there. It’s the most amazing place.”

The importance of gardens and outside space to our mental health is well-documented, and is something which has been especially important this year. “I personally find being in a garden incredibly uplifting,” says Clive. “The adrenalin starts to flow and you feel fantastic, especially when you’ve got the place to yourself. Sometimes it feels like heaven, literally. In the early morning at Pettifers or Morton Hall, it’s almost like God is shining a light on it.” Indeed, a lot of the owners of the gardens Clive photographs cannot believe it’s theirs when they see the photographs and are inspired to get up early to witness their gardens at that magical time of day. “If you’re lucky enough to have a garden, get out in it early – it’s celestial.”

As we head into the darker months, Clive recommends seeking out one of the UK’s dedicated winter gardens such as those found at [RHS Wisley](#) in Surrey; the [Cambridge Botanic Garden](#); [Wakehurst](#) in West Sussex; [Bodnant](#) in Wales and [Anglesey Abbey](#) in Cambridgeshire. “On a sunny day the stems of the witch hazel, cornus and rubus really shine out and the amount of colour is amazing and incredibly joyful.” And couldn’t we all use a bit more of that?

[clivenichols.com](http://clivenichols.com)

Thank you to Heather Halfyard for sending in this great article.

# ANNOUNCEMENTS

Would like to announce we had two advancements this month.

Stephen Hops advanced from Gold to Diamond

Dave Van de Laar advanced from Master 2 to Master 3

Well done, Congratulations!!!!

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To do this, attendees will be asked to submit images of their making. I will choose images from attendee submissions to develop live during the class. You will be able to follow along in my process, ask questions and see what I do to enhance—and sometimes transmogrify—images into something you may never have thought about.

I will also demonstrate editing techniques that can be applied to all sorts of imagery including landscape and wildlife as well as portraiture.

This is one you do not want to miss.



Starting 11/14/2020  
[www.hansgate.com](http://www.hansgate.com)  
to register

# OUTINGS 2020/2021

Saturday,  
November 14, 2020

## **Light Spinning**

Night Shoot – Scott Simons & Chris Empey will provide light painting for this outing. Details on time and location to follow.

We can safely do 15 people

\$10 each

**Everyone MUST wear a mask and practice social distancing**

Please email Leah to reserve your spot.

Saturday,  
December 12, 2020

## **Grimsby Beach Painted Ladies**

Night shoot. These houses will be lit up for Christmas. This will be the last weekend of the festival in Niagara Falls. Also a night shoot of Niagara Falls

Saturday,  
January 9, 2021

## **Festival of Lights**

Saturday,  
February 6, 2021  
Friday thru Sunday,  
March 12 – 14

## **Photo Scavenger Hunt**

Downtown St. Catharines

## **CanAm Convention**

Sheraton on the Falls,  
Niagara Falls, Ontario

**These outings may change or have to be cancelled due to covid-19 rules**

If you have any feedback or suggestions I'd love to hear from you [parker79@sympatico.ca](mailto:parker79@sympatico.ca)

Stay well!

Leah





# NFRCC vs OCCC Inter Regional Competition



November 21, 2020

Keynote Speaker: Gerri Jones  
My Creative Adventure - Making Photography Fun



*You will see outstanding images from both sides of the border, during the Live Judging of the event. Categories: People In Action, Nature, Animals, Pictorial and Theme - Night Photography*

## Online Video Conference Event

Time: 10:00 am - 2:00 pm

Admission: \$10.00 CDN

***Register online at [www.nfrcc.org](http://www.nfrcc.org)***

# CANAM

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