



Vignettes 74

March 3rd, 2021

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Club News

Hi everyone. Hope you are all well. A big thanks to Shaun for another great night on Photoshop. A lot of hard work goes into these talks so we are grateful, particularly as Shaun is still working. Shaun's offer to continue next year is graciously accepted so we'll have to think about the subject, whether to zoom or not, etc. The fact that we had 29 members attending Shaun's talk on Zoom says a lot about the popularity of his talks.

It's interesting to see how Photoshop, and other software for that matter, is increasing in its use of AI in modifying its operations and tools which are becoming less mechanical and more intuitive but, personally, there's still a lot to learn. The Scott Kelby's of this world must be delighted every time a new version of Photoshop appears - yet another edition of one his books soon follows. I wonder why the alleged photographer's software, i.e. Lightroom isn't more of a focal point for some of these Photoshop tools. It's dodging and burning tool definitely needs a revamp.

Jill's been in touch about the upcoming Battle against Cheltenham & Stroud which is always a good night. I think last year Martin complemented Cirencester as a club which regularly, given its comparative size, punches above its weight.

*Hi Martyn. Our next Battle is coming up very soon, against Cheltenham and Stroud on April 1st. This will take place via Zoom so everyone can watch as the fur and feathers fly! We will most likely be using quite a few of the images which went into the Tetbury Battle, but will also be looking at others taken by members in the last couple of competitions. And.... if your creative juices have been flowing and you have an image or two that you think might just have that 'wow' factor for a Battle, then I would be really grateful if you could send them to me (jillbewley@hotmail.com) **before Monday 8th March**. (It can be any genre, black and white or colour). Many thanks. Jill*

If you recall from Monday night, Stephen has been approached by a lady who is looking to pass on her late father's camera kit. A bit of a blast from the past for all you ex film people. Those were the days when Pentax ruled the roost. Hey ho.

Hi Martyn. Here's the details I've been given of the old camera equipment looking for a new home, best bet is if anyone is interested then let me know via email sooner rather than later and I'll put them in touch rather than circulating her details widely. It was an external enquiry to our website. It's her late fathers kit who was an ex-Cheltenham camera club till he passed away 22 years ago.

Stephen

Asahi Pentax ME film camera. Bought in 1980! There are booklets, lenses, filters, flash (National PE-357S), lenses, an SMC Pentax-M zoom 1:4.5 80 mm-200 mm and it is fitted with a Pentax-A zoom 1:[3.5-4.5](#) 28-80 mm and other bits and pieces.

There is also a Minolta Riva [AF 35](#) camera as well as a Weston Master II universal exposure meter dating from the 50s judging by the home address he has on the case! I attach a couple of photos for reference. If someone wants it, I can drop off in Cirencester next week.

Kind regards.

Jo



Project 'Black Jack Is Back'

If you recall from Vignettes 69, we posted an article about Project Black Jack, having been contacted by Meg Blumsom. She's been back in contact with a request for information tangential to the Black Jack Project:

Hi Mike, thank you for your reply in January. We are progressing with the project and I am trying to find archival cine footage of Cirencester in either the 1950s or 1960s. This is not necessarily of the church, but it is to provide a context for the video we are doing regarding

the creation of the new statues. It is likely that we will only want short clips, but recalling my father's cine footage from the 1950s, it is only likely to be short clips as I think the film was precious and somehow that is what they did. We will of course acknowledge any footage used and hopefully the owner may want to become more invested in the project. I am attaching the newspaper cutting from 1963 - you can see what an amazing event it was.

Regards Meg

Meg Blumsom

So, anyone with some old cine film of Cirencester worth dusting off, let us know or get directly in contact with Meg. I'm sure she'll be delighted to hear from you.

Cirencester Civic Society

Brian Dinnage asked about whether we've had any feedback yet following the inclusion, in V69, of a letter we've had from his friend John Tiffney (Chairman – Cirencester Civic Society) with a request for help. Just to recap, John Tiffney is looking for assistance in putting together a virtual Heritage Open Day using film of various aspects of historic buildings in Cirencester together a running commentary about them, their features including furniture and other aspects of their history. The "virtual" nature of the Open Day is due to the continuing uncertainty, caused by Covid, over whether the traditional Civic Society Open day can go ahead. Last years was cancelled.

This would all come together as part of the virtual presentation which may go onto YouTube. Where we might be able to contribute is whether there are any club members willing to make and edit short AV's, guided by John. We haven't had any volunteers yet and it may be necessary to share the filming and editing depending on the skills of who, if anyone, comes forward. Anyway, just a reminder and if you are interested, please let us know.

WCPF Council Meeting

Stephen has been in touch about the upcoming WCPF Council meeting this Saturday which contains a talk in the afternoon by Chris Palmer on "The Eloquent Landscape" starting at 2.00. Here's some details:

Western Counties Photographic Federation <https://www.thewcpf.com>

COUNCIL MEETING SAT 6th MARCH 2021 Meeting to be held via Zoom. Meeting Start 10:30.

AGENDA

.....

AFTERNOON TALK commencing 2pm

"The Eloquent Landscape"

Chris Palmer FRPS DPAGB APAGB EFIAP, www.chrispalmerphotographer.co.uk

Any queries: secretary.wcpf@gmail.com

Login to Join Zoom Meeting from 9.45 am

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89595272447?pwd=cnqzV2N0VHlydXlMZVJvRUVQeGduQT09>

Meeting ID: 895 9527 2447 Passcode: 946833

Here's an extract from Chris's publicity about the talk:

The title indicates that I'll be talking about my pictures, but in addition I like to think that my images 'talk', or communicate with the viewer. Emphasising my own philosophy of getting an image right when I shoot it, I'll discuss camera craft, the importance of light, and the way I photograph when out on location - I will be relating the actual taking experiences. Although predominantly landscape, I will also include urban, and monochrome photography, mostly captured in the UK and Ireland, although not entirely. I take pictures for me, (not any judge), and to satisfy my own creative desires, increasingly shooting thematically in sets of images, rather than gathering individual competition images.

Permajet Talk March 22nd

March 22nd - Talk by Permajet. "Print with Confidence" - Important announcement.

Our talk on Monday 22nd is going to take on a slightly different format to our usual Monday night events so do please look at the information below. In short you are required to register in advance to allow Permajet to send you Zoom dial in details of the event along with samples of their products and a product discount code.

PERMAJET ARE HOSTING THE EVENT SO WE WILL NOT BE USING OUR REGUAL CLUB DIAL IN ZOOM CODES.

Some of you might already print and will be able to benefit from the discounts on offer whilst others might be thinking about it. Permajet sell printers as well, again discounted, so this might be a good opportunity to move over to the dark side! Here's a background note from them for assistance.

Good Afternoon Martyn.

Please find below the Invitation to register for the PermaJet Presentation - "Print with confidence" for Monday 22nd March 2021, 7.00 pm – Cirencester Camera Club which is to be forwarded to your members to register for the event.

Register in advance for this Zoom presentation: MIKE WILL PROVIDE THE REGISTRATION DETAILS IN THE EMAIL TO YOU CONTAINING THIS VIGNETTES.

After registering, you will receive a confirmation email from Permajet containing the Zoom dial in information about joining the meeting on the 22nd March.

After each member has registered, we will send out an A7 Swatch & PermaJet Brochure to everyone who registers to refer to on the night. A special Discount Code off PermaJet Sheet/Roll Media on the night will be given to the members, for their use only and will be valid for 7 days, via the PermaJet website. Colin is looking forward to seeing you all on the 22nd March 2021, and in the meantime, should you require any further information then please do not hesitate to contact me.

Assuring you of our best attention at all times.

Kind regards

Louise Hill

Sales & Customer Support | The Imaging Warehouse

Bit of a palaver I know but the important thing to remember is that you have to register with Permajet to get the Zoom dial in details (plus samples of their products). If you want to send me any questions in advance, on anything print related, feel free and I'll send them on. I've got a few myself about which print papers are best for which type of image and the relationship between computer and printer in terms of "commands". John S has recently had some experience of this issue. If you are looking to buy a printer and you are shopping around let me know and we can see if we can get an extra discount. Their printers already come with free paper. Be aware also that the virtual photography show will soon be upon us and this is often a good time to get a deal on kit.

For assistance, here's a Permajet link:

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

External Competitions

RPS 163rd International Photography Exhibition

The Royal Photographic Society has launched its 163rd International Photography Exhibition which closes on 27th April. Here's an extract from the RPS website:

Be part of the world's longest running photographic exhibition celebrating the most compelling images and stories of our time. Alongside a £4000 prize fund to support future projects, the RPS have introduced several new awards including a two-week solo show and a photographic commission to create new work. 100 images chosen by an esteemed selection panel will form a group exhibition at the Royal Photographic Society which will then tour nationwide. Submissions are open to everyone, from photographers at all levels and ages, working in any subject or genre. Entry is free for one image, and up to four images can be submitted for £18 - £30, as a series or as individual images.

CLOSING DATE: 27 APRIL 2021

Enter **before March 1** for a chance to win Yukari Chikura's photobook 'Zaido'.

Here's a link to the entry details:

https://rps.org/ipe163?utm_source=Royal+Photographic+Society&utm_campaign=6f4fb5e5b0-EMAIL_CAMPAIGN_2020_08_18_10_47_COPY_01&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_83353b0715-6f4fb5e5b0-341321653

Cobalt Photography Competition 2021

Another competition for you to think about, this time a bit closer to home. Definitely worth a look. There's some pretty good prizes. Here's an extract from the website:

The search is on for budding photographers to take part in our competition. Have you got what it takes? Cobalt's 2021 Photography Competition is open to amateurs and professionals alike, and to all ages, with entries closing on 31st August 2021. The competition has three themes to choose from, Nature, Happiness is .. and Caring & Sharing. A selection of the images will feature in an exhibition and 2022 calendar. The photographers of the 12 images selected for the calendar and the winner of the Under 16 category will each receive a framed print of their image, courtesy of WallSpace and DS Colour Labs, a 12 month subscription to Amateur Photographer Premium Edition and a photography book. 1st prize Overall Winner will also receive a CANON EOS 2000D with EF-S 18-55 IS II LENS courtesy of T4 Cameras, a tour of Steve Russell Studios in Stroud along with a new signed copy of Martin Parr's classic book 'The Last Resort'. We are asking for donations of £2 per image to enter this competition to raise funds for a Teenage and Young Adult Cancer Nurse, who offers a lifeline to some of the most vulnerable in our society; 16 - 25-year-olds who have been given a life threatening diagnosis.

<https://www.cobalthhealth.co.uk/capture-a-moment-for-cobalt/>

Internal Competitions

I thought it would be a good idea if we kept the seasonal competition topics and submission dates in Vignettes to save looking back and forgetting which one it was in. So here's the competition schedule:

	Competition	Submission date	Judging night
Annual	2019-20 Annual competition (deferred)	<u>28 Sep '20</u>	<u>26 Oct '20</u>
A	"Shapes and patterns" + Open	<u>19 Oct '20</u>	<u>9 Nov '20</u>
B	"Shallow depth of field" + Open	<u>16 Nov '20</u>	<u>7 Dec '20</u>
C	"Silhouettes" + Open	<u>18 Jan '21</u>	<u>8 Feb '21</u>
D	"Black and white" + Open	<u>15 Feb '21</u>	<u>8 Mar '21</u>
E	*"Landscape" + Open	<u>15 Mar '21</u>	<u>12 Apr '21</u>
Annual	2020-21 Annual competition	<u>29 Mar '21</u>	<u>26 Apr '21</u>

*Just to confirm, the Comp E Set subject is confirmed as "Landscape" with the submission date being the 15th of March. Jamie has been in touch on the definition just to clarify any "smart" interpretations which John Smith has a habit of coming up with!

Hi Martyn, I've chosen an open interpretation to the 'landscape' subject for the next competition, simply as being 'any image made outside'. This is based on the definition on the following website:

<https://www.lightandland.co.uk/blog/view/what-is-landscape-photography>.

The subject for the annual comp Presidents Cup (20-21) is "**An Iconic Cotswold Location**" and our president was keen to give us the widest definition as to what constitutes the geographical area of the Cotswolds. In terms of DropBox details for competition submissions, it will be the same all season:

<https://www.dropbox.com/request/zRwHLz7MfRGHIZyCHNsp>

The Summer Cup

Our President has come up with three challenges for the Summer Cup:

- 1) *Stress.*
- 2) *Relaxation.*
- 3) *Happiness.*

All I can say is, if you are not sure, get that English Oxford Dictionary out!

The Annual Club Competition Categories

I've been reminded that submission for the annual club competition entries are due on the 29th March which is rapidly approaching. It's just a couple of weeks after the submission date for Comp E. Eek! Get your thinking hats on or, failing that, better get the camera out! Jamie has confirmed that all the entries will be DPI again this year and we have enough new members for the Pitchers Cup - as long as they all enter!

Just in case you have forgotten what the categories are, and for our new members, here's a link to the pdf schedule in the competition section of our website.

[CCC 2021 Annual Comp categories \(cirencestercameraclub.org\)](http://cirencestercameraclub.org)

CCC Annual Competition categories 2020/21

Finally, just a reminder following last week's posting of next year's competition subjects in Vignettes. If you want any additional subjects added, can you let us know by the weekend and then we can vote on them.

BBC Pictures

Another selection from the BBC's news website.

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/weather/features/56168416>
<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/in-pictures-56211135>
<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-scotland-56169387>
<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-england-56158837>
<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/world-africa-56194032>
<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/in-pictures-56127799>
<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/in-pictures-56195660>
<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-england-56233585>
<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/in-pictures-55857380>
<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/world-africa-56065071>
<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-england-tyne-56167845>

Miscellaneous

Mars Perseverance

I promise not to bore you too much but here's NASA's explanation of those last few minutes of descent before touchdown following the footage link I posted last week. There's some additional footage looking up to the lander just before the cables and umbilical cord were released and the talk through is interesting in highlighting particular aspects. Just amazing.

<https://youtu.be/Rp4E4h-h1JM>

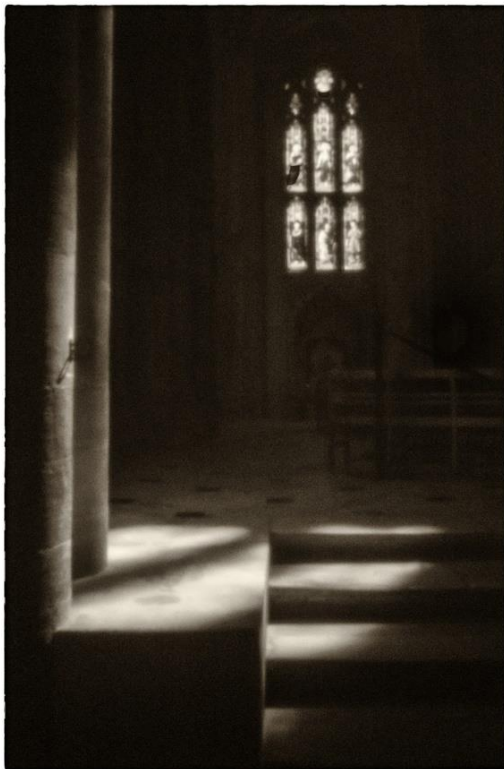
Digital Pinhole Camera

Did you know that you can convert your expensive DSLR into a digital pinhole camera, just in case you are missing that retro feel or you hark back to bygone days not dissimilar to when you had that brownie 127? Well you just have to send the body cap from your camera (the one it came with when you bought it) plus £30 to Pinhole Solutions below and you'll get back a laser drilled pinhole in the cap through which your DSLR can take images. Here's the link:

<https://pinholesolutions.co.uk/>

Here's a couple of images to show you what you can do:

I can hear Shaun saying - "Why"?!



Quote of The Week

Photography for me is not looking, it's feeling. If you can't feel what you're looking at, then you're never going to get others to feel anything when they look at your pictures.

Don McCullin

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

Cheers and stay safe.

Martyn (thehoneys@btinternet.com)

Mike (mike.cheeseman1777@hotmail.com)