



## Tutor Report Form

Student name:	Robert Burton
Student number:	498099
Course/Module title:	Digital Photographic Practice
Assignment number:	Three

### Overall Comments

Hello Bob,

I believe you have tackle this assignment with your usual thoroughness and I have read through your comments on the web site. To be honest I think you chose the wrong event for the assignment, tractors by nature are usually bland as far as paintwork is concerned and a mixture of greys do not make for good monochrome images from colour photographs.

I have attached a photo I too at Henley which I have converted to Black and white using the following method. Go into 'Channels' and select the best from Red, Green and Blue, I chose green as being the best, then image mode and grayscale, then adjusted in image, adjustments and levels to get the image and contrast I needed. I have found this the most acceptable method to adopt and it is very quick. In fact I normally view each photo in channels.

Just a point for your reference, you log carries 20% of the marks when going for assessment, so keep up the good work on this aspect.

### Feedback on assignment

I was quite intrigued with the images you supplied, so I delayed commenting on the photographs until I had visited the Woodcote Steam Rally the week-end before last as I knew that tractors and similar machinery would be on display and could try out for myself the problems and difficulties you encountered, feeling that my comments might be more constructive.

Image 1. With close-ups of machinery it is important to concentrate on one aspect even if this means you have to get into awkward positions. Although the foreground part of the tractor is curved, it is dominant and white in an important position which draws the eye away from the main object. Contrary to your statement I find the slightly out of focus name John Deere distracting and I don't think it should have been included. In the amended image I have roughly restored the tone in the foreground and eliminated the name. This has made the image far stronger, but still not the best position.

Original

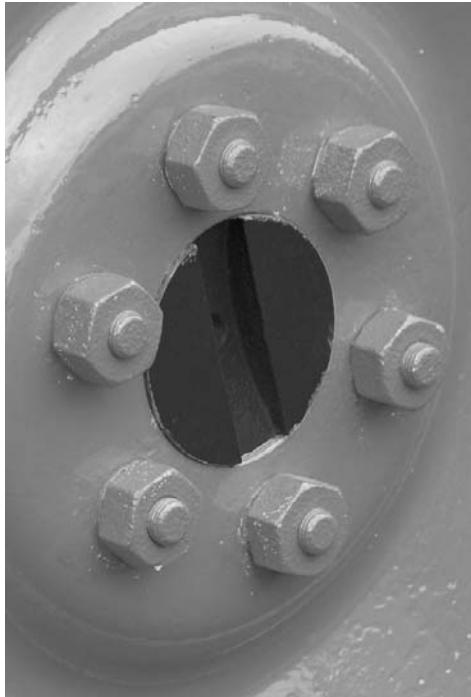


Dave Sherwood (Tutor) critique version:



Image 2. The lighting was not on your side for this shot, it would be more dramatic if there were strong shadows. I feel a little more attention should have been give to composition, the dark circle is right in the centre of the picture and you have cut off the circle on the left hand side, had you included it the problem would have been eliminated I have added more space on the right hand side which explains my point

Original



Dave Sherwood (Tutor) critique version:

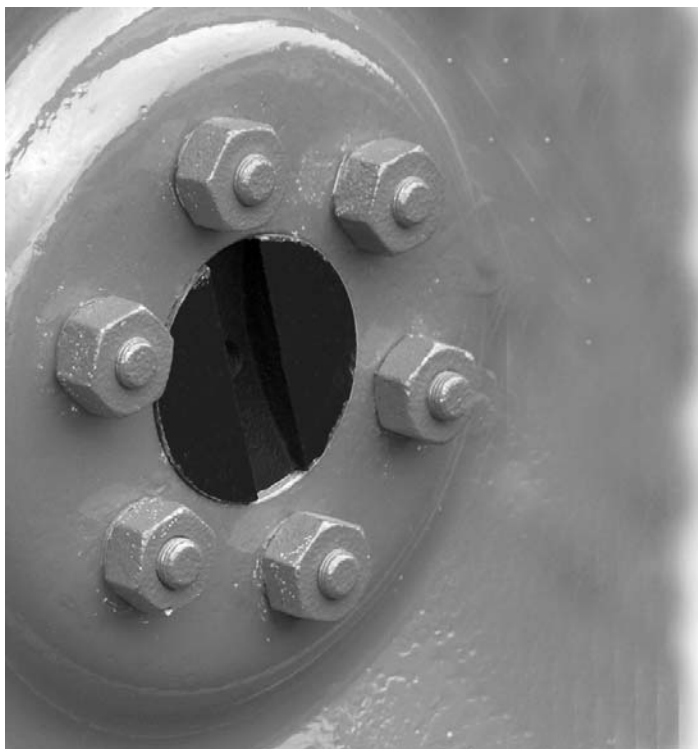


Image 3. It is important with this type of photograph to really be selective and I am not happy with the inclusion of tyres on the left and right hand side. There must have been many opportunities to photograph a whole wheel.

Original



Image 4. This image is much stronger and the black is black which is difficult when photographing tyres as they are black/grey and give an impression of underexposure. The impression I get is that it is not quite in focus which is a must when photographing machinery. I attach an aircraft photo taken last week to demonstrate this point.

Original



Dave Sherwood (Tutor) critique version:



Image 5. The difficulty you faced was that the tractors are very bland; photographing steam engines is much easier as they are highly painted which shows up better when converted to b/w.

Original



Image 6. I agree with you that this is the best image as far as good black and white is concerned and it is pin sharp. I did find the inclusion of the bright nut on the right hand side detracted from the impact, so I have excluded it from the amended image to increase the impact.

Original



Dave Sherwood (Tutor) critique version:



Image 7. This image is very sharp in the centre but the wheel itself looks out of focus as if it was moving but the edges of the image are sharp, very strange.

Original



Image 8. This tractor would have been a good subject for good close-up work to produce a good b/w image. (see attachment) I would have cropped the image on the left hand side because the spectators are starting to look at the next exhibit. Yes you have captured the enjoyment of the driver which is good.

Original



Dave Sherwood (Tutor) critique version:



## **Suggested reading/viewing**

A very good book to look at from the local library is Digital Photography Masterclass by Tom Ang. He covers colour to black and white on page 192 and 193 and shows good examples.

Please contact me if you have any difficulties with the next Assignment

Tutor name:	David Sherwill
Date	20th. July 2011
Next assignment due	1 <sup>st</sup> . September 2011

## **Response to the Tutors Response:**

As a result of receiving the report back from David Sherwell, my tutor, I have been looking into all of the observations that he made. However, firstly I was truly grateful and astonished at the depth my tutor had gone to produce this response. Not only taking the time to critique my images, but he also went to a steam show so that he could experience what I had in order to offer constructive help. This was an extremely generous gesture and very much appreciated.

Please could the OCA acknowledge this example of inspiration and fantastic tutor support?

I have read the Tom Ang pages on conversion to black and white and can see exactly what my Tutor has been highlighting.

This has been another valuable assignment and I am looking forward to the next two assignments which I want to get completed before the end of summer 2011.

Thank you

Bob Burton.