



Vignettes 173

March 23rd, 2023

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Club News

Hi everyone. Hope you are all well. A big thank you this week goes to Cirencester College course tutor Angus Brown, his 'Photo Tech', Graham Cooke and their second-year students who put on a great show of their A-Level course project images on Monday night. It was a good club turnout on a wet night and member feedback has been positive in seeing this bit of variation in the club programme. We were treated to a trip around the impressive photography department followed by a presentation by Angus and the students on the College's giant tv screen in the modern foyer, all washed down by tea and biscuits. We reciprocated with a couple of short PowerPoint presentations about the club which was followed by the students providing an insight into their very impressive coursework photobooks before we finished at 9.00.

We've been thinking about a return visit which Angus and Graham supported, a 'battle' being one option. However, our quite different approaches to photography (compared to club vs club) might make this difficult to judge. Having chatted through further thoughts today with Mike and John, on reflection a 'critique evening' with a skilled photographer like Martin Fry might provide a better way to assess our respective skills. We'll be in touch.

Next week - 27th March

Next Monday is Comp E judging night. Good luck to everyone who entered.

Nature in Art Twigworth

Just a reminder that next week is the last week of the International Wildlife Photographer of the Year exhibition at Nature in Art, Twigwoth. Mike, John Hankin and I made a visit on Wednesday this week and, as usual, we were not disappointed. It might be me but, to get shortlisted these days it seems to be compulsory to spend at least 6 months up to your chest in a crocodile infested swamp dodging mosquitoes to capture that rare frog shot. Alternative options including dangling 100 feet up an ancient oak tree or diving 70 metres in the freezing Antarctic with a life support team would attract similar plaudits. Seriously though, some great images from dedicated photographers, gritty exposure of man's global destructive footprint and the increasing use of drone images, some interestingly at eye level, all contributed to maintaining that high standard of exhibition we've become used to. Don't miss it.

Our trip to Tyndale Photographic Club, Thursday 16th March

Mike, John, Jill, Stephen, Gary and I ventured out last Thursday night to Tyndale Camera Club to give their members a taste of what we do. Our visit reciprocated one which the Tyndale Club paid

us in (I think) 2018. It was a very enjoyable evening with Mike, Stephen, Jill and John delivering PowerPoint presentations on various club activities. Tyndale were good enough to send us their summary of the visit posted in its bulletin:

It was a pleasure to welcome six members of Cirencester Camera Club to our recent meeting. Even though it was a cold, wet, miserable night they made the twenty-mile journey to entertain us with several different photographic topics. Their secretary, Stephen Chapman, opened the evening with a brief history of their club and it was interesting to hear that they were established in 1939 – just 9 years before our own club.

Their first speaker was chairman Mike Cheeseman LRPS who spoke about their club being approached by Cirencester Civic Society to undertake a few photographic assignments. He explained in depth about, how as a team, they used a shift lens camera to take an image of a wall painting in Weavers Hall, a drone camera for panoramic images of The Roman Amphitheatre and internal images of The Parish Church and the obstacles they had to overcome during covid to produce an on-line art exhibition for The Bingham Library Trust. Mike concluded by saying that all four projects turned out to be more interesting and certainly more challenging than they originally thought they would be.

Next up was Jill Bewley LRPS and the topic of her talk was lightpad photography, a type of photography that she became interested in purely because her obsession with the flowering plant physalis, more commonly known as Chinese lanterns. She spoke of the equipment she uses and what she finds to be suitable objects for capturing these types of image. Alongside her own images, Jill shared images from famous photographers that she greatly admires.

During tea/coffee break, they set off a slide show of their club competition images which gave us an insight into the high standard of photographs produced by their club members.

With the break over, we were then shown three of the panels that were entered into their club's panel challenge. This is a competition they hold to encourage members to print their photographs. Each member can submit a panel comprising of 7–10 images and judging is performed internally by the club members. Martyn Smith LRPS chatted about his 'A Dash of Red' panel, Jill Bewley LRPS about her 'Murmuration' panel and John Smith LRPS about his winning 'Water Drop Photography' panel.

To finish off their presentation, Stephen Chapman chatted about the 'speed learning evening' the club held. He explained it was similar to 'speed dating' but in fact it was to boost the sharing of knowledge between members.

It was a very different evening that Stephen, Mike, Jill, Martyn and John gave us, but one that was very much enjoyed and appreciated.

British Wildlife Photography Awards

The winners of the prestigious British Wildlife Photography Awards have just been announced, chosen from more than 13,000 submitted images celebrating the beauty and brutality of Britain's nature. An image of a red fox moving through a woodland that has been partially destroyed by industrialism has claimed this year's grand prize, and 28-year-old British photographer Charlie Page is the recipient of the £5,000 grand prize. Check out the winning images here:

<https://www.bwpawards.org/2023-winners>

BBC pictures

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

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-england-65029453>

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-england-leeds-64798380>

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-england-65007099>

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-england-64932964>

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-england-derbyshire-64989782>

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/in-pictures-64988150>

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-northern-ireland-64913882>

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-scotland-64977891>

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-england-york-north-yorkshire-64978839>

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/world-africa-64976952>

17th April - The Panel Challenge(s) - The Panel Challenge is being expanded this year to provide for a dedicated Smart Phone Panel and we've updated the rules. Here's the rules:

General rules

1. This challenge is open to all current CCC members.
2. Your task is to produce a **Panel of Prints and / or a Smartphone Digital Panel of images** on a theme of your choice. (If you produce two panels (printy and digital they can be different themes)
3. The title of either panel must be clearly displayed on the front.
4. Creativity, thought and variation are encouraged, with the complete panel showing a balanced and engaging view of your chosen theme. The images should work well together and either share a theme, tell a story or complement each other in some way. They should all create a pleasing image as a whole. Humour and light heartedness can be shown.
5. Images can be in colour or black and white or monochrome.
6. Your panel should contain between 7 — 10 images on your chosen subject and be presented for assessment by members on the evening of **17th April 2023**. If you are not going to be there on the evening but would still like to submit a panel please contact Jill Bewley, Comp Sec to arrange collection of printed panel. (competitions@cirencestercameraclub.org).
7. Images do not have to have been taken within this season but must be less than 5 years old. If using images which have been submitted to Club Competitions, a maximum of two may be used.
8. The images must be your all own work.
9. Presentation of the prints on the physical or digital panel will be taken into consideration in the final assessment.
10. All entries will be assessed and marked by the club members who are present on 17th April, with First, Second and Third places for each category being announced on the evening.
11. The Print Panel and Smartphone Digital Panel will be judged separately.
12. An award will be presented to the winner of both the Print Panel and Smartphone Digital Panel at the Awards Evening.

The Print Panel - info

1. Images should be no more than 7" x 5" (un-mounted), and one of your images may be enlarged to 10" x 8" (un-mounted).
2. Images can be placed in small mounts if desired.
3. You should mount your images on a board no larger than A1 in size. This is 841 mm x 594mm. The board should be sufficiently rigid to allow being displayed vertically on a table top. Thick mountboard / Foamex are ideal.
4. The print panel mounting board can be any colour.
5. A1 Boards and thick cards can be purchased for a few pounds from outlets like Hobbycraft, the Range etc.
6. Your panel must be clearly labelled on the reverse side with membership number and the panel title.

The Smartphone Digital Panel (SDP) - info

1. Each SDP will be displayed for assessment on the club projector/screen.
2. To aid presentation on the night, SDP's should be emailed via the Competition Dropbox link to Jill Bewley Comp Sec by Friday 14th April
3. Each emailed SDP should contain the member's membership number and panel title.
4. The Club will provide processing assistance to anyone who would like help creating a digital panel.
5. SDP can be made in Lightroom, Photoshop or PowerPoint.
6. The overall SDP should be no greater than 1200x1600 pixels (image club comp size).
7. Smartphone Digital Panel background can be any colour.
8. The digital images in the SDP can be any size and shape whilst meeting the General Rules above in respect of submitted number of images.

If you have any questions please email Jill Bewley, Comp Sec on competitions@cirencestercameraclub.org

17th April - Then and now - Just to follow on from John Smith's intro, we'll be bringing along a collection of historical local images taken in the Cotswold over the coming weeks. The idea is for you to take away an image of your choice, or maybe more than one from the collection and go out to the location where it was taken and try and take the same image again from the same position it was originally taken. The idea is to use some software and compare the two images to see how things have changed. Its not a competition and if we are successful, the Civic Society may consider publishing our Then & Now images in some form.

The intention is to show the fruits of our labours on the 17th April club night. This is the night of The Panel Challenge (more about that later) which generally only takes half an evening so the first half will be a presentation of our Then and Now images. Given that we've got some work to do in scanning and comparing the images, we'll be setting a backstop date for you to get them to us. It doesn't matter if some images are from similar locations as the original dates they were taken may vary anyway. There's lots of historical images to choose from and don't forget to clock the date and time you took the image. A good opportunity to use that Tripod gathering dust and it might help you to know that:

For one part, 50mm lenses reproduce the proportions of faces, depth, and perspective at roughly the same size as we see with our naked eyes. For another, a 50-mm field of view roughly matches the human angle of vision.

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

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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

God creates the beauty. My camera and I are a witness - Mark Denman

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

Cheers and stay safe

Martyn (thehoneys@btinternet.com)

Mike (mike.cheeseman1777@hotmail.com)