



Vignettes 85

May 29th, 2021

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Club News

News

Hi everyone. Hope you are all well. We've come to the end of the club season but Vignettes will continue, possibly in a reduced form over the close season, either in content or frequency but we'll keep in contact with any news.

The last night of the season was heading towards a washout right up until 7.00pm so I was delighted, if not a little surprised, to see 15 hardy souls appear at Leckhampton Hill car park impressively dressed to put any serious mountain climber to shame. Our President turned up to wish us well as we headed off into the gloom, with just the hint of a promise on the horizon of better evening weather to come. We were not to be disappointed. As we approached the edge of the scarp overlooking Cheltenham, we were presented with a dramatic scene which looked like a scene from The Ten Commandments. A biblical landscape defined by heavy rain showers on the horizon, passing dark and stormy clouds and a rainbow overhead all providing a contrasting mix to complement the increasing glow of the excellent sunset yet to come. If Charlton Heston had appeared out of the sky as Moses, it wouldn't have been a surprise. Ok, I'm getting a bit carried away.

By the time the sun went down at 9.07pm, most of us seemed to be frozen to our tripods, monopods or cameras. I couldn't get my lens cap back on it was that cold. However at least we had the pleasure of experimenting with capturing the ever changing weather patterns as the light slowly faded. We couldn't see much of Cheltenham. It was all about the weather and it's impact on the landscape. There's going to be an awful lot of similar pictures at the club comp for the Miles Shield next year unless we have a few more nights out! However, John Smith grabbed some crackers:





UFO Spotters on Leckhampton Hill!



It did rain a bit during the evening

A big thanks to Val & Alun for suggesting the idea of a night out late in the programme and the changes to the government's Covid rules on "get togethers" gave us just the opportunity to round off the season. Perhaps we should make this a regular end of season event. Let us know what you think.

Finally thanks to everyone who has contributed to Vignettes over this season, from suggestions for speakers, programme topics, local events or just offering support. It's all been welcomed even if we haven't been able to follow up on everything.

Bits and Bobs

Stephen has been in touch following contact he has had from a couple of people:

Hi Martyn and Mike. Could you mention this request for help below from Liz Gillham that I touched on at the prize giving evening. As usual if anyone interested/can help then if they let me know I'll pass on Liz's contact details. Regards Stephen

Request from Liz :

Hi Stephen. In brief, I used to use a 27" iMac and edited my raw files using Adobe Lightroom and had systems set up which I was happy with. I now have a MacBook Air which I can't get my head around as I now don't have Lightroom and not sure how to use my raw files without having to pay up monthly for Lightroom (which I didn't do before) and where to store images etc. I just need someone to point me in the right direction by perhaps spending an hour or so with me to get some systems sorted out and get me up to speed again so I can do some editing! I also used to use a graphics tablet which now doesn't seem compatible with the lap top.

Aaaaghplease help me get back up to date! I am of course, happy to pay for this advice. Thank you so much. Kind regards. Liz

All Good Samaritans please contact Stephen

The second is from the Blue Cross Pet Welfare Charity advertising an open gardens event. Here's the details:

Dear Stephen. I hope you don't mind me contacting you. I thought your members might be interested in an open gardens event we are running. I work for the Blue Cross pet welfare charity and we have our 'Summer Gardens of the Cotswolds' event June 25th. 5 beautiful private gardens are open all day to visit at your leisure. They are rarely, if ever, open to the public. The gardens are all within a 15-mile radius of Burford, Oxfordshire. Precise locations will be kept secret until they are revealed in the programme (sent to you a few weeks before the event). There will be no set route and you will be able to spend as much or as little time in each garden as you wish. Dogs are not allowed except for assistance dogs. Tickets are available for £40pp which gives access to all the gardens (invitation flyer attached). This event will fully comply with government COVID-19 guidelines. Should we need to cancel the event full refunds will be issued. Terms and conditions can be found here; www.bluecross.org.uk/philanthropy-event-terms-and-conditions. We would be delighted if you would share this invitation with your camera club members, and do hope you can attend.

*Best wishes
Victoria*

*Victoria Kingsman
Head of Philanthropy
Direct line: 01993 825543
Mobile: 07768 751 979*

www.bluecross.org.uk

Shilton Road, Burford, Oxon. OX18 4PF
Twinning Association Calendar

Back in April we ran an article in Vignettes about the Cirencester Twinning Association's appeal for images of Cirencester for their 2022 calendar. John Hankin has recently been in touch:

Hi Mike and Martyn. The (Twinning Association) Calendar has gone to the printers and Club members with pictures included are Val and Alun, John S. and yours truly. As you may recall, this started with Val and Alun's appeal in Vignette 80 and I had to tell the editor we'd try to sell a few! Stay safe. John

Thanks to all our contributors and let's get a few more images in for 2023. It all helps to promote the club.

Sudeley Castle Elephants

Some of you may know that the "elephants" in Cirencester Park plus others from various locations have been herded to Sudeley Castle for an exhibition before they move to London's parks and on across the globe starting in the USA. I went there yesterday and it's well worth a visit. The story linking to Mark Shand's Elephant's charity "Elephant Family", is a fascinating one which is explained on boards across the exhibition and there's around 30 at Sudeley out of 100 made in India, each modelled on a real elephant. For the gardeners amongst us, you can learn all about Lantana Camara.

The exhibition layout is within the gardens and the elephants are placed in three main groups, singly and in pairs. It's been extended to June 6th, so there's not much time left if you want to see them. A good photo opportunity. Here's a link.

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

Internal Competitions

The "Summer Competition" will comprise:

1. The Summer Cup
2. The Ted Parrott Cup

The Ted Parrott Cup is for "Sporting Action" and the definition is:

"An image of a fast-paced competitive physical activity governed by a specific set of rules defined by a sports governing body".

The Summer Cup set subjects are:

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

In terms of DropBox details for competition submissions, it will be the same all season:

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

Next Year's Club Competitions

Subject	Competition
Water (in all its forms)	A
Architecture	B
Sunrise, sunset	C
Coastal	D
Winter	E
Farming in the Cotswolds	Pitchers Trophy (annual Competition)

BBC Pictures

Another selection from the BBC's news website.

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/newsbeat-57279486>
<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-scotland-57228251>
<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-england-57223141>
<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/newsbeat-57234398>
<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/world-africa-57270376>
<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/in-pictures-57263830>
<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-england-bristol-57257952>
<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-england-57138241>
<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/in-pictures-57200062>
<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/in-pictures-57173186>
<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/in-pictures-57162597>
<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-scotland-57143696>
<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/world-africa-57184386>
<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-england-beds-bucks-herts-57163523>

The Great British Photography challenge. Did you watch the first instalment of the Great British Photography challenge on BBC? no? Well here's the catch up link:

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/iplayer/episode/m000wfcw/great-british-photography-challenge-series-1-episode-1>

Quote of The Week

I really believe there are things nobody would see if I didn't photograph them.

Diane Arbus

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

Cheers and stay safe.

Martyn (thehoneys@btinternet.com)

Mike (mike.cheeseman1777@hotmail.com)