



Vignettes 114

December 24th, 2021

Contents

Club News	1
Next Season - Back to Zooming	1
Cheltenham CISP Competition.....	2
The Prix Pictet	3
PAGB Newsletter.....	3
BBC Pictures	4
Internal Competitions	5
Quote of the Week	6
Appendix 1: Club Face to Face (F2F) Meetings - Covid Measures.....	7

Club News

Hi everyone. Hope you are all well. A big thanks to David for setting the quiz and to John for mastering the technology once again for our end of year Christmas Quiz on Monday night. Despite a few glitches, 17 of us braved some tricky questions not to mention total embarrassment all mixed in with some good humour. It's times like this that you get to know a little more about your fellow club members. A case in point being Colin's life in Zimbabwe. What? You may ask. Well, it led to him amass an encyclopaedic knowledge in recognising national flags, all learnt through collecting national flag cards contained in a bubble gum sweet promotion during his childhood. As a result, Colin turned out to be the one-man answering machine for Round 4 - entitled "Recognising national flags"! Unbelievable. Bet you didn't anticipate that David!!? Luckily for me Colin was in my (winning as it turned out!) team.

[Notes from Mike: team 1 also had its own flag specialist in Ruth. I'm not sure about bubble gum, but she shares an African connection with Colin. Also, as we are not getting anything like a white Christmas, I've inserted some snow scenes from club members.]

Next Season - Back to Zooming

I guess it probably doesn't come as any surprise that we've decided to run January's club nights as Zoom events whilst Omnicron is lingering in the community waiting to cause havoc. It will mean a few alterations to the programme although we already had some weeks planned for Zoom so it shouldn't be too disruptive. However, there are some logistical issues to deal with associated with the competition judging and submissions, particularly as we want to try and maintain the print competitions. The committee are meeting in early Jan to take stock of how we deal with the rest of the season but we remain at the behest of government rules and guidance, not to mention the rules placed on us by the Hall management. Watch this space.



Winter Waterfall by Alun Thomas

Cheltenham CISP Competition

Just a reminder that the CISP competition fires up in Jan. Here's the details:

<https://cheltenhamcameraclub.uk/salon-2022-preview/>

The Prix Pictet

The Prix Pictet aims to harness the power of photography – all genres of photography – to draw global attention to issues of sustainability, especially those concerning the environment. Founded in 2008 by the Pictet Group, the Prix Pictet has become the world’s leading award for photography and sustainability. To date, there have been eight cycles of the award each of which has highlighted a particular facet of sustainability. The nine themes are Water, Earth, Growth, Power, Consumption, Disorder, Space, Hope and Fire. Entry to the award is strictly by nomination. The network of nominators worldwide (currently numbering 300) have, over the course of the eight cycles, nominated 4,700 artists for the award. Taken together the nominated works present a powerful testament to the fragile state of our planet.

American artist Sally Mann was announced this evening as the winner of the 9th cycle of the Prix Pictet, the global award in photography and sustainability.

The announcement, at a ceremony at the V&A in London, marks the opening of a major exhibition showcasing the 12 photographic series shortlisted for the prize. Each of the shortlisted bodies of work explores the topical theme of ‘Fire’, the focus of this cycle of the award. Mann’s winning series Blackwater (2008-2012) is a multifaceted exploration of the devastating wildfires that enveloped the Great Dismal Swamp in south-eastern Virginia, where the first slave ships docked in America. In this work, Mann draws a parallel between the all-consuming wildfires she encountered there with racial conflict in America, explaining “the fires in the Great Dismal Swamp seemed to epitomize the great fire of racial strife in America – the Civil War, emancipation, the Civil Rights Movement, in which my family was involved, the racial unrest of the late 1960s and most recently the summer of 2020. Something about the deeply flawed American character seems to embrace the apocalyptic as solution.”

The free exhibition at the V&A of the work of all the shortlisted photographers is on show until 9 January 2022. Here’s a link to the website:

<https://prixpictet.com/>

PAGB Newsletter

Paul has sent through the latest PAGB newsletter:

<http://www.pagbnews.co.uk/sites/default/files/newsletters/en297%2018%20Dec%202021.pdf>

<http://www.pagbnews.co.uk/sites/default/files/newsletters/297%20extra.pdf>



Going Nowhere by Shaun Little

BBC Pictures

Another selection from the BBC's news website.

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-england-norfolk-59728244>

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-england-suffolk-59744340>

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-england-norfolk-59680508>

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-england-59556046>

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-wales-59667905>

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-england-59630444>

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-england-northamptonshire-59700132>

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-england-essex-59653351>

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-scotland-59637346>

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/in-pictures-59682234>

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/world-africa-59680921>

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>



No Room at the Inn by David Wallis

Quote of the Week

I have to say this week's quote of the week put a wry smile on my face.

Most things in life are moments of pleasure and a lifetime of embarrassment; photography is a moment of embarrassment and a lifetime of pleasure - Tony Benn

That's it for this week. Have a great, safe, Christmas and happy new year.

Cheers and stay safe

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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.