



# Vignettes 298

January 29<sup>th</sup>, 2026

## Contents

Club News .....	2
This week and next .....	2
Win a camera bag - you heard it here first .....	4
External Exhibitions and Competitions .....	5
BBC pictures.....	6
Chairmans Challenge Part 20.....	6
Comp schedule and definitions for 2025-2026.....	7
Definitions of Set Subjects .....	7
CCC Annual Competition Categories.....	8
Club Competitions from September 2025 .....	9
Competition Rules from 1 <sup>st</sup> September 2025 .....	11
Club Programme 2025-26.....	13

## Club News

Hi everyone. I hope you are all well. First of all, just to add to our Chairman's introduction on Monday night, the Club is delighted to honour our President, John Hankin and Vice President Shaun Little with a life membership. This is in recognition of the sterling support both members have given to the club over the years not to mention the longevity of their membership and invaluable help they have given to members either personally or through club night talks. John and Shaun are in rarefied company with only other two other life membership currently honoured. A well-deserved recognition of services to the Club. Here's John

*Hello David,*

*You took me completely unawares with your announcement on Monday! Thank you so much to you and all the Committee members for this award which of course I shall treasure.*

*My Club membership, since joining in 2006 when my wife and I moved to Cirencester (and I bought my first digital camera), has been one of the best parts of my retirement and it's great to see the current numbers and enthusiasm. I hope to stay involved for a good while yet!*

*Best Wishes to you all  
John*

And here's Shaun:

*Hi David. Just to reiterate my thanks to you on Monday night. Like John, I was completely taken unawares on Monday night with an Honorary Life Membership. It's been a privilege to attend the club (now 21 years) and I have seen lots of changes over the years. When I started it had 6 members and was looking to increase membership as club numbers had dwindled. Not surprising when they used OHP's (overhead projector) before Digital Images came along in competitions (the quality was truly awful)!*

*Since then I have seen the club grow and go from strength to strength and I hope to continue to support and help the club grow for many more happy years for as long as I am able, making use of my now 'Free' membership 😊*

*In addition to you, I would also like to thank the rest of the committee for gifting this award to myself and John. Here is to a good future going forward.*

*Best regards  
Shaun*

## This week and next

With Dave being under the weather, I have put together my thoughts on Monday night's 'Take Four' talks. I think it's worth recording just how much talent we have in the club and across a broad spectrum of interests and genres. No where was this more illustrated by the terrific presentations from Andy Dipper, Brian Champion, Gary Gleghorn and John Crew on Monday night. Furthermore, it's member nights like Monday that are so vital in

supporting the Club Programme by providing a balanced, varied and complimentary addition to our regular Club comps and speaker presentations. These presentation are never the thing of a moment to prepare so a big thanks to Andy, Brian, Gary and John.

First up was Andy, our stalwart film photographer (I bet he's got a lot of vinyl records at home!!) who set out a very compelling argument for having a go at the Cirencester College photography course. Lots of set tasks to give you a challenge and plenty of encouragement by the College 'tech' to keep you motivated and on the 'straight and narrow'. Andy's run through what's involved and what you can get out of it was delivered with his typical positivity. Brian was next up and my immediate reaction was 'who knew?!' Our budding artist (from a young age) from Battle in Sussex took us on his 3.5 year work placement in San Diego where, in his spare time, he signed up to a photographic course which challenged him to develop an artistic photographic style which I can only describe as modern art as seen through a lens. A terrific selection of Brian's artistic images were on show, many in abstract format which demonstrated his creativity, influenced by both influential artists and poets. Quite a challenge. The cat is out of the bag now Brian!



Next up was Gary whose challenge, set by a friend, was to create a Stubbs style image of her horse. Never one to sidestep a project, Gary set to and soon took a good image of her horse as the 'driver'. Gary's Photoshop skills were then dusted off, first by scanning and modifying an C18th landscape image and then by dropping said house into the image. By utilising clever Photoshop masking and cloning techniques (or as eminent judge Martin Fry calls it - 'fiddling and diddling'), Gary created a 'period' image which was suitably printed onto canvass for that antique look and mounted in on old frame he was able to buy locally to finish it off. An excellent demonstration of creativity 'from cradle to the grave'.



John crew finished off the evening by giving us a reminder of the important wide ranging work which the Prospect Foundation does in caring for the sick. With an annual deficit of around £4m after NHS contribution and income from Charity Shops, John explained just how important the hundred of volunteers are in campaigning to make up the annual shortfall. John is the official and only photographer for the foundation and freely gives his time to attend all fund raising events. We saw just a small but heart warming collection of the 4500 images he has taken over the last couple of years all put to good use in promoting the good causes of the charity. A great way to finish off the evening with some great images

#### Next week

Well, we've had Permajet in the past to give us a demonstration of their print papers so now it's time for Fotospeed with Tim Jones. They have visited us before but quite some time ago. As you know we actively encourage you to print for competitions and we have seen an upsurge in the last couple of years which is great. All I can say is, you never stop learning particularly when it comes to stuff like colour space, ICC profiles, calibration settings and, most importantly, how to stop your printer wasting ink!! Usual time and whether you print or not, it should be a good evening.

#### **Win a camera bag - you heard it here first**

Dave sent me this link through. Here's someone who's got more camera bags than me! And he's giving one away! As his website reveals

*How much do I love this bag? I have eight of them in all different sizes and colours. Don't judge me; I like my camera bags, and I'm a weak man.*

Anyway, take a look. Interesting photographer.



## **External Exhibitions and Competitions**

### 2025 Australian Geographic Nature Photographer of the Year.

This vibrant aerial landscape photo captures the dramatic beauty of New Zealand's Southern Alps, frozen rivers of glacial blue, and the sweeping grandeur of Aoraki/Mount Cook National Park. But beyond its vivid color palette, stark contrast, and expansive perspective, the image tells a deeper story. The photograph, titled Glacial Blue, was captured by Australian photographer Stuart Chape and has now secured its fourth major international award, having most recently been named People's Choice Award winner at the 2025 Australian Geographic Nature Photographer of the Year. Check out the website below.



<https://www.samuseum.sa.gov.au/c/npoty/>

### Exposure One Awards' Nature Photography Contest winners

A striking, high-contrast black-and-white image of a horse's neck and head has captured the top prize in the Exposure One Awards' Nature Photography Contest, demonstrating what happens when photographers see the familiar in an entirely new way. Croatian

equestrian photographer Lidija Novković's winning image, Začudno, transforms the horse into a sculptural study of curves, form and light, revealing a strikingly abstract perspective that feels both intimate and timeless.

Chosen from submissions across more than 82 countries, the Exposure One Awards celebrate how black-and-white photography can distill subjects to their essence, amplifying emotion, texture and form. Check out the website:

<https://exposureoneawards.com/contests/winners/nature-photo-contest>

### **BBC pictures**

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

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/sport/articles/c2052d21gz6o>

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/articles/c2e1m22enjzo>

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/articles/cjw1ypnj12do>

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/articles/cj6wdnp86kko>

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/articles/cgqeg8p2keeo>




<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/articles/cy9y5z89yvdo>


### **Chairmans Challenge Part 20**

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

29 January 2026

#### **20 Double Exposure Art**

-  **Objective:** Blend two images creatively.
-  **Setting:** Multiple Exposure Mode (if available)
-  **Assignment:** Shoot two layered images (e.g., silhouette + texture).

 **Tip:** Try one sharp and one soft image for contrast.

### **Quote of the week**

*Beauty can be seen in all things, seeing and composing the beauty is what separates the snapshot from the photograph - Matt Hardy*

*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
<b>Summer Cup</b>	DPI – 2025 Summer Club Events	1 <sup>st</sup> September 2025	15 <sup>th</sup> September 2025
<b>A</b>	Open DPI & Print	15 <sup>th</sup> September 2025	6 <sup>th</sup> October 2025
<b>B</b>	Set DPI & Print – Square Format	6 <sup>th</sup> October 2025	3 <sup>rd</sup> November 2025
<b>C</b>	Open DPI & Print	3 <sup>rd</sup> November 2025	1 <sup>st</sup> December 2025
<b>D</b>	Set DPI & Print – Automotive	1 <sup>st</sup> December 2025	19 <sup>th</sup> January 2026
<b>E</b>	Open DPI & Print	19 <sup>th</sup> January 2026	16 <sup>th</sup> February 2026
<b>F</b>	Set DPI & Print – In the Kitchen	16 <sup>th</sup> February 2026	16 <sup>th</sup> March 2026
<b>Annual</b>	2025-2026 Annual Competitions	16 <sup>th</sup> March 2026	20 <sup>th</sup> April and 27 <sup>th</sup> 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 <sup>th</sup> 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](https://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 <sup>st</sup> Place	6 points
2 <sup>nd</sup> Place	5 points
3 <sup>rd</sup> 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 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, or 3<sup>rd</sup> 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.

<b>Pitchers Trophy</b>	A subject chosen by the Club President each year – DPI
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<b>Pitchers Cup</b>	Open to New members only in their first full season – open DPI
<b>Dennis Moss Trophy</b>	A mounted Print on any subject
<b>Leonard Jones Cup</b>	Open subject DPI
<b>Cavendish Cup</b>	A monochrome mounted Print on any subject
<b>Miles Shield</b>	A DPI taken on a Club outing or Practical Event.
<b>Gladiator Trophy</b>	A DPI with an Aviation Theme
<b>Ted Parrot Trophy</b>	Sporting Action based DPI

## **Competition Rules from 1<sup>st</sup> 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

	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 DPs
	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	Eclectic & Creative Photography
	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

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