



Vignettes 287

October 29th, 2025

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Club News

Hi everyone. I hope you are all well. A big thanks to David Wallis for his talk on Monday night. All very thought provoking. Here's Dave with his round up.

Programme Secretary's review

Hi everyone. Many thanks this week to David for his 'Chairman's special' on How to Preserve, Present and Display Our Images. It made for an interesting and thought-provoking evening. There were lots of questions – how many images do we take each year, how many do we keep, how many do we print, how many (and how) do we display and share – wall prints, calendars, photo books, AV slideshows etc. Another big question was why do take photos anyway. Is it for competitions, to record an event, to try some new technology ...

This is actually a recurring feature in the David duChemin emails that I get – he often asks what is the purpose of the image you are taking today. If you think about that first it should influence the way you go about it. As members of a competitive club, are we specifically going out in search of an image for the next competition, or do we just trawl through the last three years of our sometimes badly catalogued images to find something that will do? There was lots to think about regarding our approach to taking, organising, displaying and preserving our images. If you do nothing else it would be a good idea to review how you store and back up your precious photos. As David explained, recovering your files in the event of a hard disk failure (or two hard disk failures!) can be an expensive process, if indeed it can be done at all.

Also thank you to the members who brought along prints, calendars and photo books, and to those who put their work under David's ingeniously set up webcam to show on the big screen. I enjoyed seeing Veronica's super prints, Gerry's photo book, Patrick's calendar and scrapbook ideas, and Paul's selection of wall prints.

Thanks again to David for the considerable amount of work that went into the evening. As we have said before presenting something for a whole or part of an evening is a rewarding experience. I'm still on the lookout for some contributions to the Take 4 and Travelogue UK events in January, so please get in touch if you feel you have something to offer.

Next week it is our second judging evening of the season, Competition B – set subject 'Square Format'.

NB It is also submission night for Competition C, our second open competition under the new format.

It will be a prompt start time of 7:30pm.

I hope to see you there.

Dave

Thanks Dave. A good round up. I think I fall into the category of enjoying 'seeing' images for their potentially intrinsic artistic photographic value and if there's a competition subject that fits the bill, then so be it. On other matters, it's good to see that we had another spread in last week's Glos Standard about the Cirencester Twinning Calendar in which we have four images albeit that the paper managed to cut in half John Spreadbury's

image of the Abby grounds and leave off two of the four images chosen. I've got used to that. Better something than nothing, I guess! Finally, Canon have confirmed release of its R6 Mk 3 on 6th Nov so watch out.

Christmas Quiz

And now there are 19! - Christmas Quiz - A reminder

Since last week, we've had quite a few members signing up to come to the Christmas Quiz. Up to 18 as I write which is great. It's at the Greyhound in Siddington which has become our regular venue for this event. David Wallis has once again been volunteered to be Quizmaster!! Thanks David and Dave Cahill gets a night off!! So, one for the diary.

I've been in touch with the pub and everything is confirmed. I should get the menu in the next few week to circulate and we normally give them about 10 days notice so get ready to let me know what you would like to eat plus any allergies. Pay on the night:

Christmas Quiz

Venue - Greyhound Pub, Siddington

Date - December 15th 2025

Time - 7.00 sharp.

Food - from 7.45

Historically around 30 members attend each year which makes for a good night. Team tables will be chosen at random nearer the time but in the first instance can you let me know if you are coming. I'll list the attendees in Vignettes each week. Here's the latest and do let me know if I have left you off:

1. David Wallis
2. Martyn S
3. Colin Hoskins
4. Brian Champion
5. Gary Gleghorn
6. Steve Kirby
7. John Crew
8. Paul Norris
9. Fin Simpson
10. Dave Cahill
11. John Hankin
12. Paul Jones
13. Mike Cheeseman
14. Steve Finch
15. Bex Jordan
16. John Smith
17. Patrick Barker
18. Ruth Barker
19. Roger Armitage
- 20.
21. Etc

Don't leave it too late.

My smallest camera bag!

No one took my filter holder on Monday night so just in case you wanted to but forgot, here's the details:

- It's made by Tamrac.
- It can hold three filters (e.g polariser, UV, circular stopper).
- Max filter size is 77mm.
- Alternatively you could use it for holding spare batteries and/or spare memory cards. It's not huge.

Just let me know and I'll bring it along when I'm next at the club. £1 or £2 into the coffee kitty would seem fair. Here's some photos:





External Competitions and Exhibitions

Entries open for London Camera Exchange Photographer of the Year 2026

London Camera Exchange has officially opened entries for the 2026 LCE Photographer of the Year competition; now in its third year, it is open to photographers of all experience levels. Submissions can be made online or in person across any of the retailer's 26 stores nationwide, with the contest remaining free to enter. The nationwide contest offers a £10,000 prize fund, 14 categories, and an exhibition at The Photography & Video Show next March. Here's a link to the competition entry:

<https://poty.lcegroup.co.uk/>

The legendary portrait photographer Annie Leibovitz revisits a landmark 90s series, with a new book and a London talk

Check out the story here:

<https://www.digitalcameraworld.com/photography/portrait-photography/why-annie-leibovitz-is-still-asking-what-women-look-like>

Finalists for the 2025 Nikon Comedy Wildlife Awards have officially been announced,

The finalists for the 2025 Nikon Comedy Wildlife Awards have officially been announced, showcasing the wildest and wittiest side of the animal kingdom. From dancing gorillas and "smoking" ducks to a group of lions looking like a roaring choir, the Nikon Wildlife Comedy Awards finalist gallery is packed with laugh-out-loud animal antics – all captures at just the right moment. Here's a link:

<https://www.comedywildlifephoto.com/>

Calling film buffs - The Exposure One Awards 2025

Black and white photography reveals emotion, composition, and narrative in its purest form. The Exposure One Awards 2025 recently celebrated this timeless medium, showcasing work from photographers around the world and highlighting the enduring relevance of analog techniques in today's digital era.

Among the standout winners is David Zlotky (USA), whose series 'Where the Wild Things Are' earned him Gold in the Film/Analog Photographer Professional category. Shot on a 4x5 view camera using sheet film, the series explores the quiet majesty of natural landscapes in Colorado and Wisconsin. Take a look:

<https://exposureoneawards.com/contests/winners/photographer-of-the-year-contest>

Leica Oskar Barnack Award

Alejandro Cegarra's powerful black-and-white series, *The Two Walls*, recently won the Leica Oskar Barnack Award 2025, earning the Venezuelan photojournalist €40,000 and €10,000 worth of Leica equipment. Recognised as one of the industry's most prestigious competitions, LOBA honors powerful visual storytelling that engages with humanity and the environment in profound, socially relevant ways. If you'd like to learn more about the story behind the images, read the full LOBA 2025 coverage here:

<https://www.leica-oskar-barnack-award.com/en/winners/winner-2025-alejandro-cegarra.html>

European Nature Photographer of the Year

The extraordinary and heart-wrenching image titled *Silent despair* has earned photographer Luca Lorenz the coveted title GDT European Wildlife Photographer of the Year 2025, selected by the German Society for Nature Photography. Luca is a self-taught wildlife photographer from the Berlin area and the youngest overall winner in the history of the competition. His work was chosen from a record 24,500 entries submitted by professionals and amateurs from 48 countries. Out of all the submissions, 107 winning images in nine categories and two special categories were selected. Check out the winners here:

<https://www.gdtfoto.de/seiten/gdt-european-wildlife-photographer-of-the-year-gallery-2025.html?news=1001120>

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/c4gwj73dgn3o>
<https://www.bbc.co.uk/sport/articles/c9934j13z18o>
<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/articles/c781j7pq96yo>
<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/articles/c6205kj7y6yo>
<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/articles/cwy164j8dyxo>
<https://www.bbc.co.uk/sport/articles/c8x1qxxk5np0>
<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/articles/cq50l6qvn14o>

Chairmans Challenge Part 9

Here is the ninth of this year's photo challenge.

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9 Focus and Recompose

-  **Objective:** Combine creative composition with sharp focus.
-  **Setting:** AF-S/One-Shot, Center Focus Point
-  **Assignment:** Focus on a subject off-center and recompose.
-  **Tip:** Works best with shallow depth of field.

Quote of the week

Once you learn to care, you can record images with your mind or on film. There is no difference between the two. - Anonymous

That's it, have a good week.

Cheers

Martyn (thehoneys@btinternet.com)

David (david.wallis@btinternet.com)

Dave (david.cahill@cantab.net)

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
A	Open DPI & Print	15 th September 2025	6 th October 2025
B	Set DPI & Print – Square Format	6 th October 2025	3 rd November 2025
C	Open DPI & Print	3 rd November 2025	1 st December 2025
D	Set DPI & Print – Automotive	1 st December 2025	19 th 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.

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

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

pixoroo.com/public/account/login

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.

1 st Place	6 points
2 nd Place	5 points
3 rd 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 x Open and 3 x 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
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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 x 1200 pixels high, and 2.3Gb in size.
4. All prints must be mounted with mount size not to exceed 50cm x 40cm 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) AI techniques (eg AI denoise, AI sharpening) can be used to enhance the image provided that data is not drawn from outside the existing image to create new content (Generative AI).
 - 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.

Club Programme 2025-26

S E P T	01 September 2025		Opening Meeting incl Photo AI & Chairman's Challenge Pt2
	08 September 2025		WCPF Print Viewing
	15 September 2025		Summer Cup Knockout DPLs
	22 September 2025		Nick Hodgson - Free Mines Coal Faces
	29 September 2025		Colin Walls - Observational Photography
O C T	06 October 2025		Competition A Judging - Open
	13 October 2025		Mop Fair - 6:30pm - Cirencester Parish Church
	20 October 2025		Amy Shore - How To Be A Car Photographer
	27 October 2025		How To Preserve, Present, Display Our Images
N O V	03 November 2025		Competition B Judging - Square Format
	10 November 2025		Brian Lee - My Diamond Decade
	17 November 2025		Cheltenham Salon AV Presentation
	24 November 2025		Battle Selection Evening
D E C	01 December 2025		Competition C Judging - Open
	08 December 2025		Andy Phillips - More Than Meets The Eye - remote ZOOM - 7pm
	15 December 2025		Annual Buffet/Quiz - 7pm - Greyhound Pub
	22 December 2025		Christmas Break
	29 December 2025		Christmas Break
J A N	05 January 2026		Charlie Waite - Behind The Photograph - remote ZOOM - 7pm
	12 January 2026		Travelogue UK
	19 January 2026		Competition D Judging - Automotive
	26 January 2026		Take 4
F E B	02 February 2026		Tim Jones - An Evening With Fotospeed
	09 February 2026		Latest Developments in Photoshop - Shaun Little
	16 February 2026		Competition E Judging - Open
	23 February 2026		Lockdown Memories

M A R	02 March 2026		Ian Howard - The Anatomy Of A Shot - remote ZOOM - 7pm
	09 March 2026		Cirencester College Visit - 7pm
	16 March 2026		Competition F Judging - In The Kitchen
	23 March 2026		Battle v Stroud & Cheltenham
	30 March 2026		Terry Walters - 100 Monochrome Images
A P R	06 April 2026		Bank Holiday - Easter Monday
	13 April 2026		Macro Photography - Mike Cheeseman & John Smith
	20 April 2026		The Print Panel Challenge/Annual Competition Judging
	27 April 2026		Annual Competition Judging
M A Y	04 May 2026		Bank Holiday - May Day
	11 May 2026		Outdoor Model Photoshoot - Kate Peake
	18 May 2026		AGM & Annual Awards
	Competition Judging		
	External Speakers		