



Vignettes 166

February 3rd, 2023

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Club News

Hi everyone. Hope you are all well. It was good to see Syd again. Our 'Speed Learning' night on Monday seemed to find favour with many of you and our prediction of about 30 attendees was spot on. A big thanks to Liz and Jill for suggesting it and to Mike, Jill, Liz, David and Shaun for hosting the tables along with myself. We certainly learned a lot about and from you and hope you were able to swop thoughts and ideas. Do give us your feedback as it's the first time we've tried it. Although 15 minutes is not long, we felt that the table sizes 4-6 seemed about right for everyone to contribute on each topic. I'm sure we will learn from it.

Liz has posted her table's experiences below.

I don't know whether it's me but I thought there might have been more Canon owners. Never mind. Perhaps the 15 or so members not able to make it all have Canons!! By the way I'm in the 'Got a tripod but don't use it' club! A monopod man.

Finally, Andy gave a very good tip on buying a camera or kit from John Lewis (always good for warranties), particularly popular stuff on back order. Get up early and check the stock on-line as, by the time new cameras get logged onto the company's website, they've all been sold. Thanks for a good tip, put into practice as, by following his own advice, Andy is the proud owner of a Fujifilm XT4 from JL.

Liz's feedback from the books, mags, social media 'table'

Hi Martyn, here's the thoughts, ideas and suggestions from members from my table's Speed Learning session on Monday night. I thought it went very well:

Photographic Magazines

- *Magazines -mixed response- some members subscribe -most do not -many don't read any at all. Magazines tend to repeat articles over time. RPS magazine although visually inspiring, has no articles about learning techniques and was felt to have limited value.*
- *Some members would be interested in magazine swaps.*
- *Go for good deals on subscriptions with free gift if interested.*
- *FRAMES is a new magazine*
- *Go to library -link up to LIBBY -see all kinds of magazines online*
- *READLY - app with digital subscriptions to thousands of magazines – not just photographic including back issues. Share with family and friends on up to 5 devices. Currently, 2 months for free then £9.99 a month*

Photography Books

- *On the whole, books seem to be favoured over magazines. Instructional books tend to date but those outlining a particular photographer's portfolio were treasured e.g. William Eggleston – American photographer, Magnum Photographers. Buy wisely.*
- *Books can be expensive so bought from charity shops, car boot sales and places such as The Works where they are greatly reduced. Many members would be interested in sharing/lending books.*
- *In Bristol, opposite the RPS, there is the Martin Parr Foundation – collection of photographic books, events and exhibitions– see martinparrfoundation.org for details*

Social Media

- *Social media was used for various purposes by some members. Not used at all by others.*
- *Some had Instagram accounts but only used as observers, following photographers they admired either at local or higher levels. Some used Instagram for personal promotion of their photography or to promote for future business use. It was felt there may be a danger of doing something for 'likes' rather than being individually creative.*
- *Members should be encouraged to either add or update their portfolios on the CCC website.*
- *UNSPLASH - unsplash.com - beautiful free images that you can download and use for any project – used and added to by one of our members – an interesting concept- it can give exposure for freelance photographers or personal work. One member was very keen that copyrights on images should be protected and did not approve of the Unsplash philosophy.*
- *SHUTTERSTOCK – online stock photo agency*
- *PROJECT 365.org*
- *VERO -ad free- algorithm free- free subscription at the moment -photography social network*
- *BLIPFOTO – more details from Dave Cahill at a future meeting.*
- *FLICKR used by at least one member- resulting in actual friends rather than virtual ones!*
- *FRAMES – 1 photo a day*
- *500px*

Online tutorials

- *Most members use online tutorials for help and instruction and find them by searching through Google. Some tutorials were painful and so it was a matter of browsing until one is found which suits the purpose. It was recommended that browsing history was culled from time to time on YouTube to refresh searches.*
- *One member reads blogs on YouTube by photographers of note*

Recommended by members:

- *LENSCRAFT by Robin Whalley [Lenscraft.co.uk](http://lenscraft.co.uk)*

- SARAH HOWARD tutorials – Cotswold landscape photographer **[Martyn - she presenting to us on Monday - see below]**
- GLYN DEWIS – YouTube
- KELVIN PIMONT -tutorials- has cheap software to purchase
- GRAHAM HORTON -YouTube tutorials
- NIKON SCHOOL
- SKILLSHARE – a subscription- based learning community for creators -access to a wide range of courses
- AFFINITY - tutorials- James Ritson -YouTube

Some members would like to have an online photographic club forum where ideas could be exchanged as they found the format of this evening helpful. **[Martyn - This is currently being looked into]**

- Members would like to be added to the club What App chat – to keep in touch but also to be able to ask questions in the absence of an official forum.

Thank you all for your contributions to the discussions -much appreciated!, Liz Gillham

Next Monday - Sarah Howard - 'An Image Seen'

We are delighted to have Cotswolds based photographer Sarah Howard next Monday to present her landscape talk 'An image seen'. Sarah has been in touch with a background note:

Hi Martyn. 'An Image Seen' is a presentation on Landscape photography thoughts and techniques. It's a comprehensive talk that initially discusses some of the preparation and planning you can do prior to going out on location to help you get the best results. I move on to talk about the importance of light in image making, and then in the second half to talk in depth about composition. I touch on introducing movement into your images and also the impact that filters can have. Look forward to seeing you next Monday. Here's a link to my website:

<https://www.sarahhowardphotography.com/>

Miscellaneous

Multiple Exposures

After some lively discussion following last week's session from Mike & Stephen, Jill has updated the Multiple Exposure definition which takes into account comments on the night plus some further analysis. It's in the comp definitions below so if anyone has any further comment, please let Jill know. On that theme, Shaun is going to talk you through the process of using Photoshop to merge Multiple Exposures. This is on Feb 13th. This builds on Mike and Stephen's talk last week by bringing a practical dimension to the subject and still leaves you time before submission for Comp E. More info to come.

RPS Photography Exhibition on our doorstep

Well nearly! The Museum of Gloucester in conjunction with the Royal Photographic Society (RPS) is exhibiting the International Photography Exhibition 163 (IPE 163) from January 2023. Over 8,000 images were entered by 3,944 photographers from 114 countries, making this a record-breaking year for the most countries engaged with in an open call to the competition. A total of 105 works by 60 photographers will be on display in the Museum from 28 January until 4 June 2023. Here's a link: <https://www.museumofgloucester.co.uk/events/rps-ipe-163>

And whilst we are on the subject of Museum bashing.....

The Bodleian Library is holding an exhibition about the history of Photography. It's called *A New Power: Photography in Britain 1800–1850* and runs 1 February – 7 May 2023 at ST Lee Gallery, Weston Library. Here's an extract from the website (link below):

The announcement of photography's invention in January 1839, first in Paris and then in London, introduced a 'new power' into British life. This new power – derived from photography's capacity to automatically capture the images created in a camera – was soon being used for every conceivable purpose. A New Power: Photography in Britain 1800–1850 explores the early history of photography, starting with the invention of the medium and the earliest dissemination of photographic images in Britain and ending with the famous Great Exhibition of 1851. It examines the broad range of uses that photography would quickly come to fill, from documenting the invention of celebrity to the very first 'travel photography' and how this helped to shore up colonial sensibilities. By showing how photography intersected with all aspects of a nascent modernity, A New Power reveals photography's crucial role in making Britain the society it is today.

Interestingly, the oldest surviving photograph of the image formed in a camera was created much earlier by Niépce in 1826 or 1827. I remember gaining a point on that question in David Wallis's Xmas quiz a few years ago!! Here's the link: <https://visit.bodleian.ox.ac.uk/event/a-new-power>

The Royal West of England Photo Open Exhibition 2023

The *RWA Photo Open* celebrates contemporary photographic practice in all its forms. This Open Call exhibition invited submissions from artists and photographers, at any stage of their careers, who create photographic work or explore the nature of photography in their work. Often side-lined as a significant artform, the Photo Open aims to showcase the sheer quality and range of photographic work being produced by photographers and artists across the UK and abroad now. Here's a link:

<https://www.rwa.org.uk/products/bristol-photo-festival-rwa-photography-open-exhibition>

BBC Pictures

Another selection of images and stories from the BBC's website:

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-scotland-64464271>

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/world-asia-india-64462193>

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-england-essex-64255567>

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-england-sussex-64495089>

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-england-64447087>

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/articles/cp36gpe2327o>

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-england-64366655>

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/in-pictures-64424297>

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/world-africa-64416131>

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-england-birmingham-64413781>

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/in-pictures-64424647>

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-scotland-64412961>

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-england-leicestershire-64413692>

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-england-bristol-64413802>

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 just to be part of a team for the evening. In most cases it won't be for more than 20 minutes or so. We'll add members to each event as we get them.

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 - Non-competitive image presentation*
5. ?

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. More info to come. However, here's a taster from the BBC's website - <https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/world-europe-guernsey-62820981>*

Distinctions Group – A Zoom Meeting

If you are thinking of applying for a photographic distinction (LRPS, CPAGB etc) we will be holding a Zoom session on Wednesday February 15th at 7pm. The agenda with these distinction meetings is flexible and can include: details of the distinctions, the application process, feedback from members currently going through the process, and discussion of members' draft panel submissions.

Please contact Mike if you would like to join this session.

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

Objective

Multiple and Double Exposure photography are techniques that blend two or more exposures to create a different image.

Detail: A **Multiple Exposure** image can comprise of two or more images merged to create a new image, either in camera or in processing. It can also include **Strobe Flash images** where multiple exposures are taken on one image.

Multiple Exposures can include a technique known as '**Double Exposure**' which is a technique that layers two different exposures on a single image, combining two photographs into one, for example the image of the bison and forest.

Exclusions and clarification: **Multiple and Double Exposures** exclude a Focus Stacked image which effectively comprises the original image unchanged in all but focus.

Annual Competitions

(Submission Deadline 03 April 2023)

Award	Subject	Format
Pitchers Trophy (Topic chosen by Club President)	Quenington Sculpture 5-26 th 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 <u>Open to new members only.</u>	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

There are always two people in every photo: the photographer and the viewer - Ansel Adams

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

Cheers and stay safe

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