Vignettes 155

November 11th, 2022

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Club News

Hi everyone. Hope you are all well. A big thanks to all our contributors to 'Show and Tell' on Monday night. We had a very good spread of subjects, techniques and genres which certainly made for a varied evening. It's good to see talent across the club so if you want to know anything further about what was displayed, do have a chat with the relevant member at the next meeting or send us an email and we will field it for you. And remember for our new members, if anyone would like a 'one to one' session on the basics of photography, getting to know your camera etc, we will be able to pair you up with a member willing to help.

Next week 14th November- talk - Peter Crane

For next Monday, Peter Crane from Swindon is giving us a talk on Street Photography, a timely talk given that this is the next set subject. Peter was judging for us last year and makes a welcome return. It should be a good evening. Here's his website to have a look at:

https://www.petercrane.co.uk/

Definitions - Street

Jill has been in touch just to clarify the definition of Urban/Street photography which she mentioned on Monday night. This updates the definitions section below:

Urban / Street Photography

Urban photography is a broad genre that can include anything within a built-up, urban environment, so the image must convey an aspect of a city or town. Your image must have been taken in a built-up urban environment but does not have to include people, so things like street signs, traffic, architecture, shop facades, light trails, crowds, bridges, are all part of urban life. Your image can be a candid shot of people i.e. Street Photography which is also accepted.

URGENT ANNOUNCEMENT - Christmas Quiz night - Change to the programme - Tuesday 20th Dec

The last couple of years have necessitated holding our Christmas Quiz night via Zoom which has been great but this year we are returning to a physical meet up. We had planned to go to the Golden Cross, Cirencester but sadly the landlord has passed away a week ago and, as immediately happens with tenanted pubs, it's now closed until further notice pending a new tenant.

However the good news is that we've been very fortunate that The Greyhound, Siddington can cater for us but as it's closed on Mondays, we've booked **Tuesday 20th Dec**. I appreciate that the revised date won't suit everyone being so close to Xmas and not being on our regular Monday night slot but we simply had to make a quick decision in the circumstances.

We also have to let the pub know how many of us are coming which we need to do in the next 10 days or so. Food will be available and I'm just waiting from the pub on the menu options which we'll have to order in advance so I'll be back in touch. We'll aim to meet up at the pub at 7.00pm.

I'll keep a running list of attendees which we will put in Vignettes so you can see who's coming. Here's the first (enough to put anyone off!):

1. Martyn Smith
2. ?
3. ?

P.S. Don't tell anyone but I'll try and persuade David Wallis to run the quiz again - he's been an excellent quizmaster for the last few years.

Lightroom - recent updates

We have a Lightroom night coming up (more volunteers required - see below!). However, in view of the major changes to Lightroom's 'develop' module over the last year, I thought it would be helpful for all you Lightroom users out there to give you a link to one of Adobe's ambassadors, Julieanne Kost. Following yet another significant update in October 2022, she has posted a 30 min summary on YouTube covering all the features in the Masking tool, previously known as the Graduated, Radial and Adjustment tools. There's also an Anthony Morganti YouTube feature covering just the recent Oct changes. As you'll see, everything is getting very 'AI'.

https://youtu.be/xnECvQ0wNBU

https://youtu.be/loqWg8up87U

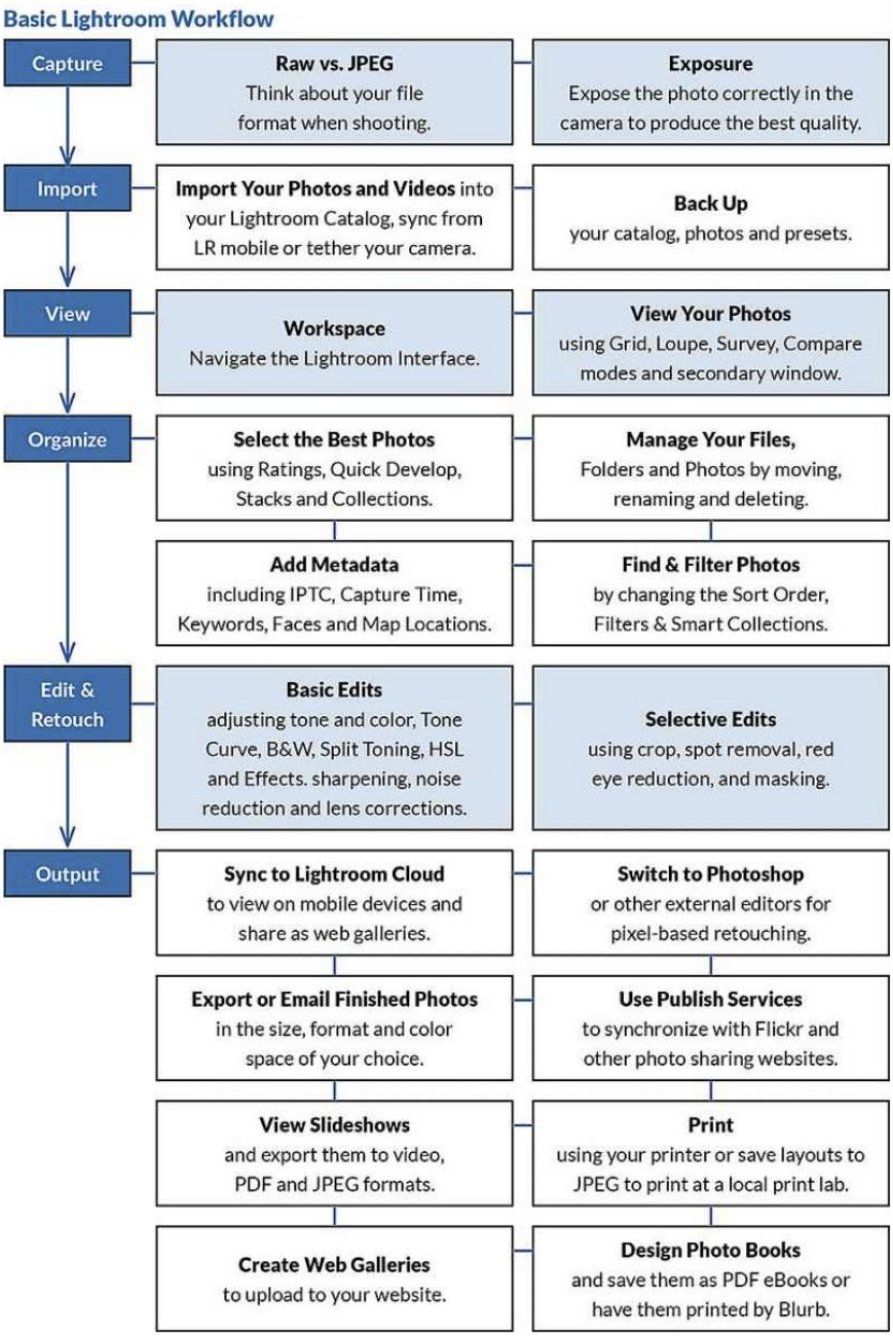
Lightroom - Monday 21st November - volunteers needed

Whilst we've all benefited from Shaun's excellent practical Photoshop nights on both Zoom and F2F over few years, we felt that Lightroom should be given an airing. More so now given significant recent upgrades to Lightroom which have closed the gap to some of Photoshop processing tools. Of course both Lightroom and Photoshop use the imbedded 'Camera Raw' software for basic alterations so there is some overlap.

Whilst there's definitely those who want to learn Lightroom, some members use Affinity or Photoshop Elements and then there's the expanding DXO and Topaz software gathering ground as

worthy processing competitors. We might run an evening demonstrating what these software options can offer both as holistic processing options and as ‘plug-ins’.

Because of the complexity of Lightroom, we can’t cover every aspect in an evening so we are going to focus on how it works to attract potential new users who might be put off at the moment and help existing users get more out of the software. By way of background Mike has produced a very helpful Lightroom workflow structure:



Against this background, the important sections to consider are Import, View, Organise and Edit. At the moment David Wallis is going to deal with the Import/View sections and John Smith will cover Organise – albeit with some overlap (which John and David are liaising on).

The Edit ('Develop') section is an important area, particularly with the recent upgrade and reorganisation to the masking & selection tools. We felt that this could split this into at least two potential presentations, a) basic edits using the develop module, and b) selections & masks.

So, if any member, conversant with all the recent Lightroom Classic upgrades, would like to volunteer to make a short presentation on any aspect of the 'develop' module, please let us know. We can sort the running order out either in advance or on the night. We have the latest Lightroom Classic version loaded onto the club's PC. Mike has offered to dovetail a presentation into the evening and I'm happy just to give a quick rundown of my workflow approach in using the 'develop' module.

Club Programme Change - May 8th 2023

With Monday 8th May 2023 now an additional Bank Holiday to commemorate the Coronation, we've cancelled our club night on that date. The Annual competition judging has therefore been brought forward to 24th April and the Panel Challenge/Then and Now moved to the 17th April.

BBC pictures

Another selection from the BBC's website

https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/in-pictures-63472199

https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/in-pictures-63514358

https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/in-pictures-63486977

https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-england-humber-63549572

https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-england-63536804

https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-england-63449296

https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-scotland-63470228

https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/world-africa-63497452

https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-england-norfolk-63478221

Mangrove Photography Awards 2022

The winners of the Mangrove Photography Awards 2022 have been announced. Now in its 8th year, over 2,000 images were submitted from 68 countries, revealing fascinating insights into the world of mangroves, while challenging us to consider both our place in the natural world and our responsibility to protect it. Catch the website here:

https://photography.mangroveactionproject.org/gallery/winners-2022

Volunteers

Here's our regular volunteer spot for in house club events over the season. It's edging forward slowly as names are added. All we need is a few volunteers to contribute - in most case it won't be for more than 20 minutes or so. Just to be clear, **we are not asking for anyone to run the whole night.** Just to be part of a team for the evening. From my experience time flies at these events and there's no doubt that you learn from the experience as a presenter. Once we have enough people we will liaise on which aspect each volunteer will talk about. We'll add members to each event as we get them:

So, at the moment here's the following 'In House' events which will require member input along with the latest volunteers:

21st November - Lightroom Workshop. *An opportunity for a few members to share their experiences given the recent comprehensive updates to this excellent software. A foil to the excellent Photoshop presentations we've had in the past couple of years from Shaun.*

1. *David Wallis - the mysteries of cataloguing*
2. *John Smith - using Lightroom in the cloud across different platforms*
3. *Mike/Martyn - workflow/develop module*

23rd January - Multiple Exposures *- A timely dedicated genre which is the subject of a club competition (submission Feb). An opportunity for a few members to share their experiences, advise on techniques and we'll set some tables up to have a go.*

1. *Mike Cheeseman using strobe flash*
2.

30th Jan - Speed learning *- (not to be confused with speed dating!) an experienced member led workshop group discussion on different aspects of photography we can share in groups. E.g*

appropriate use of different AF modes, dedicated camera make menus, typical camera settings for different genres etc. Each group discussion to last, say, 20/30 minutes. Format to be finalised. All thoughts and ideas gratefully received.

Q1 from Jill - How to use the Tone Curves and Colour Grading on Lightroom.

1. *Mike Cheeseman - flash*
2. *Shaun Little -*
3.

***6th March - Take 5** - 5 member led 20 min presentation on their burning photography issues we all might learn from. Totally diverse and open to anyone with something to share.*

1. *Martyn Smith - Camera bags (a light hearted look!)*
2. *Dave Cahill - Blipfoto*
3. *Paul Norris - Straight pictures – what is the 'driver' to enhance the image in your camera.*
4. *Paul Jones - TBA*

***17th April - The Panel Challenge(s)** - The Panel Challenge is being expanded this year to provide for a dedicated Smart Phone Panel. We're working on the rules so watch this space. No volunteers needed but just a heads up of what's to come.*

***17th April - Then and now** - As the Panel Challenges may not take up the whole evening we are working on a new idea from John Smith for members to revisit and capture old Cotswold postcard locations for an evening of 'then and now' images - watch this space. However, here's a taster from the BBC's website - https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/world-europe-guernsey-62820981*

***Date to be Confirmed - Travelogue Night** - Member led presentation giving tips on where to take great images. Short stay, long stay holidays (Uk and abroad), staying local, days out - just about anywhere you fancy.*

1. Sue Gunnee - TBC.
2. Martyn Smith - Holy Island.
3. Andy Kennedy - Manhattan.
4. Paul Norris - Near and Far - what inspires me on holiday.
5. Paul Jones - New Zealand
6. Alun & Val - The Outer Hebrides (subject to dates)

This Season's Club Competitions 2022 - 2023

	Competition Set & Open	Submission Date	Judging Night
A	Abstract + Open	03/10/22	31/10/22
B	Reflections + Open	31/10/22	05/12/22
C	Urban / Street photography + Open	05/12/22	16/01/23
D	Fog / steam / mist / smoke + Open	16/01/23	20/02/23
E	Multiple exposures + Open	27/02/23	27/03/23
Annual	2021-22 Annual competition	03/04/23	24/04/23

Club Competitions – Set Subject A-E Definitions

A: ABSTRACT

Abstract photography is the art of capturing subjects in such a way that does not attempt to represent external reality, but seeks to achieve its effect using shapes, forms, colours, and textures. It can encompass a huge variety of subject matter, take us out of our comfort zone, make us question what we see, or invite us to enter another realm. The subject matter is often implied or suggested rather than overtly and literally presented. Any image that is altered reality is acceptable.

B: REFLECTIONS

"Reflection photos refer to any shot, no matter what type of photography genre, that uses a reflective surface." This can be a landscape, building, water, windows etc.

C: URBAN or STREET PHOTOGRAPHY

Urban photography is a broad genre that can include anything within a built-up, urban environment, so the image must convey an aspect of a city or town. Your image must have been taken in a built-up urban environment but does not have to include people, so things like street signs, traffic, architecture, shop facades, light trails, crowds, bridges, are all part of urban life. Your image can be a candid shot of people i.e. Street Photography which is also accepted.

D: FOG / STEAM / MIST / SMOKE

This topic can include a wide variety of images, from misty morning landscapes to smoke wisps created at home – as long as the predominant effect / subject includes Steam or Mist or Smoke or Fog.

E: MULTIPLE EXPOSURES

Multiple exposure means superimposing two or more photos to create a completely new, different image either directly in the camera or afterwards in image processing.

Annual Competitions

(Submission Deadline 03 April 2023)

Award	Subject	Format
Pitchers Trophy (Topic chosen by Club President)	Quenington Sculpture 5-26th June 2022	DPI
Dennis Moss Trophy	Open	Print
Leonard Jones Cup	Open	DPI
Cavendish Cup	Black and White Open	Print
Miles Shield	Open (Club outing)	DPI
Gladiator Trophy	Aviation	DPI
Pitchers Cup Open to new members only.	Open	Print or DPI

All DPIs to be 1600px x 1200px in sRGB colour space. DPI version of Prints must also be submitted.
NB Portrait images must be 1200px on *longest* side.

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

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

Quote Of the Week

Actually, I'm not all that interested in the subject of photography. Once the photo is in the box, I'm not all that interested in what happens next. Hunters, after all, aren't cooks – Henri Cartier-Bresson

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

Cheers and stay safe

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Mike (mike.cheeseman1777@hotmail.com)