



Vignettes 311

April 30th, 2026

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Club News

Hi everyone. I hope you are all well. Another good turnout on Monday to see part 2 of our annual competition judging. Definitely a good decision a couple of years ago to split the annual judging over two nights given the number of entries we are now getting. The days of one judge assessing 120 images in one night are long gone and, looking back, I do feel quite sorry that we put these judges through such a marathon. Both Monday judging nights saw two good judges give a good account of themselves and I think we all learnt something from their critiques which were positively delivered with humour.

As the season is now drawing to a close, we won't be including the seasons and annual comp details until the next seasons schedule, definitions and subjects are finalised. However, to give you the maximum opportunity to get snapping for next seasons regular comps including the annual Presidents Cup, all the necessary information will be appearing sooner than you think.

Don't forget that our Model evening on the 11th May counts towards next year's Miles Shield (images taken on a club outing).

Annual results below from Fin but here's Dave with his weekly roundup:

Programme Secretary's Review

Well done to everyone who picked up an award in the second round of the annual competition judging. There was another good turnout. I thought Simon Caplan did an excellent job, one of the best judges we've had in my opinion. I really liked his eloquent preamble, explaining his approach to judging with some insightful comments about the importance of club competitions. I didn't manage to note down all the key things he looks for when assessing an image, but I think it was very similar to the TOOPA list that another judge (Julia Cleaver) has mentioned – Technical Quality, Overall And Immediate Impact, Originality, Powerful Composition, Artistic Merit. Not necessarily in that order! I think he applied those basic principles to his critiques very fairly on the night, and gave some really encouraging and constructive feedback, all done in an entertaining and understandable way.

Well done to the print panel finalists too, and to Brian in particular for retaining his trophy.

There is no meeting next week as it is another Bank Holiday. The following week (11th May) we have our penultimate meeting of the season with an outdoor model photoshoot. I still need to finalise exact details with our model Kate Peake. Kate is an experienced photo club model. She has suggested bringing a couple of costumes and props – steampunk and

Victorian outfits, both previously unseen by camera clubs. If the weather is kind we will run this outside around the church exterior. In case of bad weather we will relocate to the hall.



It will be our usual 7:30pm start. I will give more details of the exact format of the evening when I have had a discussion with Kate. See you then.

Cheers

Dave

Thanks Dave. And here's Fin with the results. I calculated 25 different members who gained a place, highly commended or commended which is great to see and demonstrated the breadth of talent we have in the club. Well done to all the winners.

2026 ANNUAL RESULTS

PRINT PANEL CHALLENGE



FIRST	Field Fantasia	Brian Champion
SECOND	A Day at West Bay	Andy Dipper
THIRD	Masphi Cloud Forest Ecuador	Paul Norris
Highly Commended	Moments at the Mop Fair	Gerry Vasbenter

DENNIS MOSS TROPHY - OPEN PRINT



FIRST	It wasn't me	Billy Kerr
SECOND	Grasmere Fungi II	Stephen Chapman
THIRD	The Old Tool Store	Ruth Barker
HIGHLY COMMENDED	The Golden Hour	Mike Cheeseman
HIGHLY COMMENDED	Goal Bound	John Hankin
COMMENDED	Colicerda Verde Hummingbird	Paul Norris
COMMENDED	Sunset at the Waterhole	Nigel Rogers
COMMENDED	It Worked for Warhol	Steve Kirby
COMMENDED	Red Kite Flight	Patrick Barker

MILES SHEILD - CLUB OUTING



FIRST	Miserden Morris	Dave Cahill
SECOND	Synchronised Skip Sticks	Martyn Smith
THIRD	Do you want Stuffing or just...	Paul Norris
HIGHLY COMMENDED	Tentacular Voyeur	Brian Champion
COMMENDED	Glow	Stephen Chapman
COMMENDED	The Frampton Mansel Four	Bex Jordan

GLADIATOR TROPHY - AVIATION



FIRST	Sunrise Sortie	Mike Cheeseman
SECOND	Flying Medics	Steve Kirby
THIRD	Propeller Dreams	Ruth Barker
HIGHLY COMMENDED	Vapour Trails	Paul Norris
COMMENDED	Rather you than me	Dave Cahill

PILCHERS CUP – For New Members



FIRST	Rainbow Flight	Errol Taylor
Second	Glencoe Etive waterfall	Roger Armitage
Third	Ruby Red	Bex Jordan
Highly Commended	Aurora 2024	Celia watson

LEONARD JONES TROPHY – OPEN DPI



FIRST	Lochan na h Achlaise	Roger Armitage
SECOND	That's five points	John Hankin
THIRD	Hard Times in Ciren Town	Billy Kerr
HIGHLY COMMENDED	Mist-eery Island	Celia Watson
HIGHLY COMMENDED	Walking near St Pauls	Colin Hoskins
COMMENDED	Bloom	Stephen Chapman
COMMENDED	Skinny Dipper	Martyn Smith
COMMENDED	Final Inspection	Fin Simpson
COMMENDED	Trying to attract the ladies	Paul Norris

CAVENDISH CUP – B&W Print



FIRST	Leveret Nibbles	Martyn Smith
SECOND	Harnessed Power	John Hankin
THIRD	The Inkpot	Mike Cheeseman
HIGHLY COMMENDED	Lanterns of the Old Town	David Wallis
COMMENDED	Engaged with Art	Dave Cahill
COMMENDED	Dandelion	John Spreadbury

PITCHER TROPHY – Sunset in the Cotswolds



FIRST	The last light of the day	Paul Norris
SECOND	Down at the Crossroads	Dave Cahill
THIRD	Shooting along the A417	Colin Hoskins
HIGHLY COMMENDED	Broadway Sunset	Billy Kerr
COMMENDED	Dancing at Sunset	Brian Champion
COMMENDED	Dusk North Meadow	John Crew

TED PARROT TROPHY – SPORTING ACTION



FIRST	Racing the Waves	Nigel Rogers
SECOND	Polo Action	John Hankin
THIRD	She's the Winner	Billy Kerr
HIGHLY COMMENDED	The Mens Woolsack Race	Colin Hoskins
COMMENDED	Leap of Faith	Celia Watson

CISP - Cheltenham Salon the results are in

And, from my recollection, nine acceptances is the best number we've ever had. This only goes to underline the overall improvement in the quality of our images which we have seen throughout the season's competitions. Its congratulations to the following members:

John Crew - 1

Nigel Rogers - 1

John Spreadbury - 2

Dave Cahill - 1

Mike Cheeseman - 1

Patrick - 3

We saw Dave Cahill's last week and Nigel's and John Spreadbury's have been shown in the WhatsApp Group. John C has sent me his acceptance:

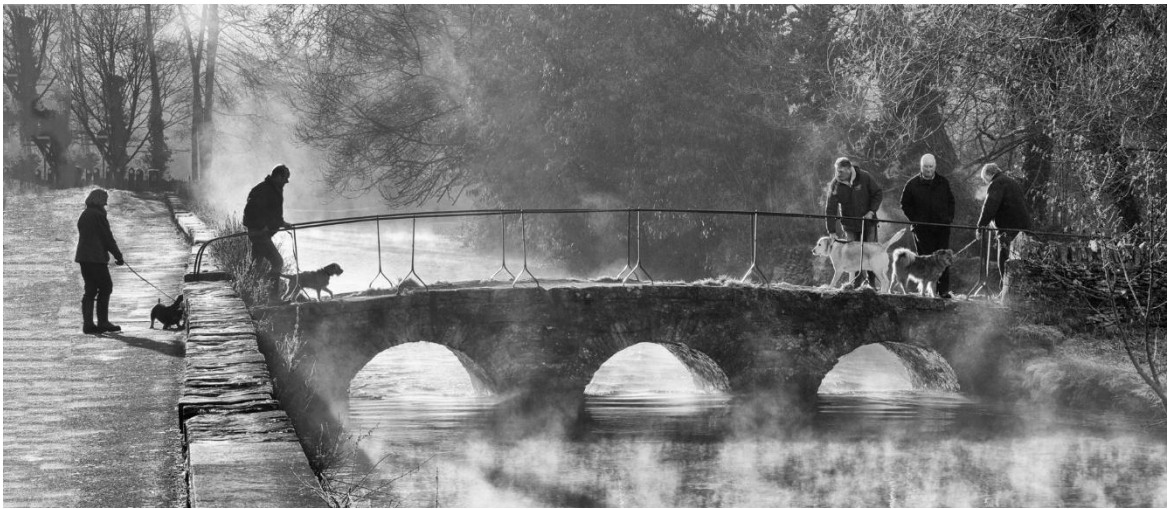


And here's Patrick's





And here's Mike's:



Battle against Stroud and Cheltenham

We forgot to post the results of our recent battle against Stroud and Cheltenham - here's Paul

Hi everyone. Our annual "friendly" battle was hosted by Cirencester this year and consisted of 10 prints and 10 DPIs. Overall, there was an excellent standard of images with multiple full mark scores, particularly around high-quality nature, travel and street scene images. Other subject matter including landscapes and impact images scored highly as well. The judge was Jay Hallsworth from Gloucester area. And he provided an excellent range of comments that were both insightful and constructive. The three-way battle was closely fought with Stroud triumphing by eight points on the evening but with very little between the Clubs at half time. The results are summarised below: Stroud 365

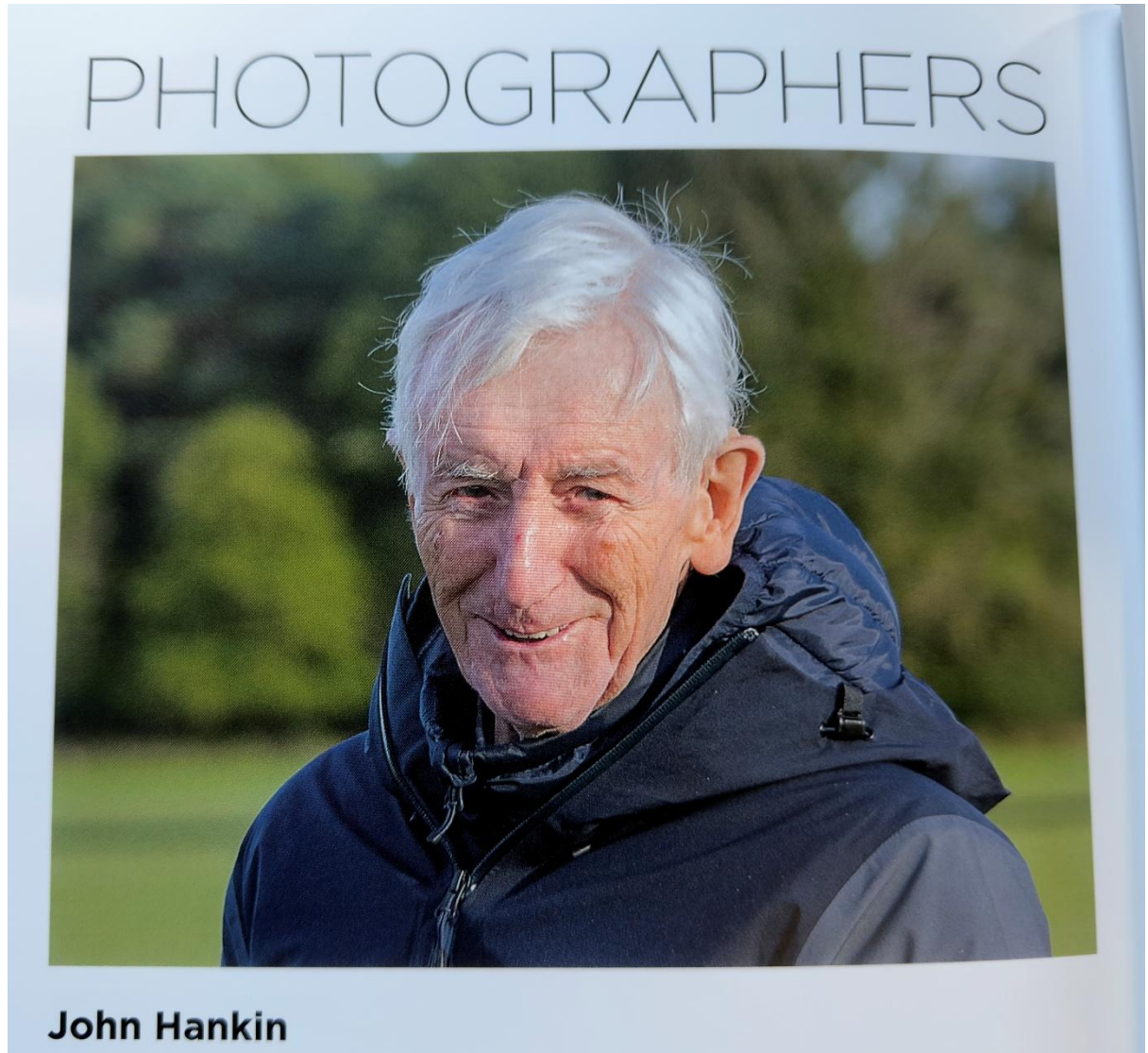
Cheltenham – 357

Cirencester – 352

Cheltenham and Stroud presented some excellent travel, urban and nature images, and this was the primary difference in the scores between the clubs. Well done particularly to Martyn, Tricia, Mike, Ruth, and Paul for achieving high marks with one or more of their images.

Cheers Paul

Our President has hit the headlines



Well done to Trish for spotting this in the Cirencester 2026 Polo Year Book and posting it on the WhatsApp group. It's all in the story.

John Hankin

My Polo photography started in 1975 and I'm still enjoying the action fifty years on, since 2006 with a digital camera replacing film. Lord Vestey's "Stowell Park" was one of the strongest teams with the patron often joined by Argentinian powerhouse Hector Barrantes and Eduardo Moore whose pony "Fabiola" was legendary. Mark Vestey ran his own leading team "Foxcote" and another I recall was Alex Ebied whose "Falcons" team was frequently acknowledged as best turned out in the game. For me that was probably the Golden Age at CPPC.

There have been many changes in the game - boards are now universal, balls are plastic, not wood, and some team shirts are almost works of art. Ponies seem bigger and faster, and the general level of play is much higher now. There's now irrigation on Ivy Lodge and Peddington. One constant is the Vestey family involvement including Mark's children and grandchildren. Players who've stood out include Prince Charles as Back for

"Diables Bleu", and later Galen Weston's "Maple Leafs", the Hipwood brothers, the Hanbury family, Jack and Nick Williams and since his arrival with "Ellerston White" in 1995 aged 20, Adolfo Cambiaso. Now a father of three players, still 10 goals!

Sadly, most of my photography archives have been lost to either home downsizing or computer crashes but there are a few I've managed to retain and they still remind me of the early days and it's clear the technical quality has definitely improved over the years. Auto focus was revolutionary from the eighties followed by digital cameras early in the new century and another godsend has been image stabilisation which is helping enormously to overcome the inevitable loss of steadiness so I'm able to take pictures handheld. I've used Canon cameras and lenses since 1983 and celebrated my 90th Birthday with one of the latest range in 2024. I've been very lucky health-wise and still get a kick from occasionally seeing my photos in Polo Times.

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External Exhibitions and Competitions

South West Firefighter Challenge - 23rd May 2026 - Gloucester Docks

Ruth sent me these details which look quite interesting. There are in fact two events, a regional one at Gloucester Docks in May and The British Firefighter Challenge which is a competition organised by Firefighters, for Firefighters to be held at the Moreton in Marsh Firefighters College in July. Much action for photography I'm sure. Here's the details.

<https://www.gloucestershire.gov.uk/glosfire/south-west-firefighter-challenge-may-2026/>

<https://www.britishfirefighterchallenge.co.uk/>

Emotional ICE image wins World Press Photo of the Year

Last year, when a judge ordered the Trump Administration to improve conditions at the immigration center at the Jacob K Javits Federal Building in New York City, the images used to show the "deplorable" conditions were taken from security camera footage. But even as photojournalists were limited to public hallways, one longtime photojournalist captured an emotional image that represents the reality of US immigration policies.



Check out the story here:

<https://www.digitalcameraworld.com/photography/awards-and-competitions/photojournalists-were-limited-to-public-hallways-this-photographer-kept-showing-up-anyway-and-earned-her-this-major-award-emotional-ice-image-wins-world-press-photo-of-the-year>

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/crk1k8n1j4do>
<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/articles/c98m73v4dvdo>
<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/articles/c248e595dzgo>
<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/articles/cy41k184z08o>
<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/articles/c937z0v1xww0>
<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/articles/cp9vg4pl72jo>
<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/articles/cy81w0xee70o>

Quote of the week

Look and think before opening the shutter. The heart and mind are the true lens of the camera - Yousuf Karsh

That's it, have a good week. Cheers

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David (david.wallis@btinternet.com)

Dave (david.cahill@cantab.net)