



Vignettes 327

September 23rd, 2026

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Club News

Hi everyone. I hope you are all well. Here's Dave with his weekly roundup:

Dave's weekly roundup

Hi everyone. So, we're already into week three of the new season and had another good turnout for our first competition night, the member judging of the Summer Cup images, and the results of our first Image Of The Year competition. Well done to everyone who made the shortlists, and a special mention to Paul N and Chris D who picked up the first 'firsts' of the season. It was interesting to see an emphasis on landscapes and nature in the Image Of The Year results. The 'Photographers We Admire' evening next month is currently showing a bias in an opposite direction, towards, street and social documentary, with names such as Saul Leiter, Martin Parr and Sebastiao Salgado being proposed. Could someone come up with a favourite landscape or nature photographer I wonder?

Next week we have our first external speaker, Roger Bracewell ARPS, with a presentation on 'Urban Photography'. Roger will cover a range of subject areas including urban landscapes, architecture, street and documentary photography. Using examples close to home – in Bristol and Cheltenham – Roger will demonstrate that urban images can do more than simply provide a visual illustration of a location or place. More details are on the events listing:

<https://cirencestercameraclub.org/events/urban-photography/>

It will be the usual start time of 7:30pm.

A footnote from me. There was an interesting editorial in the current Amateur Photographer magazine, on the subject of global camera sales. I noted the comment about a 'strong camera club culture' in Britain. Let's keep it going! See you all next week!

Welcome



Do you need a new camera? Probably not. Would you like one? Well that's an entirely different question. Last year the global camera industry shipped around 8.5 million new cameras, according to CIPA data. Of these, around 200,000 (3%) came to the UK. It's interesting to see how tastes and buying habits vary between countries. For example, the US prefers full-frame bodies and big tele-zoom lenses, with smaller formats less popular than in the rest of the world. Fujifilm is stronger in Britain than elsewhere, perhaps due to our fondness for tradition and retro design. Brits also buy proportionally more high end cameras and fewer entry level models than average, which could partly be attributed to our strong camera club culture, where regular exposure to other enthusiasts helps create a competitive 'arms race' for the latest models. So it's fascinating to get together with our fellow photo magazine journalists from around the world each year to debate and decide upon the best of the new kit launched in the past year. There is always some disagreement, but also consensus. Nobody needs any of the winning products. Most cameras have been great for at least the last ten years – much better than the cameras used to take almost all of the most iconic photos of all time. But for most of us photography is something we do for fun, and if using the latest tech inspires us and enhances that enjoyment then why not? And if our finances don't allow it, remember that today's new kit is tomorrow's used kit.



The Sony Alpha 7 V was voted the best camera of the year by the international EISA jury

Nigel Atherton
Nigel Atherton
Group Editor

and here's Fin with the results of the Summer Cup and Image of the year events, a commentary on the summer events and a brief introduction about the first of our general competitions:

Competition Secretary's Review

Summer Cup 2026

Hi everyone. Members who attended on Monday night enjoyed reminiscing over those heady summers evenings at Cotswold Lavender, strolling around Tetbury and Coln St Aldwyns, plus hosting the visit of Worcester Camera Club to Cirencester topped of with some excellent pizzas at the Kings Head. Weekend visits to the REME Museum, Crofton Beam Steam Engines and the Vintage Prescott Speed Hill Climb completed a packed Summer Programme ensuring that there was a variety of images to review in our first Member Judged Competition of this new Season.

The voting produced four clear favourites with some familiar names scooping the first spoils of the new season.

*First Place went to **Chris Donohoe** with 'A Flash of Red'*



*Second Place was **Andy Dipper** with 'Ready to go'*

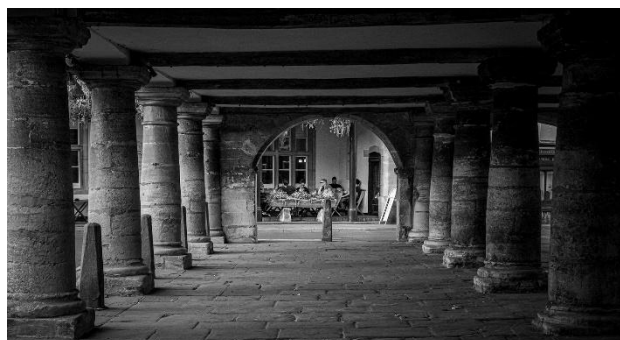


*There were two Highly Commended entries which went to
Ruth and Patrick Barker for the images below.*

Ruth gave us “A Glimpse of Childhood”



And Patrick gave us “Meeting with Friends”



Don't forget all images from the Summer Cup, including the four winning images, can be re-entered into the Annual Miles Shield Competition for images taken at Club outings and events at the end of the Season or any other General Competition.

Image of the Year 2026

Following a member suggestion at the 2026 Annual General Meeting for an Image of the Year Competition it was decided to run an experimental pilot over the first two weeks of the new season. The 99 First, Second, Third and Highly Commended images from all 2025 - 2026 Club Competitions were included in the Member vote.

All members were sent a weblink enabling them to view all the images individually and give them a mark between 1 and 6 to reflect the Clubs standard Competition scoring.

The voting ran for two weeks starting from our Season Opening on Monday 7th September with the results being announced on the evening of Monday 21st September following the voting closing earlier that day. Despite some very close voting the First 3 images stood several votes ahead of the field.

*First place with 132 votes was **Paul Norris** with “Not this time Mr Owl”*



*Second place with 129 votes was **Roger Armitage** with “Lochan na h Achlaise”*



***Roger** also came Third with 126 votes for “Glencoe Etive waterfall”*



Well done to Paul and Roger and thanks to everybody who took the time to vote - The Committee would welcome your feedback as to making this an Annual Event (or not!) plus any tweaks or changes you would like to see in the format and presentation.

*Now we move quickly on to the seasons General Competitions and the first of our external judges – **Aleks Gjika EFIAP/s DPAGB BPE1** from CheltenhamPhotographic Society will be critiquing the healthy 20 Prints and 32 DPI images submitted that have been entered for Competition A - Open to be judged on Monday 5th October at 7:30pm. Remember, competitions are a great way to have your images critiqued by a qualified judge and it goes without saying that your photography will improve as a result.*

Cheers

Fin

External Exhibitions and Competitions

Orkney Nature Festival photography competition

The winners of the first Orkney Nature Festival photography competition have been announced. More than 200 entries were received for the inaugural contest, competing in six categories. Winners were selected for adults and under 18s for topics including species of Orkney and natural landscapes. It is hoped the competition will now be continued in future years. Check out the story below:

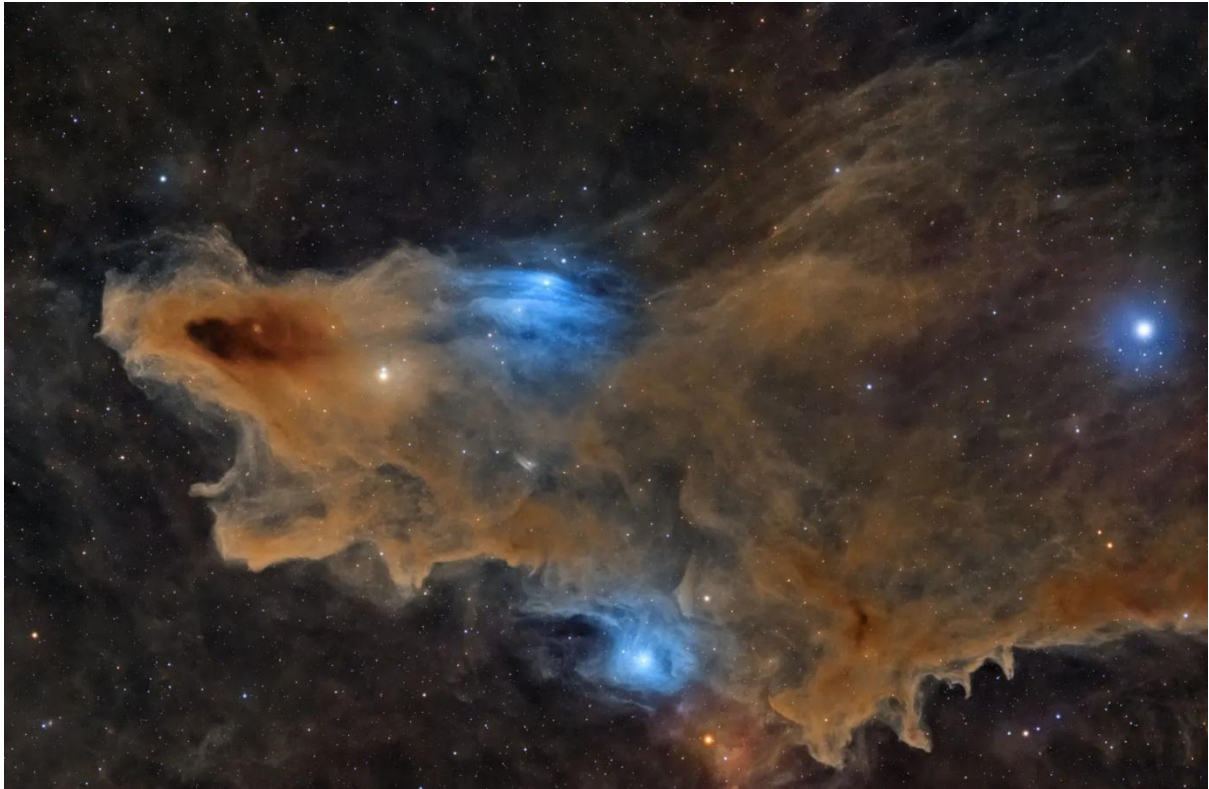


<https://www.bbc.com/news/articles/cre30pkpn0w3o>

Royal Observatory competition

The Royal Observatory Greenwich has announced the winner of its Astronomy Photographer of the Year competition for an image of the Shark Nebula. The dark nebula is made from interstellar dust dense enough to block starlight and is 650 light years away. Ali Alobaidly's image showed "flawless presentation, pin-sharp details and dynamic contrast. The Shark Nebula is already a striking object, but when it is resolved to the point where even detail-rich distant galaxies can be seen through it, you know you're looking at something very special."

Alobaidly, who won £10,000 for winning the competition overall, described the award as a "tremendous honour". For the 2026 competition there were almost 4,000 entries from 66 countries.



<https://www.rmg.co.uk/stories/space-astronomy/photographing-deep-space-shark-kuwait-desert>

Ian Berry, the Magnum photojournalist

The famed British photojournalist Ian Berry died last weekend, aged 92, following a short illness. His wife Kathie revealed on Instagram that he died peacefully, in the early hours, just as they were about to fly to the Marquesas Islands in French Polynesia. His career reads like a highlights reel of 20th century history: Sharpeville, the Soviet invasion of Czechoslovakia, the Vietnam War, Northern Ireland's Troubles, the fall of apartheid. Check out his photographic life here.

<https://www.digitalcameraworld.com/photography/photojournalism/rip-ian-berry-the-magnum-photojournalist-who-shot-the-only-photos-of-the-sharpeville-massacre-and-who-spent-more-than-seven-decades-working-hard-being-humble-and-insisting-the-job-was-never-about-the-gear>

Scavenger Hunt photo contest

Joseph, an 11-year-old photographer from Marlborough, UK, has just won the top prize in the Scavenger Hunt photo contest with a beautiful image of a hare in a harvest field looking

straight into his camera lens. Captured with a 20.4MP APS-C camera and a 150-400mm super telephoto lens, Joseph's winning image is now the new cover of the latest edition of The Week Junior Science+Nature magazine. The theme of the 2026 competition was "Focus on Nature" and Joseph's image left the judges in awe. "Immediately we thought 'here's our winner', the symmetry of this shot is amazing and the direct eye contact and battered ear gives it such character," explained the competition judges. Checkout the website and winners below.



<https://sciencenature.theweekjunior.co.uk/scavengerhunt>

Nikon Small World in Motion competition

Nikon Small World in Motion has announced its 2026 winners in what might just be one of the most remarkable imaging contests in the world. This annual celebration of

microvideography invites viewers to experience alien worlds captured through the lens of a microscope. But it's not all about the visual beauty of these microscopic videos; the competition also serves as a platform in which to highlight the science behind this niche genre of imaging, and how it can be a vital tool in both scientific and medical research. Check out the backstory.

<https://www.digitalcameraworld.com/photography/awards-and-competitions/to-understand-this-disease-you-need-to-watch-the-cilia-through-dozens-of-beat-cycles-not-just-a-still-image-says-winner-of-16th-annual-nikon-small-world-in-motion-competition>

BBC pictures

As usual some great images and backstories from across the globe from the BBC's website:

<https://www.bbc.com/news/articles/c87vlypejewo>

<https://www.bbc.com/news/articles/cm3wjlvddvd20o>

<https://www.bbc.com/news/articles/c62knzyz4y4o>

<https://www.bbc.com/future/article/20260911-10-of-the-most-striking-ocean-images-of-2026>

Quote of the week

Photography is the story I fail to put into words - Destin Sparks

That's it, have a good week.

Cheers

Martyn (thehoneys@btinternet.com)

David (david.wallis@btinternet.com)

Dave (david.cahill@cantab.net)

Chairman's Challenge 3

Week 3 – Framing

Theme

Use natural or man-made elements to frame your subject and draw attention to it.

Focus Skills

- Composition
- Subject isolation
- Depth
- Creative observation

Ideas

- Doorways
- Windows
- Archways
- Tree branches
- Tunnels
- Reflections used as frames

Bonus Constraint

The frame must occupy at least 25% of the image

Tip of the Week

Move around your subject and experiment with different framing elements rather than shooting from the most obvious position.

Club Competitions 2026

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, i.e. the general competitions and annual 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 two DPIs taken at any 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 general competitions trophies are awarded at the 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

Cirencester Camera Club General Competition Schedule 2026/2027			
	Competition	Submission date	Judging night
Summer Cup	DPI – 2026 Summer Club Events	11 th September 2026	21 st September 2026
A	Open DPI & Print	21 st September 2026	5 th October 2026
B	Set DPI & Print – Rule of Thirds	5 th October 2026	2 nd November 2026
C	Open DPI & Print	2 nd November 2026	30 th November 2026
D	Set DPI & Print – Up Close	30 th November 2026	25 th January 2027
E	Open DPI & Print	25 th January 2027	22 nd February 2027
F	Set DPI & Print – Markets	22 nd February 2027	22 nd March 2027
Annual	2026-2027 Annual Competitions	22 nd March 2027	26 th April and 10 th May 2027

Definitions of Set Subjects

“RULE OF THIRDS” – A follow on from Ian Howard’s talk where an image is divided into nine equal sections, and key elements are positioned along the grid lines or their intersections to create balance and visual interest. Think about the classic sand, sea, sky horizontals or the lone tree sitting off centre in the frame.

“UP CLOSE” – A follow on from the Club’s very successful Macro evening where various techniques were demonstrated and tried. This subject can also be about intimacy, detail, and revealing what we usually overlook. It challenges you to move physically closer — or zoom in visually — to transform ordinary subjects into something striking and unexpected.

“MARKETS” – A rich and dynamic photography subject because they combine people, colour, culture, and movement in one place. There are many Market Towns in the Cotswolds to choose from or go further afield with the famous Christmas Markets across the UK and Europe. They all offer endless opportunities to capture everyday life and storytelling through images.

For all Competitions, please upload images by the submission date shown above via Pixoroo link below: -

pixoroo.com/public/account/login

CCC Annual Competition Categories - submission deadline 22nd March 2027		
Award	Subject	Format
Pitchers Trophy (Topic chosen by Club President)	Fresh Air Sculpture Show, Quenington Sunday 14 th June to Sunday 5 th July 2026	DPI, 1600 x 1200, sRGB
Dennis Moss Trophy	Open	Print 1600 x 1200, sRGB
Leonard Jones Cup	Open	DPI, 1600 x 1200, sRGB
Cavendish Cup	Black and white Open	Print 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 <u>Open to new members only.</u>	Open	DPI, 1600 x 1200, sRGB

	Date	Event
S E P T	07 September 2026	Opening Meeting, incl image resizing, PC & phone
	14 September 2026	WCPF Print Viewing
	21 September 2026	Summer Cup Knockout DPs & Image Of The Year
	28 September 2026	Roger Bracewell - Urban Photography
O C T	05 October 2026	Competition A Judging - Open
	12 October 2026	Mop Fair - 6:30pm - Cirencester Parish Church
	19 October 2026	Photographers We Admire
	26 October 2026	Martin Fry - The Seeing Eye
N O V	02 November 2026	Competition B Judging - Rule Of Thirds
	09 November 2026	CISP
	16 November 2026	Abby Moule - Astro Adventures
	23 November 2026	Flash Photography
	26 November 2026	Battle v Swindon & Wantage (at Swindon)
	30 November 2026	Competition C Judging - Open
D E C	07 December 2026	Cat Cross - Theatre Photography - Zoom - 7pm
	14 December 2026	Annual Buffet/Quiz - 7pm - Greyhound Pub
	21 December 2026	Christmas Break
	28 December 2026	Christmas Break
J A N	04 January 2027	Jane Lazenby - Inspired By Art - Zoom - 7pm
	11 January 2027	Shaun Little - Toy Photography
	18 January 2027	Camera & Lens Chats
	25 January 2027	Competition D Judging - Up Close
F E B	01 February 2027	10 by 8
	08 February 2027	David Boag - Photographing Nature More Creatively
	15 February 2027	Home Battle v Tyndale
	22 February 2027	Competition E Judging - Open
M A R	01 March 2027	Kate Peake - 60s Model Night
	08 March 2027	Vicky Kelly - The Space Between Us
	15 March 2027	Cirencester College - 7pm
	22 March 2027	Competition F Judging - Markets
	29 March 2027	Bank Holiday - Easter Monday
A P R	05 April 2027	Paul Norris - Mexico, Ecuador and the Galapagos
	12 April 2027	Colin Trow-Poole - Street Photography
	19 April 2027	Shaun Little - Photoshop
	26 April 2027	The Print Panel Challenge/Annual Competition Judging
M A Y	03 May 2027	Bank Holiday - May Day
	10 May 2027	Annual Competition Judging
	17 May 2027	Lisa Rendall - Dare to Be Different
	24 May 2027	AGM & Annual Awards

Competition Judging

External Speakers

Member Nights

All meetings start in club at 7:30 pm unless otherwise indicated

Full details can be found on the Events page on the website

Club Programme