

PHOTOFEST 2007

A report by David Plummer (Guildford Photographic Society)

What do you do on a cold, wet and dark winter's Sunday afternoon? For about 150 members of the Surrey Federation the answer was to gather at Mole Hall and listen to a presentation by multi-award winning and FIAP World Champion photographers Phil and Gwen Charnock.

Phil and Gwen specialise in Industrial, Commercial and Travel photography and have been actively engaged in the photographic business for the last 30 years. Using a combination of projected digital images and multimedia presentation they demonstrated a wide range of work that they have created since switching to digital. Gwen's commentary provided an informative and humorous background to their travels around Ireland, work for the Lancashire Constabulary and other assorted projects which the Charnock's have undertaken.

Finally, Phil and Gwen talked about the creation of the Wigan 10 photography group and the club's submission to the 2006 FIAP World Championship. The submission consisted of 20 images, with no more than two images per photographer. Among competition from around the world Wigan 10 performed exceptionally well, winning the overall prize and scoring significantly higher than the next placed clubs.

For a couple of hours the magic of photography was once again allowed to take hold and transport the viewer to another place and time. The Charnock's combination of high impact photography and post processing techniques provided inspiration to the audience to take a different point of view and try new approaches in their own work.