



Vignettes 105

October 20th, 2021

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Club News

Hi everyone. Hope you are all well. Well, what a great "Journey" talk we had from Tim Allen on Monday night. From that first hour of his talk (before I had to go) and from speaking to Mike, it was probably the best talk we've had as a travelogue. A solid two hours of captivating stuff in front of a good turnout of 25 members. Hope you didn't miss "half - time".

As Mike commented, from the storyline to the physical locations to the stunning images, it was a great and inspiring evening - a magical, very human, journey. I detected Tim's enjoyment in delivering it as the antidote to his days at the Independent and I suspect it's not a talk he tires of re-living, in eager anticipation of his next journey - wherever that takes him. He certainly made it sing. From our part, we had, once again, that vicarious experience which many of us can only dream of, the sort of club event I hope we don't feel we tire of on a damp October night!



Both Mike and I contacted Tim separately to pass our thanks and I mentioned Paul Sanders and Stu McKenzie as previous speakers we really enjoyed, both with similar backgrounds and career changing decisions made without regret. Tim immediately responded:

Hi Martyn. Many thanks. I enjoyed the talk. I know both Paul and Stu. Paul was working at the Times when I was at the Indy and Stu came on my 4th migration trip to Mongolia to shoot the story with a group of other amateur photographers.

Stay in touch and I hope to speak to you all again some time. Tim

Small world indeed.

For those of you who didn't see the talk or indeed just want to watch it again, Stephen had been in touch. Here's the link for the recording - it's just under the limit!

https://us02web.zoom.us/rec/share/Mw75_RBVwhLnuMSa0AxTb_Ci4r69nSMitKFs3QVkvgtFzRcOs7kVraQngu_1Utl.r_2WXSeRnmQmXgD8 Passcode: \$!2*rXHj

You need to manually enter the passcode as per the link and can then go full screen by clicking on the usual icon bottom right once going to give the photos full justice. It takes a little time to load/start so be patient.



A new date in the diary

We've managed to book a return talk from Permajet (Colin Hulley) this time for a practical printing evening. It's a presentation they offer to help members get the best out of their printers/software and hopefully help others to consider investing in a printer. It's on Monday Dec 13th. I think it's good to strike while the iron's hot on the printing side which rounds off Colin's talk a few weeks ago whilst it's vaguely fresh in our minds.

We will let you have more details when we have them but, essentially Colin will bring along a couple of printers for a demo as to the process you go through in configuring the printer settings to get the best image from your software depending on the paper being used. Club members are invited to bring a favoured image on a usb stick (5 mb min size) and Colin will then print that image on A4 using your paper of your choice - all free. It should be a good evening.

Shaun Little Zoom talk on Nov 1st

Bit of audience participation required here. Shaun has very kindly offered to give us two talks this season and the first is coming up on the 1st Nov. This is where you come in. We've been talking about subject matter - given Shaun's extensive knowledge of Photoshop, and he has offered a sort of question-and-answer evening with practical demonstrations thrown in to demonstrate the point. So, can you let me have your burning Photoshop questions which we can pass on to Shaun in advance to allow him a bit of prep time. To get the ball rolling here's mine:

1. As the clone tool in Lightroom is not great (surprisingly rubbish actually), I use Photoshop instead, but it offers a huge range of clone "brushes". Could you give us a quick clone demo and suggest a default brush (or a few) plus any hidden tricks in using the Photoshop clone tool

So, over to you - don't leave it too late to let us know.

Possible job

As Stephen mentioned on Monday night, can anyone assist in doing a bit of photography. If anyone is interested, then let Stephen know and he'll put them in touch - they are local in Cirencester. Here's the background from an email Stephen received:

Hi Stephen, thank you for getting back to me. Is there a photographer in the Cirencester club that will do personal shots for me. It is for my personal file when I need to send a head shot, head & body and then a business suited shot also for my 2-fold flyer. If they have a home/studio set up that would be good. I would like to pay a reasonable rate.

PAGB newsletter

Here's the latest PAGB newsletter from Paul:

<http://www.pagbnews.co.uk/sites/default/files/newsletters/en293%2016%20October.pdf>

Game & Wildlife Conservation Trust - The Julian Gardner Awards 2021

The winners of the 2021 Julian Gardner Awards which is run by the Game & Wildlife Conservation Trust have been announced. Here's a link to the work of the Trust, the winning images, the purpose of the competition and how you can enter for next year:

<https://www.gwct.org.uk/wildlife/julian-gardner-awards/>

Cobalt's Capture a Moment Exhibition showcase and winning calendar images

A while back we highlighted the Cobalt calendar photographic competition. The winners have been announced and, not surprisingly, many are from the Cheltenham camera club. Cobalt's "Capture a Moment Exhibition" showcases the winning entries and the judge's shortlist of photographs at the Café in Chapel Arts 6th – 23rd October Wednesday to Friday 10am – 4pm Knapp Lane Cheltenham GL50 3QQ. The 2022 Capture a Moment calendar created from the winning entries makes a great gift for family and friends, is on sale now. Here's some details about the Calendar and Cobalt Health:

<https://www.cobalthealth.co.uk/capture-a-moment-for-cobalt-3/>

<https://www.cobalthealth.co.uk/cobalt/about-us/>

Sudeley Castle Christmas Spectacle of Light 26th November - 30th December

Just a reminder that the Sudeley Castle, Winchcombe, Spectacle of Light Christmas event is definitely worth a visit but you do need to book. It's also not open Mon-Thursdays so it's not as many days as you think. Here's the details with the discounts for advance ticket purchase:

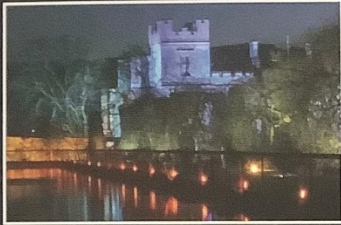


SUDELEY CASTLE
& GARDENS

SPECTACLE of LIGHT

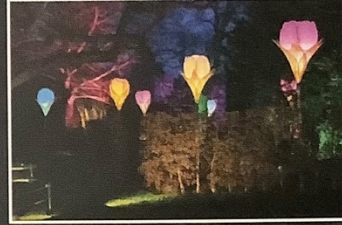
26 November–30 December 2021

**BOOK
EARLY!**
Save up to
20%



Seasonal Sparkle!

Explore the magical new illuminated trail around Sudeley Castle's beautiful grounds. Enjoy the wonderful music as you discover each new secret of this romantic environment.



New and Exciting for 2021!

Discover the new Light Curve and the Lantana flowers of the Queen's garden. Gaze at the sparkling water features and the mesmerising Carpet of Colour and much, much more.



Festive Food and Cheer!

Sip festive warmers of Spiced Mulled Wine and Hot Chocolate as you walk along the trail. Tuck into simple takeaway hot food and delicious donuts for all the family from the castle terrace.

Ticket Prices (includes VAT and booking fee)

Free Car Parking

Online SudeleyCastle.co.uk/Spectacle **Phone** 01242 705 555 **In Person** Everyman Theatre, Cheltenham

EarlyBird		SAVE 20%
Adult 16+	£17.60	
Child 3-15	£8.80	
Under 3's	Free	
Family 2+2	£45.60	
Disabled Carers	Free	
Book by 30 September		

Advance		SAVE 10%
Adult 16+	£19.80	
Child 3-15	£9.90	
Under 3's	Free	
Family 2+2	£51.30	
Disabled Carers	Free	
Book by 25 November		

Full Price		
Adult 16+	£22.00	
Child 3-15	£11.00	
Under 3's	Free	
Family 2+2	£57.00	
Disabled Carers	Free	
Book from 26 November		

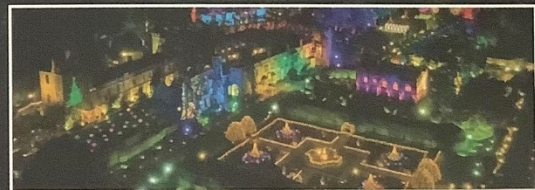
Group Bookings Save 25% for more than 15 paying visitors. Only bookable by phone on 01242 705 555.

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun
				NOV 26	NOV 27	NOV 28
29	30	1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30			

Entry Times

4.45 5.15 5.45 6.15 6.45 7.15

Estimated walk time 60-75 minutes



Sudeley Castle GL54 5LP

Situated on the outskirts of Winchcombe in the Cotswolds, between Cheltenham and Broadway.

A DB Partnership production

By kind permission of Lady Ashcombe

Further information at
SpectacleofLight.co.uk/Sudeley

Capture night sky images with your smartphone

Spotted this 30min tutorial on the BBC's website. Check it out here:

https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/topics/c77jz3mdmyvt/photography?ns_mchannel=social&ns_source=twitter&ns_campaign=bbc_live&ns_linkname=undefined_m000wfjx%26Shooting%20for%20the%20Stars%262021-10-18T20%3A53%3A35.582Z&ns_fee=0&pinned_post_locator=urn:bbc:pips:pid:m000wfjx&pinned_post_asset_id=undefined_m000wfjx&pinned_post_type=share

Photographing wildlife

Another BBC tutorial for dark nights. In this one Ellie Harrison meets wildlife photographer and friend of Countryfile, Simon King, to get a crash course in how to photograph wildlife. Check it out here:

https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/topics/c77jz3mdmyvt/photography?ns_mchannel=social&ns_source=twitter&ns_campaign=bbc_live&ns_linkname=undefined_m000qqr2%26Wildlife%20Compilation%262021-10-17T17%3A51%3A19.135Z&ns_fee=0&pinned_post_locator=urn:bbc:pips:pid:m000qqr2&pinned_post_asset_id=undefined_m000qqr2&pinned_post_type=share

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

The Dropbox link is now up and running and is featured on every Comp submission page, along with as a News item - here is the link.

<https://www.dropbox.com/request/DpAdq7inLJSz17gWu2Bg>

Committee Meeting

We'll be holding the next Club committee meeting in early November. Please contact Stephen or Mike with any agenda items.

Distinctions Zoom Group

Following on from last year's successes when Jill Bewley, Martyn Smith, and John Smith all achieved their LRPS distinctions, we are planning another series of meetings for this season. So, anyone who is considering LRPS, ARPS, CPAGB, or DPAGB please contact Mike. Anyone who is interested in the distinctions but doesn't feel ready to apply is welcome to join the sessions to learn more about the process and, based on our experience from last year, learn more about photography!

BBC Pictures

Another selection from the BBC's news website.

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/topics/c77jz3mdmyvt/photography>

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/av/world-us-canada-58934445>

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/world-africa-58945414>

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-england-58865673>

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/in-pictures-58911596>

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-scotland-58864722>

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/in-pictures-58884549>

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/world-africa-58909966>

Quote of the Week

All photographs are accurate. None of them is the truth - Richard Avedon

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

Cheers and stay safe

Martyn (thehoneys@btinternet.com)

Mike (mike.cheeseman@btinternet.com)

Appendix 1: 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.