

Vignettes 274

June 26th, 2025

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Club News

Hi everyone. I hope you are all well. We had an excellent summer club night on Monday with Liz Gillham and her Worcester Camera Club colleagues putting on an excellent evening's guided walk for us around the historic parts of Worcester. The complimentary half time refreshments in a local pub were a very welcome and generous gesture. The weather couldn't have been better.



And who better to organise the evening than 'our' Liz for all of those of you who remembered her all too brief membership and active involvement in our club just a few years ago. She had a cane topped with coloured ribbons with her which, ostensibly, acted like a tourist guide's umbrella bedecked but I suspect something more sinister lay behind its purpose. Beating her fellow WCC members into following her intricately crafted guiding instructions springs to mind. They certainly seemed to keep their distance when the cane approached! Here's Liz:

Dear Cirencester Camera Club,

Hi everyone. It was so lovely to see all your friendly and familiar faces on the photography walk in Worcester last night. Thank you very much for making the effort to visit us and spending time in the company of some of our members. Feedback here is that they all very much enjoyed the evening with you, especially as Worcester was basking in beautiful evening sunlight along with the cathedral bells, rowing boats and seagulls! On a personal level, thank you very much for the gift voucher - I really wasn't expecting anything and so it came as a lovely surprise when I opened the envelope when I got home. I do hope we will be able to share images of the evening somehow and as suggested we would love to come and see you all on your home patch sometime in the future.

With warmest wishes,

Liz

A big thank you to Liz and WCC - here's a pic of Liz with that dodgy looking cane! I'm sure I heard one of her members asking her to take a few steps back!



Summer meet-up dates - ongoing

Here's the remainder of the summer meet up programme to keep it in the frame: Jean has been progressing with the Summer season but keep your eye on Vignettes and the WhatsApp group for updates. As you will see there's some things we have to action nearer the time so we will use WhatsApp and Vignettes to stay in contact:

- 14 July Cotswold's Lakes at time to be agreed with Highworth CC. Paul Norris to advise shortly watch this space as this might change.
- 28 July Sculpture Park. £10 admission as they will be opening out of hours for us. Times to be confirmed but we need to know numbers as they are opening especially for us. Please let me (Jean) know if you are intending to come.
- 5 August (Tuesday) at 10.00 am -12 noon site visit to the 'Missing Link' A417 road scheme organised by Martyn. He will be in touch via Vignettes nearer the time to firm up numbers, as the contractors will need to know. Also details on how to get there will be added.

18 August maybe pub to end - any other ideas?

Note:

For those who are interested, Tough Mudder is 16 August at Badminton. Unfortunately, I am away. Here's a link:

https://toughmudder.co.uk/events/south-

west/?utm campaign=Purchase Google Search 2025 Tough Mudder South West %7C Brand Keywords Local Conversions 8/16/25 LOCAL RACE SALES CUS2727-102 2025 Tough Mudder South West %7C Brand Keywords&utm source=google search&utm medium=paid search&utm content=2025 Tough Mudder South West %7C Brand Keywords 2025 Tough Mudder South West&utm term=tough%20m udder%202025&gad source=1&gad campaignid=22293326549&gbraid=0AAAAACf2q AkzbVhIQGwQEM y2B0OiWWKG

Rotary Club of Cirencester

Here's a local comp which Paul Norris is involved in. You've got a few weeks to post your fav pic. Any CCC member has got to be in with a good chance of a prize given the general quality our comp images. Have a go.



External Exhibitions and competitions

Funniest photos from the 2025 Nikon Comedy Wildlife Awards (so far!)

Get ready to smile – an exclusive preview of standout images from the 2025 Nikon Comedy Wildlife Awards has arrived, revealing the lighter, funnier side of the animal kingdom – and you can still submit your work, winning Nikon cameras like the Z6 III or Z50 II, along with other great prizes. Nikon shared 10 images, a glimpse of this year's funniest and most charming images. From penguins lining up to leap off an iceberg to two lion cubs attempting to climb a tree in "robber ladder" style, and birds tirelessly building enormous nests. This is not just to entertain us at home, but to highlight that this year's Awards are still open to enter until June 30, 2025. Here's a link:

https://www.comedywildlifephoto.com/

<u>Do you like bugs? Explore the secret world of insects in this free online photo</u> exhibition

A closer look at the hidden beauty of insects through the macro lens of photographer Rory J Lewis. There's a whole world at your feet, quite literally, that often goes unnoticed. But Reverie of the Unseen, a new digital photography exhibition by Rory J Lewis, invites you to pause, zoom in and see that world with fresh eyes. Now live and free to explore on All About Photo, this curated online showcase presents 20 remarkable macro images of invertebrates – creatures we often overlook in daily life. Check out the exhibition here:

https://www.all-about-photo.com/online-gallery/solo-exhibition/141/reverie-of-the-unseen-by-rory-j-lewis

BBC Earth's complete wildlife photography masterclass is now available and it's FREE! Earlier this year, BBC Earth released two standout YouTube series, In Search of Nature and Framed in Nature, offering rare behind-the-scenes access to the working lives of nature photographers. Now, the complete Framed in Nature series, which focuses on the craft and technique behind wildlife photography, has been compiled into one long-form video, creating a free one-stop masterclass for anyone looking to improve their skills behind the lens. Here's some details:

https://www.digitalcameraworld.com/photography/nature-and-wildlife-photography/bbc-earths-complete-wildlife-photography-masterclass-is-now-available-in-one-stunning-video-and-its-free

Ralph Gibson's new retrospective book

Take a look at this article on Ralph Gibson's new book of his 60 year career. There's some great images here.

https://www.digitalcameraworld.com/photography/books/nudes-portraits-still-lives-and-street-photography-all-feature-in-this-beautiful-ralph-gibson-retrospective-book

Want to get the grandkids into photography? Here's some great cameras for children of all ages

Choosing the best camera for kids takes just as much consideration as choosing the best one for grown-ups! Check out this article:

https://www.digitalcameraworld.com/buying-guides/best-cameras-for-kids

Are you going to Glasto? Beezer's new photography book captures the wild soul of 1980s music culture

As Glastonbury Festival returns this weekend, a new photobook offers a timely and electrifying glimpse into the festival's anarchic past, and the wider cultural movements that surrounded it. Beezer, the legendary Bristol-based countercultural photographer whose lens helped define the UK's underground music scene, is releasing the first volume in a major three-part series titled *Until Now*, published by PC Press. Here's an article:

https://www.digitalcameraworld.com/photography/books/glastonbury-ready-beezers-new-photography-book-captures-the-wild-soul-of-1980s-music-culture

BBC pictures

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

https://www.bbc.co.uk/cymrufyw/erthyglau/c77vrlj30n5o

https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/articles/cg75gp1y233o

https://www.bbc.co.uk/sport/articles/ce8zd0jpj72o

https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/articles/c4gryeye907o

https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/articles/cq6mrzp5n5zo

https://www.bbc.co.uk/sport/rugby-union/articles/cq6mgq27v6mo

https://www.bbc.co.uk/sport/articles/ce8zjyq5qedo

https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/articles/cly2r4lnwgwo

https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/articles/c4g7rpkn97jo

Quote of the week

A portrait is not made in the camera but on either side of it - Edward Steichen

That's it, have a good week.

Cheers

Martyn (thehoneys@btinternet.com)

David (david.wallis@btinternet.com)

Dave (dave.cahill975@btinternet.com)

Club Competitions from September 2025

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 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 one DPI taken at one 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 -3×0 pen and 3×0 Set Subject. Following completion of all six competitions trophies are awarded at the Annual 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

Competition Rules from 1st September 2025

General Competitions

- 1. There are 6 General competitions (3 Open and 3 set subject) per Season each consisting of 2 categories Digital Projected Image (DPI) and Print.
- 2. Club members may enter one entry in each category for each General Competition.
- 3. All digital images must be in the sRGB colour space, no greater than 1600 pixels wide ×1200 pixels high, and 2.3Gb in size.
- 4. All prints must be mounted with mount size not to exceed 50cmx40cm and a digital image of each Print entry must be provided.
- 5. All image Manipulation processes and techniques are eligible, provided that:
 - a) the image originates from a camera or smartphone.
 - b) entrants own the copyright to every element of their submissions the image, including its components.
 - c) Al techniques (eg Al denoise, Al sharpening) can be used to enhance the image provided that data is not drawn from outside the existing image to create new content (Generative Al).
 - d) the image is no older than three (3) years from the first meeting of the current club season.
 - e) any modification of the original image must be made by the author or under his/her personal direction.
- 6. All General Competition entries both DPI and Print should be uploaded to Pixoroo by the Competition close date.
- 7. All Prints should be handed to the Competitions Secretary by the competition close date specified in Pixoroo and the Club programme.
- 8. All digital images and digital images of prints entered for any competition must be available for use in inter-club competitions and for display on the club website. All prints must be available for interclub battles and for publicity displays in
- 9. Cirencester.
- 10. The club reserves the right to maintain a catalogue of all images entered in competitions.
- 11. A digitally projected image or print that has been awarded a 1st, 2nd, or 3rd in any class of General competition may not be entered into any Club, Summer or Annual competition again.
- 12. Entries cannot be submitted more than twice in any class.

Annual Competitions

- 1. Annual Competitions are divided into a range of categories. Details of each category are published on the Club Website, Vignettes and Pixoroo. Winners of each category are awarded a trophy.
 - a) The General Competition rules plus the additional rules below apply to all Annual Competitions.
 - b) Members can enter one image per category.
 - c) Members must have entered 2 or more General Competitions during the current season.

- d) Entries for competitions that feature practical night/club outing must be taken between the previous judging date and the closing date of the current seasons Annual Competitions.
- e) A digitally projected image or print that has been awarded a 1st, 2nd, or 3rd in any class of Annual competition may not be entered into any General, Summer or Annual competition again.
- f) A monochrome image is an image that consists of varying tones of a single colour. Most commonly, this refers to grayscale images, which contain only shades of grey ranging from black to white. However, a monochrome image can also use any other single hue, with variations in brightness or intensity.
- g) Sporting Action is defined as fast paced competitive activity governed by a specific set of rules defined by a sports governing body.

Comp schedule and definitions for 2025-2026

	Competition	Submission date	Judging night
Summer Cup	DPI – 2025 Summer Club Events	1 st September 2025	15 th September 2025
Α	Open DPI & Print	15 th September 2025	6 th October 2025
В	Set DPI & Print – Square Format	6 th October 2025	3 rd November 2025
С	Open DPI & Print	3 rd November 2025	1 st December 2025
D	Set DPI & Print – Automotive	1 st December 2025	19th January 2026
E	Open DPI & Print	19 th January 2026	16 th February 2026
F	Set DPI & Print – In the Kitchen	16 th February 2026	16 th March 2026
Annual	2025-2026 Annual Competitions	16 th March 2026	20 th April and 27 th April 2026

Definitions of Set Subjects

SQUARE FORMAT: typically refers to using a square aspect ratio (1:1) intentionally as a creative constraint or theme. This can be achieved in camera, or by cropping during post processing. So, you are being asked to explore how composition, balance, or storytelling changes when restricted to a square. The square naturally invites symmetry, central framing, and geometric precision and works well for portraits, minimalism, or patterns. Rule of thirds still applies but feels different, centred subjects often look stronger in square, and negative space becomes more powerful. Explore how the square changes emotional or narrative impact. How does it shift the viewer's attention compared to landscape or portrait orientation?

AUTOMOTIVE: A follow- on from Amy Shore's Presentation in October. A chance to explore and creatively interpret vehicles and the world around them as your primary theme. This can go far beyond simply photographing a car — it's an invitation to tell stories, explore design, motion, culture, and even emotion through the lens of automotive imagery.

IN THE KITCHEN: Typically, a scene encompassing components or activities that you would find in the kitchen. This could be food still life, equipment and utensils or an activity such as stirring a pot.

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 16 th March 2026				
Award	Subject	Format		
Pitchers Trophy (Topic Chosen by President)	Sunset in the Cotswolds	DPI, 1600 x 1200, sRGB		
Dennis Moss Trophy	Open	Print + DPI 1600 x 1200 sRGB		
Leonard Jones Cup	Open	DPI, 1600 x 1200, sRGB		
Cavendish Cup	Black & White Open	Print + DPI 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	Print + DPI or DPI, 1600 x 1200, sRGB		