



Vignettes 309

April 15th, 2026

Contents

Club News.....	2
Programme Secretary's Review.....	2
External Exhibitions and Competitions	4
BBC pictures	6
Chairman's Challenge 2026-2027	6
Comp schedule and definitions for 2025-2026	8
Definitions of Set Subjects.....	8
CCC Annual Competition Categories	9
Club Competitions from September 2025	10
Competition Rules from 1 st September 2025.....	12
Club Programme 2025-26	14

Club News

Hi everyone. I hope you are all well. We had a good turnout for Monday nights Macro practical, spearheaded by Mike's enlightening first half presentation. I think these nights are great at combining some social interaction with showing members what's out there and how you can expand learning with or without your kit. Here's Dave with his weekly roundup.

Programme Secretary's Review

Hi everyone. Many thanks to Mike, John Smith, Shaun and Martyn for laying on an excellent practical evening this week on macro photography. There was a good turnout too which was encouraging to see. A lot of work goes into these evenings so it's rewarding for the presenters to have a large and enthusiastic audience.

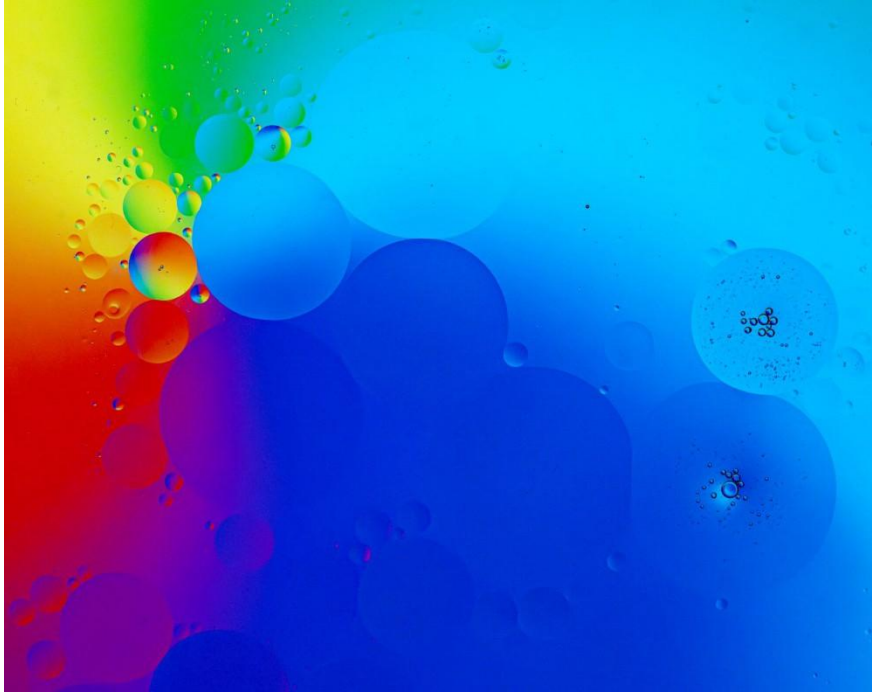
Mike's presentation was very informative – the reversing rings option seemed to be the recommended way to go if you haven't got a dedicated macro lens. That made me feel even better about the £89 I spent on extension tubes for my Sony! I also hadn't appreciated the point about using electronic rather than mechanical shutter for macro shots. I checked and I always use mechanical because I like the click you get!

After the presentation some of us had a go on the various stations:

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

I was keen to understand the Sony in-camera focus stacking but although I took over 100 images (in batches of 30) it didn't work across the whole of Martyn's little people set up. I've borrowed them though and will have another go at home. I'm wondering if ironically it was because I was using my macro lens and needed a lot more shots to move the focus towards infinity. I'm determined to make it work. Watch this space!

I did get one image from the night that I really liked, this oil on water shot.



So, thanks again to the presenters. I think these hands-on nights are a very important part of the club programme. If anyone has any ideas or requests for other practical nights please do let us know.

The end of the season seems to be rapidly approaching now and next week we have our first annual competition night, including the Print Panel which is judged by the members.

It will be a prompt 7:30pm start. Hope to see you there

Cheers Dave

.....and on the issue of photo stacking, check this out

Photographer Jacek Hensoldt's work focuses on "the little wonderful things that we usually don't notice." To capture the hidden complexity of the macro world, he uses a powerful technique that brings out extreme details in tiny subjects: focus stacking.

Hensoldt applied this technique to capture Parasite – an image that was selected as a Finalist in Close Up Photographer of the Year's 'Death & Decay' challenge. Here's the website and backstory:



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

<https://www.digitalcameraworld.com/photography/awards-and-competitions/this-macrophotographer-uses-a-technique-you-need-to-try-32-images-later-he-revealed-extraordinary-hidden-detail-now-recognized-in-prestigious-close-up-photo-challenge>

External Exhibitions and Competitions

Rebels + Icons: The Photography of Janette Beckman

British born photographer Janette Beckman Now is the subject of *Rebels + Icons: The Photography of Janette Beckman*, opening at the Museum of Pop Culture (MOPOP) in Seattle on 15 May. The most comprehensive exhibition of Beckman's photographs assembled to date, it runs through to 8 September 2027 and includes rare archival prints, contemporary collaborations and newly unearthed images. Here's the background:



<https://www.digitalcameraworld.com/photography/galleries-and-exhibitions/rebels-and-iconswhy-janette-beckman-didnt-wait-for-permission-to-photograph-music-history>

2026 World Press Photo Contest

World Press Photo has announced the winners for the 2026 competition, which recognizes some of the most striking photographs across photojournalism and documentary



photography. The contest recognizes photographers across single images, multi-photo stories, and long-term projects across six regions. The resulting gallery is a collection of more than 100 winning images that create, as the contest organizers describe it, “an urgent portrait of our world today.” World Press Photo will select one Photo of the Year and two finalists from among the award winners on April 23.

<https://www.worldpressphoto.org/contest/2026>

Touring exhibition showcases royal photography

A photography exhibition showcasing more than 100 photographs taken of and by the British Royal Family is on tour following its launch at Kensington Palace.

The Life Through a Royal Lens exhibition explores the enduring relationship between the Crown and the camera over 200 years. It was first launched at Kensington Palace and is now on tour, starting at The Amelia Scott in Tunbridge Wells. Here’s the story:

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/articles/c8xyr8j2dq5o>

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/c8ejp5ryd7ko>
<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/articles/c98mqmj35nzo>
<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/articles/c5yl9eveq95o>
<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/articles/czrkgnj7v70o>
<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/articles/ce9mdl5md8xo>
<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/articles/c2397p530l2o>

Chairman’s Challenge 2026-2027

Please send me your ideas for next years challenge. I think this will include the taking of images to be submitted for club presentation.

Quote of the week

*When I say I want to photograph someone, what it really means is that I’d like to know them.
Anyone I know I photograph - Annie Leibovitz*

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 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
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 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