



Vignettes 109

November 17th, 2021

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Club News

Hi everyone. Hope you are all well. Hope you have all downloaded your Comp B images to give Jill time to sort them out, just leaving the prints to be handed in on the 29th. Don't leave it too late if you haven't. As of Monday night she had 15 entries so I'm sure (and hope) there's more to come. Don't forget that the submission date for Comp C (Sunrise, sunset) has crept up on us and is on Monday 6th. No time to rest.

On Monday night, Simon Garratt of Lee Filters gave us a very clear and comprehensive review of not only what's available in the world of filters but, more importantly, their application. His honest approach was very refreshing - essentially the advice is to look at what floats your photography "boat" to see what you are trying to achieve. Then assess whether a filter (Grad, ND, polariser or specialist - or all of them!) might enhance your images when the light is against you. Don't buy a filter and then look for a use for it. The buying options are huge to suit your own requirements and, from my own experience, a polariser would be a good first option to consider given its versatility. We recorded the evening if you missed a part or want to be reminded and the link is:

<https://1drv.ms/v/s!AsZzxajrGoYWiNwc6hWDUwh3f-tY2w?e=ijAFgg>

(Note: this is a link to the recording on Mike's Microsoft OneDrive. If you have problems accessing the file, please contact Mike – email address below.)

The advertisement features a dark background with the Lee Filters logo in the top left and right corners. The central text reads 'AVAILABLE TO BOOK' in white, followed by 'An in-depth educational how-to guide on the benefits and uses for different filter types' in blue. Below this, two vertical panels show a black and white photo of a domed building and a color photo of a coastal cliff. The central text continues with 'WELCOME TO THE WORLD OF FILTERS' and a circular logo for 'Associated Camera Club'. At the bottom, it says 'FREE OF CHARGE' and provides contact information for Lee Filters in the UK and USA.

LEE Filters
A PANAVISION COMPANY

AVAILABLE TO BOOK
An in-depth educational how-to guide on the benefits and uses for different filter types

LEE Filters
A PANAVISION COMPANY

WELCOME TO THE WORLD OF FILTERS

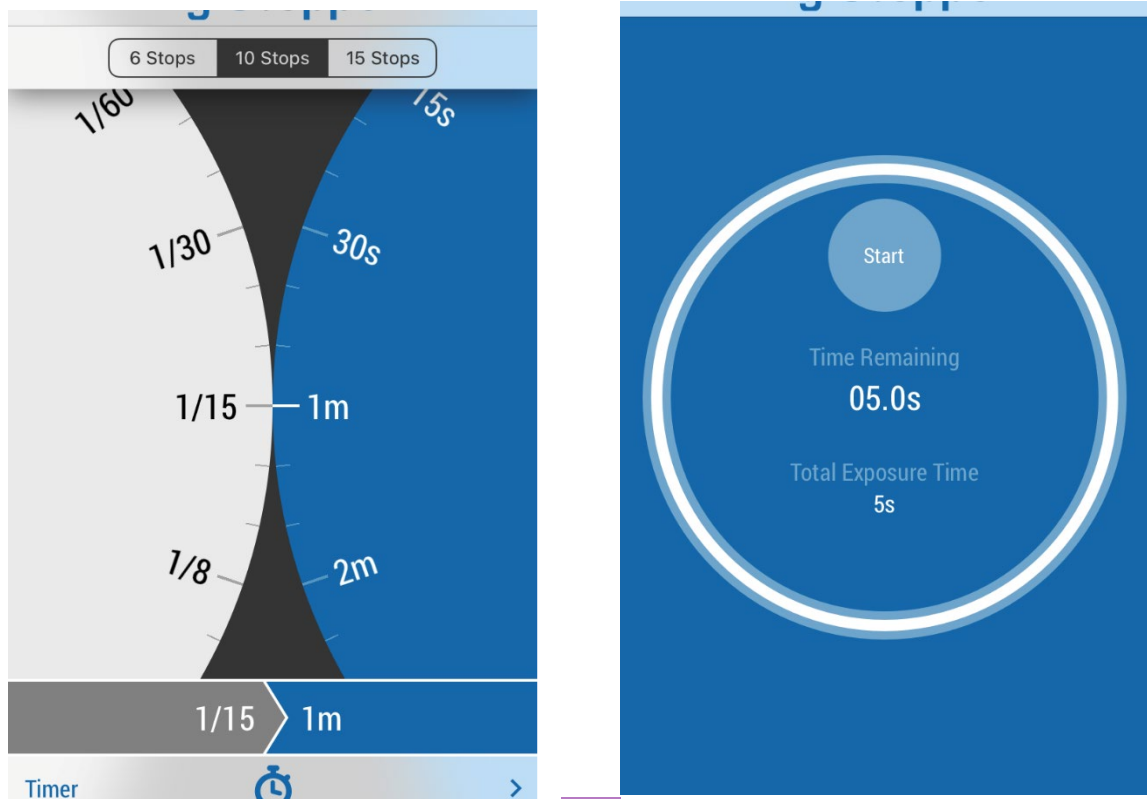
LEE Filters
A PANAVISION COMPANY
Associated Camera Club

FREE OF CHARGE

LEE Filters UK & Worldwide - 53 Central Way, Andover SP10 5AN
LEE Filters USA & Latin America - 2237 North Hollywood Way, Burbank, CA 91505

And, to download Lee's "Big Stopper" free app, here's a link from the Apple App Store:

<https://apps.apple.com/gb/app/lee-filters-stopper-exposure/id1105022698>



We are part of what Lee calls the "Lee Clubs Project" which gives us free access to talks and articles along with discounts on their products. With regard to the latter, Lee are offering 20% discount on their products up to 22nd November (code 20CCIR21) after which the discount reverts to 15% (Code 15CCIR21). I'll start posting links of upcoming free Lee events in Vignettes which I get from time to time. Here's the link to the discounts which, by the way apply when you pay at checkout.

<https://leefiltersdirect.com/>

Finally, if you are interested in Simon's own excellent website as a professional photographer, catch it below. I'm sure we will be hearing from him again:

<https://simongarratt1969.wixsite.com/srgfineartlandscapes>

Club Prog Update

A combination of events has conspired against us a bit in our quest to mix F2F with Zoom this season. Do keep your eye on the website but I can say that, whist next Monday is another Zoom event (WCPF Comp images), the CISP AV on the 29th Nov (Print hand in date) will be F2F event with Martin Fry (Cheltenham club) presenting. The following week's Comp B judging (6th Dec) will be F2F as will the one after (13th Dec) where Permajet are returning to give us a practical printing demo of your images - more on that later. We are still finalising the quiz night on the 20th Dec.

Sudeley Castle Spectacle of Light

Just a reminder that tickets are selling fast for the popular dates for this excellent event. I'm going on the 26th November and I see that the current forecast is for sleet!! Terrific!

<https://sudeleycastle.co.uk/events/spectacle-of-light>

Photoshop Plug-Ins - Shaun's Been in Touch

Following Shaun's talk a few weeks ago he's been in touch about "plug in's":

Hi Martyn & Mike. Just got back from a very hot week away in Cyprus. At around 30+ Degrees 'C' in November it was a little hotter than we had planned for a early winters break! Still home now and back to damp blighty! I've just updated Photoshop (again) and remembered we discussed about free "plug ins" when I did my talk a week or so ago. For those that are interested, follow these very easy steps.

Go into Photoshop and along the top menus (you may need to open a photo) you should have one called "Plug Ins", click on this and click "browse Plug Ins" and proceed to step 6 below!

- 1. Or from your desktop without Photoshop open - Open "Creative Cloud", this should be installed on your Desktop, if not log into your "Adobe Creative Cloud" app.*
- 2. Along the Top of the Screen should be some links to other web pages – Click on the one that says "Stock & Marketplace"*
- 3. Along the top again there should be a link to the "Plug Ins" Web Page*
- 4. Then on the Left Hand side of the screen select "All Plug Ins"*
- 5. Now select your chosen software package by clicking in the little box next to Photoshop, Lightroom or Lightroom Classic etc.*
- 6. This will then list all the "Plug Ins" available to you for your chosen package, most are free, free to an extent (*) or paid for!*
- 7. Just click on something you like the look of and it will give you a description of what it does, if you like it, just click "Get" – Photoshop might give you a warning, but just press "OK"*
- 8. At the top of the screen in "Photoshop", now just go to the "Plug Ins" drop down menu and select the Plug In that you just installed which you can then dock to the quick access bar (you may need to restart your chosen software if the newly installed Plug In doesn't show up)*
- 9. If you don't like the software, just go back into the "Plug ins" via the method above, select "Manage Plug Ins" to the left of the screen this time (No.5 above) and just click on the 3 x little dots on your installed plug in and select Uninstall, or in Photoshop click "Manage Plug Ins" on the "Plug Ins" drop down menu to take yourself directly there!*

I hope this is of some use to the Members, some of the "Plug Ins" are quite useful so worth giving a try! If you select the "Free" ones, what have you got to lose?

Keep up the good work. Regards. Shaun

Thanks Shaun. I'm sure if anyone gets stuck, they'll be on the blower!

Meet The New Member - Neil Grant

No 2 in our short series of "Meet the new member" bios is Neil Grant. Here's his "CV":

***Bio:** I've always had an interest in photography and as such have invested time over the years in formal courses. However, it's only of late that I've really had the opportunity to spend more time on the art of photography rather than taking snaps. Always hungry to learn and understand more about the technicalities of photography and the creative process.*

***Equipment:** Nikon D90 + 18-105mm, 11-16mm Wide Angle, 18-300mm Zoom, Various Filters.*

***Interests:** Landscape, architecture, motorsport and nature. Would relish the opportunity to indulge in Astronomy photography but at this point in time find it a little too daunting.*

Hope the above helps. Kind regards. Neil

Thanks Neil - another Nikon owner I see. Must be neck and neck now with Canon. I might do a straw poll!

Misc

Colour Space

Ever wondered what colour space is all about and how choosing the right one can improve your photography in post processing? Jill and I were having a chat about this aspect of photography recently and I came across two excellent articles below which pretty well sets it all out for you. To my mind there are a few nuggets worth remembering:

1. If you shoot in RAW, your camera setting options (RGB and sRGB) have no effect. They are there if you shoot in JPEG.
2. The three most common Colour Spaces are ProPhoto, RGB and sRGB. They all show the same colours but the widest Colour Space is ProPhoto which has the biggest saturation range whilst sRGB has the smallest.
3. If you process in RAW, use ProPhoto 16 bit (set in your preferences) as this reduces the risk of "banding" artefacts and creates a smoother image. This aids printing.
4. Always export in sRGB. It's the universal (and only) Colour Space for the internet, websites, competitions etc. The Algorithm will smooth out the ProPhoto processed wider Colour Space image so don't worry that you've lost detail by converting to sRGB.

It's a bit more complicated than that, which the articles deal with, and provide helpful advice on settings for Lightroom and Photoshop, including exporting from one to the other. You'll be examined on the subject the next time we meet!

<https://emea01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fphotographylife.com%2Frgb-vs-adobe-rgb-vs-photo-rgb&data=04%7C01%7C%7C21c988f6d6d34297420408d9a05fa8af%7C84df9e7fe9f640afb435aaaaaaaaaaaa%7C1%7C0%7C637717154969571622%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWljiMjIw%7CwLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzliLCJBTiI6IjEhaWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C1000&sdata=EU2rJRrAmxrFStllhlBatYZ5LMMaumSPykDY1sHZdal%3D&reserved=0>

<https://youtu.be/071XzdxEqI>

Environmental Photographer of The Year (EPOTY)

The Environmental Photographer of the year (EPOTY) winner has just been announced out of 7000 entries from 119 countries. There's some stunning images, as usual, from these global competitions. As the website says

Now in its 14th year, The Environmental Photographer of the Year competition showcases the most inspirational environmental photography from around the world. The award celebrates humanity's ability to survive and innovate and showcases thought-provoking images that call attention to our impact and inspire us to live sustainably. The competition is free to enter for all ages. Entries closed on 14 August 2021 and winners have been announced at COP26 in November 2021.

The categories are below and there's plenty to choose from. Fancy having a go next year?

- Environmental Photographer of the Year
- Young Environmental Photographer of the Year
- Environments of the Future
- Sustainable Cities
- Climate Action
- Water and Security
- The Resilient Award
- People's Choice

Check out the gallery and winning images here:

<https://epoty.org/>

Taylor Wessing Photographic Portrait Prize 2021

The Taylor Wessing Photographic Portrait Prize is one of the most prestigious photography awards in the world, celebrating the very best in contemporary portrait photography. This year the exhibition will take place at the new arts hub **Cromwell Place**, London, until 2 January 2022. Here's an extract from the website (link below):

The Taylor Wessing Photographic Portrait Prize continues to inspire photographers throughout the world and we're looking forward to seeing the new entries this year. For many years, working together with the National Portrait Gallery, we have helped to create a platform that showcases the best in photographic talent, and staging this year's exhibition at a new gallery space at Cromwell Place will be a fillip in what has been a challenging year

<https://www.npg.org.uk/whatson/twppp2021/prize-winners/>

PAGB Newsletter

Here's the latest PAGB Newsletter:

<http://www.pagbnews.co.uk/sites/default/files/newsletters/en295%2016%20Nov.pdf>

Competition B - Submissions

As Jill mentioned on Monday night, we have put back the submission of the Comp B images until the next time we definitely meet on the 29th November. Although it's less time for the judge to prepare before judging, he's ok with that as long as we can get the prints and PDI's to him quickly after the 29th. However for all this to happen, Jill has first to compile and record all the submissions. So, in order to help her, could you use the Dropbox link below (and on the website) to send to her, sooner rather than later, both the DPI's (set and open) and the DPI's of the prints (set and open). This should mean that all the Comp B digital organisation will be complete by the 29th leaving Jill with just the job of dropping off the physical prints once she has received them on the 29th. Of course, the Comp B original submission date was the 8th Nov so you should be sorted out by now anyway. Thanks in advance.

Internal Competitions

Subject	Competition	Submission Date	Judging Date
Water (in all its forms)	A	September 27 th , 2021	October 25 th , 2021
Architecture	B	November 8 th , 2021	December 6 th , 2021
Sunrise, sunset	C	December 6 th , 2021	January 17 th , 2022
Coastal	D	January 17 th , 2022	February 14 th , 2022
Winter	E	February 28 th , 2022	March 28 th , 2022
Farming in the Cotswolds	Pitchers Trophy (annual Competition)	April 11 th , 2022	May 9 th , 2022
Various	Annual Competitions	April 11 th , 2022	May 9 th , 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>

BBC Pictures

Another selection from the BBC's news website.

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/in-pictures-59260484>

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-england-59200803>

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-scotland-59206246>

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/world-africa-59246055>

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/in-pictures-59208310>

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/entertainment-arts-59205486>

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/in-pictures-59224887>

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/world-africa-59175763>

Quote of the Week

If you want to be a better photographer, stand in front of more interesting stuff - Jim Richardson

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

Cheers and stay safe

Martyn (thehoneys@btinternet.com)

Mike (mike.cheeseman1777@hotmail.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.