# Vignettes 335

November18th, 2026

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**Club News**

Hi everyone. Hope you are all well. What another cracking night we had on Monday with Abby Moule ARPS, giving us one of the best delivered talks we've had, with passion, commitment and great timing. I thought it was a masterclass in delivery even if you are not particularly interested in Astro and her images were splendid. Mesmerising in fact. I'm sure we will see her again - maybe a summer outing workshop?

There's the usual updates of the quiz night and the exhibition below including a new exciting initiative if you would like to get involved. In the meantime, here's Dave with his weekly roundup.

**Dave's weekly roundup**

*I hope you all enjoyed Abby Moule's Astro Adventures talk this week. I certainly did. It makes such a difference when the speaker has a clear passion for their genre, not to mention the talent to visualise and execute an idea for a shot. We saw some amazing images and some interesting locations that I hadn't heard of. We were down in Brixham in August. If I'd known about The Daymark I would have had a look, though probably not at 3 o'clock in the morning!*

*I was so impressed by the amount of thought and planning that goes into Abby's work, sometimes keeping an idea on the back burner for months or even years until the right mix of conditions for the shot came together. Her commitment to aproject was exemplary, and the technical skills that were needed to capture the scene she envisaged, and the postproduction that brought it all together were of the highest level.*

*The talk itself was very well constructed and delivered, in an inspiring and entertaining way. Abby shared a lot of useful information about her approach and the tools she uses. In terms of apps she mentioned PhotoPills (especially the augmented reality feature), Stellarium, and Google Earth. Plus a range of weather resources – including Windy, the Met Office, Clear Outside and Weather Radar. She also mentioned Sequator, essential for combining her panoramic and stacked images. I think that even if astro isn't your thing there were lots of tools and techniques covered that could be applied to other genres.*

*We've had a couple of talks on astrophotography during my time at Cirencester, including one from Robert Harvey who Abby works closely with, but so far I don't recall seeing any astro landscape images in our competitions. I'm sure that's going to change now. We've clearly got several members who are inspired and are giving it a go. You know who you are!*

*Finally, in case you missed it, Abby revealed the next best dates for that Milky Way shot could be between the 6th and 13thMarch next year, probably around about 3:30am!*

*Next week we have a semi-practical evening on Flash Photography – Nature and Outdoors delivered by Mike Cheeseman. The first half of the evening will cover the theory, with demonstrations of various set ups in the second half. If you have a flash unit then by all means bring it along. It may be possible to try out with one of the set ups, or if you have any questions about settings and operation then I'm sure Mike or one of our other knowledgeable members will be able to help and advice.*

*https://cirencestercameraclub.org/events/flash-photography/*

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

*Dave*

**A word from our President**

Our President John Hankin has asked me to pass on his apologies to anyone who received a spam email claiming to be from him. Of course, it was a 'phishing' exercise to those who have corresponded with John in the past and most of us suspected it was suspicious and deleted it. Hardly John's fault as these things happen and no harm done.

**Cirencester Museum Club Photographic Exhibition Jan 2027 - update and new initiative**

We are progressing well on a number of fronts so a big thanks to everyone who either printed their own images or sent us ones for us to print to display at the exhibition. All the images have now been printed and mounted and the subcommittee is now moving towards planning the exhibition layout. There's a lot of work going in behind the scenes.

We have an exciting new initiative linked to the exhibition if you are interested in taking part. It's the opportunity for you to sell your own photo cards. See below.

Photocards

I, (Martyn) have some limited experience of this initiative as I exhibited at a previous camera club exhibition much like the one we are holding in January. At that exhibition, club members not only displayed mounted prints, but we also had printed 6 x 4 photo cards (now A6) for sale to the public. These photo cards proved very popular albeit that exhibition wasn't just after Christmas when money is a bit tight. So we are proposing to adopt this idea for our exhibition and have set up a deal with Busy Fingers in Love Lane, Cirencester to do the printing of the photo cards for us.

It's up to you if you want to take advantage of this initiative but if you do, the info below should help.

I should stress at this point that the approach you should adopt is that if you don't sell any or many cards, you still have them left for your use as a 'Thank you' or Birthday Cards etc. So, the initiative is more about getting your images out into the public domain than making a fortune. Here's a photo of one of my cards. This is what you need to know.



1. The contact at Busy Fingers **is:**

Kialan

01285 656757

info@busyfingersprinting.com

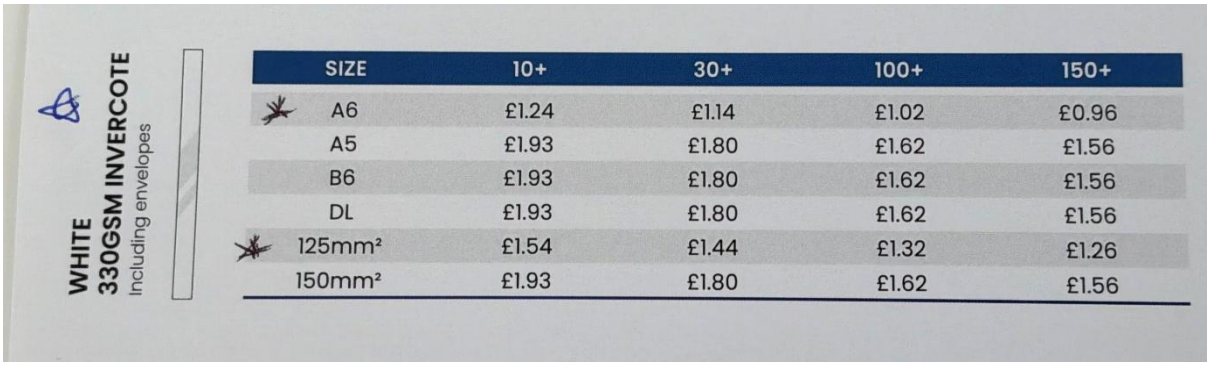
www.busyfingersprinting.com

Busy Fingers

The Cube, 19 Love Lane,

Cirencester, GL7 1YP

1. When ordering your cards from Busy Fingers quote ‘CCC’.
2. The order is a minimum of 10 cards (A6) including envelopes.
3. The printed cards come folded, blank in the middle with your image on the front and a thumbnail of the image on the back with your name and image title.
4. Busy Fingers have waived the normal additional set up cost for A6 cards (£5).
5. We are keeping to the A6 format for this exhibition.
6. The cost schedule is below - just the A6 field.



WHITE
330GSM INVERCOTE
Including envelopes

| SIZE | 10+ | 30+ | 100+ | 150+ |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| A6 | £1.24 | £1.14 | £1.02 | £0.96 |
| A5 | £1.93 | £1.80 | £1.62 | £1.56 |
| B6 | £1.93 | £1.80 | £1.62 | £1.56 |
| DL | £1.93 | £1.80 | £1.62 | £1.56 |
| 125mm² | £1.54 | £1.44 | £1.32 | £1.26 |
| 150mm² | £1.93 | £1.80 | £1.62 | £1.56 |

1. For example, if you order 10 cards, it will cost £12.40 including VAT.
2. You can order as many photo cards as you like and you can use different images. However each different image is treated as a new job. So, 30 cards of the same image would be £1.14 per card (see schedule) but 3 different image sets of 10 (30 cards) would remain at £1.24 per card.
3. The Cirencester museum will sell the cards during the exhibition on our behalf and will charge a 30% commission. Bearing in mind that it is not charging us for the exhibition space, we think this is reasonable. On the sale of each card, it will write down the image title and author and we will sort out distribution of monies after the exhibition closes.
4. We have standardised the photo card price at £4.00 per card or £10.00 for 3.
5. Given minimum set up costs (£12.40 for 10) and commission, your return on capital or break even point is approximately at the sale of 5 cards.
6. Kialan at Busy Fingers is happy to receive the images by email, payment on collection.
7. The images can be in any format, but JPEG's is easiest. 300 dpi is fine but up to 600 dpi is acceptable.
8. The images should be in landscape format and cropped to fit an A6 format. Kialan is happy to discuss if your image size is not A6 in terms of how it will come out on the photo card. The images will be printed to have a white border.
9. The images do not have to be the same as those exhibited in the exhibition (either print or DPI) but can be completely different.
10. Think about what the purchaser might like - a Cotswold landscape, Cirencester street scene, a pretty flower, some wildlife or maybe a holiday location. They are probably not going to go for one of your wedding pictures!! It's another way to improve getting your images out there.
11. One very important point is that you will need to fit the photo card and its envelope into a translucent sleeve (£1.00 for 50 in The Range). This makes the cards very tactile

to a purchaser, easier to handle for the museum and allows us to put the sticky label price (£4.00) on the sleeve not the card. *(I understand from Busy Fingers that their regular artist clients always use these sleeves but Busy Fingers can't supply these.)*

12. We have already printed out the price sticky label for you and Jean Thirkettle has these.
13. We are sourcing a photo card display tray for the museum.

Christmas is coming so don't leave it too late.

Any questions, contact Martyn.

**Fin's been in touch**

*Hi everyone. Given all the Exhibition news over the last few weeks I thought a timely Competition reminder was needed this week. Closing date for the next General Competition is Monday 30th November 2026 - the Set Subject for both DPI and Print Entries is "UP CLOSE" leaving plenty of scope for individual interpretation.*

*As an additional reminder to all, but particularly new members - Entry for Annual Competitions will open on 1st January 2027, however you must have entered 2 General Competitions in the season to be eligible to enter the Annuals. When the Set Subject Competition closes on 30th November there will only be 2 General Competitions left to enter before the Annuals. We would love to have more Annual Competition entries than ever before so get your General entries in now to be sure to qualify and be in with a chance to win a super Silver trophy at the Awards evening next year.*

*As someone once said "YOU HAVE TO BE IN IT TO WIN IT"*

*Thanks and good luck*

*Fin*

**Christmas quiz Monday the 14th December - update and reminder**

It's all go at the moment and, at the time of writing, 27 of you have let me know that you are coming to the quiz. Numbers are creeping up which is great and we've got a couple of weeks before I give the pub the food order. Here's the critical information:

- It's on Monday the 14th December
- It's at the Greyhound Pub, Siddington
- It starts at 7.00 pm
- Food served at around 7.40pm
- We have exclusive use of one room.
- Please let me (Martyn) know if you are coming (email address at the bottom of Vignettes).

- If so, I need your food choice, if you are eating. See choices below.
- I need **all numbers and food choices by** 30th Nov to let the pub know.

The members currently attending are (plus food order - let me know if I've got any order wrong):

1. Quizmaster - David Wallis - Burger.
2. Gary Gleghorn - Beef pie.
3. Dave Cahill - Ham, Egg & Chips.
4. Paul Norris - Burger.
5. Mike Cheeseman - Truffle Gnocchi.
6. Celia Watson - Fish pie
7. Chris Donohoe - Burger.
8. John Smith - Burger.
9. Brian Champion - Beef Pie.
10. John Crew - Beef Pie.
11. Martin Graebe - Beef Pie.
12. John Hankin - Beef Pie.
13. Paul Barrow - Burger.
14. Fin Simpson - Truffle Gnocchi.
15. Colin Hoskins - Beef Pie.
16. Paul Jones - Beef Pie.
17. Jean Thirkettle - Beef Pie.
18. Andy Dipper - Fish Pie.
19. Sue Kerr - Truffle Gnocchi.
20. Katrina Ellor - Ham, Egg & Chips.
21. Terence Sweeney - Fish Pie.
22. Lawrence Wilcock - Ham, Egg & Chips.
23. Linda Clarke - Fish Pie.
24. Graham Clarke - Beef Pie.
25. Billy Kerr - Fish Pie.
26. Roger Armitage - Fish pie.

27. Stephen Chapman - Beef Pie.

28.

*Here's the menu*

- *The Henry burger. The Greyhound's signature beef burger, mature Cheddar cheese, baby gem, tomato, Henry's IPA relish, burger sauce, coleslaw, fries £18.50 GF*
- *Truffle gnocchi with wild mushroom truffle sauce, marinated crispy artichokes V £19.50*
- *Beef bourguignon pie, seasonal greens, creamy mash and gravy £18.75 GF. (The barley used in this dish has been processed to meet gluten-free standards).*
- *Honey & mustard glazed ham shank, free range fried egg, slow cooked tomato, chips £18.25 GF*
- *Fish & king prawn pie, cheddar cheese mash, crispy capers, seasonal greens £18.50 GF*

Don't leave it too late

Thanks

Martyn

**Meet the new member - Matt Evans**

This week it's Matt Evans who's been in touch.

*Hi Martyn, my photography journey started at secondary school with a Zenit film SLR. I spent many happy hours in the darkroom developing film and making prints, and that's where my passion for photography began. As work and family took priority, photography gradually took a back seat. It wasn't until 2017, when I joined A Year With My Camera, that I returned to the hobby. I still consider myself an experienced beginner, with plenty to learn, particularly when it comes to composition and post-processing. I use a Canon 6D and have a variety of lenses. I enjoy macro, aviation and creative photography, and recently I've begun exploring landscape astrophotography. I'm excited to join Cirencester Camera Club, look forward to seeing everyone's work, and to sharing some of my own images too.*

Thanks Matt - another Canon person I see. Jolly good!

**External Exhibitions and Competitions**

Astrophotographer captures stunning image of galactic witch

As astronomy is the flavour of the week, check out the story behind this image:



https://www.digitalcameraworld.com/photography/astrophotography/astrophotographer-captures-stunning-image-of-galactic-witch-playing-with-her-crystal-ball

The 1839 awards

The 1839 Awards, named after one of the most formative years in the history of photography, is a contest and platform celebrating the art of photography and all those who continue to explore the medium's capabilities. Photographers from 79 countries entered this year's 1839 Awards, but it was an underwater photography series that caught the judges' attention. Italian photographer Giacomo Marchione has been named International Photographer of the Year for *The Invisible*. He reveals one of the ocean's largest and least-seen natural phenomena: the daily vertical migration of plankton. Check out the website below:



https://1839awards.com/contests/winners/photographer-of-the-year-contest

HIPA awards, themed 'Family'

Check out this touching story.

https://www.digitalcameraworld.com/photography/awards-and-competitions/photographer-who-won-us-usd200-000-prize-tells-the-story-of-his-award-winning-shot-of-a-family-coming-together-at-a-time-of-crisis

Scavenger Hunt Photo Contest 2026

Sixteen-year-old photographer Jack captured a beautiful moment as two red foxes share an intimate encounter in the woodland, with one gently nuzzling the other's face against a backdrop of dreamy natural light. Titled Harmony, the photograph won second place in The Week Junior Science+Nature's Scavenger Hunt photo contest. Check out the website below:



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

Ocean Photographer of the Year competition.

Ocean photographer Gergo Rugli captured dolphins riding alongside surfers at Tamarama Beach in Sydney, with picture-perfect sea spray adding to the coastal scene: a remarkable moment that makes you stop and wonder if it could really be happening. Now, Rugli's image was named the Adventure Category Winner in the prestigious Ocean Photographer of the Year competition. Check out the story below:



https://www.digitalcameraworld.com/photography/awards-and-competitions/this-image-shows-the-ocean-as-a-shared-space-dolphins-and-surfers-ride-the-waves-together-at-sydney-beach-in-award-winning-photograph

**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/ckjredrqv03vo

https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/articles/c6074nv4z44ro

https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/articles/cqlyeel30dn8o

https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/articles/c63989v772z8o

https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/articles/c5n4e7d7pr2eo

**Quote of the week**

*When you photograph people in color, you photograph their clothes. But when you photograph people in Black and white, you photograph their souls - Ted Grant*

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 11 – Refraction

## Theme

Photograph subjects seen through transparent materials, using the bending of light to create distortion, unusual shapes, or surprising compositions.

## Focus Skills

- Observation of light and distortion
- Composition and subject placement
- Focus and depth of field
- Creative use of transparent materials

## Ideas

- Flowers or objects viewed through a glass of water
- Reflections and distortions in curved glass
- Patterns created by light passing through a prism
- Subjects photographed through rippled water
- Everyday objects seen through bottles or textured glass

## Bonus Constraint

**The refraction must visibly alter the appearance of the subject.**

## Tip of the Week

Move the subject, transparent material, and camera slightly until the distortion creates an interesting composition. Watch your focus and simplify the background.

**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.

| | |
|---|---|
| 1st Place | 6 points |
| 2nd Place | 5 points |
| 3rd 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 | 11th September 2026 | 21st September 2026 |
| **A** | Open DPI & Print | 21st September 2026 | 5th October 2026 |
| **B** | Set DPI & Print – Rule of Thirds | 5th October 2026 | 2nd November 2026 |
| **C** | Open DPI & Print | 2nd November 2026 | 30th November 2026 |
| **D** | Set DPI & Print – Up Close | 30th November 2026 | 25th January 2027 |
| **E** | Open DPI & Print | 25th January 2027 | 22nd February 2027 |
| **F** | Set DPI & Print – Markets | 22nd February 2027 | 22nd March 2027 |
| **Annual** | 2026-2027 Annual Competitions | 22nd March 2027 | 26th April and 10th 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<br>(Topic chosen by Club President) | Fresh Air Sculpture Show, Quenington<br>Sunday 14th June to Sunday 5th 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<br>Open to new members only. | Open | DPI, 1600 x 1200, sRGB |

| | Date | | Event |
|---|---|---|---|
| SEPT | 07 September 2026 | | Opening Meeting, incl image resizing, PC & phone |
| | 14 September 2026 | | WCPF Print Viewing |
| | 21 September 2026 | | Summer Cup Knockout DPIs & Image Of The Year |
| | 28 September 2026 | | Roger Bracewell - Urban Photography |
| OCT | 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 |
| NOV | 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 |
| DEC | 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 |
| JAN | 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 |
| FEB | 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 |
| MAR | 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 |
| APR | 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 |
| MAY | 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 |

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|---|
| 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**