



Vignettes 199

October 27th, 2023

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Club News

Hi everyone. I hope you are all well. What a great night we had on Monday with Richard McCleery presenting the Cheltenham Camera Club's excellent 2023 CISP acceptances and winners via an AV, all put together by Richard. A terrific range of high quality entries from around the globe covering five genres - travel, mono, creative, nature and open. It was good to see that Mike, Jill, Gary, Alun and Val got a look in with an acceptance or two. Next year's CISP opens at the beginning of Jan 2024 and runs until the end of March so do have a go and support a local Club. Cheltenham has been very generous over the years in supplying us with speakers and judges and entries to its CISP help to support what is an expensive competition to professionally stage. The cost of entry becomes cheaper per photo the more photos you enter so give it a go and see how you fare. You are given your scores immediately after judging irrespective of whether you are 'accepted' or not so you can see how well you've done. Here's a link to relevant dates and more info on rules etc will come out over the next couple of months.

<https://cheltenhamcameraclub.co.uk/club/salon>

New Monday's meeting - 30th October - 7.00 sharp

Just a reminder that the first of our 5 comps (Comp A) is being judged next Monday and this earlier start time will also be the format **for all comps** this club season. Here's Jill with some more info:

Competition A Judging evening and Comp B Submission night Monday 30th

*As we have a large number of images to be judged **on Monday evening, we will be starting at 7pm and NOT our regular time of 7.30.** The first half of the evening will cover the **DPIs**, then the **Prints** will be judged in the second half. The judge is Rob Heslop LRPS, a WCPF judge for more than 5 years, and a member of Forest of Dean Camera Club. He has asked for a donation to MIND instead of expenses.*

For new members, I thought a brief explanation of the points system might help.....

The judge will award a First / Second / Third place for each of the 4 categories (Set Print/ Set DPI / Open Print / Open DPI) along with a number of Highly Commended and Commended. These will be announced on the evening after he has commented on each image, at the end of each category.

All images entered score 1 point

Commended = 2

Highly Commended = 3

Third place= 4

Second place = 5

First place = 6

All scores are added to a spreadsheet which goes towards your total tally at the end of the year, and points mean certificates and cups!

Competition B Submission

Please bring your prints for Competition B (Open and Set: Portrait) along on Monday clearly marked with your membership number, which Competition and an Image title. Prints must be mounted to a maximum size of 50cm x 4cm.

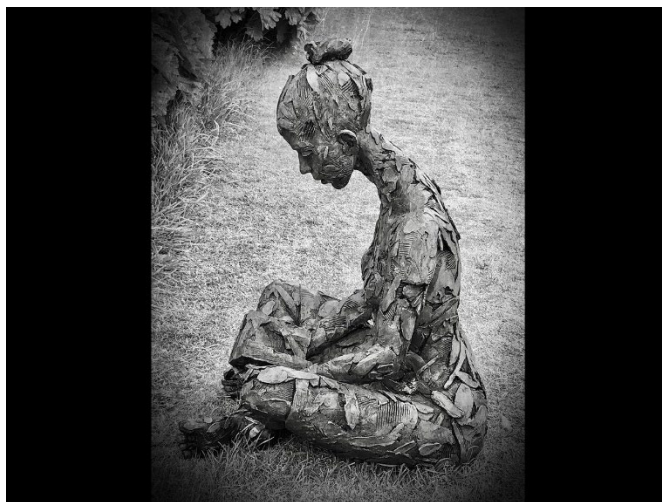
For example : 6_B_Set_Uncle Peter.jpg

A Digital copy of the print must be sent via the Dropbox link by midnight on Monday 30th, and should be named like this

6_B_Set_Uncle Peter_Print.jpg

*Digital Projected Images (DPs) must be also sent **by the end of Monday 30th October** via the **Dropbox link** which is always on the Events webpage for the Submission Night and every week in Vignettes.*

All images sent must be 1600px wide x 1200px high, with a black canvas fill if your image does not fit to this size exactly - as per example below.



*The naming for this file would be **6_B_Open_Girl with Book.jpg***

If you have any questions please do email me on competitions@cirencestercameraclub.org

Jill Bewley, Comp Sec

.....and here's Jill again

Informal outing to Westonbirt Arboretum

*Hi everyone. A few of us ladies! were planning to take our cameras and have a fun morning at Westonbirt (coffee and cake definitely on the cards too) on **Tuesday 7th November**, and of course **everyone** is welcome to join us! We thought an early start before the crowds would be a good idea, so the plan is to meet at the entrance at 9.30am. Pre booking (up to 7 days in advance) is advised on the website to guarantee entry but at that time of day it should probably be OK if you want to risk it. If the weather is looking really bad we will put something on the CCC WhatsApp, and can discuss it the night before at CCC.*

Any questions please text Jill B on 07855 399267

Christmas Quiz - Monday 18th Dec

Just a reminder that our Christmas Quiz will be at the Greyhound Pub on Monday 18th Dec, not Tuesday 19th as originally planned. Last year, our regular quizmaster David Wallis vowed to be on a cruise at Xmas time (!!) this year but he's just returned from an eventful one. So, with some trepidation I approached him to see how he was fixed again this year only to find to my relief that, in anticipation of some arm twisting, he is already well advanced with this year's tricky questions! Thank you, David. I (Martyn) will be organising the event and we should hear from The Greyhound about food choices soon so watch this space. Last year we had 24 members and I guess we might get 30 this year given our healthy attendances so get the date in your diary. It's a fun night.

Final Call for Entries - SINWP Bird Comp & New Dogs Photo Contest

Hi Cirencester Camera Club

Just thought that we would drop you a note with information on our great photographic competitions which your members may be interested in entering.

****Final Call for Entries - Closes October 31st****

SINWP Bird Photographer of the Year 2023 in aid of RSPB



Calling all photographers! Enter your best bird images into this exciting photo competition and help raise vital funds for The Royal Society for the Protection of Birds (RSPB).

Over a £1000 worth of prizes!

A minimum donation of £1 per image is requested and 100% of the donations will go straight to the RSPB to help them protect wildlife and the wider countryside you love.

Enter here <https://sinwp.com/bird/> Don't miss out!

Dogs Photography Competition



Welcome to The Society of Wedding & Portrait Photographers open to all competition. The topic is 'Dog Photography'.

For this competition we would love to see your images that capture the love and happiness that our four-legged friends bring us.

Let's bring the smiles and joy that comes with the care of dogs. Whether it be a group portrait session or simply your canine engaging in an outdoor setting anything is welcome into this new competition.

Entry into the competition is £1 GBP per image.

Enter here <https://swpp.co.uk/Dog23/>

Kindly sponsored by [That Tog Spot](#)

Ben Jones

The Societies of Photographers

Try us out free for 60 days here <https://thesocieties.net/60/>

Miscellaneous

[Adobe Photoshop and Premiere Elements 2024 now include powerful AI tools](#)

We've mentioned the new updates in Adobe's Creative Cloud platform (Lightroom and Photoshop) over the last couple of weeks but hot on the heels now comes AI driven updates to the popular Photoshop Elements processing software which some club users use, albeit the software is a one off purchase unlike Creative Cloud. Here's a link to tell you what it's all about:

<https://www.digitalcameraworld.com/news/adobe-photoshop-and-premiere-elements-2024-now-include-powerful-ai-tools>

[Not more AI stuff \(!\)](#)

Yes I'm afraid so. A new breed of smartphone tools powered by artificial intelligence (AI) are adding to the debate about what it means to photograph reality. Google's latest smartphones released last week, the Pixel 8 and Pixel 8 Pro, go a step further than devices from other companies. They are using AI to help alter people's expressions in photographs. It's an experience we've all had: one person in a group shot looks away from the camera or fails to smile. Google's phones can now look through your photos to mix and match from past expressions, using machine

learning to put a smile from a different photo of them into the picture. Google calls it Best Take. Check out the story here:

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/technology-67170014>

Insect close-up wins the Berkshire, Buckinghamshire and Oxfordshire Wildlife Trust photo contest

A stunning close-up of a white-legged damselfly has been crowned the winner of BBOWT's 2023 Photography Competition. The deadly tentacles of a carnivorous plant and the broad smile of a bathing frog are among the other winners.

The contest launched in April with seven new categories for 2023, and nature lovers of all ages were challenged to take pictures at one of BBOWT's 86 nature reserves or in their community. Check out the winning images here:

<https://www.bbowt.org.uk/news/stunning-close-wins-wildlife-photography-competition>

Mangrove Photography Awards

Well, here's an award I've not come across before. Run by the Mangrove Action Project, the competition - now in its ninth year - aims to show the relationships between wildlife, coastal communities and mangrove forests, as well as the fragility of these unique ecosystems, both above and below the waterline. This year's winning image, called The Finest Flower of the Mangroves, shows a young Royal Bengal tigress in its natural mangrove habitat, peering at the photographer. Check out the winners here:

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/in-pictures-67155632>

Elliott Erwitt enters Leica Hall of Fame with "pictures that touched the world"

If you love work by some of the masters of photography, then it's certain you have come across the work of Elliott Erwitt. From Marilyn Monroe, Che Guevara, a loving couple in a rear-view mirror, or an elegant leap in front of the Eiffel Tower, portraits of people or dogs. Catch up with the story and some great images here:

<https://leica-camera.com/en-GB/leica-hall-fame-award>

European Wildlife Photographer of the Year (EWPY) competition

Celebrating the beauty of the natural world and the growing movement of rewilding, the European Wildlife Photographer of the Year (EWPY) competition has just announced the winner of the second Rewilding Europe Award. This year's top honor was awarded to Tobias Richter for his mesmerizing, misty photo Wolves on the Hunt. Organized by GDT, the Rewilding Europe Award is a showcase of the finest nature photography not only from Europe but around the world. It serves as a powerful tool in promoting nature conservation to a diverse, global audience. Catch up with the story behind some great winning images here:

<https://rewildingeurope.com/news/rewilding-europe-award-wolves-on-the-hunt-wins-top-photography-prize/>

BBC pictures

As usual some great images across the globe from the BBC's website:

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/in-pictures-67193453>

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/world-africa-67155786>

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-england-leeds-67173606>

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/in-pictures-67157348>

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-scotland-67169298>

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/world-africa-67155786>

Club Competitions

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

The Dropbox link for all competitions is:

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

Quote of the week

Photography is the recording of strangeness and beauty with beguiling precision - Sebastian Smee

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

Cheers and stay safe

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Dave (dave.cahill975@btinternet.com)