



Vignettes 242

October 24th, 2024

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Club News

Hi everyone. I hope you are all well. A house keeping Vignettes this week. We had a good turnout on Monday night to watch the excellent Cheltenham Camera Club CISP (Cheltenham International Salon of Photography) AV presentation. AV author Richard McCleery was on hand to bring a light touch to the evening's presentation with some sage advice if you fancy entering.

Here's Dave with his weekly round up:

Hi everyone. Last Monday night's club meeting was a delight as we were treated to another excellent evening of Cheltenham International Salon Of Photography (CISP) 2024 AV presentations. Richard McCleery explained how he puts it all together, showing all the images which gained awards in each section, and compiling a selection from the rest of the over 4000 or so entries, from over 400 photographers. He gave some good tips regarding images that might do well, or not, in each section, but the overall message was to try to come up with something different, keep it simple and choose an image with immediate impact, rather than a slow burner. All designed to catch the judges's attention.

Well done to Martyn, Mike, John and David for getting images accepted this year, and especially Martyn for getting the Cheltenham Club Members Award in the Nature section. We saw some great images and I hope it inspired more members to enter next time. I certainly will have another go, taking Richard's advice into account. It's not that expensive to enter, and it's very easy to submit the images using the Pixoroo system which I hope everyone is getting the hang of.

Next week's meeting

Next week we have our first judging event of the year, Competition A, Set subject - Journey. Fin tells us there are 80 entries, so to make sure we don't run too late we will start earlier at 7pm.

Also note it is submission night for Competition B, set subject - UK Flora, Fauna & Fungi. For more details and definitions see the competitions section below.

Thanks, Dave, for your kind words. I have been entering CISP for a few years with mixed results but, as in all competitions, it's a good way to improve your photography and of course a good way to support our friends in the Cheltenham Club. As soon as we have details about the 2025 CISP, we will post them in Vignettes so you can have a go.

Our intrepid Competition Sec has been in touch

Fin's Update:

Hi Martyn, Good to chat on Monday night. Having said I had no input for Vignettes this week, I have had some feedback on Image sizing and registering/loading images

on Pixoroo so I thought I should offer to run a Zoom session one evening if we have sufficient interest from club members.

Three Main topic headings

1. Image sizing options .
2. Initial Pixoroo registration
3. Uploading and Naming Competition Images.^[1-7]_[SEP]

So, if anyone is interested in attending would they please email me on (competitions@cirencestercameaclub.org) and I will send out details.

Cheers,
Fin

Battle Selection Club Night

Here's our Battle Sec, Paul Norris, just providing a bit more detail about how we are going to organise our Club night discussions on choosing images for Club Battles and Regional inter club competitions.

Hi all

Just to follow on from my intro on Monday night, we have a home grown club night on 25 November providing an overview of the role of our Inter Club battle selection committee, its role, who is involved and what we are looking to achieve. This is a club night where you can get involved. I provide a summary below of the proposed format for the evening, which we are looking to be both participative and interactive

Overall structure

Part 1

- An overview of the Inter Club Battle Selection committee, its members, purpose and objectives
- A look at DPI and Print selections, some of the initial selection, criteria, discussions and outcomes
- Run through a few worked examples of images from the recent selection committee session. This will include why some images have been selected and others "overlooked", even though they may have been successful in club competitions
- Q&A opportunity for club members to ask questions and provide input.

Part 2 – after the break

- An invite for members to bring along images for potential selection to represent the club at a future battle – either prints or DPIs. I would prefer that these images have not been entered in a competition previously but it is not essential
- Undertake an interactive selection session where all club members can participate, with the top few images chosen being included in one of the future inter club battles during the 24/25 season.

- *Depending upon the number of images / prints submitted (which I would like in advance so we can categorise and format them), we can then format how the session runs. Either on a knock out basis or run through with comments and then final selection*

We will also look to share some thoughts and views on “judging” images.

Outcomes

- *An improved understanding for all club members on the committee working and why some images are selected and others are considered but then overlooked*
- *Some additional images for inclusion within the future club interclub competitions.*

To help make the evening a success I am looking for as many people as possible to submit an image in advance so we can use for the second half. Hopefully we can achieve this through Pixaroo but I’m just finalising the logistics with Fin.

Finally it’s worth commenting that the evening’s selection process is as relevant for club Battles as it is for the Regional Club comps run by the WCPF which we enter. This in respect of the DPIC competition but also the WCPF inter club print comp which we might have a go at next year.

Any questions please let me know

All the best

Paul Norris

Club Battle Sec

Christmas Quiz

Christmas is coming - and so is the (now infamous) Christmas Quiz - a date for your diary not to be missed.

Time flies and, once again, yours truly is organising the club’s Christmas Quiz at the Greyhound Pub, Siddington. **It’s on the 16th December** and, as before, we have the whole function room to ourselves. Put it in your diary. David Wallis returns once again as quiz master par excellence to test our competence.

Once I’ve heard from the pub, I’ll be circulating the menu in Vignettes so all you have to do is let me know if you are coming and your menu choice. There will be veggie options. Pay on the night and tips are up to you. I thought the pub did us proud last year. I only got one wrong menu choice last year out of 31 attendees so I’m looking to better that this year! We have to give the pub some notice regarding food choices but not for some time yet. So I’m just putting you all on notice that I’m (Martyn) on the case - press ganging comes later!

We're in the news

Well, to be more precise, Colin H has been in the news. Digital Camera have printed Colin's winning iPhone image which we posted along with the back story a few weeks ago in V235 and V236 and the story is now cropping up in various magazines. Thanks to our President John H for spotting it. Here's the evidence!



External Exhibitions and Competitions

Winner of Nikon Small World photo competition announced

Nikon Instruments have announced the winners of the 50th annual Nikon Small World Photomicrography Competition, celebrating five decades of excellence in microscopy and digital imaging. This year's first place prize was awarded to Dr. Bruno Cisterna, with assistance from Dr. Eric Vitriol of Augusta University, for his groundbreaking image of differentiated mouse brain tumor cells, highlighting the actin cytoskeleton, microtubules, and nuclei. For all of you micro photographers out there, check out the back story and some amazing winning images:

<https://www.nikonsmallworld.com/galleries/2024-photomicrography-competition>

<https://www.nikonsmallworld.com/news/nikon-small-world-competition-celebrates-50-years-with-groundbreaking-image-of-brain-tumor-cells>

.....and staying on the theme of very small things

A remarkable image of a coccolithophore is one of the 12 finalists in the 2024 Beaker Street Science Photography Prize. This amazing close-up photo shows tiny warrior-like organism that fights climate change. Here's a link to the image and other finalists. Again spectacular.

<https://www.beakerstreet.com.au/photography-prize/>

BBC pictures

As usual some great images from across the globe from the BBC's website:

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/articles/cwy9zklnwv4o>

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/articles/cvgl74pv75xo>

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/articles/c4gqlql44eyo>

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/articles/ce3wxlw04gdo>

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/articles/c62ged49vnro>

2024-25 Competitions and information

Cirencester Camera Club General Competition Schedule 2024/2025			
	Competition	Submission date	Judging night
A	Journey + Open	30/09/24	28/10/24
B	UK Flora, Fauna, Fungi + Open	28/10/24	02/12/24
C	Golden/Blue Hour + Open	02/12/24	13/01/25
D	Still Life + Open	13/01/25	17/02/25
E	Closed + Open	17/02/25	24/03/25
Annual	2024-25 Annual competitions	24/03/25	14/04/25 and 28/04/25

Definitions of Set Subjects

JOURNEY: A journey photograph is an image captured during the course of a journey or expedition, typically depicting scenes, landscapes, people, or moments encountered along the way. These photographs often aim to convey the essence of the journey, capturing the spirit of exploration, discovery, and adventure.

UK Flora, Fauna, Fungi: A flora, fauna, fungi photograph is an image that showcases plant life (flora), animal life (fauna), or fungi found in a particular ecosystem or habitat. These photographs aim to highlight the diversity, beauty, and intricacies of the natural world. They can range from close-up shots of individual species to wide-angle landscapes that capture entire ecosystems.

Golden/Blue Hour: During the golden hour, the sun is low in the sky, casting long shadows and creating a warm, diffused light that can enhance the colours and textures in a scene, often producing a soft, flattering glow. In contrast, the blue hour occurs just before sunrise or after sunset when the sky takes on a deep blue hue, creating a serene and tranquil atmosphere.

Still Life: A still life photograph is an image that portrays inanimate objects, typically arranged by the photographer to create a visually compelling composition. It can range from simple, minimalist compositions to more elaborate and stylized scenes, depending on the creative vision of the photographer.

Closed: A photograph with the title "closed" could depict a variety of subjects or scenes, but the title suggests a theme of closure, restriction, or inaccessibility.

Summer Cup (judged by members)

This is an informal competition which takes place during the 'off season' between June and September. Members can submit an image on one or all of the following subjects, which must be taken between May 20th 2024 and Sept 2nd 2024. These will then be judged by the other members at the start of the season. Images must be sent via the Club Dropbox before Monday 02 September 2024.

1. Small
2. Medium
3. Large

Ted Parrott Memorial Trophy (judged by members)

This Trophy is in memory of a long standing and valued member of the Club, Ted Parrott who passed away in 2019. Images must be of 'Sporting Action', and be submitted by Monday 02 September 2024. This image must have been taken between September 04th 2023 and September 2nd 2024.

For all Competitions please upload images via Pixeroo link below: -

pixeroo.com/public/account/login

Quote of the week

Buying a Nikon doesn't make you a photographer. It makes you a Nikon owner - Author Unknown

That's it for this week.

Cheers

Martyn (thehoneys@btinternet.com)

David (david.wallis@btinternet.com)

Dave (dave.cahill975@btinternet.com)