



# Vignettes 98

September 3<sup>rd</sup> , 2021

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## Club News

Hi everyone. Hope you are all well. One week to go before we all meet up. Bet you can't wait!! First, the big news. Patrick and Ruth sealed the knot last Saturday at their wedding in Yanworth Church. I'm sure you will all want to pass on the warmest congratulations and to wish them a long and happy life together. Ruth is one of our newest members and there's a short note below from her about her photographic interests.

### Ruth Barker (Herbert)- new member

As you know we ran a "meet the new club member" slot in Vignettes earlier last season and our third new member was Ruth. She's very kindly put together a synopsis of her photographic interests and "journey".

*Hello everyone,*

*I started taking photographs when I was about 10 years old on our first family holiday to the UK. I remember quite determinedly stalking a peacock at Arundel Castle until I got the shot! I guess I really haven't looked back since.*

*To begin with I used the ubiquitous throw away cameras so always had to be very choosy about what I took photos of. This was until I got my first hand me down camera which was a Fuji Finepix. My current camera is a Canon 1100D with a Sigma 18-200mm lens and my ever present iPhone.*

*I have, in the past, been a member of a couple of photo walking clubs in London and Bath. Cirencester is my first proper photography club and I have very much enjoyed the talks and the photographic inspirations that have been throughout this my first season. I have especially enjoyed the competition nights and the "Battle of the Sofa" that occurs with my fiancé Pat Barker. Which resulted in us both winning a prize in the recent Annual competition which we were very pleased with.*

*I like to photograph a wide variety of subjects, locations etc, it really is whatever captures my interest and attention at the time. If I spot it and have the camera/phone I shoot it. I think the most important thing for a successful photograph is down to timing! You can have all the fanciest equipment in the world and still not get the "The shot!"*

Thanks Ruth, look forward to seeing the new Mrs Barker next season.

## Bug life Bug Photography awards 2021

Get up close to creepy crawlies & become Bug Photographer of the Year! Buglife Bug Photography Awards 2021 has £21,000 worth of prizes up for grabs - but you just have a week left to enter.

Have you got an eye for bugs? Or do you like hunting for creepy crawlies with your macro lens? Then this photography competition could be just the thing to give you the recognition you deserve. Now in its second year, the Bug Photography Awards 2021 are being organized by Photocrowd with a prize pot up for grabs of £21,000. The competition will raise funds for invertebrate conservation at the same time through wildlife charity Buglife.

There are nine different categories that you can enter, covering all the main types of bugs that you could aim your camera at. They are:

- Arachids
- Beetles
- Butterflies & moths
- Dragonflies & mayflies
- Flies, bees, ants & wasps
- Snails & slugs
- Extreme close-ups
- Bug homes
- All other bugs

Catch the website link here:

<https://www.photocrowd.com/photo-competitions/photography-awards/buglife-bug-photography-awards-2021/>

## Bird Photographer of the year 2021 winner (BPOTY)

For all you birders out there, the 2021 BPOTY winners have just been announced and what a cracking entry there's been with over 22,000 images entered into the competition this year. Bird Photographer of the Year is the leading bird photography competition which celebrates the world's best bird photography, whilst supporting conservation efforts through imagery and financial support. The Overall Winner of the competition takes home a £5,000 cash prize, alongside the coveted title of Bird Photographer of the Year.

Overall Winner this year is 'Blocked' by Alejandro Prieto. It features a roadrunner at a new section of the border wall between Mexico and the USA. The image tells an important story of habitat fragmentation, and how structures such as the border wall can prevent wildlife from migrating and moving into other areas. The wall dominates the image, with the roadrunner seemingly powerless and small in the frame.

There are a number of competition categories - birds in flight, bird behaviour, attention to detail, portfolio, birds in the environment, portrait, young photographer. My favourite from the winner of the "bird behaviour" category is 'Floral Bathtub' by Mousam Ray. Wonderful.



Catch all detail and the winners here:

<https://www.birdpoty.com/2021-winners>

[The photography Show 18th -21st September](#)

Just a reminder that the Photography Show is coming up at the NEC so if you haven't clocked it yet, here's the link:

<https://futureplc.slght.eu/optiext/optiextension.dll?ID=4AB4DUxQJpvk8FGUBlg2F9ZgSIIQtdrhYVsMwJxJvOZE2gOXwc7NSNIJJVx5fBY0rX6HJCzMCJ7gWqCCvoHPNYgToNOX>

## **Club Face to Face (F2F) Meetings for the 21/22 Season**

*The easing of Covid restrictions over the summer as part of the Covid roadmap has made physical club meetings a practical proposition and Watermoor Parish are now permitting hire of their hall facility again. To enable this and to satisfy their insurers there are a number of things that hirers have to provide to gain approval for hire. After some consideration, below is a summary of the club's approach to enable meetings to take place within the requirements. We will aim to put the relevant docs on the website if members want to have a look.*

*Clearly members will need to make their own judgements in light of their individual circumstances, but it is hoped that the pragmatic approach taken allows the club to recommence face to face club (F2F) nights as per the season's programme in an enjoyable manner. As always with these things this is subject to any changes in guidance. Please get in touch with me, or other committee members, if you have any issues arising. Many thanks. Stephen*

## **Watermoor Church Hall Hire Covid Measures**

*Our activities must remain consistent with government guidelines at the time of the event. The requirements from the hall involve some element of cleaning by the club before and after the evening's programme.*

*Emphasis will be on precautions taken and as such the club:*

*(i) advises that anyone feeling unwell or having been notified for quarantine under Track and trace or NHS App or as a result of travelling requirements should not attend club meetings.*

*(ii) will ensure that seating, social distancing and ventilation are consistent with government guidelines.*

*(iii) request that members bring personal crockery/cutlery for any refreshments - some disposable items will be made available. We will not utilise hall crockery, just the kettle/boiler as appropriate.*

*(iv) suggest members consider continuing to use facemasks during meetings when appropriate.*

### Club Approach

*1. The club will provide hand sanitiser for members use on entrance and exit from the hall.*

- 1. The hall has QR posters displayed for members who wish to utilise the NHS app.*
- 2. In accordance with general "Health and Safety" good practice, a log will be kept of attendees on a F2F club night in case of the need for evacuation from premises which facilitates a roll call.*

3. *Access to kitchen facilities will be restricted to reduce contacts and users will sanitise hands before and after use of kettle etc. It is noted that no cleaning of switches is to take place (for safety) therefore the emphasis is on sanitising hands before and after any such operations, ensuring hands are dry.*
4. *Access to W/C's is restricted to one person at a time under the hall guidelines. Members should sanitise hands on entry and exit. At the end of evening contact points are wiped down as part of the exit process.*
5. *The club will use readily available Covid appropriate cleaning materials in the form of spray /paper towel and/or sanitising wipes to facilitate cleaning and provide bags to remove used material from the hall on completion.*
6. *Hard contact points e.g. door handles/locks, window handles/locks will be wiped on first contact when being operated and on final use when closed prior to exit.*
7. *The club anticipate utilising a restricted number of members on a given night to clean and handle equipment/chairs etc. thus reducing the number of potential contacts.*
8. *Those members should sanitise hands before commencing any handling, using spray/wipes to clean contact points when moving /setting up chairs etc. On completion of set up handling, members should sanitise hands again before commencing the actual event.*
9. *It is assumed that club materials in the locked storage may also be potentially contaminated and therefore contact points should be wiped before handling and on replacing in store.*

*Although it all sounds a bit complicated, I hope that we will soon get into the swing of things in managing what we do to minimise impacts. Do get in contact if you have any queries. Stephen.*

## **BBC Pictures**

Another selection from the BBC's news website.

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/in-pictures-58319665>

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-england-58300517>

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-england-58225327>

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-england-tyne-58291532>

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/world-us-canada-58380820>

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/in-pictures-58392452>

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-england-58379018>

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/in-pictures-58346963>

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-scotland-58309713>

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/world-africa-58342301>

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/entertainment-arts-58341080>

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/in-pictures-58396228>

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/science-environment-58398905>

## Internal Competitions

A message from Jill:

"As you probably know, I have taken on the role of Competition Secretary from Jamie, so wanted to let you know about a couple of things at the start of the new season.

The deadline for submitting your images for the Summer Cup and the Ted Parrott Trophy is fast approaching - you have until midnight on **Wednesday 08th September** to send your images to the following (new) Dropbox link

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

(No problem if you have already sent them to Jamie on the old Dropbox, they will be sent over to me.)

12th Sept: All Summer Cup submissions will be on the CCC website for you to score

15th Sept: All scores to be received

20th Sept: The top 9 images (1st, 2nd and 3rd from each category) will be displayed on the website where the winners will be decided by an elimination process. (More details about how this works will be given on the night, but it will work the same way as last year)

The three categories are:

Stress

Relaxation

Happiness.

along with images of Sporting Action for the Ted Parrott Trophy.

Images should be 1600 x 1200 px jpeg, in sRGB colour space, and named like this

YourMembershipNumber\_Stress\_ImageTitle or YourMembershipNumber\_TedParrott\_Title

## **Zoom Scoring for The Summer Cup and Ted Parrott Trophy**

### **1. Preview and score off-line**

3 image galleries will be created on the club web site and the club members will review each gallery and decide which images they consider to be first, second and third, for this judging method members **can** select their image for a place if it merits.

A 'Score Card' form is available on the website where the members will enter the results of their scoring, the card will be emailed to the Competition Secretary and not be visible to anyone else.

A period of approximately one week will be available for this activity.

The Competition Secretary will collate all the score cards and determine three top images from each of the three competitions, these 9 images will be subsequently judged with the 'Live online poll' system.

### **2. Live Online Polls – Summer Cup**

On the night of the final judging, the 9 images selected from the 'Preview and score off-line' will be displayed a number of times with the aim of picking the First, Second and Third placed images, by the following steps:

- 1) *A thumbnail display of all 9 images for a short time.*
- 2) *Each image will be cycled through and displayed for 5 secs each.*
- 3) *The thumbnail 9 images will be displayed again and members should now have noted what scores will be given in the poll that will follow.*
- 4) *Each image will be displayed again and a pop-up poll window will appear requesting a selection from 1-6.*
- 5) *Scoring should be similar to what the club normally expect in a competition:*
  - a. *6 is first place*
  - b. *5 is second place*
  - c. *4 is third place*
  - d. *3 is Highly commended*
  - e. *2 is commended*
  - f. *1 Minimal score.*
- 6) *The numerical total for each image will determine the First, Second and third place*
- 7) *Club members should abstain from voting when their own images are displayed.*
- 8) *As with a normal competition many images will score 1.*

### **3. Live Online Polls – Ted Parrott Trophy**

This will be judged in a similar way to the Summer Cup – the only difference being that all entries submitted will be included in the live online poll.



## Next Year's Club Competitions

Subject	Competition	Submission Date
Water (in all its forms)	A	September 27 <sup>th</sup> , 2021
Architecture	B	8 <sup>th</sup> November, 2021
Sunrise, sunset	C	6 <sup>th</sup> December 2021
Coastal	D	17 <sup>th</sup> January, 2022
Winter	E	28 <sup>th</sup> February, 2020
Farming in the Cotswolds	Pitchers Trophy (annual Competition)	11 <sup>th</sup> April, 2022
Various	Annual Competitions	11 <sup>th</sup> April, 2022

### **CCC Helpline**

Mike received this request from the Civic Society:

*Can you or someone from the club recommend software for creating photo slide shows?  
Ideally with the option of using the title as a caption.*

### **Quote of The Week**

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

Cheers and stay safe.

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

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