



Vignettes 257

February 12th, 2025

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Martyn continues his travels around the Caribbean and appears to be getting some of the clear skies that are in short supply in the United Kingdom. He has sent the following image of his holiday accommodation.



I am sure he can't wait to get back!

Club News

Hi everyone. I hope you are all well. I hope you enjoyed Monday night's talk. Here's Dave with his weekly roundup.

Programme Secretaries Review

Last Week/Next Week

Hi everyone. Last week we had another entertaining and inspirational talk from Robert Harvey, 'Stumbling Around in The Dark', on the subject of landscape astrophotography. We saw some super images, planned and composed to combine stunning sky and landscape features very effectively. Robert provided some great advice regarding equipment. For the best results he recommended a full frame DSLR (to cope better with higher ISO images) and fast wide-angle lenses, to enable optimum exposures (20 seconds maximum usually) and good DOF even when wide open. A tripod was also essential of course.

He provided some good advice regarding locations to get the clearest skies and lowest light pollution, and it seemed that Namibia was the place to go! I was surprised how far away he had to be from the landscape feature for some of his shots, several kilometres in a few cases. Maybe we should consider a practical night to get some star trail shots. I wonder how many of us would be game for a 2 am meeting!

Robert also introduced us to Abby Moule, who was known to some of our members from the Northleach club. Abby is an accomplished astrophotographer and is the co-leader on Robert's Milky Way and La Palma Photography Tour next year. I asked her at the break what she thought of the club, wondering if she might think of joining. She wasn't sure she was ready for the excitement of competitions though.

On that subject, **next week** it's competition time again, judging for Competition D (Set subject – Still Life). **We will be starting at our normal 7:30pm time again**, and as there will be a lot of images to go through, we intend to make a prompt start.

NB it's also submission date for Competition E (Set subject - Closed). See you there.

Cheers

Dave

External Exhibitions and Competitions

South Downs trees at night photo wins competition

Following on from Robert Harvey's talk here's details of an astrophotography competition. A photo of lichen-covered trees at Chanctonbury Ring in West Sussex has been named as a winner in an astrophotography competition. Chanctonbury Coven by Giles Embleton-Smith won the life at night category in the annual competition. Judge Vicki Wells said it was "breathtaking", adding: "The cold, December full moon reveals both lichen-clad trunks and etches stunning shadows at this wonderful and charismatic landmark."The competition was held ahead of the Dark Skies Festival taking place at the national park from 13 to 23 February. Here's a link to the story:

<https://www.bbc.com/news/articles/c0jnl41lj9jo>

Are you into music photography?

Yes? We'll check out this article about Dennis Morris' and his new retrospective photography book which shows never-before-seen images of some of the greatest musicians of all time:

<https://www.digitalcameraworld.com/photography/books/from-bob-marley-and-the-sex-pistols-to-oasis-and-radiohead-this-is-the-work-of-music-photography-icon-dennis-morris>

Nan Goldin documentary

Nan Goldin bio 'All the Beauty and the Bloodshed' is one of the greatest documentaries on the power of photography – and it's available to stream now. Here's a bit more info:

<https://www.digitalcameraworld.com/photography/photojournalism/every-photographer-should-watch-this-incredible-nan-goldin-documentary-rated-95-percent-on-rotten-tomatoes-and-streaming-now>

Badger admiring Banksy-style image wins hearts in wildlife photo competition

A badger appearing to admire a Banksy-style graffiti version of itself has won the Natural History Museum's 2024 Wildlife Photographer of the Year People's Choice Award. Captured on a quiet road in St Leonards-on-Sea, England by British photographer Ian Wood. Ian had noticed badgers emerging from a nearby sett to forage for food scraps left out for foxes. he k out the winners here:

<https://www.nhm.ac.uk/wpy/peoples-choice>

HIPA photography competition's General Colour category winner

It's certainly not hard to see why Rahul Sachdev's superb photograph of a southern white rhino, silhouetted by rays of golden light, won first prize in the Hamdan International Photography Award's 'General – colour' category. Here's the story:

<https://www.digitalcameraworld.com/photography/nature-and-wildlife-photography/i-traveled-to-kenya-and-captured-this-powerful-image-to-convey-the-plight-of-the-southern-white-rhino>

Close-up Photographer of the Year

The results of the sixth Close-up Photographer of the Year are in. Incredible imagery, ranging from an ultra-high resolution focus stack to a microscopic work of art. An expert jury of 25 photographers, scientists, journalists and editors scrutinised over 11,000 entries from 61 countries to find the 11 winners, listed here.

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

The Photographers' Gallery in London

Daido Moriyama is a master of street photography and is renowned as one of Japan's greatest-ever photographers. His work is typically a striking, gritty, and dynamic window into his daily life wandering the urban back streets of cities such as Tokyo and Osaka. However, The Photographers' Gallery in London, England, is scheduled to showcase a 'quieter' side to the iconic photographer's work. Check out this article:

<https://www.digitalcameraworld.com/photography/galleries-and-exhibitions/street-photography-icon-daido-moriyamas-work-to-go-on-display-at-the-photographers-gallery-this-week>

Rare early images of the Himalayas from Italian pioneer

Vittorio Sella was a pioneering Italian photographer whose work at the turn of the 20th Century shaped both mountain photography and mountaineering history. His rare images of the Himalayas remain some of the most iconic ever captured. A new ongoing show in the Indian capital, Delhi, called Vittorio Sella: Photographer in the Himalaya brings to life the breathtaking grandeur of the Himalayas through his lens. Check out some images here:

<https://www.bbc.com/news/articles/c8edg6n5xp3o>

BBC pictures

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

<https://www.bbc.com/news/articles/c77r5jkv8pjo>
<https://www.bbc.com/news/videos/c4gx033n6pno>
<https://www.bbc.com/news/articles/c70qvdp145no>
<https://www.bbc.com/news/articles/cpwxjv0g40lo>
<https://www.bbc.com/news/articles/cx2kg97pmveo>

<https://www.bbc.com/news/articles/c0rq24090glo>
<https://www.bbc.com/news/articles/c4g7e4n201lo>
<https://www.bbc.com/news/articles/cm27pn1g1g8o>
<https://www.bbc.com/news/articles/cdxnz1piqwjo>

Competitions and info

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.

For all Competitions please upload images via Pixeroo link below: -
pixeroo.com/public/account/login

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

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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

Quote of the week

I longed to arrest all beauty that came before me, and at length the longing has been satisfied - Julia Margaret Cameron

That's it, have a good week.

Cheers

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David (david.wallis@btinternet.com)

Dave (dave.cahill975@btinternet.com)