

The quarry workers relates to my Grandmothers photography. There is an original scan of what I believe to be my Grandmother's photography taken at some time between 1890 and 1909 when she died.

Roland Puleston Jones

With Christine Prickett

Photography before diving, or diving before photography, please choose. Luckily Roland doesn't have to because he can combine his two favourite pastimes together. Understandably it is not difficult for him to choose which came first because he said for as long as he can remember he has always loved the water, fresh or salt but he also had a Kodak Instamatic camera when he was a young child. Although back then he couldn't combine these two areas of interest and the merging of the two had to wait a long while. Roland is just about to complete his third year as Chairman of the Daventry

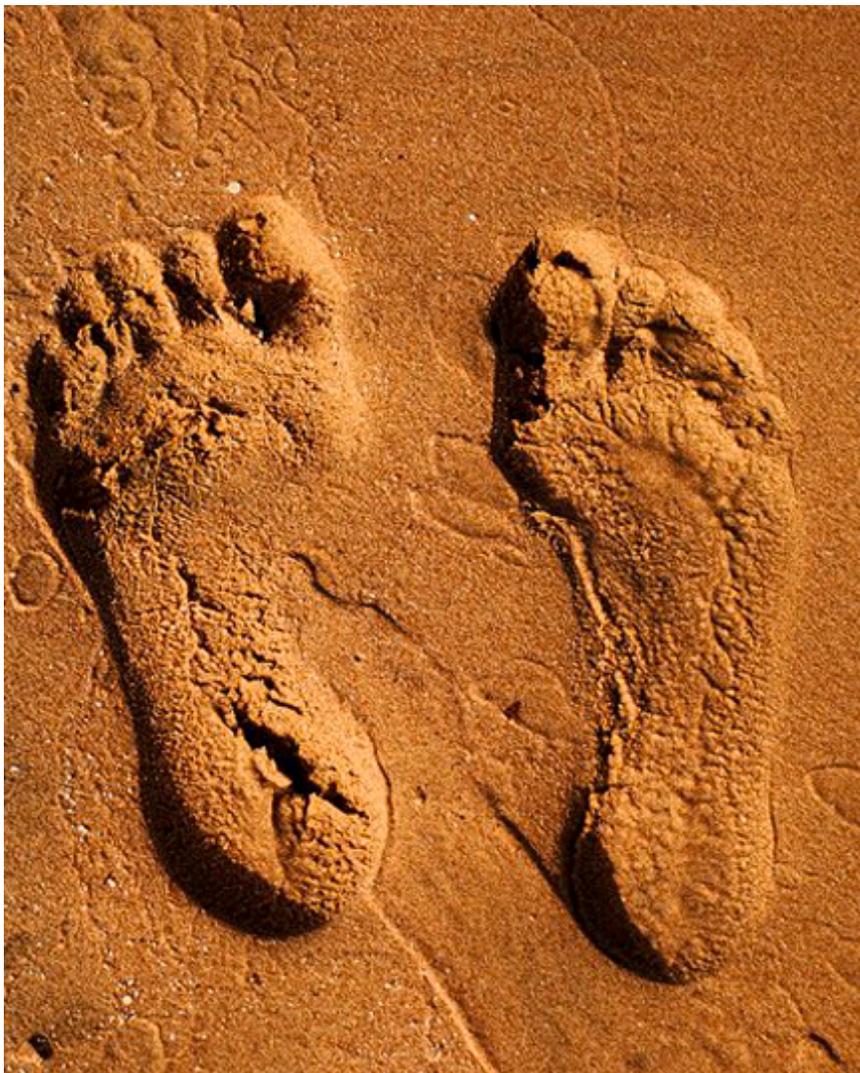


© Roland Puleston Jones

The Pierrot picture is the only one of my prints that I have up on the walls in my house

Photography Society and I thought it was about time we members knew a little bit more about the man who has been at our helm for this period, in addition to his love of diving and photography. Despite being slightly anxious but pleased to be offered the position of Chairman Roland considered long and hard before he accepted the role and took over from John Lewis. This was partly because he wanted to be clear in his own mind what he could offer as Chairman and in what way could he steer the club forward for the next few years – he is a keen believer that the role should be refreshed on a regular basis for the good of the club. I asked him to outline what his conclusions were about being the Chairman, but not before I reminded him that during his tenure of the position the club has been very successful. Not least because the DPS has won the Badby Challenge Cup for the first time in the club's history and also the Jaguar Challenge. He said that he believed the Chairman, first and foremost, was a figurehead and needed to be a good manager. He very much wanted to make it easier for the committee members, who do most of the hard work. On his personal agenda was to re-structure the committee and particularly reduce the massive workload Linda Wilson was doing. He also thought that increased press coverage to assist in improving the club's profile. He must then be satisfied with how the club has

progressed with the club's success in improving the profile. He replied that to some extent he was, but he also knew that the club's demographic of more senior citizens was also going to make this a difficult challenge for him and any successor to increase membership and that we needed more younger members to flourish in the future or we will simply decline. I asked him what were the other challenges he had faced. He said the loss of Graham Brown had been difficult because nobody realised the amount Graham did for the club. This meant that the whole committee had out of necessity to be restructured and some new roles created to cover Graham's input. This had re-emphasised for Roland that the committee members should be supported and not 'overworked'.



© Roland Puleston Jones

The footprints in the sand relate to my personal philosophy relating to the environment and to Jane as they are therefore not just any footprints but they reflect her being such an important part of my life.

In reply to this last statement I said that he also had worked hard especially considering he still had business interests of his own to manage such as his six rental properties and as a Director of a property management company of 32 more properties. He said that at the moment that was not a problem because Jane his wife was still working and, anyway, he was not afraid of hard work. This for him started at the age of eighteen when he left school and started working for Woolworths. He literally did start on the shop floor and worked his way up into Head office and managerial roles. He enjoyed working for them but left after he had closed down their last subsidiary in this country called House proud. In fact, Roland worked for 13 different retailers including BP, Carphone Warehouse, Littlewoods and Tesco. This number of employers had led Roland, originally from Wales, to live at 38 different addresses around the country although he has now lived in Norton for 21 years. The time pressures of business travel led to Roland deciding to work for a retailer with a local Head Office for four years before he retired. Roland went on to add that his sister had died at fifty-six, his father had died in his early sixties and these events had influenced his attitude now of making the most of his time and enjoying life.



© Roland Puleston Jones

Divers on the wreck show my love of Underwater photography.

He is looking forward to spending even more of his time devoted to activities that he loves when Jane, his wife of thirty eight years, retires. Roland added that his happy marriage still having Jane as his wife are his proudest achievement. They met at a New Year's Eve party and Roland said he knew he wanted to marry her after just two weeks although he waited three months before he proposed so as not to scare her off. He added that he is that kind of person and when he decides he is keen on someone or something he throws everything at pursuing it or, in the case of Jane, them. This OCD with pastimes as Roland calls it started with a type of martial art. Roland asserted that he has never been good at sports, even golf which he still plays regularly. However, he took instantly to Shinkokai Karate and literally and metaphorically threw himself into this sport and progressed through the different levels over 7 years and ended up teaching the sport. However, Roland's roving lifestyle meant that it was a while before he was settled enough to join a 'pastime club' - but no, it was amateur dramatics not a photography club in Takeley near Stansted Airport Photography came into Roland's life in the mid to late 70's when he joined a camera club in St Albans. He was a Woolco divisional manager and, because the company were dealers for Yashica and Contax Cameras, Roland had the opportunity to borrow a top of the range Contax RTS camera and a very long telephoto lens which at the time was a very good camera and therefore an expensive piece of equipment to go take to the Isles of Scilly for three days photographing puffins. His confidence was boosted because he was asked by a local bird expert, who was writing a book on birds, to sell one of these photographs and the copyright, which he did for £50. No mean feat for your first photography holiday! It was around this period when Roland met his photographic mentor Tony Gregory who was a local press photographer. Tony was a profound influence on Roland and he still follows his advice of taking images of what he likes, judging his work against himself not others and, most importantly, looking at all of the picture in the viewfinder before pressing the shutter. He and Tony visited many places enjoying taking photos together, Tony was often taking black and white shots whilst Roland was taking his in colour. Tony used a Nikon so it is not surprising that Roland should follow suit. He has from this time onwards always taken his shots on a manual setting using aperture or shutter priority rather than auto. It turns out that photography has a place in his family's history as his father enjoyed cine-photography but, more unusually, his grandmother was taking photographs in Wales in the 1890s/1900's and he still has some of her work and he understands the picture of the quarry workmen that his family owned was taken by her.

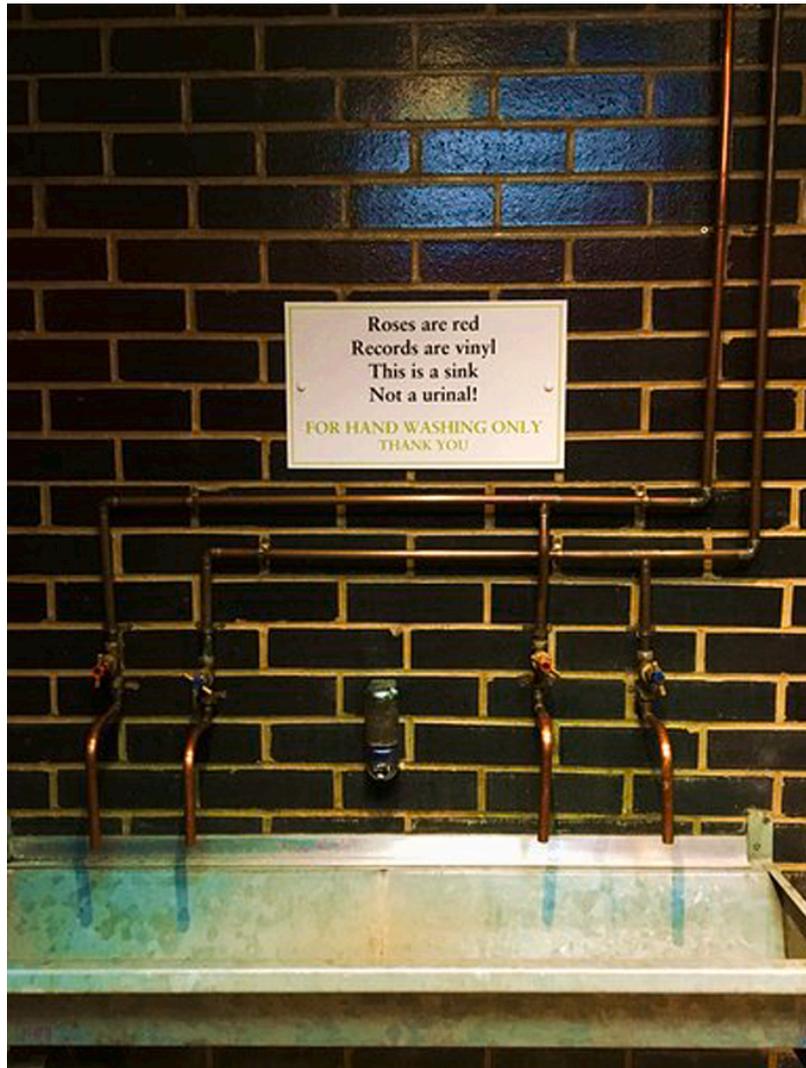


© Roland Puleston Jones

The 'Scooter or Motorbike' image was a monochrome competition entry that reflects how my photography has improved as it did very well in that competition Coming joint 2nd with 19 points.

It was twenty years ago that he started scuba diving and it took him fourteen years of lessons whilst on holidays to gain his Master Scuba Diver qualification – something not easy to attain and he is most proud of reaching this ultimate level of proficiency. He and Jane have travelled to some wonderful parts of the world from the Caribbean, Middle East to The Maldives whilst Roland was in pursuit of his qualification but interestingly Jane does not like the water at all. They continue today to do this and Roland is keen to make the most of what he sees as a limited time period for him to combine his two favourite pastimes and take underwater images.

He informed me that this was because when you reach the age of 65 your dive insurance doubles and it does this again when you reach 70. Cave diving quadruples in cost so Roland reluctantly stopped this activity when he was 60. He said with more than a tinge of regret that age and finances will



© Roland Puleston Jones

The quirky humour photo was a sign that I saw in in a gents toilet in a garden centre and it made me laugh so I took a photo on my Iphone so that also reflects my very unusual sense of humour and my belief that the best camera to use is the one that you have with you rather than lose a photographic opportunity.

limit his 'wet' photography but he is going to move on to taking more land-based images and it will probably be landscapes that he will concentrate upon, although he will also take what he calls his humorous quirky shots. When asked what his favourite image of all time was he replied one he had taken of Jane's footprints in the sand. What does the future hold for Roland apart from landscapes and a desire to improve his ability? He thought that he might take a Photoshop course and improve his skill with the software. If he does we had all better watch out because he is likely to become a master of the 'art'. © Christine Prickett



©. Saul Leiter

Saul Leiter (1923-2013)

Colour photography during the 1940s and 1950s was considered vulgar and artless – this was the era that Saul Leiter began to experiment with different manipulations of photography. Influenced by the Abstract Expressionist movement, he began to capture snatches and distorted snippets of everyday life, with a particular interest in reflections, blurs and fragments.



©. Saul Leiter

Take the time to watch this film of a special man, Saul Leiter a modest gentle photographer that spent his life in New York photographing within a few blocks of his house.

[In no great hurry - 13 lessons in life with Saul Leiter - YouTube](#)



©. Saul Leiter

[Saul Leiter in Conversation with Vince Aletti - YouTube](#)

This is well worth watching giving an insight to wonderful human being

Margit Erb is the founder and director of the Saul Leiter Foundation, which is dedicated to preserving the art and legacy of the influential New York City photographer and painter. Erb closely assisted Leiter for over 18 years. Her talk is part of the i3: Images, Ideas, Inspiration lecture series, which features presentations by digital photographers, hardware and software developers and industry experts. Presented by the MPS Digital Photography.

[Margit Erb - Director, Saul Leiter Foundation - YouTube](#)

This lecture about Saul Leiter shows his place in the history of photography and his role of going with the flow and following your own path, but, and this is the important part Without Margit Erb and her dedication to preserve and archive Saul Leiter's work it could all be lost to future photographers and historians, because if you have watched the 13 lessons in life video you will have seen he was not the most organised man.

DPS COMPETITION THEMES 2020-2021

March

- 3rd Annual General Meeting.
- 10th Competition (Projected) -OPEN - Guest Judge: Peter Siviter.
- 17th Members evening practical session - indoor flash - Stuart Batchelor & Mike Hemmings.
- 24th Guest Speaker: Leigh Bishop - Underwater Explorer 'Exploring the BIGGER sister ship of the Titanic'.
- 31st Guest Speaker: Roland Bogush - Talk & demo on Lightroom.



© RJ Pollard

RJ Pollard

This 19-year old Australian based photographer is quickly making a name for himself in the landscape photography world. With a keen eye for composition and his tasteful post-processing, RJ seems to constantly be delivering high-quality work.

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