



Vignettes 188

August 11th, 2023

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Club News

Hi everyone. Hope you are all well. First of all apologies as I made a mistake in V187 by reproducing much of V186 which I didn't realise I'd already sent out via Mike. In short I got my 'V's' mixed up. Serves me right for taking a holiday or three! Anyway I hope you enjoyed Monday night in Lechlade courtesy of Dave's organisation. I was in a wet Northumberland on another trip sampling the delights of numerous Hadrian's Wall Roman forts. There's a lot of them! A few things to report this week as we wind up towards the new club season. Vignettes will be making a welcome return to its mid to late week slot. To start we've got some housekeeping things to report.

Final summer meet up - Monday 21st August

As the new season will be upon us in a few weeks, we thought we would finish off our informal summer meet ups NOT next Monday but **Monday 21st August at 7.00 pm in the Greyhound, Siddington**. A good opportunity to meet up and chat about next season's exciting programme which Dave Cahill as put together.

Housekeeping

Housekeeping 1 - Volunteers wanted

As we have mentioned previously we will, over the season, be looking for volunteers for our in house club nights. One such night is on October 2nd where we are going to be playing with artificial light in all its forms. At the moment we are looking for club members who have experience with equipment such as flash guns, LED lights, torches, light pads, light boxes etc. Let us know if you fancy giving us a brief chat on the subject. For each type of equipment, we'll be looking at:

1. Equipment – what is it, what does it do, how much does it cost?
2. Application – when/why would you use it?
3. Principles – how does it work, what photography settings/techniques are used?
4. Example images

Housekeeping 2 - Club Season opening night - Monday Sept 4th

On our opening night of the new season, in addition to a run through of the season's programme and an introduction by your Committee about their involvement, we have a light-hearted look at what you've been doing on your holidays. We thought we would split up this part of the evening with a slide show of images from our summer meet ups followed by images from your holidays. Jill is going to put together the summer meet up slide show so can you please send her your images and she will pick a splattering of the best and interesting ones to show. For the holiday images, just bring along a memory stick of your images you want to show. We will manage this on the

night but on the basis of previous seasons, we should get around 10 members on the night with about 5 minutes available for each member.

Housekeeping 3 - coffee cups.

Ok, not the most interesting thing in the world but Covid forced us into buying disposable coffee cups which are a bit of a waste in all respects. We could return, and are now permitted to, use the China cups in the hall and wash up afterwards but we still have some disposable cups left. So, if you would like to bring your own cups on the night it a) saves us washing up and b) enables us to spread the use of the remaining disposable cups over a longer period of the season. It's up to you and we appreciate that it's easy to forget.

Housekeeping 4 - AI rules

We've had some interim guidance from the WCPF which we are considering suffice to say at this time that Jill will be bashing out some rule changes and clarification dealing with AI before the beginning of the season. However, one underlying fundamental worth making is that one of the main purposes of entering photographic competitions is to use the feedback you receive to improve your photography using your skills in an honest and creative way. So our approach is one which will ask you to ask yourself what you want to achieve creatively and how you want to achieve this in an honest way. We'll be in touch.

Housekeeping 4 - Cirencester Twinning 2025

John Hankin has been in touch following an approach he's received:

Hello Martyn,

Margaret Bryant of the Twinning Association has contacted me asking for Club members support with some images. The planned theme will be 'Gardens of Cirencester' throughout the seasons, hence the long notice! If any member is interested, let me know and I'll get some more information.

Best

John

Stuff

As I've been holding back a number of photography stories for future Vignettes, I thought it's time I'd release them on unsuspecting members. Here goes.

[Nature in Art - British Wildlife Photography Awards - 25th July - 3rd September](#)

It's amazing how quickly this exhibition comes round. NiA are very good at supporting national and international photographic competitions.

The British Wildlife Photography Awards (BWPA) is a revered showcase of nature photography in Britain and a crucial reminder of what value our woodlands, wetlands and other ecosystems still hold. This will be one of the very first showings of the winning images from the 2023 competition, launched in March. This renowned exhibition celebrates British wildlife and wild spaces through a collection of inspirational images, showcasing the best of our natural heritage. More than 13,000 images were submitted into this year's competition. Photographers competed in 10 different categories in the adult competition: Animal Behaviour, Animal Portraits, Botanical Britain, Black & White, British Seasons, Coast & Marine, Habitat, Hidden Britain, Urban Wildlife, and Wild Woods. There were 3 age groups in the young competition: 11 and under, 12-14 years, and 15-17 years. Each year, the BWPA images are adored in the press (both in print and on TV), toured around the UK in a travelling exhibition, and published in beautiful collection books. Here's a link:

<https://natureinart.org.uk/whatson/>

[48 best books on photography for beginners and pros in 2023](#)

The best books on photography are a great way to kick back, enjoy an entertaining read, get inspired, and improve your camera skills. Whether you're a veteran shooter, a total beginner, or somewhere in between, every photographer needs to be constantly learning and exposing themselves to great work. And to help you do just that, below you'll find the best photography books on the market today. Here's a link:

<https://www.digitalcameraworld.com/features/best-photography-books>

Astronomy Photographer of the Year 2023 award shortlist announced

Organized by the Royal Observatory Greenwich with support from Liberty Special Markets and the BBC Sky at Night Magazine, the night photography competition gained more than 4,000 entries from 64 countries around the world. Open to both amateur and professional photographers, The Astronomy Photographer of the Year award seeks out passionate, patient photographers who take awe-inspiring photos of the sky at night. Now in its 15th year, it continues to grow in popularity. It has nine categories: Skyscapes, aurorae, people and space, our sun, our moon, planets, comets and asteroids, stars and nebulae, and galaxies. There is also an award for the young astronomy photographer of the year. Here's a link to amazing images:

<https://www.rmg.co.uk/whats-on/astronomy-photographer-year/galleries/2023-shortlist>

Rankin offers free photography lessons to everyone (but there's a catch)

One of the world's most famous photographers will soon share his wealth of knowledge via a brand new course on BBC Maestro. The fashion and portrait photographer will be sharing over two decades worth of experience into digestible bitesize lessons. Anyone interested will be able to access the first two lessons free of charge, if you sign up before the official launch of the paid-for course.

BBC Maestro first launched in November 2020 in partnership with BBC Studios to offer never before offered insights into the world's greatest creative talents. Prices start at £79 for a lifetime subscription to a single course which will enable you to watch videos as many times as you want at your leisure. Here's some more info:

<https://www.digitalcameraworld.com/news/rankin-offers-free-photography-lessons-to-everyone-but-theres-a-catch>

Wonderful work of National Healthcare Service's celebrated in 75th birthday photo contest

The winners of a photography competition that honors 75 years of the NHS have just been revealed at the Fujifilm House of Photography. Organized by the NHS in partnership with Fujifilm, the competition received hundreds of submissions from NHS staff and volunteers who documented their unique stories and experiences through photography. Catch the shortlist and some great winners here:

<https://nhs75-fujifilm.com/>

Will this grumpy fat cat win this year's Comedy Pet Photo Awards?

This is my sort of photography. A fat grumpy cat, a dog behind the driver's wheel and a very tired ferret – it can only be the Comedy Pet Photo Awards, which has just published this year's 25 shortlisted images that are bound to put a smile on your face. Here's the link to some hilarious images:

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

Summer Cup and Ted Parrot cup - subjects and rules

The three Summer Cup subjects this year, judged by members at the beginning of the season are:

- Wings
- Wheels
- Weather

The Ted Parrott Trophy is an annual competition judged by members early in the new club season. The subject is always the same - 'Sporting Action'. So any sporting Image taken over the preceding season is eligible.

Club Competitions 2023 – 2024

CCC General Competition Schedule 2023/2024			
	Competition	Submission date	Judging night
A	Glass + Open	02/10/2023	30/10/23
B	A Portrait + Open	30/10/2023	04/12/23
C	The Colour Wheel + Open	04/12/2023	15/01/24
D	High Key / Low Key + Open	15/01/24	19/02/24
E	Long Exposure + Open	19/02/2024	25/03/2024
Annuals	2023/4 Annual Competitions	08/04/24	29/04/24

Definitions of Set Subjects

Glass: Clear, broken, cut, coloured, stained, reflected, distorted, etc – this subject offers a huge range of creative ideas - be as imaginative as you dare! Ensure the main element / device / impression uses glass so the theme is obvious.

A Portrait: A portrait photograph is the capture of the likeness of a living person or creature in which the face and expression is predominant. The objective is to display the likeness, personality or the mood of the subject. The focus is the person's or creature's face, although the entire body may be included. A portrait is generally *not* a snapshot, but a composed image of a person or creature.

The Colour Wheel: Extremely colourful images are accepted in this category, using all the colours on the colour wheel, or create an image which uses complementary colours on the wheel for added impact (ie red / green, orange / blue, yellow /purple). The main impact of the image must be the use of colour to maximum effect. Search for Colour Theory on the internet for more information.

High Key / Low Key photography make use of lighting and contrast (or lack thereof) to create a specific mood. Most of the tones will be towards the **left** of the histogram for a **low key** image and towards the far **right** in a **high key** image. Again the internet has lots of useful articles and examples

Long Exposure: The image must show the effect of using a slow shutter speed and long exposure time – it must show an extended period of time, and that the image has been enhanced by the use of long exposure. Panning of moving subjects is allowed but other ICM techniques are not. Blur introduced through post processing is also not allowed.

Annual Competitions

CCC Annual Competition categories - submission deadline 08/04/2024		
Award	Subject	Format
Pitchers Trophy (Topic chosen by Club President)	Horses and People of the Cotswolds*	DPI * <i>At least 1 person and 1 horse</i>
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

Quote of the week

Photography is the simplest thing in the world, but it is incredibly complicated to make it really work - Martin Parr



That's it for this week. Have a good weekend.

Cheers and stay safe

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