



# Vignettes 310

April 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2026

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## Club News

Hi everyone. I hope you are all well. We had a busy night on Monday with a very good turnout to watch, with bated breath, the first of our two annual judging nights. This was interspersed with in house judging of the print panel challenge which, this year, looked to be the most we've had - always encouraging. Congratulations to all the winners and good luck for round 2 next week. Here's Dave with his weekly roundup.

### Programme Secretary's Review

*Hi everyone. Well done to everyone who picked up an award in the first round of the annual competition judging. There was a good turnout and I thought Roger Matthews did a great job of getting through four of the sections, somehow finding time to critique each image in detail, and providing a lot of constructive feedback. He noted that several of the mono prints displayed a colour cast which is something we should try to address. Does anybody have an explanation and solution for this? He also commented, as have several judges in the past, that it would help to use larger mounts to give smaller or even A4 images more room to breathe. It was good that he didn't actually take that into account when assessing and scoring the images though. One thing he mentioned a few times that I hadn't heard before was to use a linear gradient to darken down the base of some of the images.*

*Regarding my images, I didn't agree with him about his comments about the text in my mono print, and I had a chat with him about it at the break. It seems to be a standard rule with most judges that any text is a no-no. I agree that in some images it can be a distraction, but I left it there in mine as I thought it added context. He made an interesting point about the border around my aviation entry. That just came with SilverEfex which I know of a lot of people use these days. Where do you draw the line (sorry about the pun) though. I think he is probably right, as the border is an addition to the image rather than coming from the original pixels. Something for us to discuss at the next committee meeting perhaps. Finally a couple of people asked about my Miserden Morris photo, regarding whether it was a multiple exposure. It wasn't, just a 'long' exposure (well, 1/2 sec) making use of my Urth variable ND filter. Very useful for getting a Marmite image!*

*We also looked at the print panels during the break, results next week. It was good to see so many entries. I think the standard was higher this year so the result should be interesting.*

*Round two next week then, with the usual prompt 7:30pm start. Hope to see you there.*

Thanks Dave. As for the colour cast on the mono images, this is often due to not ticking the 'Black and White' box when setting up the basic printer paper settings. I'm guilty of this mainly because I forget. It switches off the colour cassettes/colour management in the printer and has nothing to do with setting the ICC profile you choose from within the Printer Module in Lightroom. I spoke to Roger about this afterwards and he mentioned that it's a common mistake to make.

As we come to the end of the season, we'll be deleting the competition submission dates and definitions in future 'V's'.

### **Cheltenham CISP Salon results are in - didn't we do well**

I'm out of touch with this year's results but I hear that we've done well as a club with John Spreadbury, Patrick, Dave Cahill, John Crew and Mike all getting acceptances. Well done. Sorry I've missed anyone out but do send me your accepted images and I'll show them in next weeks Vignettes. In the meantime here's Dave's accepted image 'Bride-To-Be In Malacca'. Lovely.



### **Bluebells and Tulips**

With warmer weather this weeks comes an abundance of colour so, in the first instance get down to Dyrham Park (NT) for its 'Tulip Mania' month. The tulips are coming to an end but it's probably ok for another week but not much more.



.....and not forgetting Badbury Clump, Coleshill. Absolutely spectacular Bluebell array in the sun this time of the year but probably even better if you can get there early. It's always busy at this time of the year so avoid the weekends as the smallish carpark will be chock - a - block.



## External Competitions and Exhibitions

### Feeling a bit chilly?

Photographer David Gibbon is known for his wildlife captures and has led photography tours for a decade. In this image, he reveals the story behind a powerful close-up portrait of an Arctic fox, shot using a pro full-frame DSLR, the Canon EOS-1D X, paired with a 150-600mm telephoto zoom, at 1/800sec, f/6.3, and ISO 1250. Check out the story here:



<https://www.digitalcameraworld.com/photography/nature-and-wildlife-photography/in-brutal-22c-winds-this-photographer-captured-a-stunning-arctic-fox-portrait-using-canons-pro-fullframe-dslr>

### Sony World Photography Awards 2026

Now in its 19th year, the Sony World Photography Awards (SWPA) is regarded as one of photography's most prestigious global contests. The winners of the 2026 SWPA have just been announced in London – this year's competition saw more than 430,000 images submitted from over 200 countries and territories. In one of the most closely watched announcements in photography, the World Photography Organisation has crowned Citlali Fabián for her series *Bilha, Stories of my Sisters*, as this year's overall winner.



Check out the winners here:

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

#### A century of American photography in one afternoon

Bringing together more than 100 images, 38 photographers and hundred years of cities in motion, *Portrait of a City: A Century of American Photography*, opening at Dulwich Picture Gallery in London on 28 July, is highly anticipated. With more than 100 works by 38 photographers, it traces American urban life from the early 1900s to the close of the 20th century. Check out the background here:

<https://www.digitalcameraworld.com/photography/galleries-and-exhibitions/a-century-of-american-photography-in-one-afternoon-this-rare-exhibition-will-be-greater-than-the-sum-of-its-parts>

Concrete in Life' 2025/26 winners announced - and it's from a smartphone



The winners of the photography competition 'Concrete in Life' 2025/26 have been announced, with Filipino photographer Celbert Palaganas taking the grand prize for his image Pillars Across the Sea. Shot on a Google Pixel camera phone using its 48MP ultra-wide



camera, the winning image captures the contrast between nature and engineering at the Cebu–Cordova Link Expressway (CCLEX) in the Philippines – the longest bridge in the country, spanning approx 8.9km and completed in 2021 using largely sustainable construction materials.

Here's the winners:

<https://gccassociation.org/concreteinlife2526/>

### **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/cwyk2004599o>

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/articles/c1d9zv0029ko>

### **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**

*My life is shaped by the urgent need to wander and observe, and my camera is my passport -  
Steve McCurry*

*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<br>(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<br>(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 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<br>E<br>P<br>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<br>C<br>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<br>O<br>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<br>E<br>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<br>A<br>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<br>E<br>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<br>A<br>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<br>P<br>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<br>A<br>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