



Vignettes 303

March 6th, 2026

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Club News

Hi everyone. I hope you are all well. March is here! Everything is brightening up. Spring is in the air. We had a good turnout of 30 members on Monday night for an excellent Zoom presentation by Ian Howard on the 'Anatomy of a shot'. Really insightful. Here's Dave with his summary of the talk and his weekly round up:

Programme Secretary's Review

Hi everyone. Thank you to the 30 or so members that tuned in for Ian Howard's Zoom talk on The Anatomy Of A Shot. My initial idea was to run this as an in-house Zoom, so we would maintain the social aspects of the evening, but I switched to a remote Zoom as Ian said it was intended to be an interactive evening. It did indeed work out that way – there were lots of insightful questions and observations, so thanks to everyone that got involved. I thought Ian gave us a great analytical insight into what makes an image work, with some valuable compositional tips, as well as sound practical advice on planning and processing to deliver the original visualisation. I don't need to go into detail about triangles and golden spirals as Ian has provided a summary pdf of his main points which we will attach to the newsletter email. I did particularly note one of his comments - Mac or a PC, it makes no difference!

I posted a short review of the talk on one of the camera club Facebook groups that I'm in. Ian replied it makes the evening so enjoyable and interesting when it's such an engaged group of talented photographers!

As well as the summary pdf Ian has also provided a few links, including the DxO discount offer he mentioned:

Link to my Blog site

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

Interview with camversation

https://youtu.be/778BqG9_Pis

DXO Discount Codes Links and information:

<https://www.lensclof.com/post/dxo-software-discount>

RPS Article:

<https://www.lensclof.com/post/my-article-for-the-royal-photographic-society-magazine>

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Next week we make another visit to Cirencester College, located on Stroud Rd, Cirencester GL7 1XA. There is a large car park on site. The meeting will again be held in the 'Foyer' in the digital building (head for the one with coloured LED strips to the right of the new reception). We will have a tour of the college photography department facilities and a presentation of some of the current students' work.

For our part of the evening we plan to run through our inter-club battle image selection process, showing a range of our current images, explaining how and why they have been chosen.

Note it will be an earlier start time, 7:00pm, hope to see you there.

Cheers
Dave

Thanks Dave. It was really kind of Ian to supply the 32 page slides of PowerPoint of his talk as a handout and this will be attached separately with this bulletin.

The Set Up

Go behind the scenes with Nikon Creators on assignment in "The Set Up", video series. Follow along as they worked with the versatile Nikon Z5II, explaining how they set up for the perfect shot, overcame real-world challenges, and captured stunning images. Each episode is packed with gear recommendations, practical tips, and tricks to instantly improve your own photography. Check this out:

https://view.mcd.nikon.com/?vawpToken=GUZWVAQEJQMUTKKX6DUXFKXJDA.70250&utm_source=salesforce&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=2026_202603_learnexplore

That picture - follow up article

The Phil Noble image of AMW we posted last week along with an article about the image has been followed up by numerous similar articles. This one widens the scope of the 'scoop' car image picture and includes some great similar shots. Take a look.



<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/articles/cn9e2qd894go>

External Exhibitions and Competitions

[Armed Only With A Camera: The Life And Death Of Brent Renaud](#)

And while we are still on the subject of photojournalism, check out this article and upcoming film on Brent Renaud. The life of a war photographer is fraught with danger.

Much like combatants, they too experience the devastation, needing to be near the action to tell the stories.

<https://www.digitalcameraworld.com/photography/photojournalism/is-photojournalism-worth-dying-for-oscar-nominated-documentary-on-war-photographer-killed-in-ukraine-begs-question>

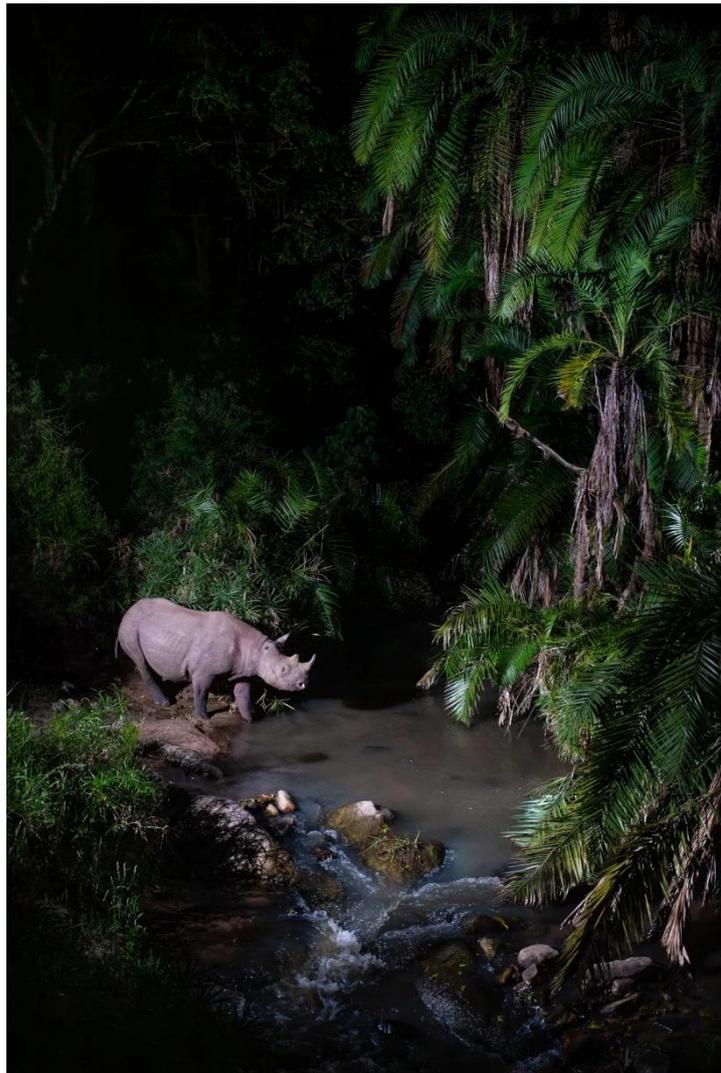
Three days, a Rolleiflex camera and 2,000 frames: the shoot that defined master photographer Irving Penn

Irving Penn arrived in Lima, Peru in December 1948 on a fashion job for *Vogue*. Standard brief, standard destination. But instead of catching the next flight home, he kept going; boarding a small plane to Cuzco, the ancient Inca capital sitting at an elevation of 3,400 metres in the Andes. Check out the full story:

<https://www.digitalcameraworld.com/photography/portrait-photography/three-days-a-rolleiflex-camera-and-2-000-frames-the-shoot-that-defined-master-photographer-irving-penn>

The Sony World Photography Awards announces its finalists

Selected from more than 430,000 submissions across 200+ countries and territories, the finalists of this year's Sony World Photography Awards Professional competition have been revealed – and the quality of work is staggering. Here's a link:



<https://www.worldphoto.org/sony-world-photography-awards/winners-galleries>

World Nature Photography Awards

Photographer Mary Schrader won the top honor in the Animal Portrait category of the prestigious World Nature Photography Awards with the image *Shared wonder*. The award-winning photo captures a rare and intimate moment: a young gorilla pausing in quiet fascination as a bright yellow/orange butterfly hovers before it.



<https://www.worldnaturephotographyawards.com/winners-2026>

Underwater Photographer of the year 2026 winner

A pair of southern elephant seal pups playing in a rock pool on the Falkland Islands has won the top prize in the Underwater Photographer of the Year 2026 contest. Australian photographer Matty Smith's image, titled *Rockpool Rookies*, beat more than 7,900 entries from around the world to claim the overall title. The image took top place in the portrait category. Check out the website:



<https://underwaterphotographeroftheyear.com/>

CISP

Our friends in the Cheltenham Camera Club launched its CISP (Cheltenham International Salon of Photography) in the new year. We regularly support the competition and generally get some notable acceptances so why not have a go. Of course, the CISP team always come down to Cirencester to present to us 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. Entries close on the 29th March.

Here's the details:

https://u40660329.ct.sendgrid.net/ls/click?upn=u001.qHg0BpZ4GDH5dOQ8UvVN0YPeDm9-2FCIBmTqfWP5-2B2SxoFMe1Js3fe8RecOCYWAskCAZua_TJmN4986NP-2F65BOWuHAhcb9HsHsPUwu2-2FvAFvJtS7RQ09dzxdPFRykZ1Vl9BjfVxoXndFokHVVhJ6yKAeQ1qozBtg7uwJbMdtNAmiMuWj-2FQYi32Dei6YbgmAqJjS2xRBJOPRhTck26NGit-2Fz9v4gHhRgEDdRvcBKI2JHyC50F06eudLGpCkMQvDO5yZ8ku8AN7HHW1u2t6ZHLmiUjKLw-3D-3D

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/c4g0ke64v3no>
<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/articles/cvg11m3g5jvo>
<https://www.bbc.co.uk/weather/articles/cpd8yyw5deyo>
<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/articles/c5y6jvlv83ro>

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/articles/cjd9144nn52o>
<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/articles/crm8xx292gvo>
<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/articles/cj32l7kmmko>
<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/articles/c1jkz4renr7o>
<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/articles/c7vjrv0d9v6o>
<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/articles/czx47n2l3exo>

Chairman's Challenge Part 25

Here is the twenty fifth of this year's photo challenge.

25 Prime Lens Day

-  **Objective:** Adapt to limitations and see creatively.
-  **Setting:** Use only one fixed focal length (e.g., 35mm or 50mm)
-  **Assignment:** Spend a day shooting different scenes with just one lens.
-  **Tip:** Move your feet to compose—no zooming!

Quote of the week

I never have taken a picture I've intended. They're always better or worse - Diane Arbus

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 Pixaroo.

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 Pixaroo by the Competition close date.
7. All Prints should be handed to the Competitions Secretary by the competition close date specified in Pixaroo 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 Pixaroo. 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