

FEB/MARCH 2026

THE MAGAZINE of
DUNDEE
PHOTOGRAPHIC
SOCIETY

F O C U S

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In Focus

It's difficult to believe that we are now well through our 25/26 programme with the results of only a few competitions to come and the prospects of our **AGM** now well in mind.

Important positions - for the Society's survival - need to be filled and especially that of the role of Secretary now that John Edward is stepping down from the role he has held for many years and executed with quiet efficiency. Please talk to him about the work involved, the ways that he tackled it to minimise workload and then put your name forward to take over from him PLEASE!.

We also need a small team of people to take over organising and mounting our annual exhibitions - as well as a small team of volunteers to ensure that we all have a 'cuppa and bikkie' during our weekly meetings. **Please ask yourself if you could step into one or other of these roles. We do need volunteers to keep DPS going.**

This issue of Focus - the first of 2026 - covers the results of our fourth Div 1&2 Competitions as well as the 2nd Division 3 competition and an account of the trip to Iceland by Derek Ramsay and, of course a few, hopefully interesting, bits and pieces.

So far this season we have seen a number of fascinating presentations - of which mention later - and some excellent work from members in the various competitions (according to our judges) - so let's keep them coming!



Hello to ‘25-’26 at DPS

Ken McAra Reflects on the new Season

Welcome to this edition of Focus, ably edited, as ever, by Nick Smith.

In years to come it will be difficult to imagine that 2026 could begin with more than a month of rain, sleet and snow. But it has! Here's hoping that this weather improves very soon before we forget what sunshine actually looks like.

We finished 2025 with a flourish, with two of our members, Morag Forbes and Malcolm MacBain, sharing an excellent evening to show us their images. We also had a helpful image clinic run by David Sadler and John McNairn, discussing ways to improve our photography, processing and printing. The final meeting of 2025 was the Digital Knockout competition, the results of which were shown in the last issues of Focus. It was a fun evening and a superb way to round off the year.

Just after we stopped for our Christmas break, I had a medical issue which ended up with an unscheduled week in Ninewells Hospital. This meant that my opportunities for photography were limited, although medical staff seemed to be very keen to take images of different parts of me using a range of machines. As the hand-in date for the third Division 1 and 2 competitions approached, I still had limited mobility. I had to think differently and created images using my phone and the Snapseed app. Necessity was the mother of invention for me, inspired by Ian Bain's "faffing" under much more challenging circumstances. Ultimately this paid off with one of these images gaining first place for mono print in Division 2. Around this time we also heard that Ian Bain had, sadly, passed away. The thoughts and prayers of DPS members were with his family at this very challenging time.

I missed the first meeting of 2026, but enjoyed catching up with the recording of David Gilliver's presentation on miniature photography and am currently experimenting with this. The next week was President's Night and I had booked the speaker nearly one year previously. Unfortunately the presenter suffered a leg injury which left them unable to travel, and the presentation was not going to work on Zoom. At extremely short notice, John McNairn stepped into the breach and ran a superb session on portrait photography. Everyone who attended agreed that John's presentation was an excellent choice for President's night!

We have followed this in quick succession with presentations from Tom Ryan on Tokyo, Lynne Blount on making creative images and Pete Walkden on highland wildlife photography. All of this sets us up well for the final part of the season which will round off with our AGM.

Finally, a list below of recent Books of the Week, along with the "And finally" quotations.

Enjoy the rest of this very special season!

Be seeing you.



“We have a lot to look forward to across the rest of the season....”

Books of the Weeks

A reminder of the books Ken has recently recommended:

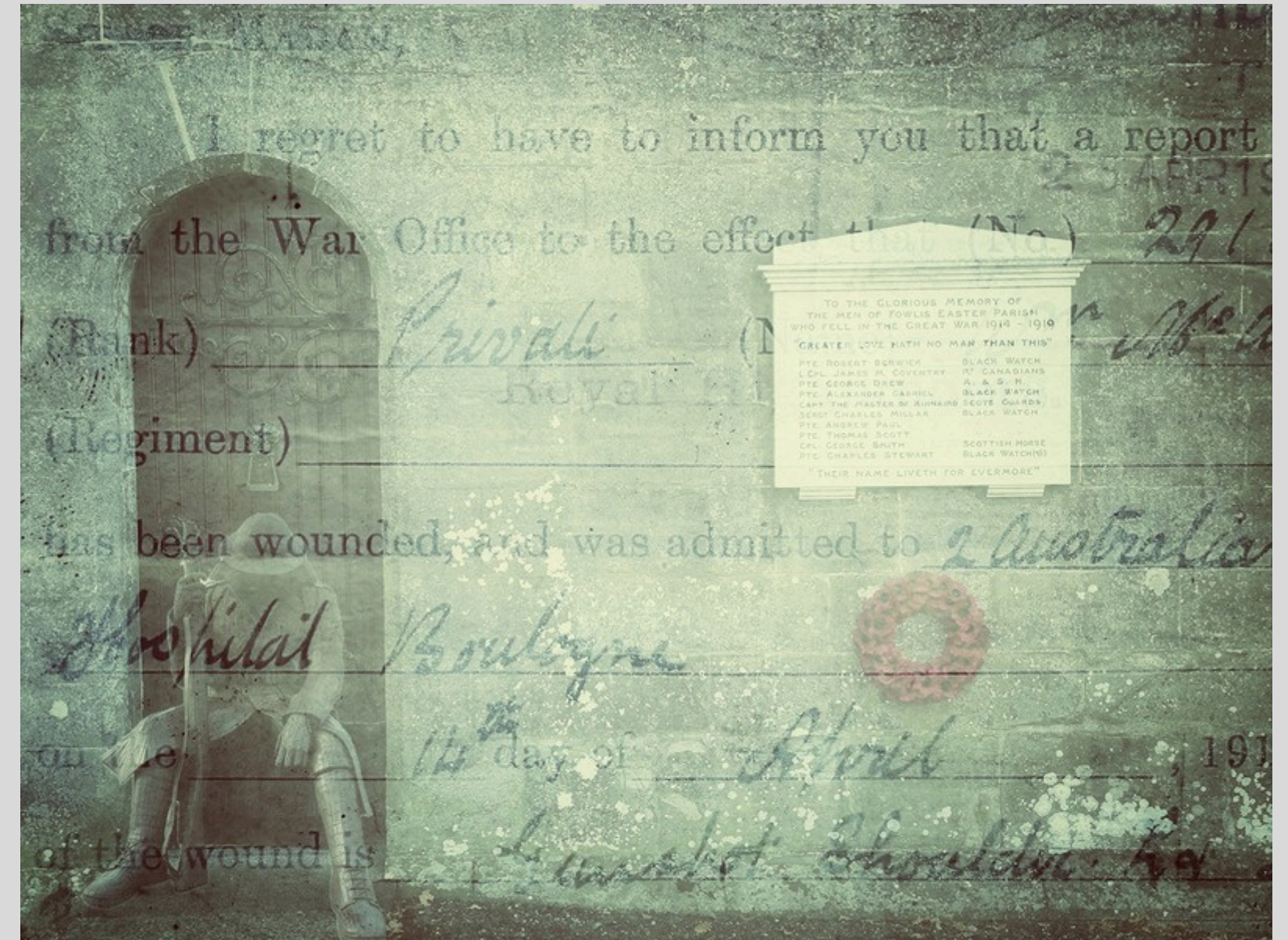
- Henri Cartier-Bresson - **Photofile**
- Lee Miller, **Exhibition Catalogue** (Tate Britain)
- Juliet Hacking (Ed.) **Photography - The Whole Story**
- Wright Morris, **Photographs and Words**
- Sebastião Salgado, **Exhibition Catalogue**
- Edward Steichen (Ed.) **The Family of Man**

..... and finally a few interesting quotations...

“Without passion, without the emotion of the heart and the enjoyment of the eye, nothing vital can be put down.” (Henri Cartier-Bresson)

“ The vast number of photographers, feeding on anything visible, overgraze the landscape the way cattle overgraze their pasture.” (Wright Morris)

“I would urge everyone to start looking at the world in a different way. Spend some time looking at everyday objects, at their design, their shape, their individual characteristics. Think ahead and imagine their significance.” (Martin Parr)



“The picture is not made by the photographer. The picture is more good or less good in function of the relationship that you have with the people you photograph.” (Sebastião Salgado)

“It is an error common to many artists, who strive merely to avoid mistakes, when all our efforts should be to create positive and important work. Better positive and important with mistakes and failures than perfect mediocrity.” (Edward Steichen)

“A photograph is worth 1,000 words, provided it is accompanied by only 10 words.” (Edward Steichen)

Third Division 1 & 2 Competition Results

Some 51 images were submitted by members of Division 1, whilst 69 images were submitted by members of Division 2. So, once again a small improvement in the number of entries compared with last season particularly in Division 2. So keep at it folks!

Our judge, Eddie Telford, worked through a huge number of images, prompted by Stephanie Cowie to keep the pace up! Nonetheless, by general agreement he was thought to have been one of the best judges we have ever had - providing helpful comments and suggestions for improvements that most could get behind. Eddie also offered a discount code for those who might wish to buy Pinnacle paper!

"The code is: XTEL25 - enter it at the invoice stage of purchase. Presumably this provides a 25% discount and is well worth having!

Images of a few happy winners are shown here receiving their Certificates from President Ken McAra:



Division One: Mono Print



Second: *Cloud Angels See Everything* by John McNairnill

Third : *Friday Prayers* by David Sadler



First: *Sgorr na Ciche* by Alistair Petrie

Division One: Mono. continued



Commended: *Picture of Lily* by
Rikki O'Neill



Commended: *Born
of the Grey* by John
McNairn



Commended: *Lines* by Marion
McMurdo

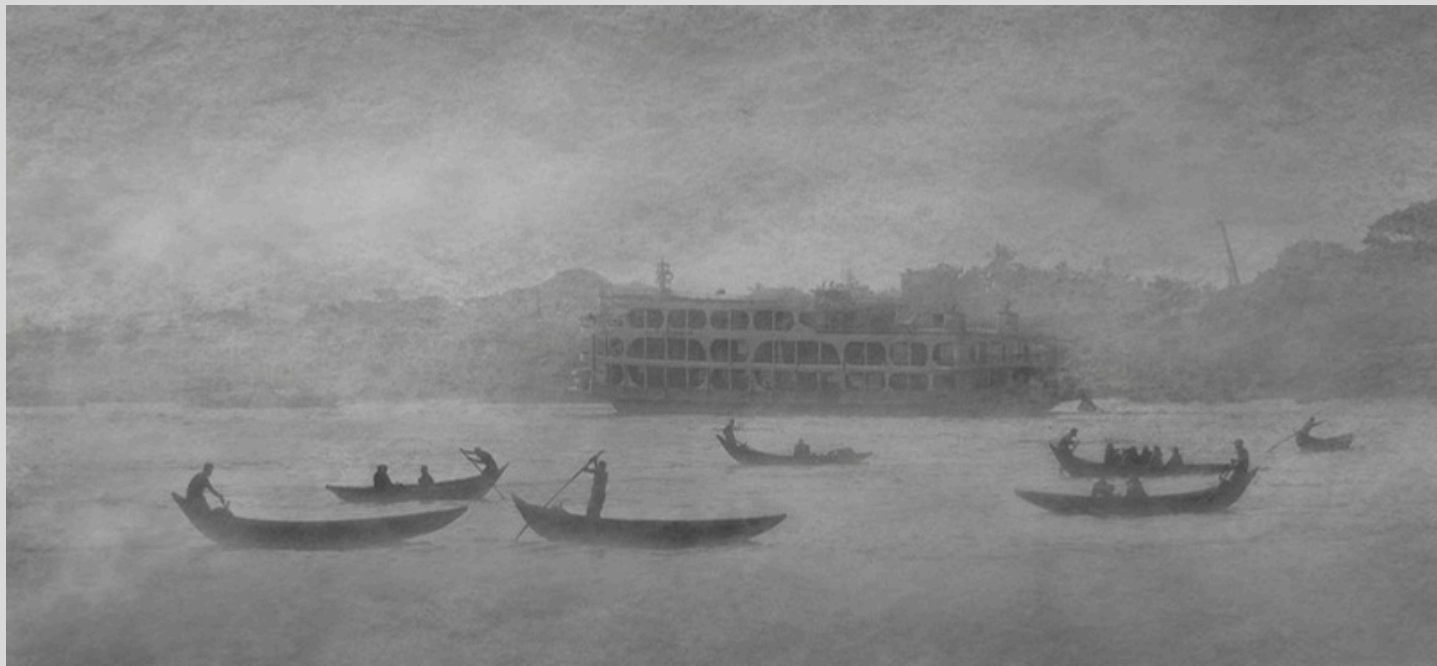
Highly
Commended:
Bass Rock Echo by
Simon Watkins



Highly
Commended:
Abandoned by
Simon Watkins



Division One: Mono. other submitted images



Division One: Colour Print

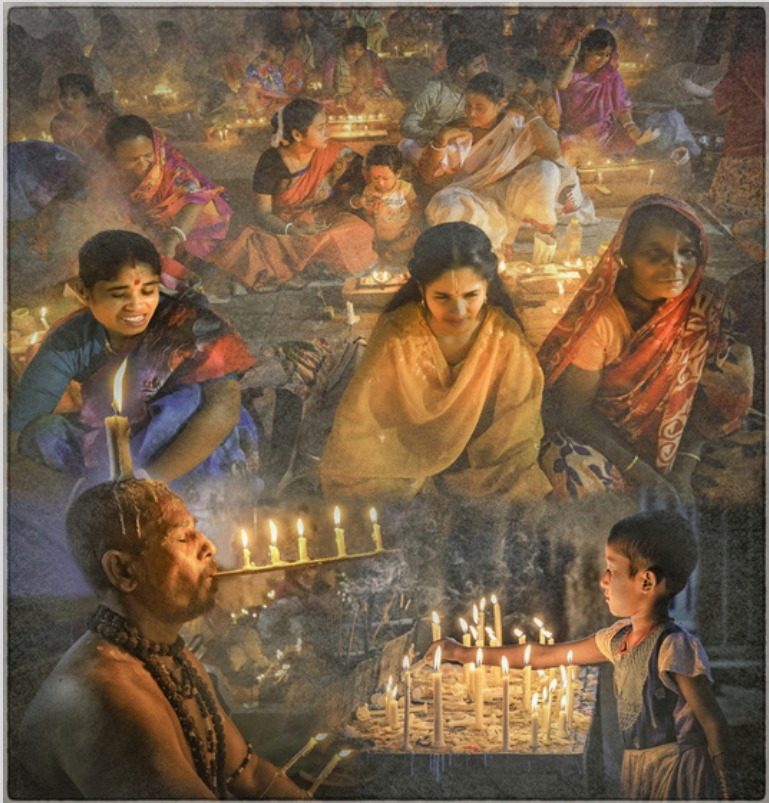


First: *Stonechat
Fledgling* by Stephanie
Wilkie

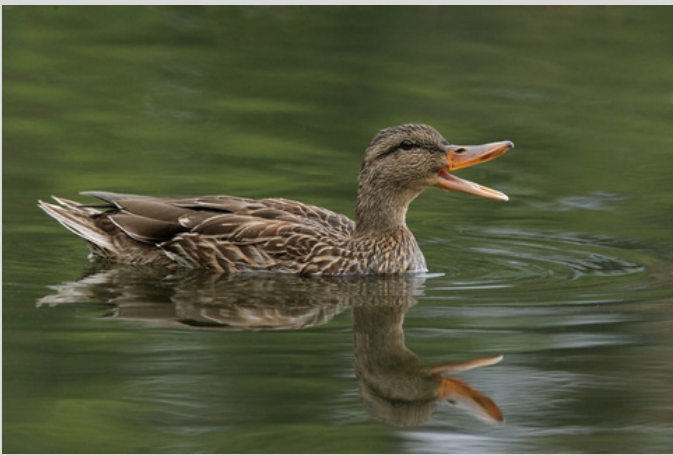
Second: *At the
Brickworks* by
David Sadler



Commended: *Quack*
by Stephanie Wilkie



Third Equal: *Hindu
Candle Light Festival* by
David Sadler



Third Equal: *Get Set for
Winter* by Alistair Petrie



Division One: Colour..... continued



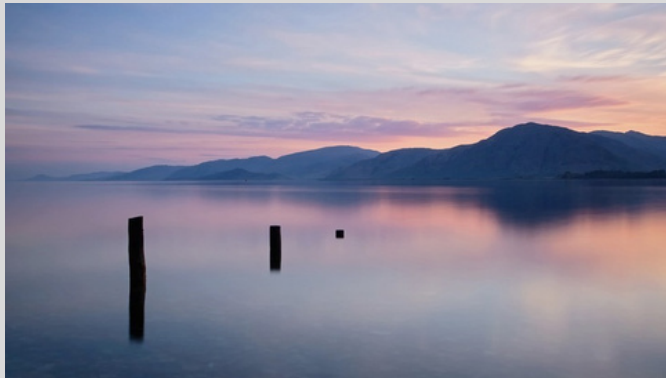
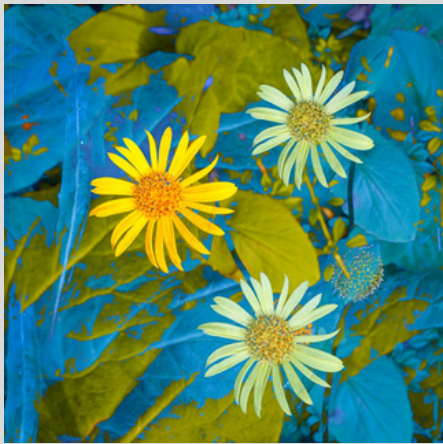
Highly Commended: *Cocooned* by Rikki O'Neill



Commended: *St Monans Blues* by
Simon Watkins



.... other
submitted
images



Highly Commended: *Ice at Discovery Point* by Mathew Schwartz



Division One: Projected Image



First: *Incoming Curlew* by
Stephanie Wilkie



Second Equal:
Simple Kindness by
David Sadler



Second Equal: *Rock Pippit
with Food* by Alistair Petrie



Third Equal: *The Wilding*
by John McNairns

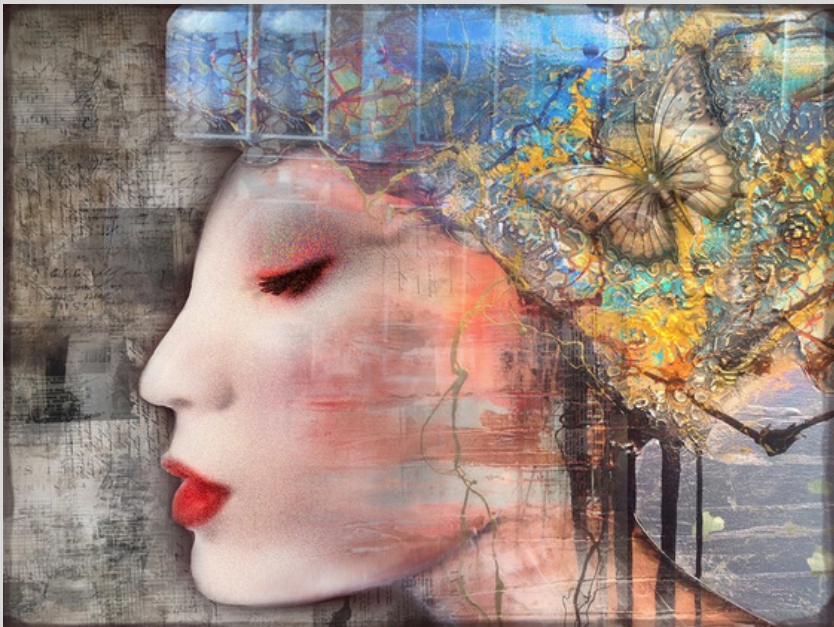
Third Equal: *Birch
Reflections* by
Heather Maclean



Division One: Projected Image. continued



Highly Commended:
Foxglove & Lace by
John McNairn



Highly Commended: *Madame Butterfly* by
Rikki O'Neill



Commended: Tay Bridge Disaster
by Marion McMurdo



Highly Commended: *Male
Stonechat* by Stephanie Wilkie

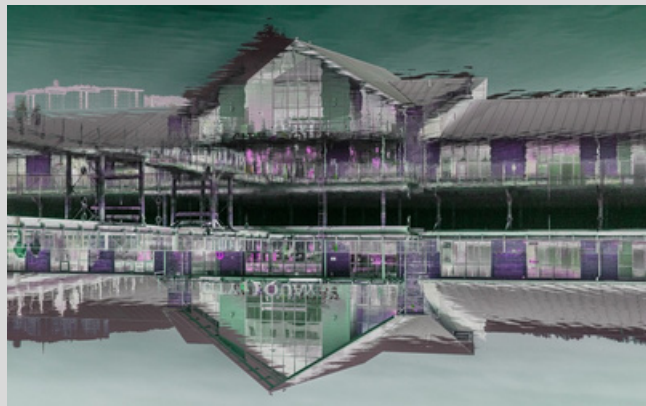
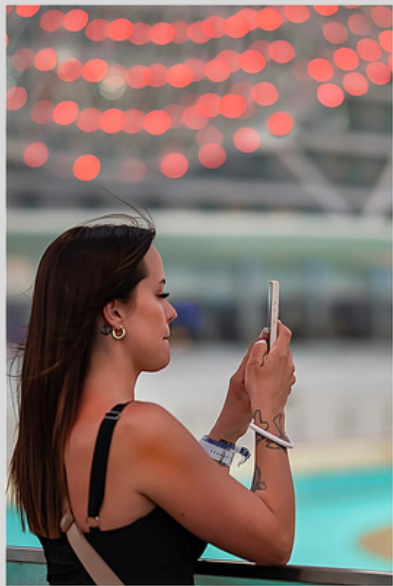


Commended: *By the Temple* by
Rikki O'Neill



Commended: *Sturgeon Moon at
Leng Chapel* by Simon Watkins

Division One: Projected Image.....other submitted images



Division Two: Mono Print



First: *Private Grief* by
Kenneth McAra

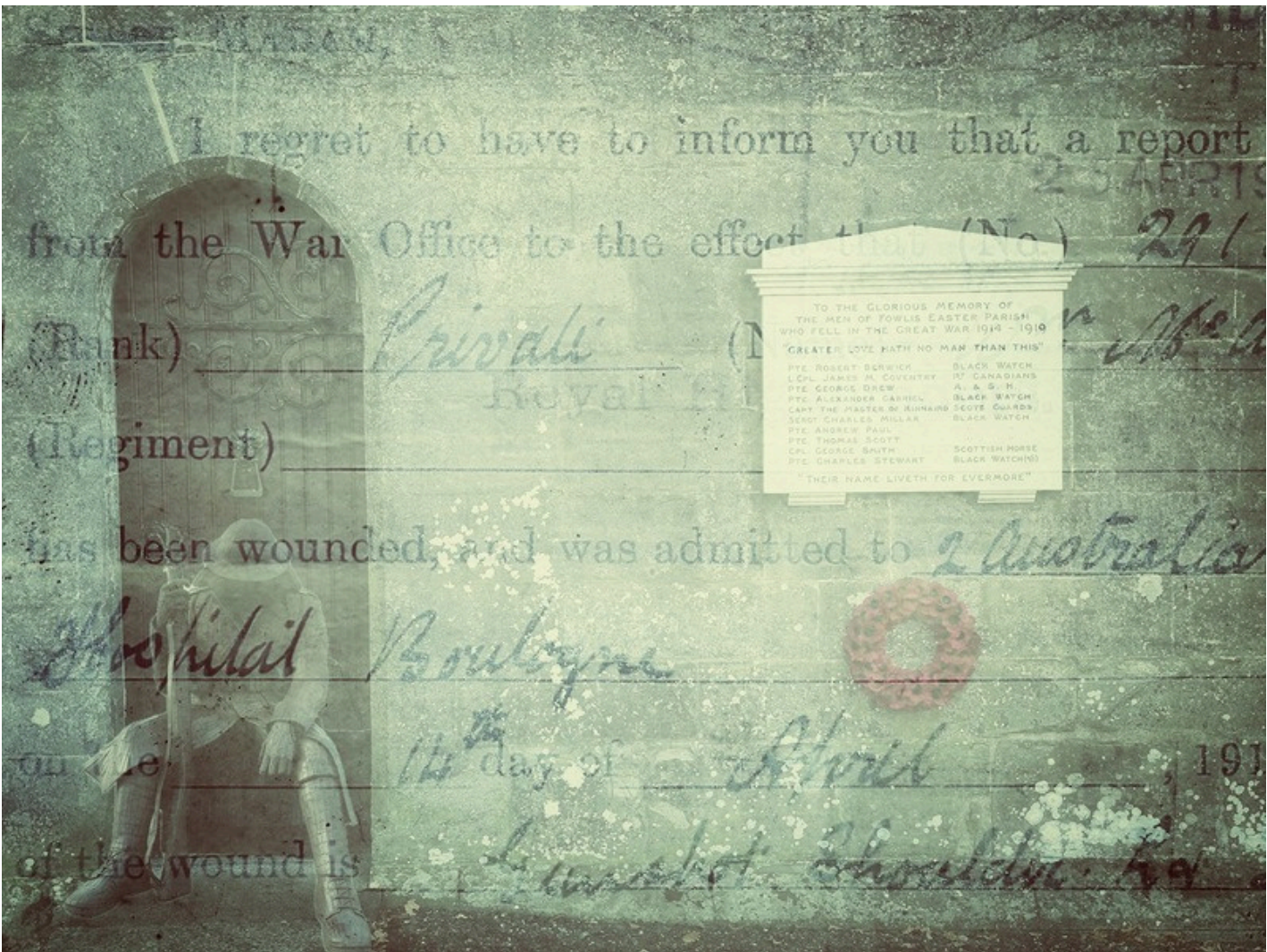
Second: *Calm
Water* by Bruce
Coull

Third Equal: *Cheeky or What* by
Nick Smith



Third Equal:
Steambound by
Rebecca McCann

Highly Commended:
Service is Slow by
Stewart Dodd



Division Two: Mono and with other submitted images



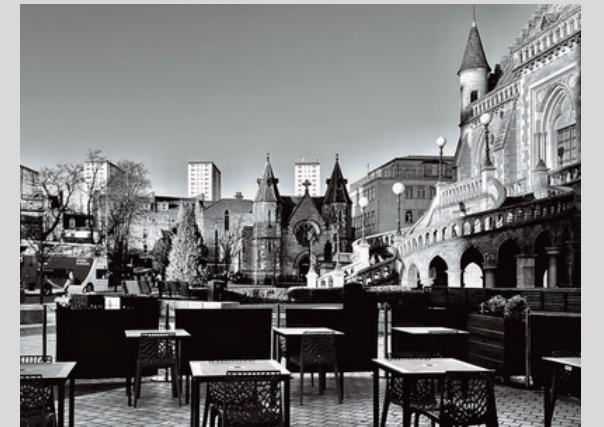
**Commended: *Forest in the Infrared*
by David Densley**



**Commended: *Snowdrift at the Shed* by
Maureen Petrie**



Commended: *Stairway to Heaven* by Ian Sturrock



Commended: *Tram 28* by Maureen Petrie



Division Two: Colour Print



Second Equal: *Morning Prayers* by James Anderson



First: *Crossing the Moor* by James Anderson



Third Equal:
Shot at Dawn
by Stewart
Dodd



Third Equal:
St Andrews Blue Hour by
Bruce Coull

Division Two: Colour Print.continued



**Second Equal: *Windermere Sunset* by
Louise Densley**



**Highly Commended: *Pastel Still Life*
by Rebecca McCann**



**Commended:
From Bankside
by Kenneth
McAra**



**Highly Commended: *Belly Dancing
at the Palace* by David Densley**



**Highly Commended: *Man v Nature*
by Stewart Dodd**



**Commended: *Fluffy Clouds,
Tayport* by Louise Densley**



**Commended: *The Underside*
by Rebecca McCann**

Division Two: Colour other submitted images



Division Two: Projected Image

Second Equal: *Pic du
Midi Cablecar* by
Maureen Petrie



First: *Swallow Collecting Mud* by James Anderson



Second Equal: *Fishing
Huts, Lofoten* by
Diane Thurlow

Division Two: Projected Image..... Third & Highly Commended



Third Equal: *Morning Mist at The Mount* by Maureen Petrie



Highly Commended: *Black Grouse* by James Anderson



Third Equal: *Family Day Out* by Douglas Law



Highly Commended: *My Home, My Vines, My Life* by Nick Smith



Highly Commended: *Grey Day* by Douglas Law

Division Two: Commended and other submitted images



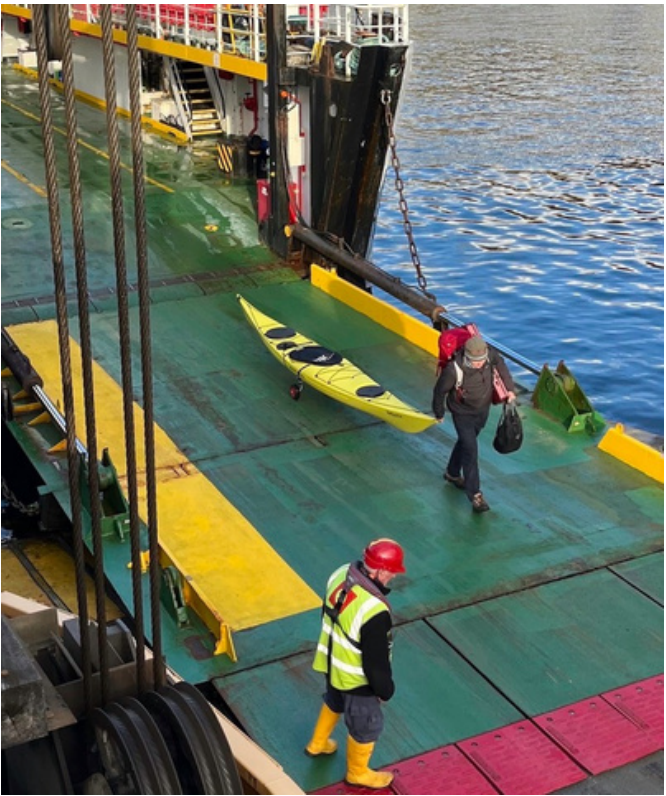
Commended: *Through the Window* by
Bruce Coull



Commended: *The Buachalile* by
Douglas Law



Commended: *Retro Homer* by
Stewart Dodd



Commended: *Have Canoe Will Travel* by Pam Sm ith



Commended: *Surfs Up* by Alan Sturrock



Division Two: Commended and other submitted images



Through the Viewfinder

David Ramsay “Sailing to Iceland ”

Last June Alison and I went on a cruise on the Queen Anne, Cunard’s latest ship. We had already been on the other Queens, (Mary 2, Victoria and Queen Elizabeth), been transatlantic, visited the Norwegian Fjords and done the Inside Passage, Alaska. It was time to experience the Queen Ann. All these ships I would describe as five-star hotels but on a cruise liner. Definitely not Party Boats!

We booked the trip to Iceland, where we have been before, sailing from Southampton. Outbound we headed for Belfast, a place neither of us had been, and a good opportunity to sample as we would like to go again to see more of Ulster in the future.

The Titanic Experience and a City Tour by bus were the trips planned and enjoyed.

**Titanic
Experience,
Harland and
Wolff, Peace
Wall artwork
and Belfast
City Hall**



Through the Viewfinder

"Sailing to Iceland"..... cont.,



On then to Iceland with an overnight at sea with a "Gala Night" where we were encouraged to dress up. I had my kilt outfit and Alison, of course, was appropriately attired.

On arrival at **Reykjavik** the weather was wet and windy and I was booked on a helicopter flight to a volcano but out of all the people on board I was the only one, so it did not happen. We had been to Reykjavik before, so we knew where to go to keep out of the rain and we were dressed for it accordingly.



Viking Ship
Sculpture, Wind
Harp, Decorated
Building, Wall Art,
Tjornin Lake,
Reykjavik Lake and
Churches



Through the Viewfinder.... cont.,

After a two night stop in Reykjavik it was on up the west coast to **Ísafjörður**, population 2600, a remote settlement where fishing is the main industry but with cruise ships supplementing income. It also has a small airport with links to Reykjavik airport. The approach to the airport ranks alongside that of London City and some Caribbean Islands!!

The weather was not with us but we braved the short walk into the town for some exercise and just to see what the place looked like. There were trips planned but there was plenty to do on the ship and a short walk into the town was enough.

Street Art, Airport Approach, Isafjordur Harbour, Heritage Museum 1, Heritage Museum 2, Church and Cruise Terminal



Through the Viewfinder..... cont.,

The next port of call was **Akureryi** in the very north of Iceland. An ice-free harbour with a population of 20,000 and cruise ships make regular calls here.

We only had one day there and felt we could have stayed longer. Trips were available but we decided to explore on our own.

A walk of about two miles took us to the International Airport, which we could see from the ship and where there are flights from the UK. There was an exceptional Aviation Museum there dealing with the history of aviation in Iceland. Friendly and well kept but could have done with a café!!

The next two nights were at sea heading to Stornaway with another Gala night - themed 'Black and Gold'!

**Akureryi
Cultural
Centre, 'Sail'
by Jon Gunner
Arnus, Sign for
Aviation
Museum,
Museum
Exhibits**



Through the Viewfinder..... cont.,

Always a subject when cruising in the Northern climes - THE WEATHER!

On our approach to **Stornoway**, we came through a force ten storm delaying our progress and making our arrival much later than expected. The ship made three attempts to dock and succeeded on the last - our captain and the port pilot were not to be beaten.

Our planned trips were cancelled because of the weather, however we ventured ashore as there was the lure of shops (!!!) and a pub I visited, "McNeills", on a previous trip with a party of senior schoolgirls playing a football match. That's another story, with me just driving the minibus but being educated in the ways of the young generation! The tweed shops were plentiful, and Alison made one or two purchases!



After departing Stornoway, we sailed down the west coast of Scotland cruising through the **Sound of Mull**, which for me was the best part of the holiday.

I spent most of the morning up on deck taking photographs of the coast of Mull, Tobermory, Ardmore Point and Duart Castle under blue skies and also being an unofficial tour guide to the many visitors from other parts of the world.



***Heb Hostel - Stornoway, Tobermory,
Stornoway Harbour***



Through the Viewfinder.....

Scenic Cruise of the Sound of Mull



CUNARD *Doris Ramsey*

	Point of Interest	Time
1	Queen Anne enters the Sound of Mull	8.00am
2	Ardmore Point Lighthouse	8.20am
3	Tobermory	8.40am
4	Ruins of Aros Castle	9.10am
5	Fishnish-Loch Aline Ferry Crossing	9.40am
6	Ardtornish Lighthouse	9.50am
7	Duart Castle	10.15am
8	Isle of Kerrera and Gylen Castle	10.30am to 10.45am
9	Queen Anne exits the Sound of Mull	11.00am



Sound of Mull Map, Tobermory, Ardmore Light House, Fishnish Ferry Termonal, Duart Castle & MV Isle of Mull, Ardmore Point



Through the Viewfinder.....

On to our last port of call, **Greenock**. Trips available were to Glasgow, Edinburgh, Stirling Castle and the Trossachs, We gave them a miss for obvious reasons, they were, after all ,only a short drive home but we got a heads up from a friend of mine in Glasgow to go visit the Scottish Fire and Rescue Service Museum. He also did a video of us leaving port. The place was a gem of a find with banter being thrown in by the staff there. Well worth a visit!

We were escorted out of Greenock by the “MV Waverley” steam ship with over seven hundred on board “Sailin doon the watta!”



***Historic Fire Tender, MV Queen Anne, MV Waverley
Greenock Town and Harbour***



Through the Viewfinder.... more Iceland trip Images



***Sunset over Solent, Seven Stones
Lightship & the Southampton
Approaches***



At sea for the last night to disembark at **Southampton** - round Lands End with the Scilly Isles and the treacherous Seven Stones rocks of Torrey Canyon tanker infamy.

A great trip, making new friends and learning new tricks on the ship to make our journey less stressful - the best locations and bars for "happy hours" - as well as avoiding the laundry facilities at busy times, when the library is not busy and the carnage that is the breakfast buffet!

All good fun and we are booked to do another two this year - so watch this space!!

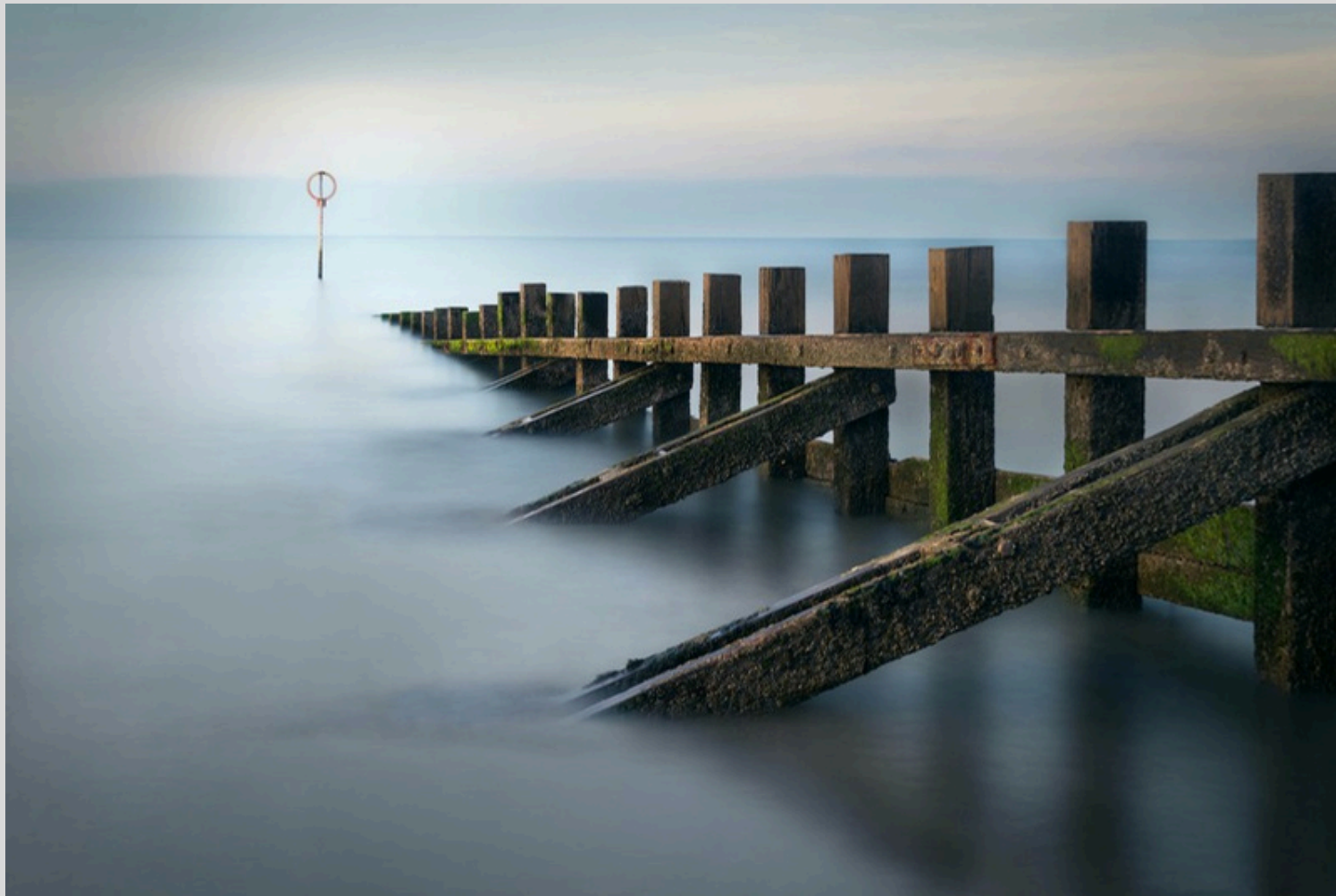


3rd Division Competition Results



**Highly
Commended:
At the Races
by Paul
Deacon**

**First: *Bubble
Boy* by Paul
Deacon**



**Second:
Calm by
Paul
Deacon**

**Highly
Commended:
Road and Rail
by Paul
Deacon**



3rd Division Competition Results

This competition was the first judging session by DPS member, David Densley, - who, despite occasionally finding his notes inexplicably turning themselves over and around, offered perceptive and helpful comments on the 20 images submitted - and an excellent set of images they were too with well deserved results for the successful competitors.

David also offered suggestions on how to improve the images - from composition hints, to cropping and exposure comments. All part of the sharing and learning process that is one of the benefits of belonging to DPS.

Images of one successful competitor are shown here receiving his well deserved Award Certificates from David. Particular congratulations must go to Paul Deacon for garnering a clutch of awards! Regrettably other competitors were not photographed.

Let's hope that next year we will have more Division 3 entries - indeed more new members - to swell the ranks - so if you know of any budding photographers. please bring them along to see just how helpful our sessions can be.

As for David - were sure he'll be doing more judging! Well done Dave.



3rd Division Competition Results & also submitted



Third Equal: Pond Life by Paul Deacon



Commended: River Dee at Braemar by John Pearson



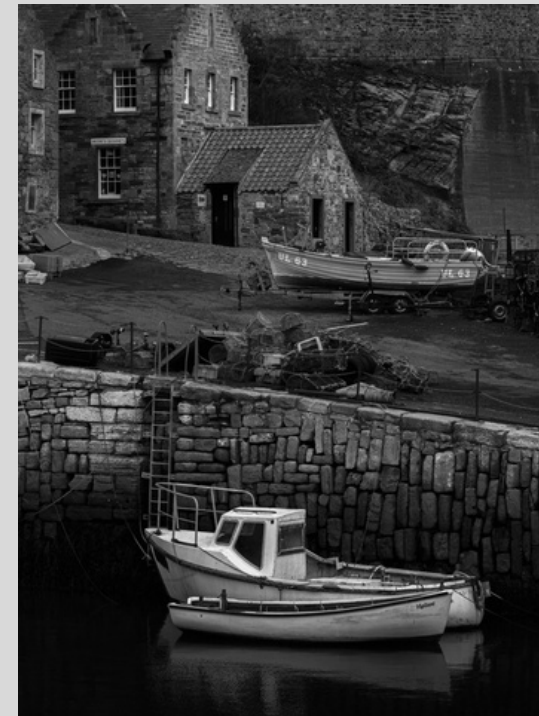
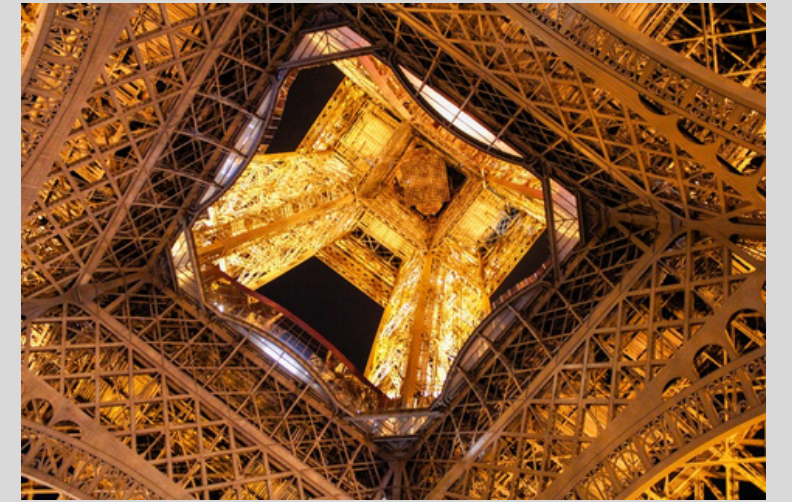
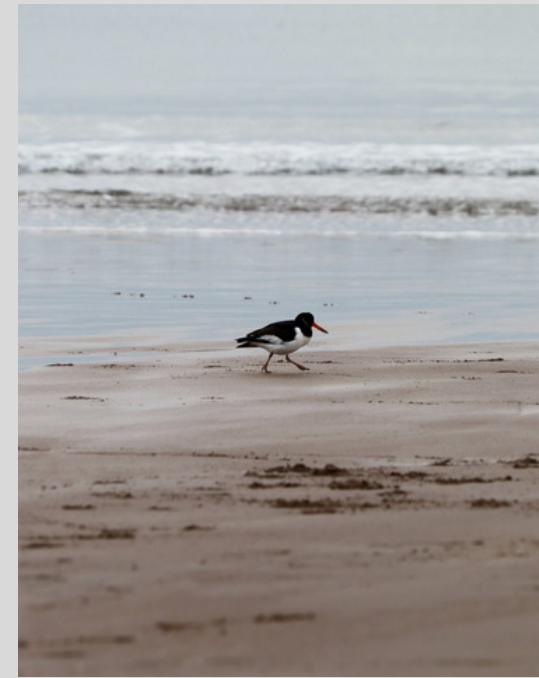
Third Equal: Sunset in Vauxhall by Julie Gilmour



Commended: What remains
by Paul Deacon



3rd Division Competition also submitted



DPS Competition Entries NOW using PIXAROO!

DPS has now adopted PIXAROO as its de facto **Competition Entries Portal** and is also now engaged in developing our own replacement website using PIXAROO.

One of the many clubs that has adopted PIXAROO has recently commented:

"We absolutely love this competition software! It's incredibly easy to use — from managing entries and sending images to the judges, to scoring and displaying results — everything just works. The interface is sleek and modern, and the support from the developer has been outstanding. He's always been available to help with any questions we've had."

We recently ran our Annual Exhibition with over 1,000 entries, and the entire process was seamless. Our club members are thrilled with how intuitive the system is and how easy it is to keep track of their images. It has truly transformed the role of the competition secretary, making everything so much simpler."

(Claire Sullivan EFIAP/s LIPF PPSA, Competition Secretary, Dublin Camera Club)

HOW TO USE PIXAROO For DPS Competitions:

- **Every member has been sent a link to PIXAROO** to enable them to get started on using this platform for competition entries
- After opening that link and finding the **drop-down menu under "Club Competitions"** then select **"Member Registration"** on that pull down and **complete the registration form - 'Your Account Details' - and then Register. The link that you were sent includes a code that needs to be used in this Registration process**

- When you then **Log In** you will be taken to a page that has 4 options: **Club Entrant; Salon Entrant; FIAP APP** and **My Account**

- ***Hit "Club Entrant"***

- You will then see the **Dundee Photographic Society - Entrant Portal**

- All forthcoming competitions are listed on the main page **e.g Fourth Internal Division 2 Colour; Fourth Internal Division 2 Mono; Fourth Internal Competition Division 2 PDI** and if you click on one of these you will then see an explanation and a *means of agreeing to the Competition rules. You have to accept these rules to continue.* After you have changed the agreement tab to **"AGREE"**

- **Individual locations for dropping in your images for that competition** will appear

- Drop in your images and **follow the confirmation route** and you will then see a page showing your images as entered for the competition

- You will also receive a **confirmation email** to show that you have entered, providing you with a separate record of this

- Then go to the **Left Hand Column menu** and click on **'Entrant Portal'** and you will again be presented with the full list of current competitions and you can choose another competition to enter

- **Repeat** for as many competitions you wish to enter

- ***It is worth noting that up until the closing time for a competition you can change or edit your entries***

More on PIXAROO for Competitions....

The **Entrant Portal Page** also offers a range of **Menu items** (Left Hand Menu - black background):

- **Club Library:** This shows all the images submitted for Club competitions to date and every one of these can be downloaded, subject to Club Rules. You can also enter a name into the search window and then see all the images so far submitted by that DPS member
- **Messages** - and as is normal for such items an indication of the number of (if any) unread messages will be shown in the menu
- **Image Library:** This shows all the images that **you** have submitted for all competitions to date (after registration on PIXAROO)
- **Seasons List** - This will only become truly relevant when we have been using the system for two or more seasons
- However, it will enable you to view all the images submitted for each of the competitions that you have entered to date, season by DPS season
- BEWARE however, that you may need to expand the vertical height of the overall page to be able to see all the competitions over a whole season

Editing and Amending Entries:

If you wish to alter or remind yourself of all that you have entered for a competition or series of competitions, click on **‘Aggregates’** in the **LH menu** and you will see a list of competitions that you have entered to date. Click on any of these and the images entered will be shown and you can amend this entry until the close of that Competition.

EXPLORING

It is well worth exploring the PIXAROO “offering” - you can see other external **competitions that you may wish to think about entering - and also by changing Profile (see LH Menu) can discover a method of recording and easing your FIAP process should you wish to travel that route.**

PERSONAL WEBSITE OPTION

There is also an option for developing your own website using various PIXAROO options with range of subscription levels. Just Click on “My website” in the LH Menu.



Darkroom – Technical Issues....

A few weeks ago John McNairn provided the second half of a DPS evening - choosing to use three YouTube videos to explore three particular editing topics. The videos raised interesting questions and discussions and provided useful insights into these three particular issues and their applications:

1- White Balance:

This video shows three powerful ways to set perfect white balance in Photoshop, including a surprisingly simple method to achieve mathematically accurate results every single time!

The video explores a new Colour and Vibrance adjustment workflow, a smart Camera Raw trick that averages colours for precision and a unique technique using Average Blur to lock in absolute neutrality.

Whether you want speed, flexibility, or scientific accuracy, this short lesson gives us options so that we always know exactly what we're doing and why it works.

It's probably worth bookmarking the YouTube so that you can watch again at:.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=cxs2sJDo344>

2 - RAW Workflow for Better Wildlife Photos:

This video consists of 9 short chapters covering a basic editing sequence for making the most of wildlife photos. Presented in a relaxed manner it lasts over 10 minutes.

It can be found at <<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=cl-CjemjoYQ>> or by entering “workflow for better wildlife photos” into the YouTube search box.

Note: *Just one thing to be aware of - if you decide to enter the image in a wildlife competition it's quite likely that the rules won't permit any removal of 'distractions', except things like dust spots. It might therefore be sensible to make a copy specifically for this purpose.*

3 - Perspective Blend - or “Make your Mountains Massive”

This Photoshop tutorial explores two methods for making background elements, like mountains in landscapes, appear larger than in the original wide angle image. The process brings the mountains closer to the foreground in a kind of 'post-shoot compression' like you'll often see in telephoto images.

The tutorial is a more or less off the cuff presentation, very relaxed in style, but puts across the basics in clear and simple ways.

One of an extensive series of videos on *Fototripper Studio* the video can be found on YouTube by entering 'perspective blending landscape photography'.

The link was also placed onto the DPS Facebook pages by John McNairn on the 16th February '26.



Competitions next Season!

Have you stopped entering competitions completely?

Maybe its time to get back in the water and have another go - maybe its time to show us what its all about and go head-to-head with our regular winners!

OR. if you haven't been entering the print competitions

- think about doing so next season - if only so that you can hang some of your work on your walls and maybe take down some of those that you've been looking at for years!

AND if you haven't tried printing so far, have a go this next season.

Don't have the gear? Ask one or other of the regulars in the print competitions if they can help - by showing you how to print on their kit. Using a few sheets of their stock of paper and their inks won't cost a lot - and you might then have some images you can hang on your own walls - or give away as presents next Christmas. If that inspires you to do more. Great! **Just give it a go!**

Thought for DPS Council: If there were a few novices who wanted to start entering print competitions could we make a small range of print papers available (at a sheet price) so that the start cost can be modest for those 'printing 'newbies'?

If any members are interested PLEASE LET COUNCIL KNOW!

[Ed: As a printing novice I get great pleasure from producing "nice" prints - and whilst my prints, as images, haven't done that well in competitions I have noted frequent comments from judges on the quality of the prints I have produced for me and Pam! Quite a few of ours are on our walls! This I have found to be a really enjoyable part of the competitions process - even though I seem often to be squeezed for time!]

Results Nights: Diary Dates

4th Internal Competition - Divisions 1 and 2

Club Night: 16th March '26

Annual Winners Competitions

Club Night: 30th March '26

and of course the

DPS AGM is scheduled for: *Club Night: 13th April '26*

Meantime please think about WHAT YOU CAN DO to help keep the DPS running. The work involved is not necessarily onerous - but it is essential.

PLEASE HELP if you can!

Final Edits

RIP Ian Bain

DPS Council and Members were sad to hear of the death of Ian Bain on 23rd January this year. Ian had been bravely fighting MND for some years - and using every means possible to continue with his photography - a process he referred to as his “faffing about”. Ian was overall winner of Division 2 Competitions in 2022/23 and was presented with a silver quaich by the Society (at his home by Ivy May McIntosh and Stuart Dodd in August 2023) in recognition of his win and his many winning certificates.

His daughter, Sara Sellars, notified DPS of Ian’s death and included the following in her message:

“Dad touched so many lives, in so many different ways. Whether it was on the rugby pitch, at work, through his triathlons and training, behind the camera with his photography, or yes campaigning, he made an impact and had such passion for everything he did in life. He had a wicked sense of humour and that unmistakable twinkle in his big blue eyes. His laugh could fill a room, and everyone always knew when Bainy was about.”

The last few years were incredibly hard. Yet his strength and determination never left. Even when he could no longer talk, use his arms or hands, and his legs began to fail him, he always found a way. Like the time he got stuck in the caravan and couldn’t open the door so he wedged it open with a can opener. When there was a will, there was always a way with Dad. But never without his trusty team of helpers, who he appreciated so deeply.

.....



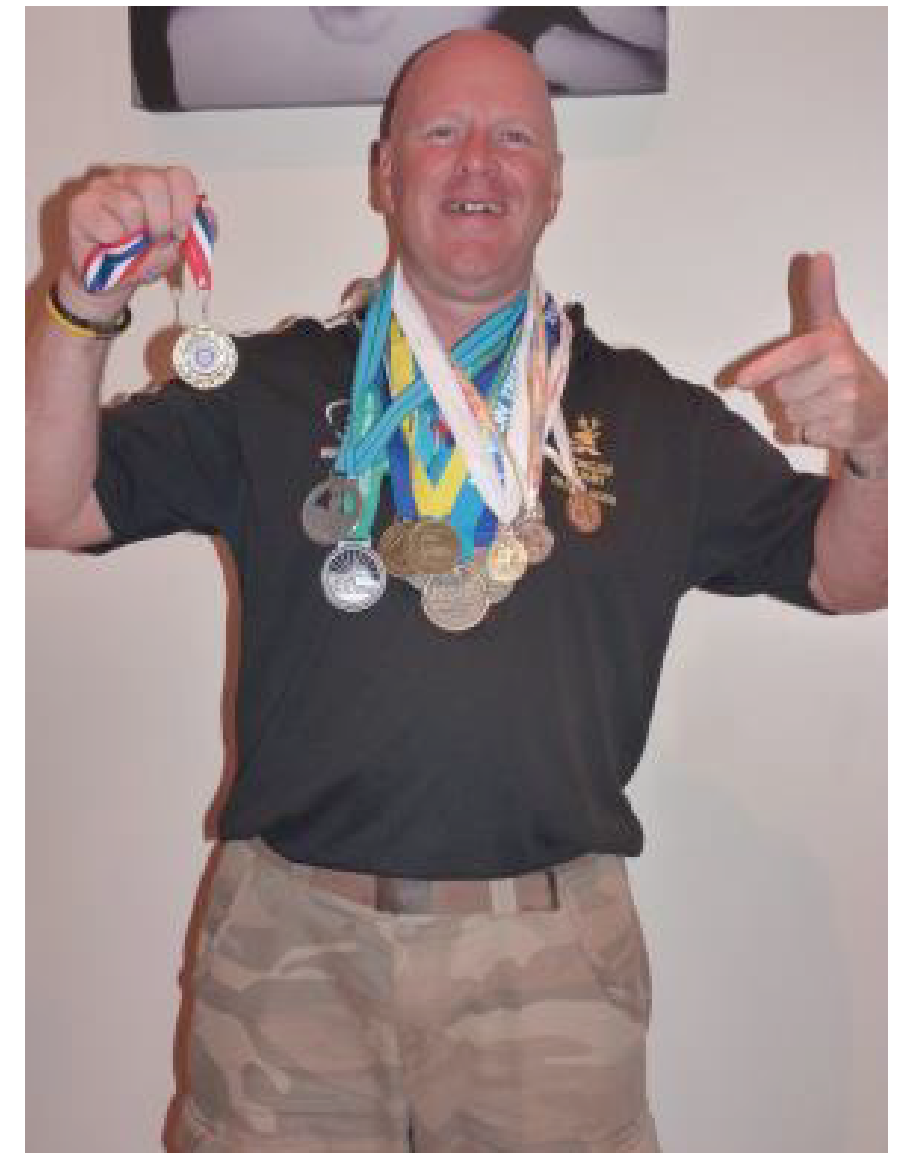
..... We would like to think dad is somewhere cosy, with a yum yum in hand, a coffee with eight sugars, watching the rugby with the dogs curled up on his lap”.

Ken McArea, our President recently wrote:

“Back in 2020, Ian Bain contributed a lovely Focus article, plus multiple pictures, talking about life with MND and his passion for photography (use <www.dps-online.co.uk> to access the Spring 2020 edition). He ended the article with these words:

“Most days I try to photograph something either as an experiment or as a result of being at a talk at Brechin Photographic Society or Dundee Photographic Society, where so many great photographers come and inspire so many. Taking photos, editing, posting, laughing at comments and enjoying seeing this wonderful world through the lens of a camera and leaving my diagnosis out of the picture...”

Many members of DPS who had known Ian have expressed their sadness at his demise.



Final Edits

SPF Club and Individual awards

John McNairn recently shared the results of the 2026 Club Print Championship Awards.

DPS had some successes with Individual wards going to:

- **Rikki O'Neill**, who gained an **SPF Silver Medal** in the **Best Creative Print Category** with **"Papillon"**, **SPF Ribbons** for his **Highly Commended** print **"Contour"** and for his **Highly Commended** print **'Framed'** as well as for a **Commended** print **"Natures Grace"**. An altogether amazing performance!
- **David Sadler** gained an SPF Ribbon for his **Highly Commended** print **"Redshank"**

The Club Awards went to **Dumfries Camera Club (Best Overall Club)**; **Best Monochrome Club & SPF Gold Medal** went to **Dumfries Camera Club** and **Best Colour Club & SPF Gold Medal** went to **Carluka Camera Club**.

DPS came third equal in the Colour section, 6th in the Mono section and 5th Overall - gaining 269 points in the latter, compared with a winning score of 281 by Dumfries CC.

Notable Presentations to the Club this year:

There has been a host of brilliant presentations at DPS during the season so far - and some of these are available as recordings. Check out on the DPS website and in Facebook entries.

(Thanks and sincere congratulations must go to Ivy May McIntosh for organising all of these presentations!)

One of the major highlights was a presentation by Steph and Ian Wilkie on **The Falkland Islands** - perhaps more accurately "The Wildlife of the Falklands Islands". They have made two trips to the islands in recent years - and spent time on a number of the various islands in the archipelago - enjoying various levels of transport and accommodation comfort - from the very basic to the best that the islands can offer in their pursuit of the many birds that the islands have to offer. Their knowledge of the birds, their habitats and behaviour made sure that they knew when and where to see the best of the birds and seals - and provided those of us at their presentation with an expert view of so many of them. We are lucky to have such a level of knowledge and photographic expertise - and persistence - within our membership!

So, many thanks to Steph and Ian for such a superb evening - which provided a complete run-down on the penguins species on the Falklands as well as numerous birds and sea lions.

A few of their images are shown here to enable us to look again at some wonderful images!











Final Edits

Plan an article for FOCUS.....Please!

With the season of holidays and photo trips just in front of us there will be many images and many stories to tell! ***So can we please have your story & your images from your special experiences this coming summer!*** All we need is maybe 10 to 20 images plus a short explanation to tell the story of your trip. If you haven't done an article before - don't fret - we can assist with text and layout etc. Just give it a go and let us in on your photographic life! Submit to Nick using the e-mail address below. Its a good way of sharing!

We need to learn from each other - and FOCUS can provide a vehicle for not only passing on information. So here's a few possible inspiration prods - all on "Photosnack" which can be accessed (at no cost) by signing up at <<https://www.photosnack.email/about>>.

You can search 'Photosnack' for past recommendations and I would suggest trying these photographers for a bit of inspiration:

- George Digalakis
- Karen Pape
- Lee Nordbye
- Nigel Cooke
- Pei Ketron
- Ruben Njaa
- Ben Horne
- Keith Dotson
- Michael Frye
- Melissa Breyer
- Lev L Spiro (also on FB)
- Bjorn Person (also on FB)
- Michael Massala

From time to time I post Photosnack links to other inspirational (in my view!) photographers on the DPS Facebook page, so it might be worth keeping an eye out for ideas there as well.

Focus Magazine Editor:

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