Vignettes 331

October 21st , 2026

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Club News

Hi everyone. I hope you are all well. We had an excellent night on Monday with 7 of us providing a brief introduction about our favourite photographer. What struck me was the diversity of photographers and genres out there which said something too about the presenters. There some important matters you need to deal with below but in the meantime here's Dave with his weekly round up.

Dave's weekly round up

Hi everyone. Despite a lot of people coming down with the lurgy we still had another good turnout of over 30 stalwarts for our first evening of member presentations, on Photographers We Admire, a new idea that came out of a random WhatsApp exchange some time ago. I think it went well, with a good range of photographers and genres covered. Thanks to Gary, Gerry, Lawrence, Patrick, Roger and Martyn for their contributions. Somehow we managed to finish bang on 9:30, and I even managed to squeeze my bit in at the end. Maybe next time we will plan for up to 15 minutes per speaker!

Here's a list of the photographers:

Joe Cornish

Sebastião Salgado

Saul Leiter

Marco Wilm

Mark Fearnley

Francesco Gola

Martin Parr

David duChemin

I haven't put any links in but I'm sure a quick search will produce details of any you were interested to know more about

At the start of the meeting David managed to run through some of the super images submitted for the first 6 weeks of his 30 week challenge. It's going well with 21 members taking part so far. Minimalism is next.

He also reminded us that there is just one week to go for submitting print and DPI offers for the Cirencester Museum exhibition next year.

Next week we have our second external speaker of the season, Martin Fry with his presentation The Seeing Eye. Martin is well known to us as a competition judge, but he hasn't presented to us for quite a few years.

https://cirencestercameraclub.org/events/the-seeing-eye/

It will be the normal start time of 7:30pm.

Cheers

Dave

Our museum exhibition in January - deadline approaching

Below are the details all about our upcoming exhibition in Cirencester's museum in Jan which we published in recent editions of Vignettes. There's just a few important things to stress:

- Everyone is invited to display their images.
- We need to know by next Monday 26th Oct if you want to display a print and/or DPI.
- We don't need the actual print by Monday 26th, just what it is.
- If you can print and mount your own image, we will provide the mound board.
- If you can't print and/or mount your own image we will help you. Don't be put off.
- Use Pixoroo to lodge your interest for either or both formats.
- It's possible that we won't have enough prints by next Monday to fill the exhibition space. So, just in case that happens, Fin has opened a second entry on Pixoroo called 'Favourite Print No 2'.
- Feel free to enter two prints on Pixoroo if you want so we can judge how many prints we have.

January Museum Exhibition

Here's the full exhibition info reprinted

As a result of Andy's excellent forged links with Cirencester Museum, it has offered us, under its community initiative strategy, the opportunity to showcase our skills in a public photographic exhibition of our images at the museum. This generous offer is completely free will be for the whole of January 2027 and ***every Club member is invited to take part.*** *The club has formed a Museum Exhibition Subcommittee (MES) to bring the exhibition to fruition but we haven't got long. So, your timely involvement is critical if we are to pull this off. The committee members are listed below but we may co-opt other members with specific skills:*

- *Andy - Chair*
- *Gary*
- *Katrina*
- *Jean*
- *Trish*
- *Paul*
- *Martyn*

- *Fin*

We have had one meeting to date to identify both a structure going forward as well as the critical aspects of the exhibition where your involvement is pivotal. Here's our findings and emerging strategy:

- *The exhibition runs from 7th Jan to 7th Feb 2027.*
- *It's important at an early stage to find out* **who wants to showcase their images in the exhibition. See critical dates below.** *We must stress that everyone is invited to display their choice of image(s).*
- *You can choose any image you want of any age. However, modern images will resonate more with the public and of course we are a club displaying our skills.*
- *If you are not sure which image of yours to exhibit, we can help you decide.*
- *At the moment we are not sure quite how many images we can fit in the museum's exhibition space but we are confident that every member can be accommodated.*
- *The exhibition will show your mounted prints and/or a rolling TV display of Digitally Projected Images (DPI's). You can choose either or both formats.*
- *All prints will be mounted on a single colour mount board 50cm x 40cm. This will be stiffened by a backing board to aid hanging. We won't use picture frames.*
- *We will choose and organise ordering the mount boards and backing boards.*
- *The images themselves can be different sizes and we are happy to advise on an appropriate size to best show off your image.*
- *The images and mounts can be displayed in either landscape or portrait format.*
- *The committee and co-opted members will help you in printing and mounting if required. We don't want members to hold back if they are nervous about the printing and mounting process.*
- *We will sort the exhibition display once we have all the images. It will probably be by genre and BW/Colour.*
- *The museum will supply hanging equipment.*
- *We will use Pixoroo as the conduit for holding your images. Fin has arranged this as follows: We have set up 2 Exhibition 'pseudo competitions' on Pixoroo. These will open on* **Tuesday 6th October** *after David announces the exhibition next Monday. Entries will* **close on 26th October***. You will find it under the heading 'Corinium Museum - favourite DPI and Corinium Museum - favourite Print".*
- *Until we know the museum exhibition space capacity we will limit entries to one print and one DPI per member.* (Martyn - this is now two prints see above).

- *Every entry should have your name and image title. If you would like to add a sentence explaining why you like the image or its narrative, it can be slotted under the title. That information will be on a label attached to the mount.*
- *We are looking at the possibility of providing the opportunity to sell images but we don't want to deflect this from our main purpose which is to showcase the Clubs spectrum of talent and accessibility.*
- *As it's unlikely that we will be able to man the exhibition for the whole month, discussions are ongoing with the museum. Those discussions might include whether it can sell our images on our behalf. We will let you know.*
- *We will take on advertising the event and promoting it through local dignitaries. We will keep in touch with you via Vignettes and WhatsApp.*
- *For the times when we can man the exhibition, we will be looking for volunteers and we will put a rota together.*
- *We would stress that, for most times of the year the museum exhibition space is for hire so having the opportunity to use it for free is a big bonus. However, if the exhibition is successful, we still have the opportunity in future to hire the space.*

This is an exciting opportunity for the club and although there will be costs which the club will bare, not only will we be looking to get good deals from suppliers but there's every chance that the exhibition will attract new members in the new year. So, we hope you are up for the challenge.

The Museum Exhibition Subcommittee (MES).

The Christmas quiz

- it's come around again and we need your help

You all know the format by now but for new members and those existing ones with a short memory be prepared to be badgered mercilessly. Here's the critical information you are dying to hear.

- It's on Monday the 14th December
- It's at the Greyhound Pub, Siddington
- It starts at 7.00 pm
- We have exclusive use of one room.
- Are you coming? Please let me (Martyn) know (email address at the bottom of Vignettes).
- If so, I need your food choice, if you are eating. See choices below.
- I need all numbers and food choices by 30th Nov to let the pub know.

David has kindly offered to be Quizmaster again but as I (Martyn) won't be there, I need a volunteer to act as pub liaison on the night. I will do most of the work in advance. We normally get around 30 members so 6 team tables of 5 works well and it's always a great night. The food is good comes out at around 7.45. We pay at the end of the night - don't forget. I'll be thinking up some traditionally dodgy team names over the next few weeks and the teams are chosen entirely at random using Ai. No favouritism.

Here's the menu:

- *The Henry burger. The Greyhound's signature beef burger, mature Cheddar cheese, baby gem, tomato, Henry's IPA relish, burger sauce, coleslaw, fries £18.50 GF*
- *Truffle gnocchi with wild mushroom truffle sauce, marinated crispy artichokes V £19.50*
- *Beef bourguignon pie, seasonal greens, creamy mash and gravy £18.75 GF. (The barley used in this dish has been processed to meet gluten-free standards).*
- *Honey & mustard glazed ham shank, free range fried egg, slow cooked tomato, chips £18.25 GF*
- *Fish & king prawn pie, cheddar cheese mash, crispy capers, seasonal greens £18.50 GF*

I will print the members coming to the quiz along with his/her food choice in each week's Vignettes so you can see who's coming and check that I've got it right. Over to you and to avoid being hassled, don't leave it too late.

Meet the new member

We ran this item in Vignettes a few years ago and for some reason (my brain!) it dropped off the radar. Well, it's back! We've had a few new members this year which is always encouraging particularly as Camera Clubs have been suffering in recent years due in part to the advent of the iPhone. First up is Martin Graebe and here's his bio:

Hi Martyn

Thanks for asking. Here are a few words about my photographic history, kit and interests:

Having started with a box Brownie (A Kodak Flash Model B, the brown one with a close-up lens) aged 11, I have arrived at a Canon R7 via several landmark cameras including a Pentax S2, the Canon G11 (greatly underrated), and Canon 70D Mk II.

Currently my favourite lens is the RF 100-400, which is amazing for close-up work while being a useful and lightweight telephoto and occupies the camera for 90% of the time I'm using it. Close-up and macro are my current obsession, having done a course recently, and my target of choice is insects, particularly butterflies.

In the last year, though, I have been using my iPhone 17 for day-to-day photography and am still looking for its limits (well, apart from its short focal length). I was into wet chemistry as a teenager and loved pushing the contrast as high as I could get away with when I was a member of the Horley Camera Club and entered photos for several exhibitions in Surrey.

Nowadays I lament the demise of Aperture when Apple shut it down and make do with Lightroom – though I aspire to mastering Photoshop. I joined Cirencester Camera Club as part of my campaign to bring my technique into the 21st Century without, I hope, losing the joy that getting a good photo out of the Pentax gave me.

Best wishes

Martin

Thanks Martin. Another Canon photographer I see. What could go wrong! I remember the first time I bought a Canon EF 100-400, mainly for wildlife, the shop pointed out how good this type of lens is for Macro work without the need for a dedicated Macro lens. How true that is. Welcome to the Club Martin.

External Exhibitions and Competitions

Young Wildlife Photographer of the Year title

14-year-old photographer Oscar Whitfield has won the prestigious Young Wildlife Photographer of the Year award with a striking black-and-white close-up image of a determined dung beetle rolling a ball of dung, with a swarm of flies nearby. See the link below:

https://www.nhm.ac.uk/wpy



Remembering Wildlife Photographer of the Year award.

Award-winning wildlife photographer Tom Way gave us one of our best talks during Covid and his latest image captured a heartwarming moment between a newborn giraffe calf and its mother. The beautiful black-and-white image shows the tiny calf standing beneath its mother's legs – a fleeting moment that may soon become a thing of the past. The touching scene has now announced the image as the winner of the prestigious Remembering Wildlife Photographer of the Year award.

Check out the winning images here.

https://rememberingwildlife.com/



Epson International Pano Awards

The World's largest competition dedicated to panoramic photography – Epson International Pano Awards – has announced its winners, with Spanish photographer Daniel Viñé Garcia taking home the Open Photographer of the Year title.



See the winners here

https://thepanoawards.com/

And finally…….

David has been in touch with details of a Topaz offer. I use an old version of Topaz and it is very good on sharpening. Take a look.

https://www.topazlabs.com/promos/adobe/photocc

BBC pictures

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

https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/articles/cqr7yzjn0ppgoo

https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/articles/cm5ynx0vrp6go

https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/articles/cqz0v35d4mydo

https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/articles/cwx2982zkvrvo

https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/articles/c68xzg941x5vo

Quote of the week

Photography is a way of feeling, of touching, of loving. What you have caught on film is captured forever… It remembers little things, long after you have forgotten everything - Aaron Siskind

That's it, have a good week.

Cheers

Martyn (thehoneys@btinternet.com)

David (david.wallis@btinternet.com)

Dave (david.cahill@cantab.net)

Chairman's Challenge 3

Week 7 – Minimalism

Theme

Simplify the frame to emphasize one clear subject.

Focus Skills

- Simplicity
- Negative space
- Clean composition

Ideas

- Single trees
- Isolated people
- Simple backgrounds
- Geometric shapes

Bonus Constraint

One subject only

Tip of the Week

Remove distractions from the edges of the frame.

Club Competitions 2026

Club Competitions are designed to allow members the opportunity for their best images to be critiqued by a qualified judge from outside the club whilst engaged in friendly competition with other club members. The judge will award the following positions and points.

1st Place	6 points
2nd Place	5 points
3rd Place	4 points
Highly Commended	3 points
Commended	2 points
All other entries	1 point

Points from all externally judged competitions, i.e. the general competitions and annual competitions, throughout the season are totalled prior to the Awards Evening and the member with the most points is awarded the Presidents Cup.

Summer Cup

The Summer Cup is a Member Judged competition held at the start of each season. Members may enter two DPIs taken at any of the Club's Summer Events that year. As this competition is member judged all entries, including those placed 1st, 2nd, or 3rd may be entered in any General or Annual Competition.

General Competitions

All General Competitions are externally judged and consist of 2 sections:

1. Digital Projected Image (DPI)
2. Mounted Print

There are 6 competitions throughout the season – 3 x Open and 3 x Set Subject.

Following completion of all six general competitions trophies are awarded at the AGM to the members with the most points in each of the following Categories.

1. Open DPI
2. Open Print
3. Set DPI
4. SET Print

Set subjects, submission and judging dates are available on the Club Website, Vignettes and Pixoroo.

Annual Competitions

There are several Trophy based Annual Competitions, many dedicated to the memory of past Camera Club members. Judging is spread over two evenings towards the end of the season. Members may enter once in each competition with the winner holding the Trophy for one year.

Pitchers Trophy

A subject chosen by the Club President each year – DPI

Pitchers Cup

Open to New members only in their first full season – open DPI

Dennis Moss Trophy

A mounted Print on any subject

Leonard Jones Cup

Open subject DPI

Cavendish Cup

A monochrome mounted Print on any subject

Miles Shield

A DPI taken on a Club outing or Practical Event.

Gladiator Trophy

A DPI with an Aviation Theme

Ted Parrot Trophy

Sporting Action based DPI

Cirencester Camera Club General Competition Schedule 2026/2027			
	Competition	Submission date	Judging night
Summer Cup	DPI – 2026 Summer Club Events	11th September 2026	21st September 2026
A	Open DPI & Print	21st September 2026	5th October 2026
B	Set DPI & Print – Rule of Thirds	5th October 2026	2nd November 2026
C	Open DPI & Print	2nd November 2026	30th November 2026
D	Set DPI & Print – Up Close	30th November 2026	25th January 2027
E	Open DPI & Print	25th January 2027	22nd February 2027
F	Set DPI & Print – Markets	22nd February 2027	22nd March 2027
Annual	2026-2027 Annual Competitions	22nd March 2027	26th April and 10th May 2027

Definitions of Set Subjects

"RULE OF THIRDS" – A follow on from Ian Howard's talk where an image is divided into nine equal sections, and key elements are positioned along the grid lines or their intersections to create balance and visual interest. Think about the classic sand, sea, sky horizontals or the lone tree sitting off centre in the frame.

"UP CLOSE" – A follow on from the Club's very successful Macro evening where various techniques were demonstrated and tried. This subject can also be about intimacy, detail, and revealing what we usually overlook. It challenges you to move physically closer — or zoom in visually — to transform ordinary subjects into something striking and unexpected.

"MARKETS" – A rich and dynamic photography subject because they combine people, colour, culture, and movement in one place. There are many Market Towns in the Cotswolds to choose from or go further afield with the famous Christmas Markets across the UK and Europe They all offer endless opportunities to capture everyday life and storytelling through images.

For all Competitions, please upload images by the submission date shown above via Pixoroo link below: -

pixoroo.com/public/account/login

CCC Annual Competition Categories - submission deadline 22nd March 2027		
Award	**Subject**	**Format**
Pitchers Trophy (Topic chosen by Club President)	Fresh Air Sculpture Show, Quenington Sunday 14th June to Sunday 5th July 2026	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
Ted Parrot Trophy	Sporting Action	DPI 1600 x 1200 sRGB
Pitchers Cup Open to new members only.	Open	DPI, 1600 x 1200, sRGB

	Date		Event
SEPT	07 September 2026		Opening Meeting, incl image resizing, PC & phone
	14 September 2026		WCPF Print Viewing
	21 September 2026		Summer Cup Knockout DPIs & Image Of The Year
	28 September 2026		Roger Bracewell - Urban Photography
OCT	05 October 2026		Competition A Judging - Open
	12 October 2026		Mop Fair - 6:30pm - Cirencester Parish Church
	19 October 2026		Photographers We Admire
	26 October 2026		Martin Fry - The Seeing Eye
NOV	02 November 2026		Competition B Judging - Rule Of Thirds
	09 November 2026		CISP
	16 November 2026		Abby Moule - Astro Adventures
	23 November 2026		Flash Photography
	26 November 2026		Battle v Swindon & Wantage (at Swindon)
	30 November 2026		Competition C Judging - Open
DEC	07 December 2026		Cat Cross - Theatre Photography - Zoom - 7pm
	14 December 2026		Annual Buffet/Quiz - 7pm - Greyhound Pub
	21 December 2026		Christmas Break
	28 December 2026		Christmas Break
JAN	04 January 2027		Jane Lazenby - Inspired By Art - Zoom - 7pm
	11 January 2027		Shaun Little - Toy Photography
	18 January 2027		Camera & Lens Chats
	25 January 2027		Competition D Judging - Up Close
FEB	01 February 2027		10 by 8
	08 February 2027		David Boag - Photographing Nature More Creatively
	15 February 2027		Home Battle v Tyndale
	22 February 2027		Competition E Judging - Open
MAR	01 March 2027		Kate Peake - 60s Model Night
	08 March 2027		Vicky Kelly - The Space Between Us
	15 March 2027		Cirencester College - 7pm
	22 March 2027		Competition F Judging - Markets
	29 March 2027		Bank Holiday - Easter Monday
APR	05 April 2027		Paul Norris - Mexico, Ecuador and the Galapagos
	12 April 2027		Colin Trow-Poole - Street Photography
	19 April 2027		Shaun Little - Photoshop
	26 April 2027		The Print Panel Challenge/Annual Competition Judging
MAY	03 May 2027		Bank Holiday - May Day
	10 May 2027		Annual Competition Judging
	17 May 2027		Lisa Rendall - Dare to Be Different
	24 May 2027		AGM & Annual Awards

Competition Judging
External Speakers
Member Nights

All meetings start in club at 7:30 pm unless otherwise indicated
Full details can be found on the Events page on the website

Club Programme