



Vignettes 304

March 13th, 2026

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Club News

Hi everyone. I hope you are all well. What a cracking Monday night and from the WhatsApp feedback, it looks like everyone enjoyed the night not to mention change of scene. It was good to hear from College Photography tutor and host for the evening Angus that he wants to keep the relationship going. It's a great community initiative we can be part of and develop and great to expose the students to what's going on in our world. We've got a year to cement the relationship so I'm sure there's plenty of strategies we can work on. Here's Dave with his thoughts and weekly round up:

Programme Secretary's Review

Hi everyone. I didn't manage a headcount [Martyn - I think it was over 30] but we had a decent turnout of members for the visit to Cirencester College, and a good number of students attended too. We started with a tour of the college photography department. Since our last visit there has been a considerable amount of investment and they are now impressively fully kitted out with Apple Mac mini computers, alongside their extensive studio and darkroom facilities.

The presentation of the current A level students' work was, I thought, more impressive than the last visit. March/April is a good time to visit as they are finalising their 'personal investigation' and exam projects work. We saw a whole range of genres – narrative portraits and landscapes, wildlife, light trails, advertising, fashion, distortion, composite superimpositions, juxtapositions, and studio portraits with a twist. Lots of Photoshop skills were evident too. Many of the images were quite different to those we see at club in talks, competitions, battles and salons, where we are much more constrained by photographic rules and our efforts to meet judges' expectations.

Angus outlined the course format – 25% of marks going into four sections covering research, experiment, preliminary work, and finally autonomous conclusive work.

Several photographers' names came up as inspirations in the research area – Kelly Mitchell, Duane Michals, Barry Underwood, Gregory Crewdson. I didn't get them all though. There are lots of inspirational photographers out there. Angus mentioned The Association Of Photographers as a good place to look to find a photographer for a particular genre.

<https://www.the-aop.org/>

Angus is keen to make this a regular event, which I am in favour of. Each year there will be a new batch of students to showcase so we will see different influences and images. Looking at WhatsApp replies this seems to be something members are keen to repeat. Please let us know whether you have any views for or against this.

Thanks to Paul for running our side of the evening and coping with the considerable technical challenges.

Next week we have the Competition F Judging, set subject In The Kitchen.

It will be the usual prompt 7:30pm start.

NB it is also the submission deadline for the Annual Competitions

Fin has been in touch

Hi Martyn, A few reminder bullets for members re Annual Competition entries. I would be grateful if you would drop into Vignettes:

- Members must have previously entered 2 x 2025-2026 General Competitions to qualify for Annual entry
- Any images placed First, Second, or Third in any Competition cannot be re - entered, however Highly Commended and Commended can, provided they have only been entered once previously.
- Entry for all Annual Competitions close at midnight on Monday 16th March 2026
- Prints for Cavendish Cup and Dennis Moss Trophy to be placed in boxes in the Parish Hall that evening.
- Miles Shield entries must have been taken after 14th April 2025 so can include the Morris Dancing event at end of last season.
- Pitchers Cup is DPI only and open to any New member who joined after December 31st 2024.

If in doubt please consult the complete Club rules on our website.

<https://cirencestercameraclub.org/club-documents/>

Thanks,
Fin

External Exhibitions and Competitions

These photos just won the world's largest prize in photography – US\$224,000

The Hasselblad Award, the world's largest prize in photography, has been awarded to South African visual activist Zanele Muholi – "one of the most influential contemporary photographers, with an impact that reaches far beyond the art world," the Foundation says. Presented annually by the Hasselblad Foundation since 1980, the prestigious award includes \$217,000, a gold medal, and a Hasselblad camera (worth over US\$7,000). Over a career spanning more than two decades, Muholi has created powerful portrait series that



document and celebrate the lives of Black LGBTQIA+ communities. Check out all the winners below:

<https://www.hasselbladfoundation.org/en/award-winners/>

A new photographic exhibition at Hidcote by Anderson & Low

I posted details of a photo competition at Hidcote last years where anyone can enter. I'm sure it will be back later this year. In the meantime, the gardens have inspired internationally acclaimed photographic artists Anderson & Low to produce a new exhibition called *A Place That Whispers*. The work captures the magic of the garden and the stories hidden in every path, texture and season. The exhibition will be displayed in the Entrance Hall of the Manor House from 16 March to 13 September 2026. More details below along with Anderson and Low's website (never heard of them!!)



<https://www.nationaltrust.org.uk/visit/gloucestershire-cotswolds/hidcote/events/75009cc9-660c-46b0-806a-d043f7a6a3b6>

<https://www.andersonandlow.com/portfolio.html?folio=Projects>

5th major win! 10-year-old wildlife photographer scoops prize for extraordinary macro bee image in stunning detail

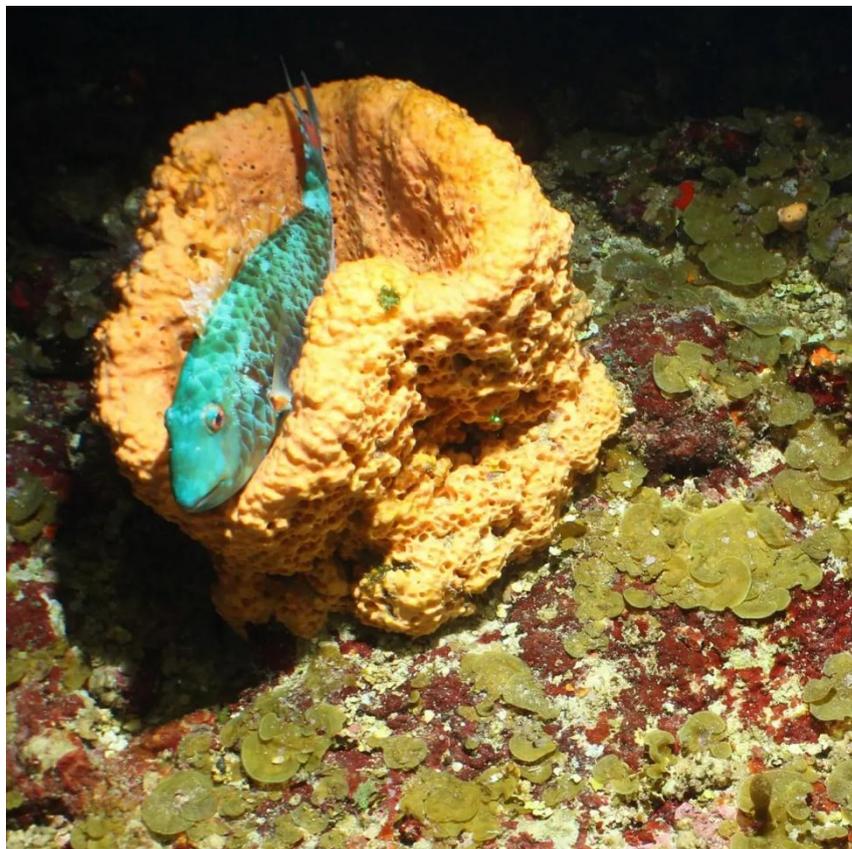
Breaking records yet again, young wildlife photographer Jamie Smart – also known as the "Eagle Eyed Girl" – has added another prestigious accolade to her growing list of achievements. The talent from Llandrindod Wells, Wales, has been named the Under-11 Category Winner at the British Wildlife Photography Awards for her detailed macro photograph, *Cutting Edge*, which captures a leaf-cutter bee peeking from a clay bee hotel. Check out the winners on the British Wildlife Photography Awards website below:



<https://www.bwpawards.org/>

Spectacular images reveal unique sea creatures and corals off Caribbean islands

The waters off the glittering coastlines of Britain's Caribbean territories have long been a mystery. But now scientists on the first expedition beyond the islands' shallows have discovered an underwater mountain range, a massive "blue hole", coral reefs apparently untouched by climate change and never-before-seen sea creatures. Here's the story:



<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/articles/cgmllk32g72o>

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/cn0e8gyz39ro>

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/articles/ckg1l95rx4eo>

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/articles/c1d6k9z5rxxo>

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/articles/cyv95939qz2o>

Chairman's Challenge Part 26

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

26 Fill Flash in Daylight

-  **Objective:** Balance harsh shadows with flash.
-  **Setting:** Enable Flash, adjust Flash Compensation
-  **Assignment:** Portrait outdoors with fill flash.
-  **Tip:** Use -1 EV flash compensation for subtle fill.

Quote of the week

All photographs are accurate. None of them is the truth - Richard Avedon

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 |
|------------------------|--|

| | |
|---------------------------|--|
| 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