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## **Assignment 3 - Monochrome**

### ***Assignment 3 Account brief:***

- Choose theme or subject
- Shoot and process in Black and White
- Bring out the monochrome image qualities of form, contrast and texture and perhaps key.
- Write an account of why you chose the subject/theme, what you set out to achieve from the black and white imagery and to what extent you felt you achieved this.

### ***Student Account of Assignment 3:***

This assignment concludes the black and white section of the last three modules and the chapter on Processing the Image. In these modules I covered a number of helpful lessons within the exercises including; the ability to enhance images using a variety of tool sin Photoshop and Adobe Lightroom.

The other areas in photography I learnt included gaining a better understanding of what makes a good black and white image and a good monochrome image from a picture originally taken in colour.

My findings concluded that simple objects have specific advantages when portraying interesting shapes and form in monochrome. I also felt that simplicity and combinations of small simple groups of objects (two or three with size not being an issue) were better to photograph in black and white. I found this in the latter modules when I looked at colour into tone please see:

<http://www.cliffordmilburn.co.uk/id6.html> and navigate to exercises 16-18 for details.

These were hugely helpful projects to understand more about colour hue and their relationship to black and white when converted.

Having a greater understanding of contrasting and complimentary colour hues, how they intensify or de-saturate when their channels are increased or decreased, is a tremendous step forward in my study of photography.

This assignment is a direct response to that understanding and the reason why I chose this theme for submission to my tutor. The subject matter of the tractors either in their own right or next to each other and in some cases close up details, were all boldly painted with strong colour hues. I thought, as I came across this opportunity that the subjects presented me with an abundance of images that would fulfil this assignment brief. What I set out to achieve with this theme was to demonstrate that using simple subjects with strong colour saturation gives good contrasting monochrome images.

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Using the last three projects, I think on conversion to black and white in my images there were numerous opportunities to re-establish contrast in the pictures by altering the primary colours into various tones of grey using the channel sliders. Where the colours appeared weaker the tones less effected by the slider alterations, visa-versa for stronger hues.

Other alterations that were made were done by altering the histogram to pull all the tones back from either end of the histogram so that their entire range were in less in danger of being clipped into either over or under exposure. It was noticeable that the black and white images could be stretched further than the colour equivalents.

I think I have been successful with the images in what I set out to do. To me the pictures are simple enough to make good studies of the objects form, texture, tone and pattern. The colour in the subjects was perfect for the channel adjustments tool and this added greatly to the ability to emphasise form contrast and texture.

I like my new found ability from lessons learnt in the Art of Photography course in Image 7, here I have used the square crop for a symmetrical subject.

The picture with the entire tractor (Image8) with tracks on rather than wheels, gives a timely feel. It depicts more of a moment and the atmosphere of this event. A record maybe of what the event was, yet it could have been taken at anytime in the past not necessarily last week. Image 8, a high key image, reflects romanticism of the enthusiast's emotions, enjoyment and passion in his hobby. I could have cropped tighter in this case, however, I wanted to include more people looking on, to me it is one of the reasons this enthusiast is relishing his involvement in the show and has that satisfying grin!

In image 1 I have tried to capture the assignment theme with the isolation of the steering wheel and the blurring of the background and foreground giving enough detail (including the famous name) to tell the viewer what this is about, without an overall shot of a tractor.

In the other shots I have captured shapes, tones and textures with additional lessons learnt from previous chapters including curves and spheres in compositions (Project 22 TAOP and this assignment Image 5).

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My favourite image was image 6 as here I like the tonal range achieved as well as the shapes, texture and form. I believe this particular image makes a good monochrome conversion from its colour equivalent.

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*Images:*

*Image 1*



*Image 2*



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*Image 3*



*Image 4*



*Image 5*



*Image 6*



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*Image 7*



*Image 8*



