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Competition Results
Digital Forum



Events



Travel Group
on Facebook

*Date for your Diary*

Travel Group's Annual Gathering

**Springboard 2018 12 May at the
Runnymede on Thames Hotel.**

COVER PHOTO Grahame Soden

Swedish Lapland

Competitors in the 2017 annual Vindeldraget which is a 400 km "race" with dogs & skis along the frozen river

A VIEW FROM THE BRIDGE

The old year is drawing to a close as I write this and by the time you receive this issue of Travel Log, 2018 will be well on its way, as no doubt will planning for your holidays, photographic or not. Perhaps you have also made new year resolutions in respect of what you will do with your photography in the coming year: are you someone who has specific projects in mind or are you someone who wanders around photographing whatever takes your fancy?

I find myself more inclined now to work on projects, my latest being that of travelling along the pilgrimage route to Rome of which I did a part in 2017. My method is slow travel, by train in this instance, stopping off in places for a few days to try and immerse myself in the essence of the place. This gives me an opportunity to learn more about a place and its history, even talking to people though my French, for the most part, is practically non-existent. As I explore the places I travel through, some small, others quite large, I come across strange connections that reflect European history. For example, Langres, in the Haute-Marne Department, in N.E.France is the birthplace of Jeanne Mance, a co-founder of Montreal; and Besancon was the birthplace of the Lumiere brothers, inventors of cinematography.

Travel, they say, broadens the mind and I certainly find this so. Capturing this photographically is more of a challenge but my images enhance my memories and the 'useless information' I pick up along the way! I am hoping that eventually they will all be in a book!

But I am also starting to wonder about what I should do with all the prints, slides and digital images I have taken during a period of over 50 years! I have started to look through them, throwing out those I think have no artistic merit but keeping others that are beginning to have social and historic value. They remind me not only of the travelling I have done and places visited but also of the changes that have occurred and what a fascinating planet we live on. There is still plenty to explore and so I am looking forward to 2018 when I plan to do so much more.

Happy travelling!

Liz Rhodes. MBE

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www.facebook.com/rpstravelgroup/



Do Not Lie To Yourself

Landscape, travel and street photography are my main genre interests. These can sometimes overlap, especially travel and street photography. Continuous shutter is of course one of my default settings for street photography since I might have to quickly lock focus on a moving subject. Back button focusing also helps since it allows me to switch at ease from locking my focus point to AI servo tracking. Taking multiple shots increases my chance of a good in-focus capture. It also of course means that I might have several good in-focus shots which opens the possibility of playing around with combining multiple exposures.

The idea to combine multiple exposures often comes to me in post-processing when I am looking to see which shots came out ok. I don't have one set technique for combining the exposures and I am generally not going for simulating a slow shutter speed. My interest is more to be creative and look at my options for combining the exposures to suggest the movement I remember from the scene.

My first play-around with combining multiple exposures was in Aug 2016 after a photo walk with Jan Miracky in Prague.

Jan walked past the John Lennon wall as a subject for me in front of the graffiti. I decided to go with a slow shutter speed 1/15s to get a blurry Jan. In post-processing I had the idea to align 5 shots in Photoshop and use layer masks to blend them together. I chose to have Jan appear in to the frame in a ghostly fashion with his legs only shown in the last exposure of him. Jan liked it and thought it was very creative processing. That was all the encouragement I needed.

While visiting Osaka in April 2017 I took a street photography shot of one of the ladies who stand outside shops waving banners

and talking through a loudspeaker to try to draw customers in. I took a shot at 1/200s shutter speed so I was hoping to catch at least one sharp shot from her side-to-side motion. In Photoshop I aligned 4 shots and selectively masked out most of the shots except for the one where she was central. It is my hope that this choice helps to give a sensation of her side-to-side motion.

Closer to home and more recently in London, August 2017, I took multiple shots of a young lady dashing across a small red route junction in heavy rain. I liked several of the shots that came out but decided a combined image might be stronger. Here I have decided to leave the first and last images almost completely visible - giving her a starting point and exit point. I have left the two other exposures much more transparent to hint at her rapid motion.

In summary, my approach to combining multiple exposures is neither new nor advanced. I see it as simply taking time to look at options and not having one set approach. Combining exposures opens up creative opportunities and a lot of fun can be had. All that is needed is a basic knowledge of aligning images and using layer masks in Photoshop. You of course also need your camera set to multiple shot mode and have it take enough images to work with.

Little Red Raining Route





Bargains Bargains In Osaka



John Cheshire LRPS

*Gaining the LRPS is undoubtedly an achievement
but the real joy is in the process of learning.*



Bolivian Salt Flats



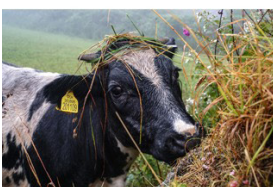
Pamela Jones LRPS



The "L" Chicago



Hanging Plan



My successful panel for LRPS

Pamela Jones LRPS

I attended one of the advisory days which I found very helpful and would definitely recommend this - comments were made on 4 of my images and I was quite relieved that I didn't have to replace any. I took the advice on three of the images and left one of them alone (the comments on the advisory day on this image were quite tentative and I felt on balance that the way it was reflected what I wanted to convey)

I had given a lot of thought to the structure of the panel which meant that some of the images I had really wanted to display did not make the final 10 because they did not fit well enough into the overall plan. I initially had a selection of about 30 images and selecting the correct 10 was probably the most difficult part of the preparation.

I decided eventually to run with 2 rows of 5 - the top row being held by 2 black and white portrait format images and the outside bottom row images reflecting a black and white theme but in colour.

The central images form 2 triangles of colour - an inverted triangle of blue tones and a regular triangle of golden tones. This provided a balance to my panel.

I chose a selection of images through which I tried to demonstrate all of the points made in the RPS guide to distinctions. It was well worth working through this and I can't emphasise enough how helpful the process is. I also chose a selection of images taken in the UK as well as my usually preferred far afield travel images; and as I enjoy black and white photography I wanted to include that aspect as well. Although I do not usually take many people images I felt it important (again for myself) to demonstrate a skill in this area and included a portrait shot of the Llama Shepherd.

Flying Flams



Atacama Colours



Lake in Chile





Cornish Tor

THE **RPS**
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Dragged Through a Hedge Backwards





King Penguin Colony

Llama Shepherd - Bolivia



Door in abandoned mining village - Chile





Shepherd in the mist

It's dark and raining so I've packed the kit away. As we climb into the clouds, the light improves and takes on this magical aura. I fumble desperately for the camera to snatch this picture of a lone shepherd and his ghostly flock before it disappears before my eyes.



Despite the hardships, there is no shortage of budding shepherds keen to carry on the tradition. Scottish border collies have become man's best friend both sides of the Pyrénées.





Martin Castellan

It's early June in the central Pyrenean department of Ariège. It is transhumance time, when farmers lead their animals up the mountains to their summer pastures. I've been walking alongside this flock of Tarasconnais ewes since dawn but now it's lunchtime. It's hot and the sheep need a drink. So do the humans.

Jean-Marc thrusts a large cup of Ricard into my hand. I try to refuse - "But we're climbing a mountain this afternoon". Despite my feeble protests, the brimming tumbler finds its way to my hand - "You'll need some fuel, then". Crusty baguette and paté never taste so good as when thrust into my hand by a shepherd. The main course is an unlimited supply of barbecued lamb chops. The barbecue is half an oil drum filled with wood with some diesel to set it off.

People have been grazing livestock here for at least 7,000 years. During the hot, dry summers, lowland farms don't have enough grass to both feed the animals and make hay for the following winter. Water is often in short supply. So their sheep, cattle and horses spend June to October in the high mountains at over 2,000 metres where there is ample pasture.

The animals are all bred for mountain life. All are specific to the region with some rooted to their own valley. The sheep are Tarasconnais in the eastern valleys, Castillonais in the west. Cattle are mostly the hardy Gascon, a tough silver-grey beef breed common in the south-west of France. The horses are the diminutive stocky black Mérens with a few of the larger tan-coloured breed also called Castillonais, named after their village, Castillon en Couserans.

I've been around hill farming all my life. Back in the 1990s, I moved here from Britain's Peak District. I found these mountains, some of them over 3,000 metres high, full of stories waiting to be told. A one-year project has become a decade as one story leads to another.

After the Second World War, farmers transported their animals in lorries. Young people left the valleys for jobs in towns. The countryside was becoming a museum. More recently, with spiralling costs, hill farming has been losing money for decades. It depends heavily on subsidies.

Pyrenean lamb faces strong competition from much cheaper New Zealand variety.

These Gascon cows have wandered from the main track and are following a footpath. This cowman climbs a boulder to guide them back. A Frenchman with a beret and a stick is too good to miss. Already out of breath, I run across the scree to record this scene before he moves.



Despite the rain, Simon Lompède leads his herd of Mérens and Castillonais horses up the Bethmale valley. The veterans of previous years know where they are going. They don't take much leading.



A programme to reintroduce the European brown bear has brought new challenges as many of these new arrivals are concentrated in the central Pyrenees. In the summer of 2017, a bear attacked a flock, taking one ewe but over 300 others fell to their deaths when fleeing the predator. Now wolves are re-establishing themselves, having made their way across France from Italy.

Farmers feel under attack from all sides. People here want responsibility for their valleys and resent these laws and programmes sent by Paris. Protests become more and more vocal

The traditional transhumance on foot has made a comeback as a way to breathe life back into mountain communities. Attracting visitors from near and far, it draws city dwellers' attention to the farmers' plight.

Today's shepherds are mostly young and often well-qualified. Traditionally a male preserve, an increasing number of women are joining the profession. The European Union and the French state finances their training and refurbishes their high-altitude cabins. Many now have radio-telephones and solar-powered electricity.

Despite all these measures, hill farming remains precarious. I wanted to record this way of life in case it disappears forever.

A typical transhumance may cover 60 kilometres or

so, spread over three days. There's a strong feeling of solidarity. Each farmer is helped by his friends and family. In due course, he will return the favour. I've made many friends along the way, partly because my pictures have brought them much-needed attention from a wider world.

Too many photographers come, take their pictures, and go, much like tourists. Promised photographs never arrive.

When I meet someone new, there is no camera. The day starts with conversation where I explain my project and I show examples of work I have done before. Work only begins once I have established the necessary relationship and trust.

I have always kept promises to send people pictures of themselves. They have responded with their whole-hearted cooperation and friendship.

The dour shepherd, who leads this article, featured in an American magazine. I presented him with a copy. His look of amazement changed to a smile. For the rest of the day, when he thought no-one was looking, he took the magazine from his coat for just one more look.

On the other side of the massif, I'm now working on cañadas, Spain's version of the transhumance. Their trails cover the entire country and journeys last up to a month. I may be some time.



After two days of torrential rain, sheep farmer, Francois Martres takes shelter during a brief respite

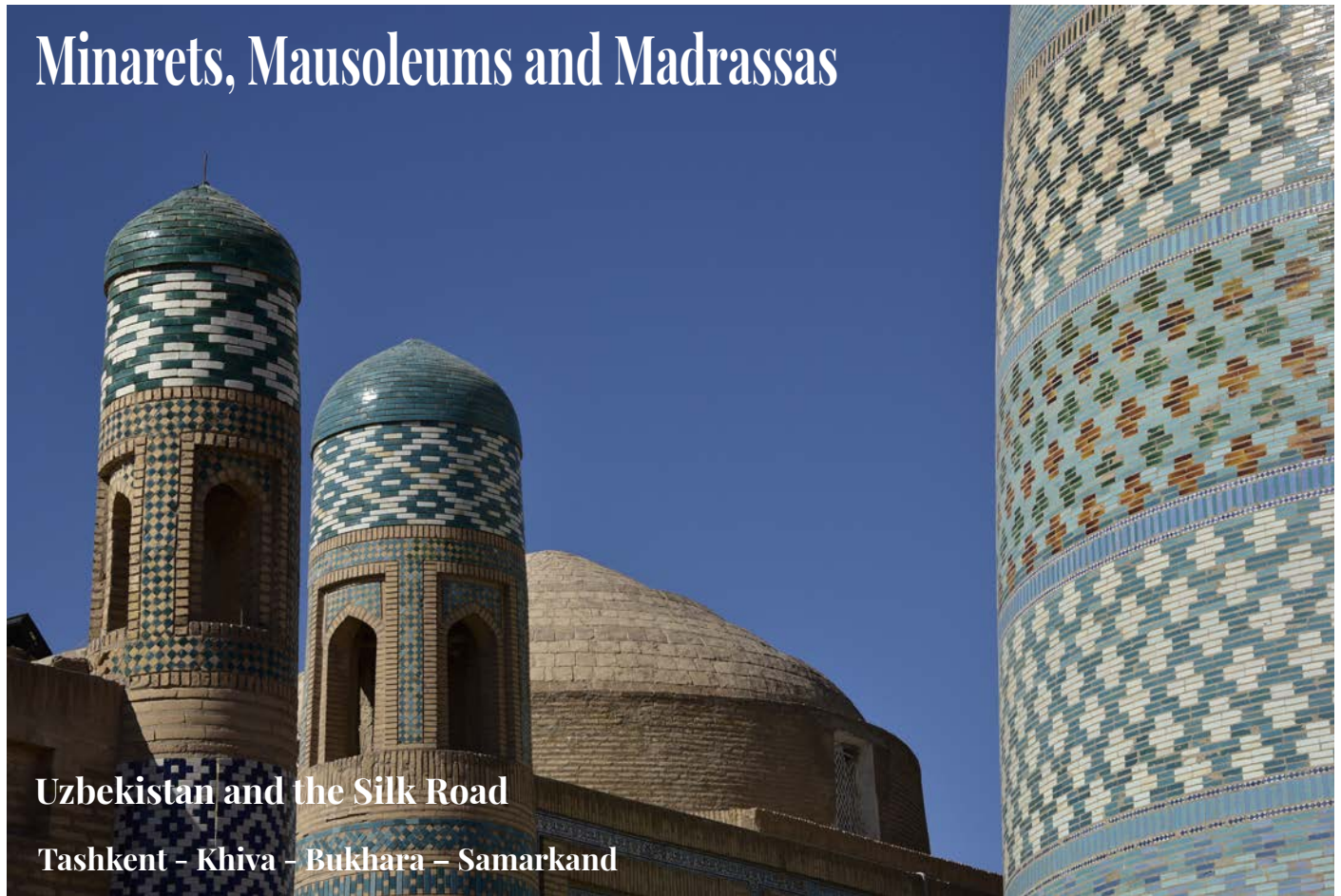
As a photographer I specialise in travel, environment and sustainable agriculture. I'm never happier than when immersed in France's varied landscapes or accompanying shepherds as they take their ewes to the mountains in spring.

Martin Castellan



Arriving at an open space, ewes scatter in search of food. One shepherd runs forward to head them off while another stops them doubling back.

Minarets, Mausoleums and Madrassas



Uzbekistan and the Silk Road

Tashkent – Khiva – Bukhara – Samarkand



Mike Cook

Uzbekistan, in Central Asia, lies on the ancient trading routes which stretched from Beijing to Venice, generally referred to as the Silk Road.

The area had a turbulent clan-based past and was the focus of the so-called Great Game in the nineteenth and early twentieth centuries, when the British Empire sought to protect its interests in the Indian sub-continent from external threats, notably Russia. In more recent times the country had several decades of occupation in what our tour-guide characterised in low-key terms as 'the Soviet period'. Add to this its location in an earthquake zone, and you begin to appreciate why the built heritage, or what remains of it, is so treasured. Khiva, Bukhara and Samarkand are all afforded UNESCO World Heritage Site status, whilst Tashkent with its modern buildings, Soviet constructed Metro system (photography prohibited) and multi-lane boulevards is very much the capital city, though not without historic elements.

Some travel guidebooks tend to dismiss Tashkent as having nothing of value to see, but as a point of arrival its modernity and vitality establishes a useful counterpoint to what the visitor is about to experience further afield.

In Uzbekistan the approach to conservation of the built heritage is not quite what we are accustomed

to in the UK; there it tends towards reconstruction and rebuilding rather than renovation, repair or restoration. However, traditional skills in producing replacement glazed tiles in mosaic and majolica forms are employed in the process.

The Soviet period did include important infrastructure works, improvements in water quality and some conservation work. It also involved the repression of religious faith with the result that the majority of traditional spiritual schools, Madrassas, ceased to function, though many have now found a new life as workshops for artisan producers and craft centres. The largely (Sunni) Muslim population observe their faith without adhering to the dress code often observed elsewhere; the women's clothes are particularly colourful and whilst the older generation favour a loose headscarf many younger women do not cover their heads.

Ladies day out, Registan Square





Golden smile

Children are taught English from the age of seven and generally the people are very friendly and welcoming to visitors – a broad smile which reveals a row of gold teeth is commonplace. Needless to say, the market traders everywhere have their sales pitch well rehearsed, 'Very cheap, almost free!' they cry as they invite the tourists to view their ceramics, fabrics (silk?), jewellery and other wares.

Visiting in the second half of September avoids the fierce heat of summer, though temperatures were still a little higher than normal, being in the low 30's Celsius. Rainfall is pretty much guaranteed to be zero with clear blue skies and as the onset of autumn it has the added bonus of being harvest time, including the cotton harvest, with the markets full of all manner of fruit, vegetables and spices in addition to a variety of cheeses and meat. Also as the favoured season for weddings, perhaps due to the abundance of produce for feasting, it is commonplace for the bride and groom to pose for photographs in public venues and we saw several wedding parties in each location that we visited, regardless of the day of the week.

To undertake the itinerary we followed entirely by road would have involved some fairly arduous journeys through unremarkable countryside so we flew from Tashkent to Urgench (for Khiva), from Khiva to Bukhara and let the express train take the strain from Samarkand back to Tashkent.

Bread Seller, Central Bazaar



Khiva

The area within the city wall is preserved as an architectural and historical museum – there are hotels, restaurants and many traders operating from historic buildings producing all manner of craft items. Its conservation status was declared in the Soviet era and much of the old city was emptied of people to facilitate the restoration. It is also pedestrianised which makes it particularly easy to walk around admiring the architecture. Contrary to the received wisdom I was out and about taking photographs at lunchtime; yes, the lighting was harsh with deep shadows, but the streets were almost deserted, especially by conspicuously attired western tourists!

Bukhara

Bukhara has a large number of ancient monuments recording a thousand years of history. It has a lively historic centre thronging with local people going about their daily business. There are shops, hotels, restaurants, market traders and historic sites, albeit on a far larger scale than Khiva with quite an extensive reconstruction project in progress. Exploring the central area on foot was straightforward and our tour included excursions to the outlying sites of historic interest.

Samarkand

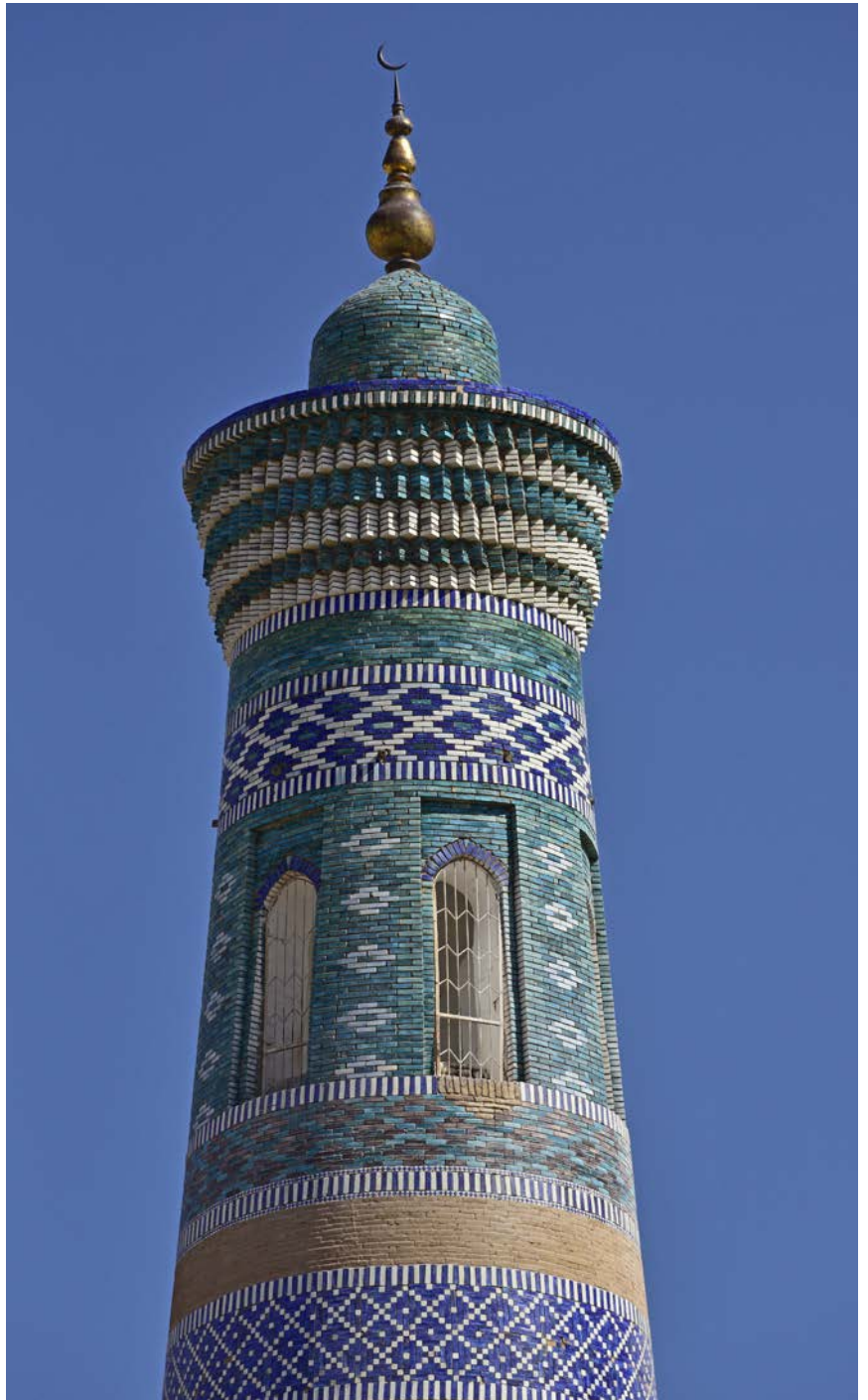
Samarkand was simply stunning. Its most notable attraction, Registan Square, bounded on three sides by towering madrassas, is spectacular. There were many other magnificent sites to see, and undoubtedly the best had been saved until last.

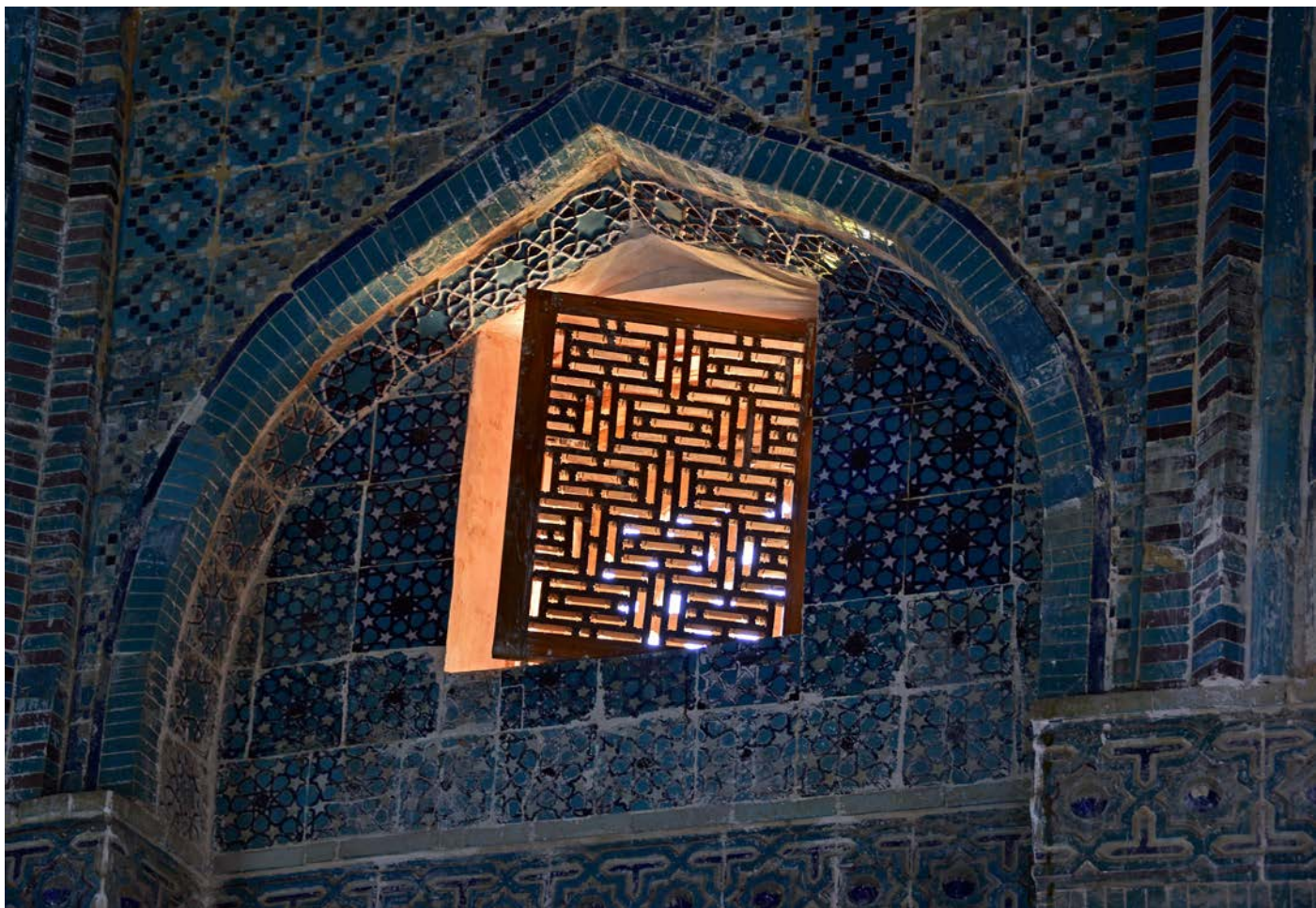
There were a few limitations on photography - the metro, aircraft and airports, railways and military installations, but no restrictions were encountered at historic sites though almost all charged a modest camera permit fee equivalent to about 50p.

Many of the historic buildings are very tall and impossible to picture from a distance so without the benefit of a perspective control lens I returned with many photographs of 'reclining' buildings which have been since been corrected.

Islamhoja Minaret, Khiva

Registan Square, Samarkand





Mausoleum, Shah i Zinda complex, Samarkand

Sunset, Bikajon Bika Mosque, Khiva





Deja VIEW

David Cummings, ARPS
Anniston, Alabama USA





Deja
VIEW

David Cummings, ARPS
Anniston, Alabama USA





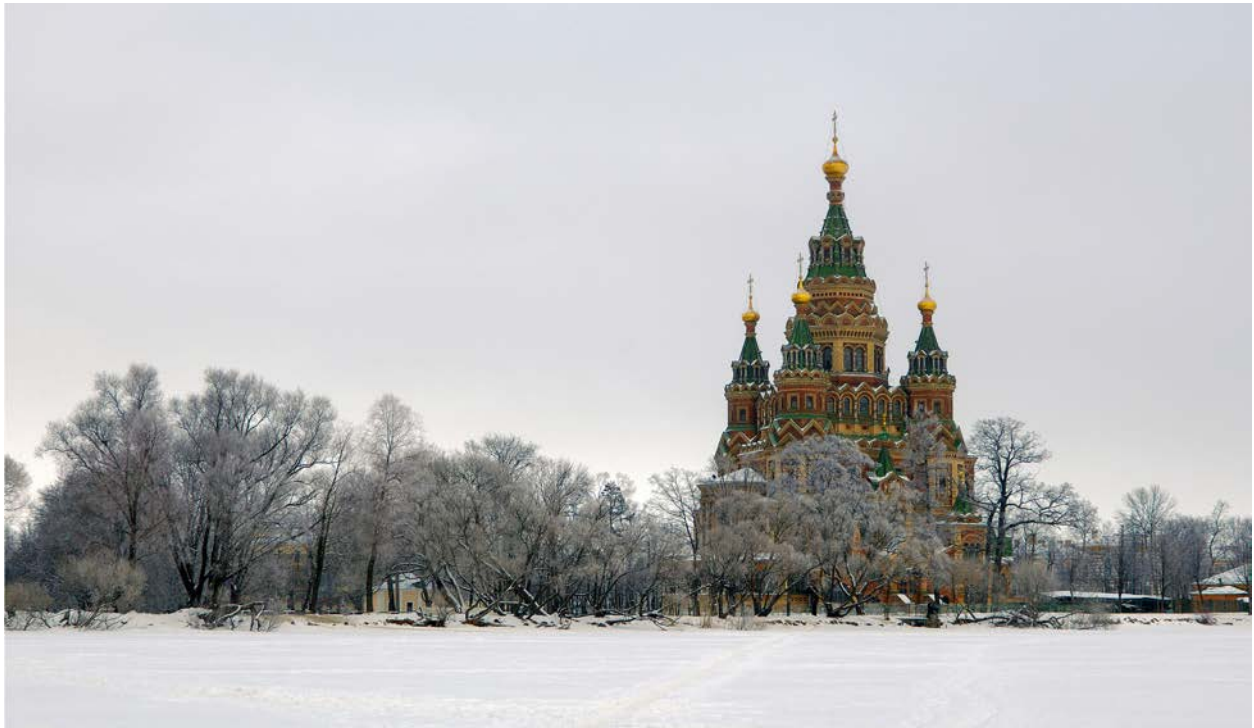
It is a great joy to go to new places and see new things. Travel opens a world of novelty and excitement. Sometimes when looking through the viewfinder and composing a photograph, I say, "Wait. I've seen this before." It may be the subject itself or the arrangement of elements in the frame. Somehow there is a new image that matches one made years ago across the world.

That is the theme here. Pardon the awful pun. "Deja View". How cheap. But it's perfect to describe what you will see here. These are

paired images that must be seen together.

Very few of these images could be stand-alone contest entries. By themselves, most of these photos are rather pedestrian travel images. Nobody needs another sunrise image from the Bagan Plain. But when paired with the Peter and Paul Cathedral near Peterhof, visual context and similarity combine to create a new worth. Shared elements and context bounce back and forth between the two and create a relationship that would never be recognized if not for hours at the computer making matches that





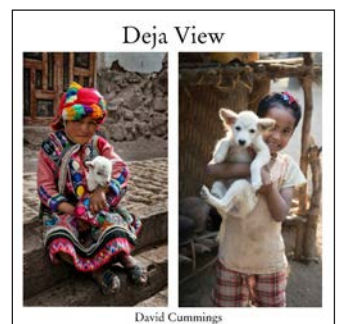
were meant to be. This is the fun of a lifelong obsession with images.

When it became evident that pairs were possible I started paying attention on trips. It was a fun game that gave new enthusiasm for travel photography. A backlit child holding a lamb in Peru is a twin to a similarly lit child holding a puppy in Burma. I moved around to make the light match, remembering the mood of the first image. On Easter Island, I remembered a similar scene from the Ring of Brodgar. In my memory, even the clouds matched. I consciously

composed that pair for mirror images.

The most exciting pairs were the ones found in the computer. For weeks I looked at thousands of travel images. On my third viewing, I noted that a church near Rotarua in New Zealand mirrored St. Peter's Church near Skara Brae. And the light on the Bayon at Angkor Thom mirrored the light on the Myathalun Pagoda in Magway, Burma. Many effective pairs emerged unexpected via exhaustive image review. That's testament to a consistent shooting style.





David Cummings is a practising dentist in Anniston, Alabama. He and his wife Lesa enjoy travel. They go to new places to see and photograph new things a couple of times a year. He is inspired by the traditions of black-and-white photography, and tries to come home with personal images that are different from everyone else's view.



Enjoy these matched pairs. I know I do.



The Book

Published by David Cummings

<http://www.blurb.co.uk/b/7169668-deja-view>

"Deja View" is a collection of paired images created over the last fifty years. While travelling on all seven continents, the author recognized that new images exactly matched other images created in different countries years earlier. The images match each other in content or graphic detail, and together create a meaning and relationship that could not exist otherwise.



*Knife Seller,
Jaisalmer*

The Royal Photographic Society exists to promote photography and to help everyone realise their potential as a photographer. It does this through exhibitions, distinctions and workshops and its public activities.

Leather Worker





Roy Morris

FRGS ARPS DPAGB AFIAP

www.mnogallery.com

My background

Due to my job and lifelong passion for travel, prior to my early retirement in 2002 at 55 years of age, I had been lucky enough to visit many countries across the world. Increasingly these travels were more thoroughly recorded and documented with cameras, progressing from slides to film and then digital.

My passion for photography has turned into quite an obsession and over the last 7 years I have increased the quantity and length of my visits/expeditions to countries such as Peru, Bolivia, Japan, Papua New Guinea, Cambodia, Albania, Sri Lanka, Cuba and India and now can boast of visiting 83 countries in total.

My experience and reputation in travel and specifically travel photography led to this being recognised with Fellowship of the Royal Geographical Society. I was accepted by the RPS as LRPS with most prints being travel and ARPS with a travel panel from Cuba.

Although many friends who are excellent photographers were very negative about their experiences in applying for their FRPS qualification, I decided to pursue that route.

Shopkeeper





Lathe Worker

'There has been just one Travel FRPS awarded in the last FIVE years - that's almost a generation in photographic progress'

Machinist, Varanasi



Lead up to FRPS

I had my experience in achieving ARPS in Travel, plus DPAGB with mostly travel prints, and constantly sought input from experienced and successful photographers that I rated highly. I continued to improve my understanding and skills in camera usage and post processing. I attended an FRPS Advisory Day in June 2016, took on board the feedback and later made two more long trips to India to add tens of thousands of new images to my portfolio.

FRPS & Feedback

I submitted my 20 prints and Statement of Intent in September 2017 and soon received an email stating that "my submission is not being recommended to Council for the distinction".

I awaited the promised feedback without high expectations as this was the most criticised part of the process commented on by other FRPS "failures" that I knew. It did not disappoint - in my view it was at a level with the occasional really poor judge at camera clubs.

Not one comment on the Statement of Intent, which I had been led to believe is a very important factor.

Individual images were accused of being over-sharpened, having blown highlights, too much noise reduction or being over-saturated - none of which was true.

Six were accused of being "posed pictures" because the subjects looked up at the camera - since when was it wrong/strange for that to happen abroad? - this also called my honesty into doubt as my Statement of Intent stated that all images were unguarded and not posed.

I requested a meeting with the Chair of the Travel Panel, Pete McCloskey, Ray Spence (Distinctions Advisory Board) and Andy Moore (Distinctions Manager) to review the feedback with my panel, in situ in Bath. This will now happen at the end of January

General Observations & Questions

The quality and usefulness of feedback on failed FRPS panels, Travel and others, has been a major issue for years - surely this should be improved?

I asked who were the "acknowledged experts in Travel" who assessed my work.

I could find little evidence of judging experience and none of any of them being "acknowledged experts in Travel".

One of the panel I know well and wonder whether he should have recused himself from the process completely.

Outstanding Questions

After all my various communications with the RPS I feel that the following questions are unanswered or remain questionable issues.

1. Some evidence that the panel were "fit for purpose". I am not criticising the individuals or questioning their undoubted photographic experience and talent but how are they "acknowledged experts in Travel" sufficient to judge at the exalted level of Travel FRPS?
2. Where are the members of Distinction panels published and where can we see their qualification or experience?
3. The process - when the first of the 5 judges comment, this must affect the views of the others and the outcome.
4. Pass rates - after much questioning I ascertained that the pass rate for Travel FRPS over the last 3 years is..... zero.

In fact, there has been just one Travel FRPS awarded in the last FIVE years - that's almost a generation in photographic progress!!!

I will pursue this with Dr Michael Pritchard FRPS, Chief Executive, and hope to get some answers,

Roy Morris FRGS ARPS DPAGB AFIAP

In this modern age Transparency seems to be a keyword in how Institutions and Organisations present themselves.

It must surely be time for The RPS to move towards a society where none of its activities are held 'in camera'. How can members benefit from comments and whispers that are conducted behind closed doors?

Currently this is how applications for Fellowship of the Society are conducted. Is this appropriate?

Digital Forum Round 42

I am pleased to announce that Brian was voted the favourite with A Theological Discussion.

Second was Richard with Lightning Strike and joint third was Barbara with Sunrise in Tuscany and Laura with Sunday Morning Papers.

Hazel Mason FRPS

1st



A Theological Discussion. I spent an afternoon in the Jami Masjid (Friday Mosque) in Old Delhi photographing people in the courtyard. I asked everyone for permission and got only one refusal. Nobody asked me for money but quite a few people were chatty particularly as I was using a film camera. Several older men told me about their professional and semi-professional photographic careers and what started as a simple tourist photography shoot became a social event.

Brian Pearce FRPS

Sunrise in Tuscany. This is a view from Montestigliano, a small hill in Tuscany where I spent a week at the beginning of last October. I was getting up early in the morning for a few consecutive days to see the sunrise.

Each day it was completely different and within the day it was changing every minute with the rising sun. This is just after the sun rose, much warmer in colour than before. Low clouds were very dense on this particular day and it gave a feeling of isolation from the rest of the world.

Barbara Bogacka



Joint 3rd

Lightning Strike. Singapore has one of the highest rates of lightning strikes in the world and I'd waited a long time to catch one of them on camera. We'd been going through a week of storms and more were forecast for the weekend - I'd been taking a few shots down by the Gardens and thought that this viewpoint would be a good one, but I'd need a lot of luck

Richard Coulstock

2nd



Anyway, the forecast was for storms at sea. I headed down about 5 am, set myself up and waited. I could see the storm out at sea and just after 6.30am, it moved to this point and I was lucky enough to get some shots. About 5 minutes later, the heavens opened and I got soaked - no complaints, though.!

Morning Papers Travelling in Umbria in 2014 we visited many hilltop villages, each with their unique characteristics but all with shady squares and benches where young and old hung out on Sunday mornings. This seemed such a peaceful scene amongst the noisy market stalls just out of sight.

Canon 5D Mk II, 24-105 F/4-5.6, ISO 800, 1/400 at F5, 85mm which with hindsight are not the best settings. Looking at the shots prior to this opportunity I was in the open - quite sunny - with a low ISO and fast s/s ... I must have upped the ISO when I saw this man in the shade, perhaps I should have slowed the s/s instead. Interesting to consider the technical side in retrospect.

Laura Morgan

Joint 3rd



“HOW DO I GET IT RIGHT?”

This was the title of a day workshop run by the Travel and Documentary Groups to help participants think through what they wanted from their photography, to learn how to get the most out of photo opportunities and how to critique their own and others' images.

Led by Janey Devine, FRPS, 12 members met in an informal and friendly atmosphere at the premises of the Bristol Camera Club. The morning started off with a presentation by Janey on her work during which she covered such issues as what do you want to achieve, and thinking about the images you want to take when working on a project. Hints and tips were given on preparation and planning, completing the project and post-production.

This was followed by a session on arranging a suitable group of images, chosen from a larger number, to tell a story. It was a bit like working on a jigsaw puzzle but the aim was to demonstrate that it was a good idea to have a lot of images to choose from so that the final 'story' is a strong one.

Participants had been asked to bring 12-15 A4 prints and after lunch these were commented on by Janey and others in the group with helpful thoughts and ideas for improvement.

All those taking part thoroughly enjoyed the day and felt they had learnt a great deal.

It is now hoped to run a couple more sessions of this workshop in 2018.

Liz Rhodes



The Appleby Horse Fair
Cumbria 2018
7th - 10th June. Philip Pound LRPS



Photographs of The Appleby Horse Fair by
Robert Akester LRPS

THE RPS
ROYAL PHOTOGRAPHIC SOCIETY

TRAVEL

This year the fair is being held on Thursday 7th, Friday 8th, Saturday 9th and Sunday 10th June.

Gypsies from far and wide meet up in Appleby and sell their horses. Many wonderful opportunities for photographs.

Unless you book more than a year in advance the chances of booking anywhere in Appleby are nil. Travelling by car at the time is not advised because of the substantial number of visitors and trailers with horses on the road.

Practically, the best way to get to and from Appleby is by rail. Appleby is served by the Settle to Carlisle railway which itself is of photographic interest. It is about an hour's train journey from Appleby to Settle.

I intend to visit the fair each day from the market town of Settle, where my wife and I will be staying at the Lion Guesthouse for the nights of Thursday 7th June to Sunday 10th June. I plan to take the first train to Appleby each morning and take the last train back to Settle each evening.

My wife is not a photographer (in fact she loathes photography) but there should be plenty to see and do in the area. Everyone will have something different to see and do so I do not plan to organise anything - just make people aware of the event, and let people do their own thing.

Philip Pound LRPS

For further information contact:
philippound@yahoo.co.uk

JOURNEY LATIN AMERICA

Friday 16 August 2019 - 8 Nights

Single	£1,752.00pp
Double	£1,314.00pp
Triple	£1,205.00pp

2/3 Day Extensions available from £221

ATOL & ABTA Protected. International flights not included but can be booked via agents.



A holiday which will have you constantly reaching for your camera, this journey explores the surreal, sandy landscapes of Brazil's far northeast and visits two Unesco-listed colonial gems.

Details from Robert Akester

bob.akester@btinternet.com



Fly into the dynamic port Recife, with its history of slaving, now renewed as a capital of the arts, supremely of music and dance. Start your holiday in the nearby centuries-old town Olinda, with divine Portuguese architecture lining cobbled streets.

Travel on to the remote far north of Brazil and the huge Parnaíba delta. Its islets and lagoons are fabulous bird watching destinations. Beyond, are the surreal dunes and crystalline pools of Lençóis Maranhenses National Park. A traditional way of life survives in the region's sleepy, riverine fishing communities and small coastal towns. Even the popular beach hangout of Jericoacoara remains low-key.

This is an adventurous trip taking you exploring by jeep, boat and 4WD.





Land of the Northern Lights

Marco Polo

Departs: London Tilbury • Tuesday 23rd
Oct 2018 • Duration: 13 nights



John Riley LRPS - Travel Log Editor

Hi - I will be on this cruise as a Guest Lecturer on Photography - If you wish to join me then please book directly with CMV 0844 998 3788 and drop me an email.

On this exciting voyage to Norway, Marco Polo will venture high into the Arctic Circle in search of the Aurora Borealis or Northern Lights. This atmospheric display of green and pink light dancing across the inky dark sky, is one of nature's most extraordinary and spectacular wonders and, if atmospheric conditions are right, you'll have the chance to witness this amazing phenomenon.

<https://www.cruiseandmaritime.com/cruise/p821/land-of-the-northern-lights>

Travel Group Trips and Tours

Foreign trips organized for 2018

Northern India, in April. Highlights include the Ganga Aarti ceremony at Varanasi, visits to Bishnoi tribal villages and a wildlife park at Rathambore where, with some luck, we might see a tiger! We will also explore some of the finest examples of Mughal architecture such as the Taj Mahal and Mehrangarh fort. Contact Keith Pointon bagpoint@aol.com.

'The Road to Santiago' A trip has also been organized for July 2018: and will follow one of the major pilgrimage routes across northern Spain, arriving in time for the famous annual fiesta of St. James. Contact Colin Howard. colin.howard@me.com

Light and Land are currently putting together a trip to Sweden for us, later in 2018, so watch out for the information as it becomes available. Keith Pointon is doing the same for Lake Bled, Slovenia.

UK Trips 2018

Appleby Horse Fair. Phillip Pound has put together details of a visit to Appleby for the Horse Fair for 2018, let him know if you are interested. Page 33.

Some comments have been made about the lack of trips in the UK. We are in your hands. Where would you like to go?

Foreign trips for 2019

Latin America 16 August 2019. Robert Akester is up and running with a trip to Northern Brazil - Page 33

Route 66 We are organizing another trip to the USA, this time along the entire length of the famous Route 66 from 22 April to 11 May 2019. Further details will be available early in the New Year.

We rely on volunteers to organize our trips. If you have a suggestion and are willing to organize a weekend event in the UK, or a tour further afield we would love to hear from you so contact us and we will help.

Tours Co-ordinator
Keith Pointon, LRPS
bagpoint@aol.com



Not Only the Northern Lights ... But also:

wildlife, unspoilt nature, dog-sleigh adventures, cross-country skiing, mushroom & berry picking, wild camping, hiking, reindeer & elk spotting, great fishing, and an amazing photogenic rural idyll.

...And all this from the comfort of your holiday home at Oden's Dawn.
SC/CH/Sleeps 6/WiFi/Parking/Log Burner/Log fired Sauna in garden and much more!

Join us in Vormsele, Swedish Lapland



**Details: www.odensdawnlapland.com
or phone Grahame Soden on +46 (0)76 819 8524**

SPRINGBOARD 2018

RPS Travel Group "Springboard to Success" Spring Event and AGM May 11th/12th, 2018



The Runnymede on Thames Hotel and Spa
Windsor Road, Egham, Surrey, TW20 0AG

rooms available at rps event rate.
CALL 01784 220600

Don't miss the annual Springboard event

featuring guest speakers

**Steve Davey
&
Alison Cahill**

**Projected Images
COMPETITION**



**MEMBERS' FIVE-MINUTE
SOAPBOX**

A chance for you to talk about your travels
whilst showing some of your images.

Notice of the Annual General Meeting of the Travel Group

The Annual General Meeting of the Royal Photographic Society Travel Group will be held on Saturday 12 May 2018 at 4:15 pm at the Runnymede Hotel, Windsor Road, Egham, Surrey, United Kingdom, TW20 0AG

Agenda

1. Apologies for absence
2. Minutes of the previous Annual General Meeting
3. Matters arising
4. Chairman's Report
5. Secretary's Report
6. Treasurer's Report
 - (a) Adoption of Accounts for the year ending 31 December 2017 and
 - (b) Subscriptions
7. Travel Log Editor's Report
8. Webmaster's Report
9. Election of Officers and Committee
The current Officers and Committee are listed on page 2 of Travel Log
10. Programme
11. Any Other Business

Copies of the Accounts for 2017 and the minutes of the previous AGM will be available at the meeting.

The Accounts are also included in the RPS Accounts sent to all members

A copy of the form for nominations to the Committee is available on the Group's web site



**BRING A PRINT
competition**

FRIDAY AFTERNOON ACTIVITY

It is proposed to have a photographic walkabout in Windsor/Eton on the afternoon of Friday 11th May.



Book early and save money - see enclosed booking form