



# Vignettes 253

January 17th, 2025

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## Club News

Hi everyone. I hope you are all well. A bit of housekeeping and quite a lot of stuff this week after a busy Monday night and Committee meeting on Wednesday evening. But first of all, don't forget to let Paul Norris have any images that you would like to have considered for the Gloucestershire Camera Clubs exhibition in Gloucester Cathedral. It's all in last week's Vignettes but here's the Pixoroo link again (which is preferred). We need any images from you by the 20th Jan:

<https://pixoroo.com/localcompetitions/cirencester-camera-club/2024-2025/exhibition/gloucester-cathedral-exhibition>

A good turnout on Monday night to see probably the best judge out there, Martin Fry, give his valued and always positive opinion on our images. Despite the standard start time, he efficiently got through all the images, including the break, before the witching hour. Martin regularly exhibits in Cheltenham in the Garden Theatre, Montpellier so if you are in Cheltenham next August when he's next there, take a look. He's always keen to see you and have a chat. By the way if you fancy training as a judge see details below.

## Competition Secretaries Review

Here's Fin with a round up of Monday Night's Comp C.

*Hi Everyone. We received 70 entries for Competition C, with the set subject being Golden/Blue Hour so a big thanks to everyone who entered. A wide variety of geographies were covered in the set category – from Adriatic and Aegean coastlines to the Shetland Isles, from the Maldives to the Cirencester Mop Fair. All images were expertly judged by Martin Fry from Cheltenham. Martin gave us loads of useful suggestions to how to improve our images, along with lots of encouragement and positive comments. A huge thank you to Martin for coming along to judge for us again and looking forward to seeing him back as a guest speaker later in the season. Here's the results*

*Cheers*

*Fin*

**COMPETITION C RESULTS  
SET PRINT**



<b>FIRST</b>	<b>Home Time</b>	<b>Martyn Smith</b>
SECOND	Adriatic Dawn	David Wallis
THIRD	Pylon on the Sunrise	Ruth Barker
HIGHLY COMMENDED	Bibury 9pm	Dave Cahill
COMMENDED	Golden Train Reflection	Patrick Barker

**SET DPI**



<b>FIRST</b>	<b>Tower Ride at Dusk</b>	<b>Patrick Barker</b>
SECOND	Dawn at Farmcote	Gary Gleghorn
THIRD	Villingilli Sunset	Brian Champion
HIGHLY COMMENDED	Lapad Sunset	Steve Kirby
COMMENDED	Early Morning on the Aegean Sea	Nigel Rogers
COMMENDED	Cornish Gold	Chris Donohoe

## OPEN PRINT



<b>FIRST</b>	<b>Outnumbered</b>	<b>John Hankin</b>
SECOND	The Caban, Llanberis	Ruth Barker
THIRD	Carbon Footprint	Martyn Smith
HIGHLY COMMENDED	Rutting Season Playtime	Paul Norris
COMMENDED	Quiver Tree – Namibia	Nigel Rogers

## OPEN DPI



<b>FIRST</b>	<b>Misty Sunrise</b>	<b>Paul Norris</b>
SECOND	Looking in on the Takeaway	Colin Hoskins
THIRD	Dive for the Line	John Hankin
HIGHLY COMMENDED	Water Hazard	Gary Gleghorn
HIGHLY COMMENDED	Static Movement	Puri Montanez
COMMENDED	Romancing the Stone	Martyn Smith
COMMENDED	Leading Nowhere	Jean Thurkettle

I owe Fin an apology from last week as he asked us to mention that the Pixaroo web site is now open for the annual competition entries, but we didn't add the annual competition topics and awards table in Comps section below. We have now!

## **Programmes Secretary Review**

### The Programme - Last Week/Future Events- here's Dave

*Hi everyone. Well done to everyone who received an award in the Monday night Competition C judging. I see that Fin has summarised all the results above. As usual there were some insightful and constructive comments from the judge, Martin Fry. Image cropping to focus on the main subject of the image came up a lot. I've already used one of his other tips, flipping the image to put the subject on the right rather than the left. I wasn't sure I agreed with this on the night but I tried it in one of my daily blipfoto images and it did improve it.*

*Next week (20 January, 7:30pm) we have a presentation from **Gary Gleghorn – My Photographic Journey**. Gary was our most successful member in competitions last season, picking up the Presidents Cup for amassing the most aggregate points, by some margin.*

*As well as coming first in the Miles Shield and Ted Parrott annual competitions, he was consistently 'up there' scoring highly throughout all the general competitions, including several first places. It will be an interesting evening hearing about Gary's photographic history and influences, what drives him and how he maintains this high level of excellence across a broad range of genres. He has promised a lot of street photo images, which I am looking forward to after our recent Roger Hance Zoom talk. I believe Gary has found someone to take over on drinks duty at the break!*

*Finally, just some advance notice about the following week (27 January, 7:30pm) when we are having a rerun of **Speed Learning** (not dating!) which we last did in 2023 and which proved to be a popular event. This is a club evening intended to be a bit of fun, a social activity with a learning 'bent' to it based on sharing information on 6 mainstream photographic topics.*

*On the basis of a typical attendance of circa 30 – 35 members, the plan is to have 6 tables of circa 5-6 members per table, including an experienced 'facilitator' who will remain at the table and guide the discussion. Each table will have circa 15 minutes to chat and swap notes about a specific photographic subject matter which will be allocated in advance to that facilitator and table.*

*At the end of each period, members move to another table to discuss a different photographic subject for a further 15 minutes, eventually getting around all tables. To make it sociable, it's not the intention for members to rotate to each table as a group. Each member is free to move to any table, but each table will be restricted to 5 or 6 members.*

*At the end of the discussion period (circa 90 minutes), each facilitator will briefly summarise his/her findings of the discussions (6 x 5 mins = 30 minutes). We have made this year's topics different from the previous event to broaden the scope and I'm delighted to announce that the facilitators will be:*

*Accessories – David Wallis  
Dealers (Buying & Selling) – Mike Cheeseman  
Locations/Guidebooks – Paul Norris  
Phones – Colin Hoskins  
Software – Dave Cahill  
Courses/Workshops – Stephen Chapman*

*In order to make the discussions as practical as possible, members are encouraged to bring any photographic equipment they would like relevant to the 6 photographic topics to share their experiences, likes and dislikes. We can discuss this in more detail next week of course. I hope that all helps.*

*Cheers  
Dave*

### **Battle Secretary Review**

#### Paul's been in touch

Just to say that our club entry in the WCPF DPIC has been submitted. A big thanks to the selection committee and Judging will be on Sunday 2nd Feb (entry fee £7). Here's hoping for WCPF DPIC success.

As an aside, on the day of the WCPF DPIC Competition, if you are going you can also enter individually the WCPF Knightshayes Trophy Competition and hand in your entries. This Knightshayes Trophy competition will be judged on Sunday 9th March after the WCPF Council Meeting at Magelake Hall, Uffculme, EX15 3DP Starting at 10:30, open to all WCPF Club Members, Admission Free.

The Knightshayes Trophy entries will be judged by Pedro Landers CPAGB President of the WCPF. All WCPF Club members may enter up to TWO mounted prints, there is no Fee for entering the Knightshayes comp.

On other matters, we have our regular inter-club battle coming up this year against Stroud and Cheltenham on the 3rd April. It's being hosted by Cheltenham this year on its regular Thursday night meeting in Cheltenham. All are welcome and more details to follow.

### **DXO Colour Labs**

We've been approached by DXO Colour Lab who are offering club members discounts for their software licenses with no cost to the club.:

*Hello Stephen*

*I hope you are doing well and thank you for your reply to our email.*

*My name is Killian, and I work with Julien who's the responsible for photo organizations relations at DxO Labs, a company specializing in world-class photo editing software.*

***Here is what we propose.***

*A 20% discount on the purchase of new licenses (excluding upgrades) for all our software for the members of your photography club. This discount cannot be combined with any global offers on the DxO website, which sometimes occur, but they are rare.*

***DxO Labs publishes 5 software products:***

- **PhotoLab:** *The best photo editing software, particularly for RAW files.*
- **Nik Collection:** *A suite of 7 plugins providing a workflow for, but not limited to, Photoshop or Lightroom.*
- **PureRAW:** *A unique software on the market that transforms a RAW file into a linear DNG file with the best demosaicing, optical corrections, and exceptional noise reduction.*
- **FilmPack:** *The only software that brings back the magic of analog photography from a digital file through an exclusive analog film simulation process.*
- **ViewPoint:** *The only solution on the market for volume deformation correction, offering a range of tools for either fully automatic or fully manual perspective management, depending on the user's choice.*

*All our solutions work in standalone mode or as plugins for Lightroom or Photoshop. Finally, all our software can be tried for free without the need to provide any payment information, and with no limitation in terms of functionality. We will provide a web form that allows members to request a discount code. We agree on the procedure for verifying the requester's club membership, and we send the necessary discount codes via email. We are pleased to offer unlimited requests and ask nothing in return from your photo club. We simply ask that the club leader share this partnership with the members. We do not use the data (especially the email address) for promotional purposes, but solely to send the requested discount code. We can set up a Zoom call to demo our software for you so you can talk to other members about it or even have a Zoom meeting with multiple people. In this partnership, DxO offers you activation keys for each of our software to equip up to two computers in your photo club.*

*Lastly, I was curious about your photo club. Do you focus on a specific type of photography, such as portraits, wildlife, street photography, or another area? Could you also let me know how many members are in your club? Looking forward to hearing from you.*

*Cheers*

*Killian Dare*

We had a discussion in Committee and see no downside in taking up this opportunity assuming members wish to purchase the DXO software. Of course, some of us may already have some or all of the software and would not therefore be able to benefit from the deal. Let us know what you think and if we get enough interest, we can set up the process with DXO. Having used DXO's PureRaw denoise software and The Nik

collection I can say that they are very good. All the other software is, for me, replicated in Photoshop.

### **Cheltenham International Salon of Photography (CISP)**

Martin Fry's judging prompted me to remind you that his Cheltenham Camera Club's annual CISP competition is open. As you know the Cheltenham Club presents its CISP AV every year to us in Sept/Oct which is always well put together and a great night's entertainment. Here's the link to the CISP:

<https://cheltenhamcameraclub.co.uk/club/cheltenham-international-salon-photography-cisp>

### **Fancy training to become a judge?**

With photography Judges retiring and leaving the 'circuit', the WCPF are holding a seminar about what it takes to become a judge. It's in Bristol on 26th April. Here's the details:

*FINAL CALL*



*Is this a good picture?*

*THE WCPF IS LOSING JUDGES FASTER THAN IT IS TRAINING NEW ONES.  
WOULD YOU LIKE TO BE A JUDGE OR ARE YOU INTERESTED IN THE JUDGING  
PROCESS?*

*LEARN THE FUNDAMENTAL SKILLS BY ATTENDING THE NEXT WCPF JUDGING  
SEMINAR.*

*JUST 10 PLACES LEFT.*

*Date: Saturday 26th April 2025.*

*Venue: Wicklea Academy, Wick Road, St Anne's, Bristol, BS4 4HR. Hosted by Reflex  
Camera Club.*

*Time: 9.30am for a prompt start at 10.00am: estimated finishing time is no later than 5.00pm.*

*Catering: Please bring your own food. Breaks for complimentary teas and coffees will be scheduled.*

*Costs: The course is provided by the WCPF at a subsidised price of £15 per head*

*Tutors: Members of the WCPF Judging Panel.*

*Course Content:*

- 1. The Requirements of a Judge.*
- 2. Looking at Images, an approach to judging.*
- 3. Introduction to Judging, practical sessions to give individual experience of the judging process.*
- 4. Assessment of those wishing to join the WCPF list as a Newly Qualified Judge.*

*The seminar is open to all and there is absolutely no obligation to become a judge. Judges require a unique skill set and part of the day is discovering if you have what is required. Attending the Seminar is the first step in the process and the judging panel provide mentoring for those who want to proceed further.*

*Applications: We try to do as much administration as possible via the internet if you are interested in attending an application form can be obtained from me [dijohn.tilsley\(at\)gmail.com](mailto:dijohn.tilsley@gmail.com) the return of this with a payment of £15 will secure you a place. Application is on a first come first served basis and the seminar is limited to 24 people. If you don't have access to the internet application can be made by post to John Tilsley, 2 Grove Barn Martinstown, Dorchester, Dorset, DT2 9JP. 01305 889495.*

### **External Exhibitions and Competitions**

The Reciprocal Rule - is it still applicable

The answer is 'Yes' but take a look at this article as an update:

<https://www.digitalcameraworld.com/photography/photo-technique/want-sharper-photos-i-still-use-the-outdated-reciprocal-rule-to-beat-camera-shake-heres-why>

World Sports Photography Awards

There's some great action shots here. This iconic image of Brazilian surfer Gabriel Medina, by Jerome Brouillet, has been named the overall winner at the World Sports Photography Awards. Brouillet took the picture during the surfing competition at the Paris Olympics. From a boat by the side of the wave in Tahiti, Brouillet captured Medina suspended in mid-air, as if stood on solid ground, as his board mimicked his stance. Below are a selection of the gold, silver, bronze and special merits across all 24 categories of the awards, which are now in their fifth year. Check out the link:

<https://www.worldsportsphotographyawards.com/>

Motorsport UK's Young Photographer of the Year

Last month, Craig Evans was named Motorsport UK's Young Photographer of the Year. The part-time motorsport photographer described winning a national award as a "pinch me moment". Craig 27, of Reepham, near Aylsham, Norfolk, took up

photography during his AS-Levels, and said taking motor racing photos combined his two biggest passions. Here's a link:

<https://www.motorsportuk.org/motorsport-uk-young-photographer-of-the-year-announced/>

[For all you film lovers - Nostalgia and passion fuel young couple running old-school photo lab](#)

Check out this lovely story:

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/articles/c77j7n4kyy5o>

BBC pictures

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

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/articles/c3rqrx4egro>

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/sport/articles/c8r5xx3meyer>

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/articles/c99yr0g4j17o>

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/articles/ckg8gr31k73o>

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/articles/clyznrmy3emo>

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/articles/cnv3vjr783jo>

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/articles/ce8n8yr28jdo>

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/articles/c5yvl510e4ko>

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/articles/cy9q390gynvo>

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/articles/c89x9jv518no>

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/sport/articles/c8dqdgn3e52o>

## 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 three subjects, which must be taken between end of May and beginning of September. These will then be judged by the other members at the start of the season. [Exact dates and subjects will be confirmed each year at the AGM]

### **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 the start of the season. This image must have been taken between the start of the current season and the start of the following season. [Exact dates will be confirmed each year at the AGM]

CCC Annual Competition categories - submission deadline 24 March 2025		
Award	Subject	Format
Pitchers Trophy (Topic chosen by Club President)	Family in the Cotswolds	DPI, 1600 x 1200, sRGB
Dennis Moss Trophy	Open	Print 1600 x 1200, sRGB
Leonard Jones Cup	Open	DPI, 1600 x 1200, sRGB
Cavendish Cup	Black and White Open	Print 1600 x 1200, sRGB
Miles Shield	Open (Club outing)	DPI, 1600 x 1200, sRGB
Gladiator Trophy	Aviation	DPI, 1600 x 1200, sRGB
Pitchers Cup <u>Open to new members only.</u>	Open	Print or DPI, 1600 x 1200, sRGB

For all Competitions, please upload images via Pixoroo link below: -

[pixoroo.com/public/account/login](https://pixoroo.com/public/account/login)

### Quote of the week

*The virtue of the camera is not the power it has to transform the photographer into an artist, but the impulse it gives him to keep on looking - Brooks Atkinson*

That's it for this week.

Cheers

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

David ([david.wallis@btinternet.com](mailto:david.wallis@btinternet.com))

Dave ([dave.cahill975@btinternet.com](mailto:dave.cahill975@btinternet.com))

## DECEMBER TOPIC

### Unbalancing colour.



White balance is an essential aspect of photography, yet it can often seem counterintuitive. Here's a deeper look into how white balance settings work and how you can use them to your advantage:

1. **Understanding White Balance:** White balance (WB) adjusts the colours in your photos to make the image look more natural. It compensates for the colour temperature of the light source, which can vary from warm (yellow/red) to cool (blue). Different light sources have different colour temperatures measured in Kelvin (K).
2. **Preset White Balance Settings:**
  - **Auto White Balance (AWB):** The camera automatically detects and adjusts the white balance. This setting works well in many situations but may struggle with mixed lighting.
  - **Daylight/Sunny:** Used for clear, sunny days. Adds a slight warm tone to the image.
  - **Cloudy:** Adds warmth to counteract the coolness of cloudy light.
  - **Shade:** Adds even more warmth, as shaded areas are typically cooler.
  - **Tungsten/Incandescent:** Adds blue tones to counteract the yellow/orange light of tungsten bulbs.
  - **Fluorescent:** Adds magenta to counteract the green/blue light of fluorescent bulbs.
  - **Flash:** Adds warmth to balance the cool light of a flash.
3. **Counterintuitive Nature:**
  - **Candlelight:** Often has a warm, yellowish hue. The camera compensates by adding cool, blue tones to balance the warmth.

- **Fluorescent Light:** Has a cool, greenish-blue hue. The camera compensates by adding warm, pink tones to balance the coolness.
4. **Custom White Balance:**
- **Manual Adjustment:** You can manually set the white balance by specifying the colour temperature in Kelvin. Lower values (e.g., 2500K) add blue tones for warm lighting, while higher values (e.g., 7500K) add warm tones for cool lighting.
  - **Using a White or Gray Card:** You can set a custom white balance by photographing a neutral grey or white card under the lighting conditions you'll be shooting in. The camera uses this reference to adjust the colours correctly.
5. **Creative Uses:**
- **Artistic Effects:** You can intentionally set the wrong white balance for creative effects. For example, using a tungsten setting in daylight can give a cool, blue cast to your photos, creating a unique mood.
  - **Consistency in Mixed Lighting:** Custom white balance can help achieve consistent colours when dealing with mixed lighting sources, which can be particularly useful in controlled environments like studio photography.

By mastering white balance settings, you can ensure your photos have accurate colours or creatively manipulate the mood and feel of your images. Experimenting with different settings will help you understand how to use white balance to enhance your photography.

## Brief

### 1. Conduct Test Shots Across Settings:

- Choose a variety of subjects under different lighting conditions (e.g., daylight, tungsten, fluorescent, etc.).
- For each setup, capture a series of images using every white balance preset your camera offers (e.g., Auto, Daylight, Cloudy, Tungsten).
- Save the images in JPEG format to observe the direct effect of each setting.
- Compare the results to understand how each preset alters the colours under different lighting.

### 2. Experiment with Custom White Balance:

- Use different objects as your reference for custom white balance settings:
  - Set your camera to "Custom White Balance" mode.

- Photograph a neutral surface, such as a grey card or a white patch, as the reference point for the camera.
- Experiment with variations:
  - Use differently coloured "cards" (e.g., pale blue, beige, or slightly tinted surfaces).
  - Observe how these influence the final image, noting that a pale blue reference creates warmer tones in the image.

### **3. Shooting in RAW**

Although all the above can be done in post processing RAW images it can sometimes be necessary to have fixed colour temperature in an image.

- Take an in-camera multi- exposure image with both warm and cool colours