



Podium results for 2009 were:

#### Female Senior

Leah Crane 1st

Katy Whittaker 2nd

Diane Merrick 3rd

#### Female Junior

Shauna Coxsey 1st

Caitlin Wallace 2nd

Suzie Zitter 3rd

#### Male Senior

Ned Feehally 1st

Dave Barrans 2nd

Gaz Parry 3rd

#### Male Junior

Jonathan Stocking 1st

Jonathan Field 2nd

Nathan Phillips 3rd

## An afternoon on Derwent Edge...

By Fran Halsall

Landscape photography is all about getting the best out of natural light and the photographer's skill lies in understanding how the quality of illumination changes in response to not only the time of day but also the type of weather. Using the 'right' lighting for the subject is essential as it creates the image's character. At the two extremes of weather, both seriously overcast conditions and bright midday sun are far from ideal when attempting to make making great landscape images.

Derwent Edge is one of my favourite locations in the Peak District as it features heather moorland alongside a host of distinctive sandstone formations. For this particular walk I set off in the late morning, planning to take in all the outcrops between Back Tor and Whinstone Lee Tor. My favourite time of year to do this trip is in late summer when the heather is in full bloom, however this means that the light is much too strong throughout most of the day to create the kind of photographs that I prefer.

Mid-afternoon (photo: Derwent Edge, Back Tor, incoming storm) - the light is still quite harsh, bringing stark clarity to the rough edges of the Back Tor outcrop. Often this time of day can be problematic as the sun is still high in the sky, creating extreme contrast between highlight and shadow areas. Bright light also strips some of the colour out of the landscape, making things appear washed-out. However, this problem is somewhat offset by the moody sky darkened by impending rain. Without the presence of clouds, the blue sky would

be too intense and the photograph would suffer for it.

Early evening (photo: Derwent Edge, Salt Cellar, heather and grasses) - by now the light is softer because the sun is much closer to the horizon and has to travel through more atmosphere before reaching the ground. It is also more colourful, taking on a golden hue that complements the sandstone's mineral pigments. Because of the sun's position shadows are significantly longer, which is ideal as it creates a more textured and three-dimensional impression of the Salt Cellar. This is helped by using side-lighting and when planning to visit a location I will work out at what time of day the subject is likely to be side-lit.



Derwent Edge, Salt Cellar, heather and grasses (all photos © Fran Halsall)





She exhibited at Cliffhanger last month and has very kindly written this article for us.

## Calendar

There is a comprehensive calendar on the BMC website; this one covers stuff of mainly Peak Area interest. If you have an item for inclusion contact us at [peakarea@gmail.com](mailto:peakarea@gmail.com).

Throughout the year:

Consider a [Peak District Ranger guided walk](#). Interesting insights into geology, wildlife and archaeology.

### September

2 **Peak Area meeting**, 19:30 - The Crown Inn, 142 Victoria Street, Glossop.

13 [Best of Banff](#) TBC, Buxton Opera House

### October

9-23 [Great World-Wide Star Count](#) (take a look).

9 [FRCC prospective members' meet](#), Langdale.

29 Meet the BMC; [open invitation to BMC Office](#), from 3pm onwards.

### November

1-30 Application open for High Peak Marathon 2010

11 Peak Area Newsletter published.

19 [BMC Winter Lecture](#), venue Sheffield Hallam University, starts 19:30, tickets £5 for BMC members.

25 **Peak Area meeting AGM**, 19:30 - The Grouse Inn, A625, Froggatt Edge Road.

28 [BMC Club Seminar](#), for all BMC affiliated clubs, at BMC Office.

30 [Best of Kendal film night](#), Showroom Cinema, Sheffield

### 2010

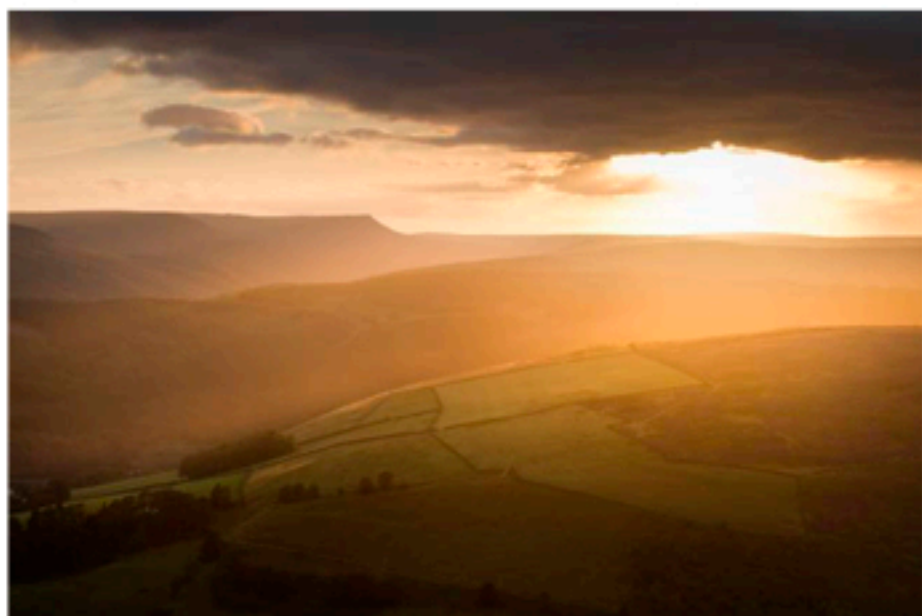
#### April

23-25 **BMC AGM** weekend, venue TBC.



Derwent Edge, Back Tor, incoming storm

Sunset (photo: Derwent Valley, Hagg Side and Kinder Scout) – as the sun dips below mid-level cloud golden beams spill across a small part of the landscape while much of the Derwent Valley remains in shadow. These conditions create a broad tonal range that is difficult to capture in camera. However, it is worth the effort as the heightened contrast creates a dramatic image. Kinder Scout's northern slopes appear back-lit against luminous sky and the silhouetted escarpment provides an instantly recognisable feature within the landscape.



Derwent Valley, Hagg Side and Kinder Scout

Fran Halsall © 2009

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Fran is the author of "[The Peak District](#)", published by Frances Lincoln, and also a new title: "[Light and Shadow – the Art of Landscape Photography](#)", due to be published by Frances Lincoln in February 2010.