



Vignettes 297

January 21st, 2026

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Club News

Hi everyone. I hope you are all well. I'm sitting here typing 'V' watching Points West on the Beeb when suddenly Jack Boskett's name appears as one of the image contributors showing the northern lights. For those of you new to the club, Jack was one of the highlight speakers to the club last season.

We had a very good turnout of members on Monday night all itching to see how their images fared in the judging of competition D. Judge Richard Atkinson from the Stroud Camera Club did a very good job, particularly given that this was his first judging night. Here's Fin with his summary:

Competition Secretary's Review

Another excellent evening with detailed and constructive feedback on every image and print from our judge, Richard Atkinson from Stroud Camera Club.

The evening's Set Subject - Automotive obviously played directly to Richard's sweet spot as a self-professed "Petrol Head" and this added an additional dimension to the discussion of each image. I liked Richard's comments on framing - particularly some interesting new thoughts on how some simple framing mistakes can ruin a perfectly good print. It was also really pleasing to see the evening's 18 awards going to 15 different members.

And finally just a reminder that Richard has asked for feedback following his very first live performance judging last night - please email me at competitions@cirencestercameraclub.org and I will compile a list of anonymous comments and pass to Richard. When Richard made that announcement at the end of the evening the view from where I was sitting had the look of a group who could not believe they had just banished another Faithful! So it is on to Comp E on 16th February - 33 DPI

Entries and 21 Prints plus our guest judge for the evening - Martin Fry.

All the best

Fin

Thanks Fin and here's the results from Monday plus the winning images.

2025/26 COMPETITION D RESULTS

SET PRINT - AUTOMOTIVE



FIRST	“Auto”mn Reflections	Stephen Chapman
SECOND	Speed on the Line	Nigel Rogers
THIRD	Isotta Fraschini 1905	Mike Cheeeman
HIGHLY COMMENDED	Unplanned Take off	Gary Gleghorn
HIGHLY COMMENDED	Vintage Elegance	David Wallis
COMMENDED	In the Pink at St Pancras	Jean Thurkettle
COMMENDED	The Stillness of Motion	John Spreadbury
COMMENDED	Social Mobility	Billy Kerr
COMMENDED	Fun Fair Fun	John Crew

SET DPI - AUTOMOTIVE



FIRST	Full Throttle to the Past	Chris Donohoe
SECOND	Upside Down Right on Target	John Spreadbury
THIRD	Jaguar 2	Steve Kirby
HIGHLY COMMENDED	Auto Reflections 3	Stephen Chapman
HIGHLY COMMENDED	Spare Sparks	Mike Cheeseman
COMMENDED	55 Chevy Oceanside CA	Fin Simpson
COMMENDED	Classics in a Row	Bex Jordan
COMMENDED	Give us ten minutes	Nigel Rogers
COMMENDED	SKODA	Colin Hoskins

Here's Dave with his weekly round up:

Programme Secretary's review

Hi everyone. Well done to everyone who picked up an award (or two in some cases!) in the Competition D Automotive results. I was surprised when Richard said at the end that it was his first time judging. He seemed very confident and experienced to me and produced some excellent feedback. I will have to speak to Cotswold Mounts though about the thickness of their mounts and boards. They perhaps need to go for a more bendy approach like Paper Spectrum! The importance of being careful about titles also came across. While a good title can help get the message behind your submission across, if the judge doesn't like or understand the title, or feels it doesn't fit the image, then it may count against you. Having said that we saw some great images and well done again to the very worthy winners.

Next week we have another Take 4 member evening with four varied presentations:

- *Andy Dipper - A Second Year at Cirencester College*
- *Brian Champion - The Brain Switch (Photography at UCSD)*
- *John Crew - Charity Photography*
- *Gary Gleghorn - Creating a Stubbs*

It will be our usual 7:30pm start. I hope to see you all then.

Just a couple of other items.

I asked Ruth about her excellent AV presentation in the Travelogue evening. If you are interested, the software she used was CapCut. Here's the link:

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

Finally we have a change in the programme on February 9th. We will now have an external speaker, Steve Varman, taking us through his thoughts on Eclectic and Creative Photography. Full details here:

<https://cirencestercameraclub.org/events/eclectic-and-creative-photography/>

Thanks Dave and just for the record, here's the latest version of the club programme:

Date		Event
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
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M A Y	04 May 2026	Bank Holiday - May Day
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Competition Judging
External Speakers

All meetings start in club at 7:30 pm unless otherwise indicated

WCPF INTER-CLUB DIGITAL AND STROUD & CHELTENHAM BATTLE

Entry Summary for Cirencester Camera Club

Paul has been in touch following the choice of images to go forward to the WCPF inter-club digital competition and the next club battle against Stroud and Cheltenham.

Hi everyone. Following the battle selection evening at the end of last year we have now met as a selection committee, and both considered our entries for the WCPF digital entry and the Stroud vs Cheltenham evening in March. The overall range and diversity of images is of a very high quality and we have had to make some difficult decisions. We have decided that there will be quite a difference between the entries for both upcoming competitions.

Summarised below are the entries that we have selected for WCPF and below that are some of the further images that are definitely in the mix for Stroud and Cheltenham. There will of course be others added but as I am sure you will agree we are blessed with a very strong set of current images.

The rationale for the WCPF selection is ones that have immediate impact because the judges only have a few seconds to view each image.

With the latter battle, we are looking specifically to select images which are ideal for prints (or have already been successful prints) and given that the judge has much more time to view them, we have some more flexibility in terms of subject matter and type of image

Well done to everyone who has images currently in the selection pot.

WCPF Images

Baker Street Dave Cahill	Drops of Tangerine Ruth Barker	Family Life Billy Kerr	My Ball John Hankin
Generations Gary Cleghorn	He's Behind You Colin Hoskins	First Home Martyn Smith	Is that me Gary Cleghorn
Not this time Mr Owl Paul Norris	Outnumbered John Hankin	Panes and Pants Martyn Smith	Polo Action John Hankin

			
Reflections of the Divine	Tri Light	Black and Light	Tinned Salmon 2
Ruth Barker	Steve Kirby	Mike Cheeseman	Patricia Lindsay
			
Misty Sunrise, Down Ampney	Short Eared Owl		
Paul Norris	Paul Norris		

Other images that will be in the mix for the Stroud and Swindon inter club battle:

		
		
		



CISP

Just a reminder – CISP

Yes CISP (Cheltenham International Salon of Photography) launched in the new year. We regularly support the competition promoted by Cheltenham Camera Club and generally get some notable acceptances so why not have a go. Of course, the CISP team always present a great AV evening for us in the Autumn of the ‘accepted’ images so it’s good to support a local club. The more images you enter, the cheaper it is. Closing date is 29th March.

Here’s the details:

https://u40660329.ct.sendgrid.net/ls/click?upn=u001.qHg0BpZ4GDH5dOQ8UvVN0YPeDm9-2FCIBmTqfWP5-2B2SxoFMe1Js3fe8RecOCYWAAskCAZua_TJmN4986NP-2F65BOWuHAhcb9HsHsPUwu2-2FvAFvJtS7RQ09dxzdPFRykZ1Vl9BjfVxoXndFokHVVhJ6yKAeQ1qozBtg7uwJbMdtNAmiMuWj-2FQYi32Dei6YbgmAqJjS2xRBJOPRhTcK26NGit-2Fz9v4gHhRgEDdRvcbBKI2JHyC50F06eudLGpCkMQvDO5yZ8ku8AN7HHW1u2t6ZHLmiUjKLw-3D-3D

External Exhibitions and Competitions

Nature in Art, Twigworth - WPOTY has returned

It’s the big one. Yes, the Wildlife Photographer of the Year (WPOTY) returns to Nature in Art, Twigworth, Gloucester, on the 3rd Feb, closing on the 12th April. Probably the most important of all the wildlife photography competition, the exhibition is always well worth a visit if not a bit harrowing when it comes to the photojournalism section. See the details

below and a separate link to the exhibition contributors from the Natural History Museum's website.

https://natureinart.org.uk/event/wildlife-photographer-of-the-year-5/?instance_id=1028

<https://www.nhm.ac.uk/wpy/gallery>

Are you a National Trust Member? Hidcote Photo Competition
Even if you aren't, why not keep an eye out for the Hidcote Photo Competition which this National Trust property holds each year. The reward is inclusion in a photographic exhibition and last years winners are currently on display in Hidcote House. See the photo of the exhibition below and a link to the Hidcote website.





I visited the exhibition last week and the images are of a quality well within our members skill base so think about having a go. Here's a link to keep an eye on for entry dates etc.

<https://www.nationaltrust.org.uk/visit/gloucestershire-cotswolds/hidcote>

Into space travel?

A subject which can divide opinion given the troubles we are having on earth but you can't help but marvel at the tech involved. Or so I thought!! See below. Just winding back a bit, you are probably aware of the Artemis Space Programme to land man back on the moon. Crewless Artemis 1 was launched a couple of years ago to fly around the moon on an elliptical orbit as a dry run for Artemis II which launches with a full crew in early Feb. It will take a similar flight around the moon and beyond to the furthest man has been in space to test systems in preparation for a possible moon landing next year. Take a look at the high quality YouTube video from the launch of Artemis I here. It's amazing:

<https://youtu.be/zctTKdQcmVA?si=ooDWbR6ytI1nIXfM>

It got me thinking, what camera kit are they taking on Artemis II given that we should be in for some fantastic images and film? The Apollo programme way back used Hasselblads so I googled the obvious question. Here's the answer:

Artemis II's astronauts will have two Nikon D5 digital single-lens reflex cameras available inside the cabin. These are professional-grade still and video cameras, selected both for public affairs imagery and for the crew's own photographic priorities. Equipped with wide-angle and long-range lenses, the cameras are expected to capture everything from close-quarters life inside Orion to distant views through the spacecraft's windows during the lunar flyby. The choice of the Nikon D5 was not accidental. The camera is known for its low-noise performance and high dynamic range, qualities that allow it to handle the stark contrast between sunlit spacecraft surfaces and deep shadow in space. Just as critical for a deep-space mission, the D5 has shown strong resistance to radiation effects, helping ensure reliable operation beyond low Earth orbit where exposure levels are significantly higher. Still, it is an old camera by today's standards.

Well, that was a surprise. There will be some GoPro's as well and apparently NASA are looking at the Nikon D5 and Z9 for the Artemis III moon mission. Here's more info:

<https://floridamedianow.com/2025/12/what-cameras-will-the-artemis-ii-astronauts-have-aboard/>

How did I get on with Blurb?

Well, Zoe in Blurb customer services is my new best friend! I'm not sure how but having been effectively blocked out of the Blurb website for a week from all devices and even different browsers, it suddenly came back on stream last Saturday. Still not quite sure why but, in short, here's the main points to consider from my first go:

- Watch Anthony Morganti and Julianne Kost YouTube channels on using the Book module in Lightroom - a tool which links straight to Blurb to create your Photobook.
- Look out for Blurb discount deals, they are constantly being released.
- Create a Lightroom 'Collection' of the images you want to include in your Photobook. Do all your processing first although you can make changes as you go - the Book module images in your Collection are linked seamlessly to the Develop module.
- You don't need to worry about the format of your images JPEG, Cr2, DNG, Tiff, etc. The upload process reconciles all formats.
- Once you start to use the images in your Collection, you can then create a dedicated Photo Book sub folder in the Book's 'Collection' folder which will be the one you will upload to Blurb through the Book module.
- There is a software glitch in Lightroom. If you include a comma in the book title file which Blurb needs (not the cover itself), the Photobook won't upload.
- If you are having trouble uploading your Photobook via Lightroom for any reason, there is an option in the Book module to download a pdf of your book out of Lightroom into a folder on your computer. This will be in two pdf's, 1) the Photobook cover and 2) the Photobook itself. If you then open the Blurb website you can 'test' if there are any issues with the Photobook pdf as Blurb will recognise the pdf's and guide you through the upload process, highlighting any issues on the way.
- You can order a 'clean' pdf version of your Photobook when you order the Photobook itself. The charge is a few pounds for this.

Let me know if you have any problems. But then again, I haven't got my first printed version back! More to learn I'm sure.

World Sports Photography Awards 2026 winner revealed

BBC Sport and the World Sport Photography Awards present a selection of the world's finest sporting images from this year's competition. Displayed below are Gold, Silver, Bronze and Special Merit winners across all 24 categories of the awards, now in their sixth year. In addition, the website itself is included:

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/sport/articles/cy8pk1734730>

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

British Journal of Photography Portrait of Britain Awards.

A portrait of a decorated Worcestershire code breaker is among the winners of a major photography competition. The image of Charlotte "Betty" Webb is one of 100 to be chosen by the British Journal of Photography for its Portrait of Britain Awards.

Photographer Karsten Thomaehlen said she had photographed the former Bletchley Park worker at her home in Wythall before her death, aged 101, in 2025. Check out the story here and the website:

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/articles/cwywj37egwxo>

https://pob2025.1854.photography/?_gl=1*1mklwu0*_ga*OTU0NTUxODQ0LjE3Njg5OTE1NTM.*_ga_1ZED36WVME*czE3Njg5OTE1NTlkbzEkZzEkdDE3Njg5OTE1NzlkajYwJGwwJGgw

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/c0q4pj5j729o>

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/articles/ckgkd3lg87vo>

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/articles/c62ng0e00qgo>

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/articles/cwy15z2nxv3o>

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/articles/ce8gqy6ge88o>

Chairmans Challenge Part 19

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

21 January 2026

19 Bracketed Exposure

-  **Objective:** Learn exposure bracketing for HDR or precision.
-  **Setting:** Auto Exposure Bracketing (AEB)
-  **Assignment:** Capture 3 exposures (under, correct, over).
-  **Tip:** Use tripod for best alignment.

Quote of the week

A good photograph is one that communicates a fact, touches the heart and leaves the viewer a changed person for having seen it. It is, in a word, effective - Irving Penn

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	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.

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 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) 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.

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Competition Judging

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