



Vignettes 100



September 16th, 2021

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Club News

Hi everyone. Hope you are all well. Vignettes has hit its 100th edition. Yippee! It started out as an idea about two years ago to function as a regular club resource to inform, guide and keep members up to date and in touch. Thanks to member feedback we've always found new "copy" to add which has brought variety in supplementing the regular articles. As always, all contributions are welcome be it new speakers, comp details, kit, local events or just "oddities" worth reporting. We hope new members will find it equally helpful.

I probably should have created a database for all the useful information we have amassed over the last couple of years, so if there's any insomniacs out there who want to dip into "classic" Vignettes, there's plenty to choose from! - and all on the website too. We'll be testing out your new found knowledge at the next club night!! Maybe we should start a "V" T-Shirt - sorry, I'm getting ahead of myself.

The timing of Vignettes 100th birthday couldn't be better as it coincides with the imminent publication in Amateur Photographer (AP) of an excellent article about the club, prepared and organised by Sue Gunnee. It's due to appear in the Oct 2nd edition which goes on sale on the 28th of September. Get your order in today. Well done Su for all her hard work. The approved "Copy" is attached below. Can you spot your image?



Finally, we had a healthy 23 member turnout for the **Permajet** "Print with confidence" talk by Colin Hulley on Monday night. Colin, together with assistance from colleague Morgan, took us through the process of how best to create great prints. It was clear that, whilst monitors and printers have to be calibrated/profiled as part of the process in creating the best prints, the use of which print paper to use is much more subjective depending on what effect you want to create from your image. Once Colin has sent through a PDF of the presentation and also a link to the "The Knowledge", produced by Permajet which delves into the characteristics of the different print papers they sell, I'll drop it in Vignettes.

Permajet also offer a practical evening to demonstrate, using your images and their printers and papers, the printing process and the effect different papers have on the appearance of your

picture. We might see if we can include this option in the programme if you think that's a good idea. We know that many people are put off from printing, when it comes to competitions, because of the cost (printer, paper, ink, wastage, mounts, mount cutter, time etc) compared to Digitally Projected Images. Of course, part of that resistance is also the potential to get things wrong which just increases the costs. There are, of course, various print labs who do a great job as a half way house but they are not quite as flexible as doing your own thing. The printed article is a rewarding medium to own and, if nothing else, the Permajet approach may just help you to become more efficient. Maybe we should invest in a club printer. Food for thought.

Club start times

A few members have asked about our club night start times so, just to be clear, F2F nights start at 7.30 whereas Zoom nights start at 7.00. The later start for F2F nights is partly to allow members from further afield to get to the venue and partly to allow us to Covid "prep" for the night in accordance with the Watermoor Hall rules. We normally arrive at around 7.00 to sort it all out in advance of the 7.30 kick off.

Next year's programme

Although the club programme is on the website and constantly updated by Jill as we get more info about the evening's events, a few members have asked for a printable version as a quick reference guide. The ever-resourceful Mike has produced one (see the attachment to the email with Vignettes) which we have using for "work in progress" meetings. It's pretty handy but will be subject to tweaking.

The website

Shaun picked up an anomaly with the club website a few weeks ago in it not responding to search engines and it's clear that there is a glitch somewhere. Mike, John, Paul and new member, Neil Grant are on the case. Not the thing of a moment, so hopefully we will get it resolved soon. Feel free to contact Mike if you can help.

New members - mentoring

It's this time of the year when we get most new members and, of course, we welcome everyone, no matter what level of photographic experience they have. As a club we are keen to use our resources as a vehicle for improving photography right across the skill range but it can nevertheless be a little daunting for new members as we gather in huddles on club nights talking "tech". The free "try out" nights for prospective members is a great introduction but the programme club night topics aren't specifically geared to bringing new members into the fold at the start of the season.

I remember, when I joined, that Shaun Little very kindly offered to give up a few hours in taking me through the basics of photography which he has done for a number of new members. For that reason, I think it's a good idea if we can think about mentoring new members if they need some help outside club nights. I'm happy to help if need be and I'm sure others may too. Perhaps we can keep the thought on the table and see if we have any requests for help. For new members reading this, rest assured that we have your interests at heart. A lot of our members can vouch for just how valued their camera club experience has been in improving their photography.

Summer Cup Voting

Jill's been in touch just to keep everyone in the loop, regarding the Summer Cup.

Hi everyone. Thank you to everyone who sent in images for the Summer Cup - Stress, Relaxation and Happiness. The gallery is now live on the website so please do have a look and decide your votes for each image - the page link is below, or can be found under the Galleries heading on the website as Summer 2021 Competition.

The images are displayed in three separate galleries on one page, with each image being assigned a number and a title. They have been displayed in a random order.

Click on the thumbnails to see full size image, and make a note of what marks you are awarding to each image. Then scroll down and you will find the voting form below the third gallery.

Judging should follow the same format as Club competitions, in that you award three images in each category Stress Happiness and Relaxation with 1st, 2nd and 3rd. After that you can award Highly Commended and Commended to more than one image each.

Voting will close at midnight Wednesday 15th September.

The top three images from each category will be shown on Monday 20th September for the final knockout voting. Good luck everyone!

<https://cirencestercameraclub.org/summer-2021-competition/>

(Please note that the Ted Parrott images will be uploaded for viewing on Monday 20th September.)

If you have any problems please email myself or John Smith on treasurer@cirencestercameraclub.org

best wishes

Jill Bewley, Competition Secretary

Cirencester Twinning Calendar

John Hankin has recently been approached by the Cirencester Twinning Association about their 2022 calendar which promotes our club. Here's the story:

Hi John. You mentioned some time ago that you would be willing to kindly sell calendars on our behalf. Is this still a possibility? They have been on sale at the Church Shop and TC Information Desk but the committee have only now the chance to get their hands on them. There is no hurry and maybe the best way forward is to ask your members if they would like to support us and perhaps take a tally of numbers. They retail at £8.50 and are particularly stunning this year. You will also please note that the back cover showcases Cirencester Camera Club.

Thanking you in advance.

Let me know if you are interested, by email or at the club night and we will place an order.

BBC PICTURES

Another selection from the BBC's news website. 7374 is a terrific article about capturing garden wildlife. Amazing images.

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/in-pictures-58500417>

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-england-58456346>

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/in-pictures-58501065>

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/in-pictures-58463538>

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-scotland-58463375>

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-northern-ireland-58447962>

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/world-africa-58501478>

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/in-pictures-58501066>

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/articles/cn9new913010>

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/in-pictures-58327374>

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-england-58539675>

PAGB News

Paul has been in touch with the latest PAGB news:

Hi Martyn, *here's the latest e-news and some extra – Paul*

<http://www.pagbnews.co.uk/sites/default/files/newsletters/en291%2015%20Sept.pdf>

<http://www.pagbnews.co.uk/sites/default/files/newsletters/en291%20extra.%2015%20Sep%202021%20Good%20Photograph.pdf>

Internal Competitions

This Season's Club Competitions

Subject	Competition	Submission Date
Water (in all its forms)	A	September 27 th , 2021
Architecture	B	8 th November, 2021
Sunrise, sunset	C	6 th December 2021
Coastal	D	17 th January, 2022
Winter	E	28 th February, 2020
Farming in the Cotswolds	Pitchers Trophy (annual Competition)	11 th April, 2022
Various	Annual Competitions	11 th April, 2022

Quote of the Week

To me, photography is an art of observation. It's about finding something interesting an ordinary place... I've found it has little to do with the things you see and everything to do with the way you see them - Elliott Erwitt

And finally.....

Although there are apparently other Camera makes available, Canon has just launched its new R3 mirrorless DSLR which has been tested at the Olympics. The specs look impressive, including eye control AF and tracking, so, if you've got a spare £6000 burning a hole in your camera bag, maybe it's for you. Well, there's always Santa as Plan B.....!

That's it for this week. Catch up next week.

Cheers and stay safe

Martyn (thehoneys@btinternet.com)

Mike (mike.cheeseman@btinternet.com)

Appendix: Club Face to Face (F2F) Meetings - Covid Measures

The easing of Covid restrictions over the summer as part of the Covid roadmap has made physical club meetings a practical proposition and Watermoor Parish are now permitting hire of their hall facility again. To enable this and to satisfy their insurers there are a number of things that hirers have to provide to gain approval for hire. After some consideration, below is a summary of the club's approach to enable meetings to take place within the requirements. We will aim to put the relevant docs on the website if members want to have a look.

Clearly members will need to make their own judgements in light of their individual circumstances, but it is hoped that the pragmatic approach taken allows the club to recommence face to face club (F2F) nights as per the season's programme in an enjoyable manner. As always with these things this is subject to any changes in guidance. Please get in touch with me, or other committee members, if you have any issues arising. Many thanks. Stephen

Watermoor Church Hall Hire Covid Measures

Our activities must remain consistent with government guidelines at the time of the event. The requirements from the hall involve some element of cleaning by the club before and after the evening's programme.

Emphasis will be on precautions taken and as such the club:

(i) advises that anyone feeling unwell or having been notified for quarantine under Track and trace or NHS App or as a result of travelling requirements should not attend club meetings.

(ii) will ensure that seating, social distancing and ventilation are consistent with government guidelines.

(iii) request that members bring personal crockery/cutlery for any refreshments - some disposable items will be made available. We will not utilise hall crockery, just the kettle/boiler as appropriate.

(iv) suggest members consider continuing to use facemasks during meetings when appropriate.

Club Approach

1. The club will provide hand sanitiser for members use on entrance and exit from the hall.

- 1. The hall has QR posters displayed for members who wish to utilise the NHS app.*
- 2. In accordance with general "Health and Safety" good practice, a log will be kept of attendees on a F2F club night in case of the need for evacuation from premises which facilitates a roll call.*
- 3. Access to kitchen facilities will be restricted to reduce contacts and users will sanitise hands before and after use of kettle etc. It is noted that no cleaning of switches is to take place*

(for safety) therefore the emphasis is on sanitising hands before and after any such operations, ensuring hands are dry.

4. *Access to W/C's is restricted to one person at a time under the hall guidelines. Members should sanitise hands on entry and exit. At the end of evening contact points are wiped down as part of the exit process.*
5. *The club will use readily available Covid appropriate cleaning materials in the form of spray /paper towel and/or sanitising wipes to facilitate cleaning and provide bags to remove used material from the hall on completion.*
6. *Hard contact points e.g. door handles/locks, window handles/locks will be wiped on first contact when being operated and on final use when closed prior to exit.*
7. *The club anticipate utilising a restricted number of members on a given night to clean and handle equipment/chairs etc. thus reducing the number of potential contacts.*
8. *Those members should sanitise hands before commencing any handling, using spray/wipes to clean contact points when moving /setting up chairs etc. On completion of set up handling, members should sanitise hands again before commencing the actual event.*
9. *It is assumed that club materials in the locked storage may also be potentially contaminated and therefore contact points should be wiped before handling and on replacing in store.*

Although it all sounds a bit complicated, I hope that we will soon get into the swing of things in managing what we do to minimise impacts. Do get in contact if you have any queries. Stephen.



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1 Taste the Rainbow by Katrina Ellor This vibrant and unusual close-up shot really leaps from the page thanks to the bright colours

2 Concentration by John Hankin Excellently timed to capture the action just at the right moment, this shot is full of drama

5 Chastleton House Staircase by Paul Jones A lot of care has gone into ensuring lines are straight and accurate, and it has paid off handsomely

6 Porcelain Fungus by John Hankin These beautiful specimens have been captured expertly to show off a superb amount of detail



3

3 Lavender Harvest by Val Thomas The leading lines in this image guide your eye perfectly around the frame



4

7 Sleeping Venice by Suzan Gunnee A serene shot which shows off the peacefulness of what can be an otherwise very busy location

4 Night Light by John Smith Keeping one light in colour really helps to tell the story in this quaint monochrome landscape



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Club essentials

Cirencester Camera Club

Parish Hall, Watermoor, Cirencester GL7 1NE

Meets Monday evenings, September to May (mix of online evenings and face-to-face)

Membership £55 a year

Contact info@cirencestercameraclub.org

Website cirencestercameraclub.org

Join the Club

Members of this club have a range of expertise which they love to share

When was the club founded?

We were founded in 1939 and marked our recent 80th anniversary with an exhibition of images by current members, alongside some archived material including newspaper cuttings and pictures relating to the club and its members over the years.

What does your club offer to new members?

We're a friendly club and there's nothing better than a chat over a tea or coffee during a club meeting. Our members have a range of expertise, interests and kit so we have a wealth of knowledge; there will always be someone who can answer a question or share their experience. It's this interaction that makes club membership really rewarding. We encourage prospective members to

come to a few meetings and get a feel for the club before committing to joining.

Describe a typical club meeting

Our last season (September 2020 to May 2021) took place completely over Zoom – it's not something we would ever have envisaged using but it's been a great hit and we've had high attendance rates. This season we're planning to mix both physical meetings and Zoom – best of both worlds! We try to have a mixed programme so we have competitions and 'battles', external speakers, practical sessions on technique and kit... no two evenings will be the same!

Do you invite guest speakers?

Yes, we always aim to have a variety of speakers so in an annual programme we

would have speakers covering a range of subjects, techniques and offering their unique perspective on the art of photography. Using Zoom last season meant we could invite speakers who were further afield and wouldn't have been able to travel to a club night – good to get a positive, however small, out of a pandemic!

Do members compete in regional or national competitions?

As a club we enter PAGB regional competitions, both print and DPI (digital projected images); and individually, some members enter images in the huge range of competitions out there including salons (the local Cheltenham International Salon being very popular), BBC images and focused ones e.g. Pink Lady Food POTY.

How many members do you have?

We have a fairly steady membership of around 40. As things get back to normal we'd love to grow the numbers. New members bring in new interests and experience and that's valuable to everyone in the club.

Are any trips or outings planned?

As we don't have formal meetings in the summer we like to organise some outings that make the most of the light evenings. We've been collaborating with Cirencester Parish Church recently and as a result we've had evening access to the church and could take lots of kit, tripods, even drones.

Not an outing as such but we're taking advantage of Zoom and ran a 'Battle' against Bathurst Camera Club in Australia – the City

of Bathurst was named after the 3rd Earl Bathurst in 1815 whose family has lived in Cirencester since 1705. Hopefully a new tradition for the club.

What are the club's goals for the future?

We'd really like to see younger people join. There would be huge benefits to the club in getting more young people involved and it would be fantastic to get more varied perspectives on what we do as a club and what we offer to our members.

We've started to collaborate to support members working towards photographic distinctions and in the past few months three members have been awarded their LRPS. Working in small dedicated groups focusing on these distinctions has been invaluable in developing and critiquing the submissions.