



# Vignettes 196

October 5<sup>th</sup>, 2023

## Contents

Club News.....	2
Mop Fair - next Monday.....	2
Volunteers.....	4
Miscellaneous.....	4
BBC pictures.....	7
Club Competitions.....	8
Annual Competitions.....	9
Quote of the week.....	9

## Club News

Hi everyone. Hope you are all well. We hope you enjoyed Monday nights in-house presentations. Here's Dave with a few comments about Monday and the club programme:

*Hi everyone. We had a good turnout for our Artificial Light evening last Monday which was educational, and I hope enjoyable. It was good to see everyone. A very many thanks to Shaun for stepping into the breach in Mike's (Covid) absence to tell us all about flash. I'm definitely in the market for a Speedlite flash unit now. It was a good foil to our studio night the previous week. In terms of value for money, I'm told that Godox seem to be leading the way. Also I finally got to see Jill's excellent light pad presentation and was inspired to get mine (only A4 I'm afraid) out of its box and use it the following day. I hope the Light Painting (on a budget!) bit was useful. I mentioned there were lots of YouTube videos available on the subject and here is the link to one I stole some screenshots from, covering light wands and other painting tools.*

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1WFTPL7sG7Y&t>

## Mop Fair - next Monday

*Next Monday we meet up for our annual visit to the Cirencester Mop Fair. As per last year, I suggest meeting in front of the Parish Church main doors at 6.30 pm, to take advantage of the 'blue hour'. Shaun has offered to provide help and advice if required, including regarding the use of flash to enhance long exposures. Do come along if you can. A tripod will be useful. There is a lot of scope and potential there for images for two of our competitions this year – The Colour Wheel and Long Exposures, as well as of course the Miles Shield annual competition for club outings. We will meet up afterwards in The Crown, probably at 9.0 pm, though we can finalise that on the night. The weather looks excellent at the moment. Here's a repeat from last years Vignettes on camera settings which itself was a reprint from V102:*

**Street images** - always difficult at night but for hand held, go for as high an ISO setting as possible without noticeable "noise" ("grain" for film buffs) and go wide on the F-stop (i.e. 2.8). That will keep the speed as fast as practical. You could use a monopod with tele-photo lenses to steady yourself but **don't switch off** stabilisation. It's a practical tool in a busy place and easily transportable. Use all the available light you can get to increase the shutter speed and with wide f-stops you have a chance of creating "bokeh" from the glitter balls and fairground lights in stalls.

**Fixed shots** - use a tripod and **switch off image stabilisation**. A tripod is probably more likely to get you better quality images and is vital for creating moving fairground ride effects but it's more cumbersome in a crowded street. Think about location given that you could be potentially exposing

for seconds. Getting down low can be effective. Go for low ISO but your shutter speeds will be much slower. If you have one, use a remote camera release for taking pictures to avoid camera shake. Experiment with F-stops (F8/F11 being typical) and remember, using F16 will create a “starburst” effect on street lights whilst F2 can create “bokeh”.

**Special effects** - in addition to capturing moving rides, try panning at slow speed to get movement but with the subject frozen - difficult with a tripod so try both tripod and hand held. Just remember that high ISO for hand held, low ISO for tripod. Also try the “zoom burst “ technique whilst the lens is open to create multi coloured effects. A word of caution - don’t make the image too busy - it’s not something comp judges like (busy pictures) so you need to think about where your eye will land in viewing the image - unless you just fancy the effect (and hate judges!)

**Lenses** - this is a personal preference but you will get potentially more motion blur with longer telephoto lenses (200mm) compare to wider angle (24mm) unless you are using a tripod. An all round 24mm -105mm lens (DSLR) would work well if you are travelling light but adding a telephoto 200mm can help with those candid shots.

**Batteries** - loose their power in cold conditions so take spares.

**Flash** - will have limited value in big spaces unless you can use it off camera creatively - but for that you’ll need an assistant. Better to exploit the available lighting from stalls etc.

**RAW** - if you can, shoot in RAW as it helps to control noise in post processing. You need all the pixels you can get!

**Camera custom** - if your camera has custom settings (which can be up to three) think about setting up some bespoke custom settings before you go out to save time on the night e.g. **setting 1** - for hand held - ISO 3000 +, F2.8, white balance- Auto, speed - Auto (which can be adjusted during shooting). **Setting 2** - for Tripod ISO 100, f8/f11, white balance Auto, speed Auto - (which can be adjusted during shooting). It’s your choice.

Here’s a few articles to get you in the mood. The advice is all pretty consistent but if you also type “Photographing fairgrounds at night” into YouTube, you’ll also get some interesting stuff. Go for the channels with lots of subscribers - they are likely to be more professional. Good luck.

<https://www.ephotozine.com/article/photographing-fairground-rides-at-night-15170>

<https://digital-photography-school.com/how-to-take-great-photographs-at-the-fairground/>

<http://www.mcfade.co.uk/blog/5-fairground-photography-tips/>

<https://yourimage2canvas.co.uk/five-tips-for-great-funfair-photography>

## **Volunteers**

*An update on future meetings where we already have, but also need, some club member involvement!*

***The LRPS Experience (6 November)*** – we are looking for some of you who have achieved this distinction, or others, or are working towards one, to share your experiences, your images etc

### ***Take 4 (22 January)***

*We are looking OK for this at the moment:*

*David Wallis – AV presentations, including the CCC wedding*

*Andy Kennedy – AI*

*Patrick Barker – The Knife Angel*

*Colin Hoskins – Snapseed*

*However, please do let us know if you have any other short (20 mins or so) photographic stories to share with us all. Anything goes, as long as it is photographic in nature. Even camera bags! It would be good to have some more items in reserve. We may even run another night on this if we get enough.*

### ***Travelogue Night (12 February)***

*Currently we only have one definite presenter:*

*Jean Thirkettle – Botswana*

*Thank you, Jean.*

*However, I do have a list of people who offered something last season, so please have another think about coming forward again. I may be reminding you soon if not!*

## **Miscellaneous**

### **Change To Programme**

*For our meeting on 8 April next year, we will now have a visit from Tyndale Camera Club, replacing the Still Life evening which will move back into next season.*

*The club visited Tyndale in March and we have arranged this reciprocal visit.*

*They will bring a selection of their members' prints, projected images and possibly AV's. It will be interesting to see their work and to hear how their club operates.*

Thanks Dave. Just (another) reminder to send me a couple of your best pics of Ros from Studio night. So far only Dave C, Andy Dipper, and Lawrence has sent images so it would just be great to have some more. The ones I have forwarded to Ros have been well received so some more wouldn't go amiss.

#### More animal comedy awards

The last animal comedy awards we posted in V189 were the pet photo awards. This time it's the wildlife Comedy awards 2023. The finalists in this year's Comedy Wildlife Photography Awards have been announced. Here is an hilarious selection of those that were whittled down from thousands of entries submitted from professional and amateur photographers from around the world, along with comment from the photographers. The winners will be announced on 23 November.

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

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/in-pictures-67004896>

#### International Photography Awards 2023

Yes, the comp results just keep coming. Hope you are getting inspired. The International Photography Awards (IPA) has just unveiled this year's winners in the highly anticipated global competition. Now in its twentieth edition, the contest received an overwhelming response with tens of thousands of entries pouring in from across the globe in both the Professional and Non-Professional categories.

This year's competition showcased an impressive diversity of talent from all corners of the world, with entries spanning a wide array of genres including editorial, landscapes, portraits, wildlife, and abstract photography. The Awards' core values of celebrating creativity, technical excellence, and captivating storytelling shone through in the outstanding quality of the submissions. The winning entries captivated the judges and reflected a true commitment to the art of photography. Here's a link:

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

### Speed up your camera work to be as fast as the action in front of your lens

Here's an interesting article just to keep you on your toes. When capturing fast sport or wildlife action, there is limited time to set up basics such as aperture, ISO and shutter speed. To avoid missing those unique moments, spend time on settings and take advantage of priority modes.

<https://www.digitalcameraworld.com/tutorials/speed-up-your-camera-work-to-be-as-fast-as-the-action-in-front-of-your-lens>

### Been to Skye?

Yes? Well this new exhibition might resonate with you and for those who haven't been, you can get some inspiration. Legendary photographer Albert Watson will exhibit his 'first fine art project' - Skye, this week at Hamiltons Gallery, London which runs to the 17th November. Albert Watson is a photographer best known for his celebrity portraits and fashion photographs. Celebrated worldwide, his work has graced the covers of most major publications including over 100 covers of Vogue! However, it is not Watson's photographs of people that are on show this week, but instead landscape photographs of his native land of Scotland, more specifically the Isle of Skye. Check out some amazing images in these links:

<https://www.hamiltonsgallery.com/exhibitions/152/overview/>

<https://www.digitalcameraworld.com/news/legendary-photographer-albert-watson-exhibits-his-stunning-skye-landscapes-in-london-this-week>

### Sycamore Gap tree

As it looks as if no one has been to see the Sycamore Gap tree following last week's emotional reporting of its felling, the BBC has posted images taken by various photographers. Check them out here:

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/resources/idt-72c404c5-35f2-4d43-bed1-1f5f1f7208dc>

### Cornish Wildlife photography exhibition

There were more than 1,000 entries for the first Cornish Wildlife photography exhibition organised by the Cornwall Wildlife Trust. The subjects range from kestrels in flight to blue sharks in the oceans off the Cornish coast. The top 30 photographs selected as category finalists and

winners will be displayed around Truro Cathedral from Friday until 17 November. Here's some background:

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-england-cornwall-66999567>

### **BBC pictures**

Another collection of image stories this week from the BBC's website.

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/world-africa-66947006>

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/in-pictures-66935232>

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/in-pictures-66958940>

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-scotland-66912728>

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-scotland-66947142>

## Club Competitions

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

The Dropbox link for all competitions is:

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

### Quote of the week



*I like to photograph others before they know what their best angles are – Ellen Von Unwerth*

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

Cheers and stay safe

Martyn ([thehoneys@btinternet.com](mailto:thehoneys@btinternet.com))

Mike ([mike.cheeseman1777@hotmail.com](mailto:mike.cheeseman1777@hotmail.com))