

Education Newsletter

Winter 2014



learn.

South East Central Branch

The communications union

The logo for the Communications Workers Union (CWU) features the letters 'CWU' in a bold, purple, sans-serif font. To the left of the letters are three stylized, overlapping waves in shades of yellow and green, suggesting movement or a signal.

Runner up



Photograph taken by Sam Green, son of **Dave Green**. "Norfolk Beach at Sunset"

Sam was at his Girlfriend's Parents house in July and took the photo whilst walking on Overstrand beach in Norfolk. It was an opportune shot taken back in July around 8.15 pm using a CanonEOS7D with 18-135 lens , F8 at 1/5 sec, ISO 100.

Photo Scored 83/100

Third Place



Photograph taken by Lloyd Redman, son of **Dave Redman**. Title, "No! Eyes off it's mine".

This picture was taken by my son Lloyd in our garden in Saltdean on a sunny afternoon. We were sitting up the garden when Lloyd spotted it and took the picture. Well quite a few actually. We didn't have to do anything to stage it.

Photo Scored 79/100

CWU South East Central 2014 Digital Photographic Competition

Once again the photograph competition has given the judges a hard time in searching through all the photographs to pick the winning photographs. To make things easier for them the five independent judges marked each photograph out of twenty points and I collated the scores and added them up together to get the eventual winner.

The 3 overall winning photographs are shown on this page but the Results are as follows :

Winner	£50 prize	Geoff Tondeur
Second	£30 prize	Dave Green
Third	£20 prize	Dave Redman

For winners of each of the individual categories, please check the website at cwusec.org.uk/comp/photocomp.htm. Some of the scenery photographs have been used for a 2015 desk calendar. The owners of the photographs used on the desk calendar have already been notified.

Winning Photograph "Lakeside Reflection" by Geoff Tondeur



"It was taken mid morning in early August whilst on a walking holiday in the Lake district with the wife. Just lucky really, right place, right time. There was no wind, sun was out and we were walking alongside Buttermere lake and stopped to take some pictures. Camera is nothing fancy just a Panasonic digital one that I have on the idiot proof settings!"

Photo Scored 86/100

Six Book Challenge 2015

One in six adults struggles to read. The Six Book Challenge improves the chances in life for people who find reading difficult by building their reading confidence and motivation. *Because everything changes when we read.*

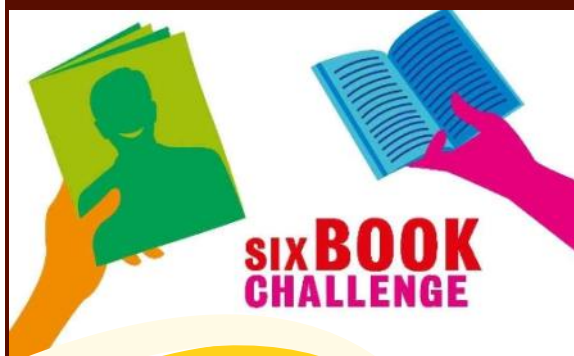
If you're thinking about improving your reading or would like to read more, then the Six Book Challenge is for you.

The Six Book Challenge invites you to pick six reads and record your reading in a diary in order to get a certificate.

All three ambassadors - Adele Parks, Andy McNab and Martina Cole - are supporting the scheme again for 2015 and completers will receive a certificate with all three signatures.

There's the chance to enter a national prize draw for completers to win some great prizes each year - a trip to London and readers for the runners-up - and organisations can win an author event. Best of all, you can read anything you like - in print or online - and they have got a [website for participants](#) so you can share your thoughts about what you read.

Please let me know if you are interested in taking part in the 6 book challenge, as if we have enough interest in it we will sign up and run our own section as a branch. If you are struggling to decide which books to read we can even loan you 6 books to read from our selection of quick reads see www.cwusec.org.uk/Misc/book_club.html for details of the books available. Quick reads are short books that are specifically designed to be easy to read, designed to reintroduce people back to reading.



Exercise your mind as well as your body

Although we have yet to go through the excesses of the festive cheer and to let the belt out a little, we inevitably get to think of new years resolutions, which involve dieting and exercise. How about putting your mind through some exercise with some further education for free. Below are some short courses which can be done from the comfort of your own home as long as you have an internet connection.

Contact Steve for more details on cwu.sec.finsec@btinternet.com

Managing Money - Gain the skills to manage your personal finances: managing budgets, debts, investments, property purchase, pensions and insurance. *approx. 3 hours per week, for 8 weeks, starting January 5th*

Introduction to Forensic Science - Methods & scientific underpinning of forensic science, from crime scene investigation to reporting evidential value within a case. *approx. 3 hours per week, for 6 weeks, starting January 5th*

Elements of Renewable Energy - Learn how sustainable energy from the Greek elements - Earth, Air, Fire and Water - can replace fossil fuels and nuclear power. *approx. 3 hours per week, for 4 weeks, starting January 12th*

Empire: The Controversies of British Imperialism - The British Empire continues to cause enormous disagreement among historians. Find out why and join the debate. *approx. 3 hours per week, for 6 weeks, starting January 19th*

Shakespeare's Hamlet: Text, Performance and Culture - Experts from the Shakespeare Institute guide an exploration of the most famous play ever staged. *approx. 4 hours per week, for 6 weeks, starting January 19th*

Ebola in Context: Understanding Transmission, Response and Control - How has the Ebola outbreak become a humanitarian emergency? Learn about the science behind the crisis. *approx. 6 hours per week, for 2 weeks, starting January 19th*

Introduction to Cyber Security - Our lives depend on online services. Gain essential cyber security knowledge and skills, to help protect your digital life. *approx. 3 hours per week, for 8 weeks, starting January 26th*

Archaeology of Portus: Exploring the Lost Harbour of Ancient Rome - Learn how ancient artefacts, written evidence, excavation and digital technologies are transforming understanding of this harbour. *approx. 4 hours per week, for 6 weeks, starting January 26th*

The Discovery of the Higgs Boson - Should we be excited about the Higgs boson? Find out more about particle physics and understanding the universe. *approx. 5 hours per week, for 7 weeks, starting January 26th*

Also check the website for other courses in the new year at: cwusec.org.uk/further-education/online-courses.html

“Unshackle your mind-forged manacles”, educate. William Blake .

CWU Launch “Left Click” for all members

The CWU, under the control of the education department have launched the Left Click online e-learning platform for all members. All members are encouraged to take advantage of this free learning source by signing up with your details which include your branch (South East Central) and your membership number (if you don't know it just ring the offices listed below and ask). Once you have logged in you will have access to a variety of learning opportunities, such as:

- Excel from introduction to using pivot tables
- Social media explained—Twitter, Skype & Facebook
- Power Point an introduction
- Microsoft Word and introduction
- How to use mail merge - emails, letters, labels & envelopes.

These short courses show you, with the aid of video footage, teach you from the comfort of your own home with a variety of devices. Please log on using the url:

<http://leftclick.cwu.org/>

There are a small amount of courses designed especially for Union Representatives which would need a password that can be obtained via the branch secretary.

There are also links to other education sites which have a good reputation.



E-Learning: Where & When YOU Want It

I'd like to thank those members who turned up to our genealogy event on November 7th in Tunbridge Wells exchange which had TV crews there filming the event. They continued with their own investigations and joined in by giving interviews, when required, with professionalism of what must have been an unusual experience for all (including me).

When the video footage is released I will post it on the website.

If you would like a genealogy event near you, please contact one of the offices below.

Steve Taylor (union learning rep)

We never look down on anyone, unless we're helping you up!

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