

Photography group trip to Saltburn by the sea (04/07/2023)

What better way to celebrate Independence Day than with a trip to the seaside. Depleted by prior holiday arrangements, just four members of the photography group, made the trip to Saltburn. Fortunately, the Met Office prediction of 60% dry weather was accurate insofar as the only spots of rain fell as we were leaving.

We assembled at the Cat Nab Car park on the sea front at 11.0am and decided each to do their own thing, but meet for lunch at 1.0pm. Some went up into the town to take pictures of the Victorian architecture while others sought subjects on the beach. On the sand there were several parties of school kids (7-11ish) receiving marine education. Several escaped the supervising teacher's attention and decided to experience the North Sea first hand in the form of whole body immersion, in their school uniforms....pictures were taken. Other rewarding sea-front subjects were the colourful beach huts, outside one of which a Johnnie Depp double was seated.....or it could have been the actor himself, I didn't ask.... again pictures were taken. Another photographic highlight was the funicular railway that takes holiday makers too lazy to walk up and down from the town to the pier head. Suddenly it was 1.0pm and we repaired to the Tomahawk Steakhouse for light-bites for a tenner, rather than standard fish and chips and mushy peas (£15).....and of course some liquid refreshment.



As the tide was coming in after lunch we all walked to the end of the pier to take pictures. A stiff breeze had generated a swell sufficient to tempt out a goodly number of surfers – in wet-suits as the sea temperature at this time of the year is still a bracing 11 degrees. Most were 'learners' and wisely stayed close to the shore trying to catch waves after they had broken. However, a couple of lads who knew how to play the game ventured

out much further where the big waves were building. Here is one of them turning skilfully on the top of a breaking wave.



Lastly, inattention to the SatNav meant there was plenty of time for us to get lost in the back streets of Middlesborough on our way back to Barney. For those that made the trip, it was a good day out in an interesting location for photography.

Pete Redgrave