



Vignettes 112

December 9th, 2021

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Club News

STOP PRESS - Monday 13th Permajet presentation POSTPONED. We revert to ZOOM.

We are delighted to have, at short notice, Leigh Woolford back with us for a Zoom evening of his excellent images. We're currently working with him on the subject from his talk library. Watch this space.

I'm really sorry but I'm afraid that Boris's latest rules just sprung upon us, and more importantly, the reasons behind them from his scientific advisors have led us to conclude that we have little choice but to postpone next Monday's practical print demonstration by Permajet to later in the club season. Even if we decided not to, our own understandable personal responsibilities in managing our lives in the face of Omicron might have led to an embarrassingly low turnout with little benefit to anyone. With our Zoom Christmas Quiz taking us into the Christmas break on the 20th, it's really difficult at the moment to see more than a few weeks ahead in terms of possible necessary changes to the club programme. The curved balls are coming from all directions! All I can say is that your committee is on the case!

Setting all that aside, It's also been a bit of an interesting start to the week to say the least. It all started with an email from Stephen on Monday morning to say that one of the hall windows had been smashed and, unless repaired, we might have to resort to judging by Zoom. His generous offer to help the hall by clearing up the broken glass fell foul of health and safety! A few minutes later Jill emailed to say that the judge doesn't Zoom (!) but as he's close by near Swindon, she would happily host the Judge on Zoom from home. Beyond the call of duty. A few minutes later Mike emails in to say that the family have been hit by a sickness bug and grandpa Cheeseman has been left (literally) holding the baby. A club "no show" was sadly on the cards. To make it worse, my viral stomach infection continued unabated with little let up so my inability to help was going to continue.

However, by lunchtime things were looking decidedly "up". The window had been temporarily repaired, F2F was back on, and the three Committee "musketeers" of Jill, John and Stephen got everything together for the evening and did a great job on the night in managing the entries, Zooming the event and smoothing through the technology. A big thanks to all. It's times like this that, what seems like a big Committee for a small club, does have its advantages! Hopefully, we'll be back to full strength next week albeit on Zoom.

I understand that Peter Crane did a great job as judge, albeit in a somewhat chilly environment. The broken window together with the (Covid required) open ones and little to no heating all combined to get you in the winter mood - even if you didn't want to!! The hall has promised to get the heating sorted. Anyway here's the Comp B results:

Well done to all the winners and particularly to our newer members who got into the mix with some very creditable winning entries. Once again, the breadth of our skills in the club came through with 19 different winners picking up a total of 29 awards on the night. Excellent.

Competition B Results

SET PRINT

1	Martyn Smith	Lunch Break
2	David Wallis	High Line, New York
3	Paul Jones	Close To Home
HC	Patrick Barker	Lloyds Of London
C	Ruth Barker	Diamond City Reflections
C	Jill Bewley	Grand Design Valencia

OPEN PRINT

1	Mike Cheeseman	Eyed With Suspicion
2	Jill Bewley	Paeonies
3	Patrick Barker	Jaz Through the Wheel
HC	David Wallis	Small White
HC	John Crew	Walking With Dad
C	Katrina Ellor	Girl Under Cover
C	Stephen Chapman	Long Horned Beetle

SET DPI

1	Colin Hoskins	Solar Panel Tree
2	David Wallis	The Vessel New York
3	Dave Cahill	Dreamy Dreaming Spires
HC	Chris Donohoe	Still Standing
HC	Alan Barker	Honfleur
HC	Neil Grant	Arena
C	Jill Bewley	Berlin Past and Present
C	John Spreadbury	Thistle Hotel Cheltenham

OPEN DPI

1	John Hankin	The Follow Through
2	Jill Bewley	Tender Touch
3	John Spreadbury	We Will Remember Them
HC	Sue Gunnee	Brighton Encapsulated
HC	Martyn Smith	Sunset Sail
C	Brian Kent	Signpost
C	Ruth Barker	Here's Looking at Ewe
C	Patrick Barker	Bird On a Marker



Lunch Break by Martyn Smith



Solar Panel Tree by Colin Hoskins



Eyed With Suspicion by Mike Cheeseman



The Follow Through by John Hankin

Outdoor Photography Magazine – Jill Bewley

Following a bit of persuasion by Alun & Val, Jill has had some published success. She takes up the story:

Hi Martyn. After seeing my splashing duck image in the Summer Comp, Val and Alun got in contact and suggested that I enter this 'Do One Thing this month' challenge in "Outdoor Photography" magazine which they subscribe to.

I was amazed when it was accepted as a runner up, along with 12 others. Having been inspired many years ago by a similar image by Andy Rouse, I have always wanted to capture this wonderful light, movement and energy from the simple action of a splashing duck. In autumn last year, the sun was low enough in the sky to illuminate the thousands of water droplets against a dark backdrop of water. All the right ingredients just came together at the right time for a great photo opportunity. I'm very grateful to Val and Alun for the idea and motivation to have a go at entering. Hope that all helps. All the best, Jill



Sweeping Up

100 renowned photographers team up to promote environmental conservation

Prominent nature photographs are being donated by world-famous photographers to raise funds for nature conservation projects. Works by around 100 photographers from all over the world are to be donated and sold up until the end of the year. Dr Jane Goodall is one of the many primatologists and photographers donating work to Vital Impacts, a women-led non-profit that provides financial assistance and amplifies the narrative pushed by organizations dedicated to protecting and preserving human and wildlife habitats.

Here's some website information about Vital Impacts:

Vital Impacts is founded by the award-winning photographer [Ami Vitale](#) and the visual journalist Eileen Mignoni. This women-led non-profit provides financial assistance and amplifies the narrative of community-oriented organizations dedicated to protecting and preserving human and wildlife habitats.

Purchase of Vital Impact's fine art prints directly supports organizations across the globe, who work tirelessly to sustain our planet. During our inaugural sale, 60% of net-proceeds are going to [Big Life Foundation](#), [Great Plains Foundation's Project Ranger](#), [Jane Goodall Institute's Roots & Shoots](#), and [SeaLegacy](#).

Here's a link to Vital Impacts:

<https://vitalimpacts.org/pages/about>

A few thoughts

Paul Jones has been in touch with an interesting note on how you might display your images at home.

Hi Martyn. I'm not an avid image displayer around the house but recently decided after many years to do something with two sets of images I've harboured for many years. Here's a note which I've produced for members which I thought I would share through the good offices of Vignettes. Paul

Beyond Competitive Images

After perusing some of the groups of images submitted by clubs competing in the WCPF Kingswood Salver,

<https://www.thewcpf.com/kingswood-salver>

where 5 images on a theme are submitted as a panel, I was led to consider those situations where you have small groups of themed images and how best to present them.

This was done from the viewpoint of a non-competitive situation, which although important, is not the be all and end all of club photography. I'm sure we all have these images, which have personal significance but really not suitable for club or competitive conditions.

I'm quite keen on collage for these situations, particularly where these involve people or faces. However the following two examples are based on using normal images together with some text to link them. The first is one involving two images, separated in time by over 40 years. The shot on the right was taken from a colour slide, the silhouette from an impromptu snap in more recent times.



Unguarded Moments

The second is from a sequence taken on a walk in the Cotswolds about ten years ago. Nothing spectacular in either of these panels but I recently decided to use a spare frame to display them together in our garden room.



The other thing I've explored recently is using foam board as an alternative mount arrangement, where you have no border to contend with, and probably not suitable for competitive situations, but that's another story

Shepton Snowdrops Festival 2022 Photography Competition

We've received details about the Shepton Festival 2022 Photography Competition which looks really interesting. It's now open until 22nd Jan so something to consider during the winter nights. The theme is "Hope In Nature" and here's a few details from the website

For our 2022 competition, our judge is [Carol Sharp](#), a national award winning photographic artist, renowned for her lyrical composition, attention to detail and delicate touch with light. Her images have been widely published and have included RHS Chelsea Flower Show posters and two sets of Royal Mail stamps. Carol explains what she will be looking for in the photographic entries:

"Long before winter has retreated, the promise of spring is announced by the charming white lanterns of the snowdrops. They epitomise hope as their green shoots emerge from the cold, dark earth when all around is still bare and lifeless. This renewal of life from dormancy and absence reassures us that the cycles and seasons will endure, which particularly resonates with us at this

time. I will be looking for imaginative images that may illustrate this concept, as well as captures of snowdrops expressing their particular way of being in the world."

Here's the link:

<https://mailchi.mp/e05eb01f3d8c/something-to-share-with-your-members?e=2f0a280512>

Twitter's new policy on publishing images of people on its platform

Here's an interesting article for all you street photographers out there about Twitter's new policy on publishing images of people without their consent. This applies to public places and, as far as I can see, is clear as mud. It seems to relate to how you use the image as it says:

The policy would also not apply to individuals who are the subject of public conversations online or offline. But if the intention was to "harass, intimidate or use fear to silence them", we may remove the content, in line with our policy against abusive behaviour.

Quite how one is supposed to track down a person standing next to, say, an advertising hoarding in a public place or that spur of a moment shot in a fairground is unclear. Therefore, sharing an image may be best in the context of a photographic based narrative with like-minded photographers as, of course, that is not illegal. Alternatively just ignore Twitter! Here's the article:

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/technology-59479688>

PAGB News

Here's the latest PAGB newsletter:

<http://www.pagbnews.co.uk/sites/default/files/newsletters/en296%2001%20Dec%202021.pdf>

BBC Pictures

Another selection from the BBC's news website.

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/in-pictures-59507742>

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-england-59453869>

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-scotland-59432986>

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/world-africa-59502970>

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-england-59457581>

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-scotland-59374045>

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-england-59541933>

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-england-humber-59463285>

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/in-pictures-59507742>

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>

Quote of the Week

*Look and think before opening the shutter. The heart and mind are the true lens of the camera -
Yousuf Karsh*

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.