

Frontera Times

The official newsletter of

Starbase 24



June 2019



IN THIS ISSUE ...

In this Issue	2
From the Admiralty Office	4
Ten Years Later.....	6
Emcon, Nottingham.....	8
Pinchbeck Flower Festival 2019	9
Sputnik 2419 is here!.....	10
From the Ship Yards	11
Emmaus	12
The Wandering Earth.....	15
Star Trek: Picard What we know.....	16
My Hair Transplant Story	18
Photography: It's All About Light.....	19
Agatha Raisin.....	23

Please note that while articles may contain details of merchandise and products by various manufacturers, Starbase 24 does not endorse any items other than their own.

COPYRIGHT NOTICES AND ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Star Trek and all related marks and logos are trademarks of CBS Studios, Inc. All rights reserved. Starbase 24 operates as a non-profit making organisation and we make no money from Star Trek. We hold no claims to any trademarks, copyrights, or properties held by CBS Studios or Paramount Pictures. All content from Star Trek including still images and character names is the property of Paramount Pictures Corporation and CBS Studios, Inc. and no infringement is intended. We have made all possible efforts to give credit to the artists/authors of the images we have used. If we are using your image without permission, please let us know and we will be glad to give credit or remove the image where requested to do so.

LIST OF CONTRIBUTORS

ADM Kehlan, Starbase 24



RADM Daniel Adams, Starbase 24/SS Hawking

Stefan Blakemore

Nick Frearson

The Rainbow Raptor, (aka Sue Griffiths)

Kevin Goldsmith, Starbase 24

CAPT Dominic Hadley, Starfleet Torchwood

Lursa of the Clan McMillan

Sarahleigh Richardson

SUBMISSION GUIDELINES

Submissions can be made at any time to webmaster@starbase24.co.uk.

Submissions can be whole articles (long and short), pictures, jokes—almost anything. Text can be supplied in almost any format that can be copied and pasted, and photos should be sent as JPGs by eMail as this gives a higher quality image that can be enhanced if needs be. Please, no ZIP files and please not by a Facebook Messenger (as reformatting those are a nightmare!). Works should be original or, where the work is not original, the source quoted so that the appropriate credit can be given.

Please remember that the Editor only edits the magazine so unless you make submissions, the **FRONTERA TIMES** will be very small indeed. All submissions are welcome, but the Editor reserves the right to edit, postpone or not to publish a particular item. Many thanks.



FROM THE ADMIRALTY OFFICE

As we head towards the end of May, we take a moment to reflect on the year so far. It's hard to believe we are almost halfway through the year. It's even scarier to think we are now only four months away from the 13th Banquet.

The banquet had a rocky beginning this year with lack of deposits and lack of communication from people leading to us having to make the difficult decision to cancel the Banquet and re-launch as a smaller mini-banquet. Despite scaling back we have a lot of exciting plans and we are looking forward to a fun weekend mixing with good friends, making new friends and raising money for charity. At the moment we are working on the menus for the weekend. Saturday night, as always, will be the three course Star Trek themed meal. For Friday we are offering something a little different ... Friday night is Barbeque Night.

This year Starbase 24 will be fundraising for **Marie Curie**. Please do take a look at their website <https://www.mariecurie.org.uk/> and learn a little more about them. They are an amazing charity that offers support, help and advice to all patients who are terminally ill and their families.

We will also continue to support **West Yorkshire Animals In Need (WYAIN)** and **Authorpe Hedgehog Care**. Elaine, who runs Hedgehog Care, has just celebrated her 80th birthday; I am sure you all wish her a very happy birthday and agree with me that she is absolutely amazing.

One of our fundraising projects is the Starbase 24 limited edition combadge.

This year's badge, designed by Adam Dolphin, celebrates the 50th anniversary of the Apollo 11 mission and the Lunar Module "Eagle" landing on the moon. We will have the badges in stock very soon and they will be sold for



£15 each plus postage, with all the funds going to the charities we support.

In other news, the fish tank in the admiralty office has been refurbished, an undertaking which led to one of our loaches going missing and eventually being found flopping around on the kitchen floor thanks to it having hidden inside the ATAT we had removed for cleaning. Oops!

We paid a visit a few days ago to the Aquatics Centre to buy some more fish food and were excited to find a whole new range of tank decorations,

including the Enterprise, Stargate, Battlestar Galactica, Millennium Falcon, Death Star, Darth Vader's helmet and even Spiderman – everything the Geeky fish keeper could ever dream of.

Needless to say, some of them came home with us and we were delighted to realise that the Stargate was actually an air-stone, so it even has a built-in wormhole generator with its own event horizon! The fish seem very happy with their new decorations.



TEN YEARS LATER...

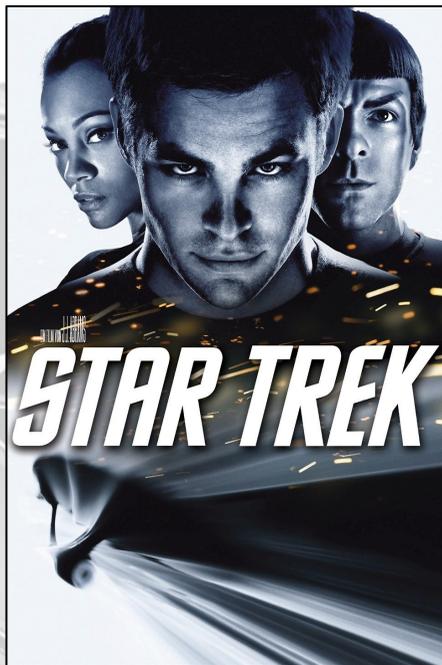
RADM Dan Adams

Ten years ago this month, the first film in the Star Trek Kelvin timeline debuted. This film was the one that really made me a part of Star Trek fandom. Don't get me wrong, I was a fan of the franchise since 1993 when I was a wee slip of a lad, but I had never been involved in the external fandom. I had dabbled on the internet sure, but taking part in actual meetings and conventions seemed difficult the young Apprentice that had only been in work for six months that I was when Enterprise went off the air in 2005.

Four years later, J J Abrams, previously known to me as the creative force behind "Lost" was announced as the director for a Star Trek reboot.

Once again there was new Star Trek to be had. A feeling of excitement that I had missed. Sure it was a reboot, (or was it?) but the franchise that got me hooked into the sci-fi genre was back. Not only that, I had a bit of money to play with I could afford Star Trek conventions, and even travel to meetings of Star Trek clubs. As a result of this, I learned new people skills, which in turn have helped me, particularly in recent years in ways that I didn't expect. In fact, without these films, the last decade would have undoubtedly be different for me, and I may not be the person that I am today.

But what about this film? This mad assault on the senses. Its been nicknamed "JJ's Star Wars Show Reel", its been the bane of many veteran Star Trek Fans (at least until Discovery was nice enough to come along in 2017). Some couldn't get past the excessive lens flare, others despised the apparent deletion of the franchise's established timeline. Others took umbrage with the recasting of iconic roles. But the question is, is it a bad film?



Honestly, I say no. I would even go as far to as to say that it is a good Star Trek film. Alas, it was not feasible to bring the original crew together for one last adventure. The Next Generation didn't generate the results that Paramount wanted at the time, and Deep Space Nine, Voyager and Enterprise didn't grab the attention of the masses as much as the original crew did. That leaves one option, recast the original roles that made Star Trek so iconic.

By creating a new timeline that has an awareness of the old timeline, Abrams succeeded in creating something that was new and yet similar. A great decision was bringing Leonard Nimoy's Spock in. The undisputed elder statesman of the franchise, not only to Spock Prime serve as a guide for Kirk, Nimoy would prove to be a useful advocate for this new direction of the franchise by giving it his approval. By contrast, Nimoy famously refused to reprise the role for Star Trek: Generation at the start of the movie.

We get something that is quite different, it has hints of what came before, but it also moves things along its own pace. Vulcan gets destroyed. This ain't your grandfather's Star Trek.



Unlike the prime universe, the crew are more impulsive. In the Original series, we get the impression that the crew are seasoned experts, tempered by years of service. Here, due to the deadly Nerada, they are forced together without the benefit of that experience and it makes sense. Even the emotional Spock (played brilliantly by Zachary Quinto) make sense. When he attacks Kirk, Vulcan has been destroyed, including the loss of his mother. I don't see how people can consider this out of character.

Much is made of the special effects; they are very crisp and necessary for the audience that Paramount were aiming the movie at – i.e. causal film goers.

Overall, I'd rate this movie very highly indeed. It took the franchise in a new direction, with new ideas and it provided a new take on the core "trinity" of Kirk, Spock and McCoy that gave the original Star Trek its heart. Whatever the future holds for this branch of the Star Trek universe, it kept the flame burning.

EMCON, NOTTINGHAM

Nick Frearson

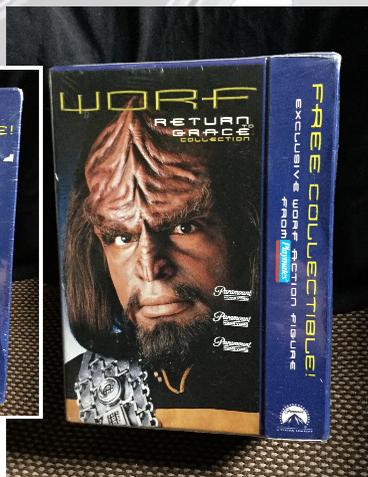
At the beginning of May I went to EmCon, Nottingham.

On the Saturday, during the day, I had a photo shoot with Marina Sirtis and also found a semi-rare Trek video box set with a figure of Worf, sealed and in great condition.



Also throughout the day I met up with friends from Starbase 24 and FCD Events including Dan Adams and Alison Dax Robinson.

The day was a long one but well worth going to. Among the things on display was a Street Hawk motorcycle and, even though I didn't see it, a Jurassic Park jeep.



PINCHBECK FLOWER FESTIVAL 2019

Sarahleigh Richardson



On 3 May 2019 I took the shuttle down to the Pinchbeck sector of the Spalding system to go and visit Admirals Mackenzie and Kehlan of Starbase 24 for the annual Flower Festival. On the Friday it was cold and wet.

We were based at the Church in Pinchbeck named St Mary's Church of England. Saturday I was dressed as a dark Jedi, who famously snogged a Stormtrooper as the day May the 4th (Star Wars day). I managed to climb up to the top near the spire of the church where I took some photos with my camera from my phone.

On the Sunday I borrowed one of Admiral Kehlan's DSLR cameras and took some pictures including the one above. I was told that I had a good eye for photography if I used a DSLR over my phone. Over the course of the day I took seventy-five photos, which were edited by Kehlan.



THE MINI BANQUET

TREK FANS PUTTING THE FUN INTO FUNDRAISING!

SATURDAY 28th SEPT 2019
AT THE PETERBOROUGH MARRIOTT



SPUTNIK 2419 IS HERE!

CAPT Dominic Hadley

The star ship U.S.S. Sputnik, NCC-29100 has been launched on star date 170319.2. An Aerie class surveyor with the latest in Starfleet Torchwood innovative starship construction, she was built freshly at Pleiades Fleetyards where most Ships in Starfleet Torchwood are constructed. She has been commissioned into the Beta Squad fleet as a Surveyor & Science Exploration Vessel.

The Sputnik 2419 is a developmental project designed as a test bed for future starship construction, experimenting with various new technologies and scientific advancements.



The Sputnik has been named after both Earth's first artificial Russian satellite 'Sputnik 1' and also the 1982 British new wave band 'Sigue Sigue Sputnik' which is also where the U.S.S. Sputnik's Insignia is inspired by.



FROM THE SHIP YARDS ...

Kevin Goldsmith

An agreement between the Klingon Captain K'Vaar and Romulan Ambassador Y Not Na has been deemed a success.

Several decades ago, a peace treaty between both factions was negotiated but after a short while broke down, both sides blaming each for the failure. The only thing that came out of it was the Klingons' gaining photon torpedo technology.

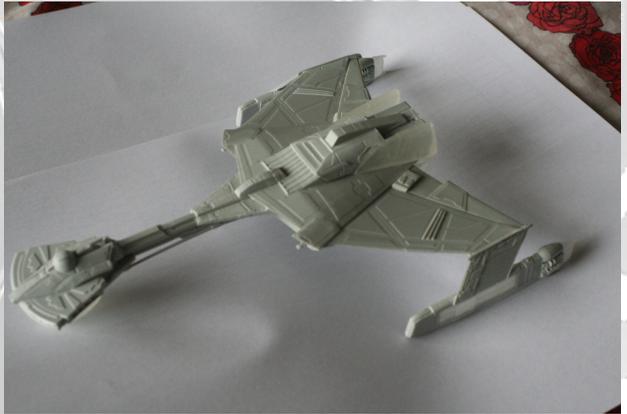
Members of both Empires (in human guise for security reasons) Kevin Goldsmith and Tony Burr respectively, got together to allow Kevin to build a model kit to add to Tony's collection.

The model, a D-6, is of the type seen in the fan-film *Axanar*, which

stars amongst others J G Herzler, best known as General Martok in *Deep Space Nine* and more recently one of the guests of honour at Starbase 24's 10th Banquet.

When asked Mr. Goldsmith stated, "I always try to do things the way that the client wants—even if this differs to the way that I would prefer, and as with other clients, I sent Tony pictures of the building and painting of his model."

Mr. Burr added, "Model you put together and painted is excellent, the addition compliments my collection of models."



A few years ago before I joined this group, whenever I was looking for work there were people who would ask me if I would ever consider volunteer work.

Back then my response would be a blanket no, because I wouldn't really be able to afford the travel if it was a fair distance away; I would want to be getting some money to help with household bills, and things to that effect. Also I wouldn't be able to afford to go to conventions or get togethers such as the Banquet.

A while ago, I was at a local charity shop that had opened up, it's called **Emmaus**, and it is a charity that started in France aimed at helping homeless people get off of the streets. At the time I was just browsing around looking for any good bargains, the kind you only get at a charity shop.



While I was looking around, I came across a rather nice riser-recliner that might be good for my grandmother, so I took a picture and contacted my mum, and soon after we arranged to buy it. The only problem, though, was that the chair had not been PAT Tested.

PAT testing is Personal Appliance Testing (and yes I know that the way I wrote it would mean 'Personal Appliance Testing' Testing, but for whatever reason that is how it's described). They did have an electrician who did testing on all electrical items that came into the shop, from extension cords to hi-fis, to TVs and riser-recliners. There was just one slight problem. He did that same job for THREE different Emmaus Branches!

I wasn't sure I heard that correctly. Apparently they had trouble finding electricians willing to help, but I was assured that the chair would be tested and ready for delivery (and payment) in a week.

They were so snowed under with items that needed testing that it took two weeks instead.

Now, I was starting to get on with the people there considering I usually popped in every other day or so just to look around. While talking with the shops boss, I mentioned that I was fairly handy with electrical items and would they be interested if I offered my help.

They all but jumped at the chance to get me working on their electrical appliances. It started off with simple things, re-plugging older lamp shades and making sure the wires were in useable order. While repetitive and if I'm honest fairly boring, the job was important because it gave the electrician I was working with time to work on other more challenging items.

The plan, as far as I have been told, is to train me up to the point I am considered competent to do PAT Testing on my own, and then in effect, that branch's electrical testing will be my domain.

I was told just before I started to, "remember, it's a volunteer job, so you won't be paid." And that's very true, I'm not getting paid in money, but I'm making some new friends, putting my love of tinkering to good use, and I'm



getting an inside line on electrical bits that come into the shop that I might actually like to get my hands on. It isn't limited to electronics either. I've picked up all sorts of things, from camping supplies, to furniture, to knick-knacks and even some sci-fi bits. Some items have been very beneficial to me.

A lady came in the other week with some electrical, including a Nintendo Wii U console base (no other components), a microphone stand and microphone, a high end graphics card, and a damaged X-Box One X console.

To put that into perspective, the Wii U is about £150, the microphone and stand are about £50, the graphics card it turned out was about £279, and the X-Box was usually over £300.

Since they didn't have the means to repair the X-Box and the rest really couldn't be tested, they were going to throw the lot away. I got those bits for a £20 donation to the charity, so in effect, £5 each.

Now, I'm not trying to brag about being fortunate with that sort of thing, but it's weird considering what I wrote at the start of this article. If I had the same mindset, I wouldn't have made new friends, I wouldn't have been doing

anything special with my tech skills, and I certainly wouldn't have gotten my hands on over £600 worth of equipment.

I think the moral of this story is, you never know what will happen if you offer your help on a volunteer basis. Sometimes the benefits can surprise you.



THE MINI BANQUET

TREK FANS PUTTING THE FUN INTO FUNDRAISING!

YOU ARE CORDIALLY INVITED TO JOIN US AT

INFORMAL FRIDAY MEET UP

BBQ STYLE BUFFET
QUIZ, CHAT,
MUSIC

TICKET PRICE:

£22

TIME:

18.30

FRIDAY 27th
SEPT 2019

THE MINI BANQUET 2019

3 COURSE MEAL
AUCTION, RAFFLE,
MUSIC

TICKET PRICE:

ADULT: £40

TEEN/CARER: £35

CHILDREN: £15

SATURDAY 28th
SEPT 2019

THE PETERBOROUGH MARRIOTT
WWW.STARBASE24.CO.UK

CONDITIONS:
SHOULD THE EVENT BE CANCELLED BY EITHER SB24
EVENTS OR THE HOTEL, THEN GUESTS WILL RECEIVE A FULL
REFUND. HOWEVER, SHOULD YOU CHOOSE TO CANCEL
YOUR TICKET, MONEY WILL BE DONATED TO THE CHARITIES
WE SUPPORT.
FRIDAY NIGHT:
THIS EVENT IS NOT PART OF THE OFFICIAL BANQUET BUT
THE ABOVE STILL APPLIES



THE WANDERING EARTH

The Rainbow Raptor, (aka Sue Griffiths)

Have you seen *The Wandering Earth* yet? If not, why not? It's on Netflix so if you don't have Netflix, find someone who does and bribe them so you can see it. Or see it with them so you can both have a brilliant evening viewing something awesome.

For those who haven't heard of it or don't think it's their cup of tea, it might just surprise you. It's a Chinese film dubbed into English and it's done WELL. Bad things have happened to the sun and the answer is to relocate the Earth to ensure humanity's survival. It sounds a bit far out but the plot is done well. The characters aren't bad either - with believable reactions and a story of human courage and endurance.



The effects and graphics are seriously well done - particularly the landscapes and - pretty much everything. I don't want to give too much away but it's full of suspense, action, all the feels - it's just seriously terrific.



STAR TREK: PICARD

WHAT WE KNOW

What is it?

It is ten-part series that will feature Patrick Stewart in his iconic role from *Star Trek: The Next Generation* and its spin off movie.

When will It drop?

Late 2019 is the current slot, which could be as early as September or as late as December assuming that the production sticks to its timeline.

Where will it drop?

US – CBS All Access

Canada – Space network and the Crave streaming platform.

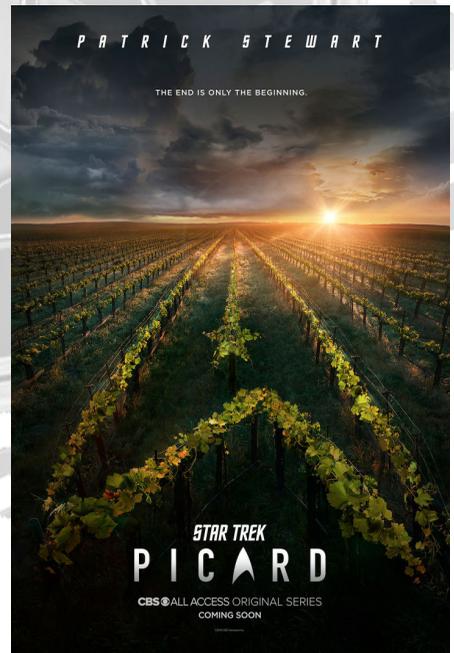
Rest of World – Amazon Prime.

When will it start filming?

Filming is underway! It started in April 2019 and images have been leaked/released showing the new uniform worn by Starfleet.

What can you tell me about the setting?

It picks up roughly 18 years after *Star Trek Nemesis*. Many critics of the current Star Trek production team point to the references to the destruction of Romulus as a sign that this takes place in the Kelvin Universe. However, Romulus' destruction took place as in the prime timeline before the films converged into the new timeline.



Is any other cast or crew returning from TNG?



Kind of. Johnathan Frakes will be directing episodes 3 and 4. Frakes directed a few episodes of TNG as well as the movies *First Contact* and *Insurrection*. No word on any other returns, however, in the Voyager episode “Timeless” director Levar Burton reprised his on-screen role as Geordi La Forge in a cameo so the precedent is certainly there. The rest of the cast have said that they haven’t been asked, and they mentioned that they would have had to sign non-disclosure agreements if they had.



THE MINI BANQUET

TREK FANS PUTTING THE FUN INTO FUNDRAISING!

SATURDAY 28th SEPT 2019
AT THE PETERBOROUGH MARRIOTT



MY HAIR TRANSPLANT STORY

CAPT Dominic Hadley

Last October I flew to Turkey on a quest to fix my receding hairline, which had been impacting upon my confidence quite deeply since the age of 21. I started going bald at the age of around 17-18, which was when I started to notice my hair at the front becoming very thin, I started to realise this more and more over the years to the point that my fringe just couldn't grow out, forcing me to have a comb over hair style, because I just didn't like the idea of cutting off my hair, Although many say that hair is just hair, to me my hair is a part of who I am, my personality. So I knew I had to do something about it.

In mid August time my mum had told me our hairdresser's manager, Mark had a hair transplant for £1,400 in Turkey, and after doing hefty research over the past several months I figured I should talk to him and see how his result came out, and I have to say I was pretty impressed. The fact it's that cheap to have it done out in Turkey just made me realise how practical the procedure is! So without delay I organised it with my hairdresser manager.

I couldn't believe it at first when I found out the hotel and VIP transport between the hotel-clinic-airport was all included in the £1,400, so Mark forwarded me to Hugo who is in charge of 'Hair World Turkey' which is the name of the Hair Transplant Clinic.

Now I have to say Hugo has been absolutely wonderful during the entire organisation of the procedure and I was really well taken care of during the entire two night trip, which took place on the 11th to 13th October. It was definitely money well spent and I would definitely recommend it to anyone who is going bald/receding and it is deeply impacting upon their confidence. With it being cheaper in Turkey compared to getting it done in the UK, just makes it a lot more worth while! I have to say it feels like I have regenerated, I am part Time Lord after all.



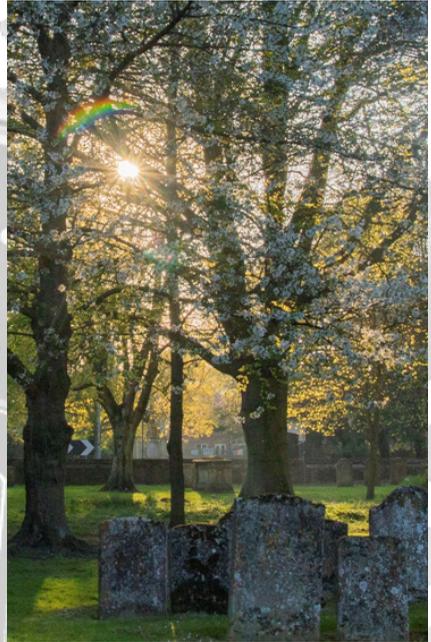
PHOTOGRAPHY: IT'S ALL ABOUT LIGHT

ADM Kehlan

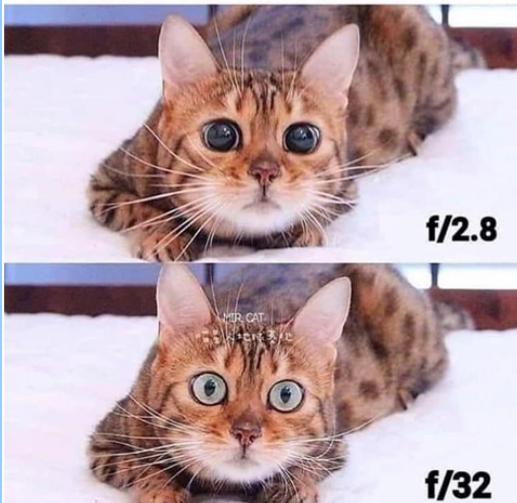
There are three factors that affect how light gets into your camera to produce a photograph:

1. The length of time the camera shutter remains open.
2. The size of the hole that lets the light in.
3. The sensitivity of the camera to light.

These three things are known as the **Exposure Triangle** and understanding them will allow you to move beyond the automatic settings and take control of your camera.



The ultimate representation of lens aperture/f-stop! 🐱



Exposure Triangle: Aperture

Aperture controls the amount of light entering your camera.

The cat's eyes in this meme borrowed from Facebook (Photo credit: Steve Lipton), beautifully illustrate how aperture works. The smaller the number, the more light enters the camera. Hence, at $f/2.8$, the cat's pupils are wide open, letting in lots of light. At the other end of the scale, $f/32$, the pupils are very small and not much light gets in.

Depth of Field

Depth of Field is also controlled by Aperture. When the aperture is wide open, at $f/2.8$, the depth of field is very shallow. At $f/32$ there is lots of depth of field.

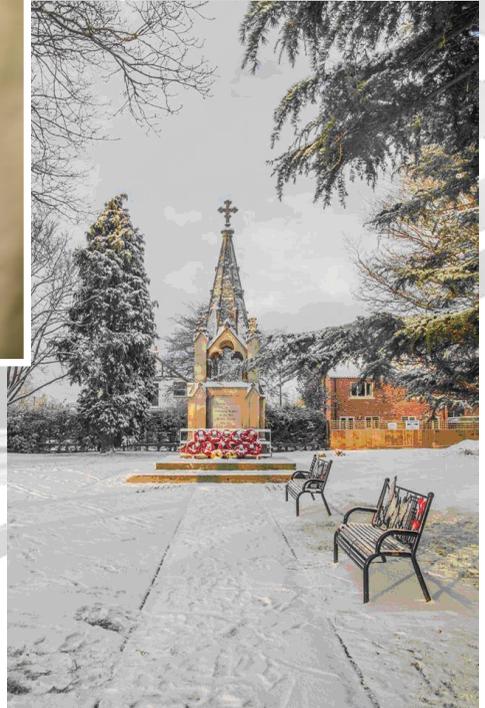


This photo of an owl at Rutland Falconry & Owl Centre illustrates a shallow depth of field.

The background is blurred. This is ideal for portraits where a detailed background would be distracting.

This photo of Pinchbeck War Memorial in the snow illustrates a high depth of field.

The background is sharp and in focus. This is ideal for landscapes where you want lots of detail.



Exposure Triangle: Shutter Speed

Shutter speed measures the amount of time the shutter of the camera remains open. A slow shutter speed lets in lots of light. A fast shutter speed lets in less light.



These American Thunderbirds jets were moving very fast. Accordingly, a fast shutter speed of $1/800$ of a second was used to capture the image.

A very slow shutter speed of 5 seconds was used to capture the propeller movement of Lancaster Bomber "Just Jane" at East Kirkby Aviation Centre. A tripod was used to prevent camera shake from causing a blurred photo.



Exposure Triangle: ISO

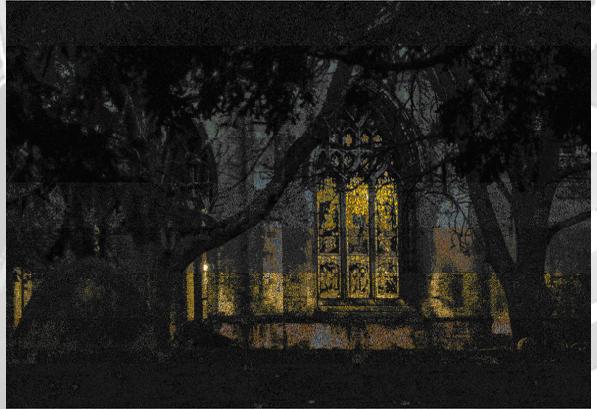
ISO is the sensitivity of the camera to light. A low ISO of 100 will let in a very small amount of light and is useful outdoors on a very sunny day. A high ISO of 6400 will let in lots of light and is useful in dark situations, for example during a church service when a flash cannot be used.



This picture was taken on a bright sunny day, with an ISO of 100, the lowest possible value. The picture is crisp and clear with no noise. A narrow aperture of $f/13$ was used to give lots of depth of field.

This picture was taken on a dark night, without a tripod with an ISO value of 6400. The noise in the picture is very visible.

Shutter speed was $1/80$, the slowest possible to avoid blur and aperture was $f/4.5$, the widest the lens would allow. A flash would have lit the foreground but blacked out the church.



So why use a very high ISO?

- Because you are in a place where a flash cannot be used.
- Because to set a slower shutter speed would cause a blurred photo
- Because opening the aperture more would lose depth of field.

All these mean that sometimes, the only way to get the shot is to use a high ISO. However, since noise is not desirable, always use the lowest ISO possible.

(Photos by JC Photography)

AGATHA RAISIN

Lursa of the Clan McMillan

The early bank holiday in May saw a few members of the Sealed Knot taking part in a TV show.

Agatha Raisin is a TV detective based on some books by M. C. Beaton, and one of the episodes required a re-enactment of an English Civil War battle as the backdrop to a murder.

The call went out and between 65 and 70 members of the Sealed Knot volunteered.

There was filming on a weekday in a pub, but the majority of the filming took place the weekend following, at Neston Park, near Bath.



We arrived at the campsite on the Saturday, setting up our tents and getting to know the various members of differing regiments. We went for a pub meal that evening, knowing we would not have any further time over the weekend to socialise.

We returned to the campsite and eventually retired to bed. It was a cold night, but the morning was due to start very early. Breakfast was at 8 am, so we had to get up just after 6.45 am to be ready. We ambled down to the living history area, where we left our weapons and drums so we could go for our breakfast, provided by the production staff.

Breakfast consisted of a bun filled with breakfast food. I don't normally eat buns, but it was the only thing on offer. I was asked if I wanted tomato, to which I mistakenly said yes. Then I had vegetarian sausage and egg. The bun

was put on a serviette and handed to me. I took it over to a table and then got myself a cup of tea.

By the time I returned to my bun, the tomato part (which was just juice) had soaked through the bun, so it really wasn't possible to lift up without it breaking.

Eventually, I ended up simply eating the sausages and egg by hand. This was followed by yoghurt and washed down with my tea.

There were ordinary extras on set, and these people thought we were also ordinary extras. They were dressed by the production crew, though the clothes were slightly out of period.



After breakfast, we returned to the living history area and followed instruction. I was one of two drummers, as in the photo, although I wore a black felt hat this weekend, rather than the blue and yellow cap, and we were filmed walking across the path whilst a main member of the cast was walking towards us. We were filmed several times doing this. Then after a while we were filmed marching up and down the path several times.

About an hour after all this the main cast appeared and more standing about and repeat walking back and forth occurred.

Lunch followed at 1 pm and

then it was back to the set. Further actors appeared, including an American actor, dressed in a black cloak. He was the villain of the piece.



The murder soon followed, and more walking, gasping and standing.

Filming for the day finished at 6 pm, and we retired to our campsite. We had brought food with us, but to be truthful, we had been fed so well throughout the

day, that we really didn't need anything else to eat. Instead, we sat around a campfire and chatted for a couple of hours, before retiring to bed.

The second day began the same with breakfast, however this day there was a small amount of standing around before we began to film the battle. This consisted of us dividing up into two sides. There were four drummers today, so there were two on each side. The soldiers on our side wore red and blue uniforms, so my blue uniform fitted perfectly. We were filmed marching on several times playing our drums, and then our commanding officer spoke a bit and there was a bit of comedy, with one of the regular cast members trying to hold a pike.

Lunch was at 1 pm as before.

Finally, the skirmish began. The musketeers fired off at each other, by saying BANG, and then they fired off BANG again a couple of times, before firing off for real. Then the pikemen went in for a push a couple of times. One of the opposition was injured, something that often happens at a battle, however, unlike at a battle, the production medics were not able to deal with the injury, so the injured pikeman had to go to hospital.

This was met with loud cheers from our side. Several more pushes followed, and then we were told we had to do it all over again, but without

sound. Not easy when you are trying not to bang a drum, or clash as a pike block, with metal uniform and wooden pikes. This took a few more attempts, as the sound carried in some cases. The reason behind silent filming of the battle was because the cast had to speak, so silence in all other areas was required.

Finally, the members of the Sealed Knot who were not based on Living History were released and able to go home. The end of a very tiring, but great fun, weekend

