



Vignettes 13

Hi everyone,
Snappy new year! Hope you had a great Christmas break ready for the next half of the club season. Just a reminder of our new venue in Watermoor (see map below) and to not arrive too early until we see how the venue is used by the preceding Pilates club.

Monday night's programme DPIC 2019 Presentation

Here's some information about the presentation from the WCPF. 57 clubs entered the 2019 event which again included a number of "rookie" clubs. DPIC continues to be one of the Federation's most popular events with attendance of over two hundred guests who supported their clubs, many having travelled from the extremities of our Federation.

Our thanks also to our judges :-

Gwen Charnock FRPS, MFIAP

Phil Charnock ARPS, FRPS, MFIAP

Peter Young LRPS, CPAGB, APAGB, AFIAP

They travelled a considerable distance to adjudicate and were asked to view over 1,000 images during the course of the day. The WCPF Executive team included, in particular, Pete Fry, Ralph Snook, Julie McGowan, Alex Hamer and Sandie Cox together with Paignton and Exmouth Club members who assisted on the day.

The Corn Exchange in Exeter has proved to be an excellent venue now for many years and the main sponsor was Fotospeed. It was a very close contest and this presentation includes all of the award winners together with the top fourteen clubs.

We hope that club members will enjoy the presentation and that it might inspire those who have not taken part to set a target for 2020. The Top Clubs presentation is approximately 30 minutes long. The Top Images and Awards presentation is approximately 20 minutes long. We propose to run the two presentations and then have a discussion afterwards.

Camera types - a background

A few members looking to upgrade their camera kit have, understandably, become a bit confused about the array of camera types out there so I thought I would post a link which explains the differences.

<https://digital-photography-school.com/beginners-guide-different-types-digital-cameras/>

Just a few personal comments. First, a "superzoom" type of camera is the same as a "bridge" camera which Sid and Brian have. Secondly the article doesn't mention the "micro four thirds system" which is a standard released by Olympus and Panasonic (Lumix) in 2008 for the design and development of mirrorless interchangeable lens digital cameras. Only these makes of camera fall in the micro four thirds definition but in many respects they can be directly compared with "compact mirrorless system" cameras.

Thirdly, the article doesn't mention the latest iteration which is the mirrorless DSLR type which John Smith has (Canon EOS R). This is essentially a DSLR where the mechanical mirror optics have been replaced by the same system which is found in the "compact mirrorless system" cameras. One of the big issues most people find, particularly when travelling, is the size and weight of kit one has to lug around if one has a typical DSLR and a few lenses. Of course for wildlife photography, big lenses are necessarily large and still weight quite a lot so there's not much one can do although the new

mirrorless DSLR's and purpose built lenses (see below) are smaller and lighter which will help. However for most other photography, my recommendation in looking to the future would be to look at a bridge camera, a compact mirrorless (including the micro four thirds systems) or mirrorless DSLR. I think we can predict that, within perhaps five years, "mechanical mirrored" DSLR's will not be supported by the big manufacturers. Rumours already suggest that Canon may not be replacing its versatile 7D Mk 2 as it sees its DSLR future primarily in the mirrorless market, if their release of compatible lightweight mirrorless lenses is anything to go by.

The bridge camera is probably the most practical and versatile in that its lens is not replaceable due to its wide focal length range. Speak to Brian or Sid. Next up in practicality is the compact mirrorless system (or micro four thirds) and we've seen what they can do from Damien Demolder's terrific talk and street workshop. Market leaders, Fuji, Panasonic (Lumix) and Sony have stolen a march on Nikon and Canon who are frantically trying to catch up. Of course these fantastic little cameras have interchangeable lenses too. Last but not least are the emerging mirrorless DSLR cameras which are generally a little smaller than the traditional mechanical DSLR cameras and can take either new purpose built lighter and shorter lenses built for this configuration or, with an adapter, still use the old DSLR lenses. There's not many out there at the moment but that is likely to change rapidly over the next couple of years. This year will be an interesting one for new cameras.

Finally I should mention that camera phones have made huge strides in recent years and Colin's club successes are testament to their capability. The latest iPhone 11 Pro is getting rave reviews particularly in relation to low light photography, and of course we know from Colin what can be achieved from in camera processing from Snapseed, so camera phones are definitely worth a look if it fits your needs.

In summary, it's all down to personal preferences influenced by what sort of photography you are into but once we have a database of members kit, I hope there will be some practical advice in the club to tap into. Googling, will also fill in the gaps as to what camera make and lenses to home into. Hope that helps.

Urban architecture- Michigan Central station

If you are interested in urban architecture, here's an interesting story about the rebirth of Michigan Central Station. Although it's not a photo led story, there's some interesting photos in the article.

https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/extra/KnxBMVGAcn/michigan_central_detroit

BBC website picture gallery

Here's the usual links to the BBC's website which appeared over the Christmas period with a Christmas/annual/photojournalism/space theme.

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/in-pictures-50905666>.

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/in-pictures-50807292>

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/in-pictures-50808606>

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/in-pictures-50728680>

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/science-environment-50765663>

That's it. Hope to see you all next Monday, raring to go.

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Parish Hall, Watermoor Location

On-road parking
in Trinity Road

Entrance to
Parish Hall

Parish Hall,
Watermoor
& car park

On-road parking in Watermoor
Rd. Access to Parish Hall via
churchyard

