



## Vignettes 14

Hi everyone

Well, Monday night was a pleasant way to get us back into the mood for 2020 with a look at last year's DPIC leading contenders. As Mike commented, the Club's decision to form a DPIC (and Battle) committee to help put its best foot (or more importantly, photos) forward, elevated our standing in the South West Federation from third last out of 57 clubs in 2018 to 15th last year. Just another point or two would have put us into the top ten. The competition is getting hotter but let's hope we improve again this year and don't forget that you can attend the judging day in Exeter. It's on the 9th Feb at Exeter Corn Exchange, Market Street, Exeter, EX1 1BW.

And what a good new venue we have in the Watermoor Church Hall, with heating and parking! Just remember to not arrive until around 7.15 next week to give the previous club time to vacate the parking spaces, unless you want to park in Watermoor road by the church.

### Monday 13th Jan - Stu McKenzie - NOT. Plan B

Well, it had to happen and Stu contacted me yesterday to say that he is unwell, having picked up a bug in Namibia (sounds nasty) so he's reluctantly had to cancel his talk on Monday. We will reschedule him when he's fit again but I'm delighted and extremely grateful that Shaun has offered to bring forward Part 2 of the talk he gave last year. This time it's Cornwall as the destination for his landscape photo location talk which I'm sure will be as entertaining as Part 1. A big thanks to Shaun.

### Exhibitions and competitions

There's always so much photo stuff going on, it's hard to keep up and it's amazing how quickly annual exhibitions come around (well, annually actually!). One of the best exhibitions is the Wildlife Photographer of the Year which is popping up again at Nature In Art, Twigworth, Gloucester. It runs from the 4th Feb - 29th March and well worth a visit. Now in its fifty-fifth Year the competition provides a showcase for the world's very best nature photography selected from 48000 entries from 100 countries. The competition is owned and operated by the Natural History Museum. For more details see:

<https://natureinart.org.uk/event/wildlife-photographer-of-the-year-2/>

Alun and Val brought to my attention LPOTY. No, it's not some new contraption to help your grandkids relieve themselves but the "Landscape Photographer of The Year" competition. Submission entries run 15th Jan - 5th April. LPOTY was founded in 2006 by Charlie Waite, one of today's most respected landscape photographers.

With a total prize fund worth £20,000, a full colour book of best entries and a popular annual exhibition in Central London, the competition celebrates all that is great about the British landscape and showcases the work of many talented photographers, inspiring visitors to experience the joys of British landscapes at first hand. Britain's heritage is celebrated by people around the world and entries are welcome from everyone, whether resident in Britain or simply visiting. For details of the categories, prizes etc see:

<https://www.lpoty.co.uk/>

Our friends, the Cheltenham Camera Club, have launched this year's CISP, "Cheltenham International Salon of Photography" and entry submission run 1st Jan - 1st April. As we know from their showcase display which we see every year, it's a very professionally run Salon. The enthusiastic Club Chair, Martin Fry, is very keen for everyone to have a go as a way of improving their photography. For more details see:

<http://www.cheltenhamcameraclub.co.uk/wordpress/salon/>

#### BBC Week in pictures

Here are the usual BBC links. Always interesting.

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/world-africa-50972510>

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/in-pictures-50982303>

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/in-pictures-51007094>

#### Brian Dinnage - the Churn Project

Brian is going to have a few words before we start next Monday's talk, about a very worthy local charity that is "The Churn Project". However, just to give you an insight, Brian is involved in several ways in the charity as a member of the "Churn Champions" Committee, who create new initiatives to raise funds to help a wide range of people with many and varying needs. A full outline of the charity's work and list of nearly 30 local funding trusts can be found at

<http://www.churnproject.org.uk/default.aspx?pageID=9>

Brian wanted, in particular, to bring to your attention a forthcoming `Race Night` to be held on the evening of Friday 6th March at The Corinium Stadium in Kingshill Lane, Cirencester. Details are in the winter newsletter:

<http://www.churnproject.org.uk/Newsletters/2019-autumn.pdf>

If you've ever been to one of these events before, you will know that this is a great funding opportunity designed as a fun evening – (eight Horse Races in all and a Bar is available) and tickets are £10.00 each which includes a Fish and Chip Supper (vegetarian option available). The intention is to raise funds for the Project and Brian has made; on behalf of `Churn`; an application to NatWest for MatchFunding. If that is successful it would be another 'first' for `Churn`. The `Race Night` will include circular tables; each accommodating eight or nine persons, so if any CCC Members, their spouses or partners would like to get a table together, Brian would be delighted to see them. The event is limited to a maximum number of one hundred for the evening and it's sure to be popular.

I should add that, by "advertising" the Churn Project in Vignettes, Brian has kindly offered to make a contribution to our club funds as it's not strictly a photographic topic. It's a very kind offer but, personally, as it's for a local charity and as it's unlikely to set a precedent, I don't feel it necessary. Of course, if Brian wants to make the tea at half-time on Monday nights for the next five years, I'm sure everyone would be delighted!! Only joking. I'm sure some biscuits wouldn't go amiss.

That's it for this week. See you on Monday.

Cheers

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