



# Vignettes 307

April 2nd, 2026

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## **Club News**

Hi everyone. Hope you are all well and looking forward to Easter. We had a pretty good turnout on Monday night to hear Terry Walters's presentations on 100 mono images and 350 acceptances. Terry was very candid about some images which failed to find favour with Uk judges yet went on to win acceptances around the globe. I think it's fair to say that Uk camera clubs and their club competitions have elevated the general standard of photography to a level up there amongst the best so, on one level, I can see from a Uk judge perspective see why some of Terry's images were not popular. However, there was a great range of images and it was refreshing to hear Terry honesty in his presentation.

If you recall, our Chair David Wallis was, earlier in the season, promoting the submission of images into Global 'Salons' having had success over last summer and of course Pixoroo lists Salons where you can enter.

Here's Prog Sec Dave Cahill with his thoughts and weekly roundup.

## **Programme Secretary's Review**

*Hi everyone. The lighter evenings are back! We had a decent turnout this week for our last external speaker of the season, Terry Walters, with 100 Monochrome Images. It wasn't perhaps as inspiring and varied as some of this year's previous speakers, but I thought Terry got his point about good standard club images doing well in salons over well. A lot of his acceptances clearly came in overseas salons, with images that would perhaps be passed over in the UK. One he showed us had had 37 acceptances alone. However, he does do well in UK salons too - I checked and he had four acceptances in last year's Cheltenham Salon for instance. He has some impressive letters after his name - EFIAP, EPSA and BPE2 – but you do need a lot of acceptances to get there. It's worth giving it a go if that's your thing. Warning though - he said it gets addictive.*

*It was a shame that he forgot to bring the promised prints. The paper manufacturer he mentioned for true colour tones was Olmec. It would have been interesting to see what they had to offer. He has sent me a couple of links:*

<https://fineartfoto.co.uk/product-category/inkjet-media/>

<https://firstcall-photographic.co.uk/collections/fine-art-inkjet-paper>

*I've also got a file from him with colour test results for a range of papers he has tried. If anyone is interested I can forward it on to you. He was particularly recommending the Firstcall Baryta which is actually Innova/Olmec in a white box, and cheaper.*

*Regarding Terry's images themselves, I thought they were a bit of a mixed bag. I liked many of them a lot, some not so much. But they were all accepted in salons somewhere! It was interesting to hear about the work that had gone into setting up some of the studio shots (I must get a prop bag!) and also the Photoshop work that he did. His comments about judges must have also resonated with many of us I guess. Terry is a judge himself of course, so it was good that he had some disparaging thing to say about them too.*

*One final thing, I hadn't realised there would be so many nudes in the second half. When we had a junior member I used to ask speakers if there were any inappropriate images for junior members to see. I don't check this anymore, so I hope it was all OK.*

*Next week is Easter Monday so no meeting, and the following week (13th April) we have a practical session on Macro Photography. Mike, John Smith, Shaun and Martyn will be running things. The plan is to have 5 stations:*

- a light tent (Shaun)*
- focus stacking (Martyn)*
- water droplets on a leaf (John)*
- oil on water (Mike)*
- water drops on glass (Mike)*

*It should be a great hands-on evening. Please bring your cameras, ideally a lens with around 100mm focal length (a macro lens if you have one), tripod and remote shutter cable. Mike will bring some supplementary bits and pieces for members to try, such as extension tubes, and a ring flash. This will be mostly Canon stuff so if you do have any other manufacturers' macro gear please do bring it along. I have some Sony extension tubes I will bring. I've used them about twice in 2 years so I'm hoping to discover how to use them properly! There will be props too but if you have an item you would like to try some macro shots on then feel free to bring that along.*

*It will be our usual 7:30pm start. Hope to see you there.*

*Have a good Easter*

*Cheers*

Thanks Dave.

## WCPF Members Exhibition

We've heard from our President John Hankin following his success at the WCPF members exhibition

Hi Martyn.

See below. What a difference a point can make! I'd have been over the moon if the familiar 12 points had applied for acceptance!

Cheers

John

Western Counties Photographic Federation  
**wcpf** Members' Exhibition **2026**

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Dear John,

**Western Counties Photographic Federation 2026 Members' Exhibition**

Congratulations! You had 2 images accepted into the Exhibition out of the 7 you entered. Your individual results are shown below.

The full results have now been published on the Exhibition website, at <https://photoexhib.com/wcpfex/results-2026/results.htm>. It contains details of all the accepted images together with the award-winning images.

I would like to thank you very much for entering our exhibition.

If you would like acceptance certificates for your accepted images, click [here](#) to see them in a browser window. You will be able to print these A5-sized certificates in the usual way from your browser, or download them as a PDF file. The certificates will remain online for 60 days from the date of this email.





If you have any difficulty reading this email, please [click here](#) to see your results on the website.

Yours sincerely,  
Pedro Landers  
Exhibition Secretary

Name: John Hankin. Entrant id: 1069. Email: [hankinjw@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:hankinjw@hotmail.co.uk)

**Digital Section**

**Open Digital Class Entries** - Acceptance mark: 13. Maximum images in this class: 4. You entered 4

			
"Co-ordination"	"Flying Hooves"	"Polo Duel"	"Polo Action"
Score: 12	Score: 12	Score: 13	Score: 12
Not Accepted	Not Accepted	Accepted	Not Accepted

### Digital Section

**Open Digital Class Entries** - Acceptance mark: 13. Maximum images in this class: 4. You entered 4

			
<i>"Co-ordination"</i>	<i>"Flying Hooves"</i>	<i>"Polo Duel"</i>	<i>"Polo Action"</i>
Score: 12	Score: 12	Score: 13	Score: 12
Not Accepted	Not Accepted	Accepted	Not Accepted

**Open Monochrome Digital Class Entries** - Acceptance mark: 13. Maximum images in this class: 3. You entered 3

		
<i>"Polo Action"</i>	<i>"Hockey on Horseback"</i>	<i>"Alfredo Bigatti"</i>
Score: 13	Score: 12	Score: 10
Accepted	Not Accepted	Not Accepted

#### Scoring Notes

Each judge awarded a mark from 2 to 5, giving each image a total score between 6 and 15. A '\*' next to a score of between 9 and 12 indicates that one or more judges awarded a mark of 5.

Well done John, another point and it would have been full house.

#### Do you suffer from Mug Envy?


Sadly I do after seeing Lawrence with his Canon Lens mug. I have seen them advertised and (wouldn't you know it) discovered that a few members have them at home. So I bought one - other camera make 'mug lenses' are probably available. Here's an Amazon pic:

Mail 19:53 Wed 1 Apr amazon.co.uk 98%

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## Into space flight - Artemis II moonshot flight?

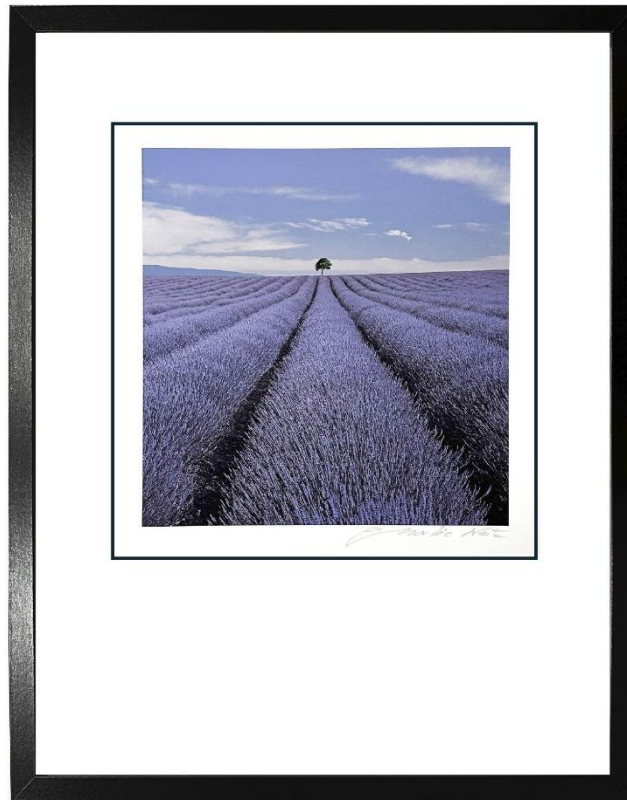
There's plenty of streaming channels to watch the NASA Artemis II moonshot but if you are interested, probably the best is NASA itself. The photography and videography is going to be amazing. Here's a link: <https://plus.nasa.gov/>

## That Charlie Waite print - you know you want one

If you recall, because of the relatively high cost of the fantastic Charlie Waite Zoom talk we had a few months back, a cost which we wouldn't normally commit to, Charlie graciously donated one of his signed prints for us to raffle off. We've had it mounted (see below) and from last Monday we will be bringing along a 'raffle board' and the picture to give everyone the opportunity to buy a ticket in advance of the raffle at the end of the club season. This is so that everyone has an opportunity just in case they can't make the raffle night. The raffle board will have 100 raffle ticket numbers on it which gives you the option of choosing one or more of your favourite raffle ticket number(s) at £5 a ticket.

Well we brought it in last Monday along with the lottery board and we've sold 16 tickets already so well done to those members who have picked their 'lucky' ticket.

Here's the image:



### **External Exhibitions and Competitions**

#### Scottish Nature Photography Awards 2025

"Dancing" gnats, a close encounter with a spider and a surgical examination of a dead whale are among the winners of the Scottish Nature Photographer of the Year Awards 2025.

Here's the winners:

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/articles/cy01x851w1jo>

#### Drone Video of the Year

Drone footage reveals perspectives that cameras can't get from the ground. In Namibia | Land of Contrasts, Muhamad AbuShakra flies over the Namib Desert, follows the Atlantic coastline, and navigates safari regions, revealing Namibia from a striking aerial viewpoint. Now, the project earned Drone Video of the Year at AirVuz, recognized for its precision, timing, and dedication by an expert judges panel – crowned as the very best from an incredible year of drone filmmaking. Check out the website: <https://www.airvuz.com/>

### RSPCA Young Photographer Award

An 11-year-old photographer has taken the top prize in the RSPCA Young Photographer Award, winning over the public with a striking image of a dog stranded on a rock – because despite his love for the beach, the Spaniel cross can't swim. Check out the winners here:

<https://young.rspca.org.uk/galleries>

### Action shot of skydivers against the northern lights

Here's an interesting article about a team of photographers who photographed skydivers against the northern lights, battling a range of challenges.

<https://www.digitalcameraworld.com/photography/astrophotography/photographer-capturesseemingly-impossible-long-exposure-action-shot-of-skydivers-against-the-northern-lightswhile-flying-over-100mph-in-sub-zero-temperatures>

### Annual Mobile Photo Awards (MPA)

Kuanglong Zhang has been named the overall winner of the 15th Annual Mobile Photo Awards (MPA), impressing judges with a striking portfolio captured exclusively on smartphones – with models from 2016 to 2023. Here's a link.

<https://mobilephotoawards.com/>

### The Sony World Photography Awards

The Sony World Photography Awards has announced its European Student Award winner, celebrating a standout series exploring femininity and identity in the male-dominated German Armed Forces. Here's the story: <https://www.worldphoto.org/sony-world-photography-awards>

### **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/c3r3ql1q2lvo>  
<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/articles/cvg465me7zyo>  
<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/articles/cwyv8wg4jx8o>  
<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/articles/ce9m0y3351po>  
<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/articles/cp8dnjlz5xpo>

## Chairman's Challenge Part 29

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

### 29 Custom Shooting Mode

-  **Objective:** Create a tailored setup for a specific style.
-  **Setting:** Save Settings to C1/C2 on Mode Dial (if available)
-  **Assignment:** Save a custom mode for action, street, or night.
-  **Tip:** Include preferred AF, ISO, drive mode settings.

### Quote of the week

*I love the people I photograph. I mean, they're my friends. I've never met most of them or I don't know them at all, yet through my images I live with them - Bruce Gilden*

*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
<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 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