

Mick Durham FRPS
Shetland Wildcat

Image on RPS Scotland Group
Facebook page

Dear Members



Welcome to the latest RPS Scotland Newsletter, and apologies for the slightly late arrival. This is as a result of me asking Sam to delay until after the Members Committee meeting that was held on 4 July, as I wished to pass on anything relevant that was discussed.

Firstly, The Land Book Project continues to attract entries - we are now half way through the year so if you have been out and about taking photos do send them in to the team of selectors.

The Region has been quite a little quieter in terms of event last month - Sam ran an Isle of Skye Photo Weekend with Simon Dodsworth which was very successful, and we had a very inspiring talk from Mick Morley describing his approach to street photography and illustrated with a wide variety of images covering places as far apart as Scotland and Cambodia. Mick will be exhibiting his images in Elgin Library early next year - more details nearer the date and a potential for a social get together. Scotland members also assisted in putting up the Landscape outdoor exhibition in Inverness, and we shall be assisting with the forthcoming Documentary Group exhibition at Eden Court this month.



We are social! On Facebook as RPS Scotland Group, you will need your membership number to join!

I shall be taking the 2026 Exhibition down to Edinburgh Photo Society next weekend, where it will be available for viewing during August. We were unable to get financial support from HQ to replace the frames - some of which are looking a bit poor, as they are now getting on for 6 years old having been moved around many times during that period. However I did get HQ to agree to fund new acrylic for half of the frames so this will significantly improve the appearance of the images for viewers. I am engaging with HQ regarding how we fund further replacements next year, and what the RPS strategy should be to support Regions and SIGs that put on exhibitions.

HQ are continuing to work on replacing the web-site and have finished the 'Discovery' phase of the project - if someone can explain why that means then please do! My understanding is that the next step will be to engage with a small user working group to look at how the site is likely to be used and map out some of the 'user requirements'. If anyone has experience in this area, and is willing to commit to participating in 90 min workshops over the next few months then please let me know and I will pass on your details to the project team; the CEO is looking for about three members across the RPS to support this activity, and will be able to provide more details.

You will all have received a communication from HQ recently about the decision to 'pause' Distinction Assessments until next year, which has meant that the round of Assessments scheduled for later this year have been cancelled. Members Committee was not involved or consulted on the decision and I have no further information to what was sent in the email, and the entry on the RPS Web-site Distinctions pages. The situation around Advisory Days is still fluid; we are expecting further details about the new framework (which includes criteria, assessments, support, advice and mentoring for L, A and F levels) towards the end of August/early September and the RPS is committed to roll-out in 2027. My recommendation for anyone on the Distinctions journey is to continue to enjoy your photography and to keep working on your project(s). Most importantly, do consider bringing work along to share at our Photoforums where other members can be inspired and learn from your experiences.

There are many more events in the pipeline - see the entries in this newsletter and keep an eye on the RPS Scotland web-site for more details.

Once again, thanks to everyone who is supporting RPS Scotland events - and do get in touch if you haven't already considered questions, ideas or wish to join us on the Volunteer Team.

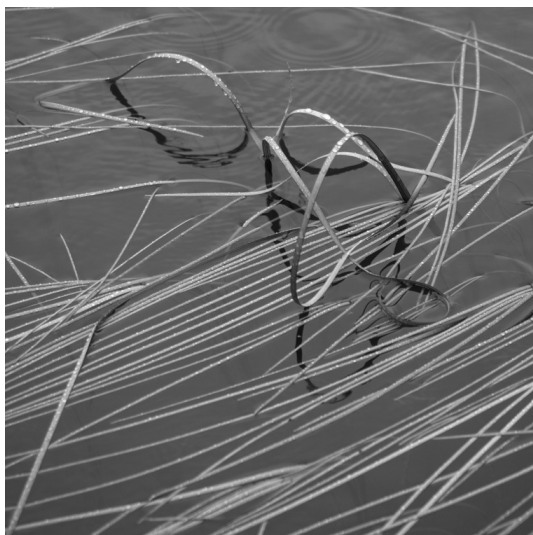
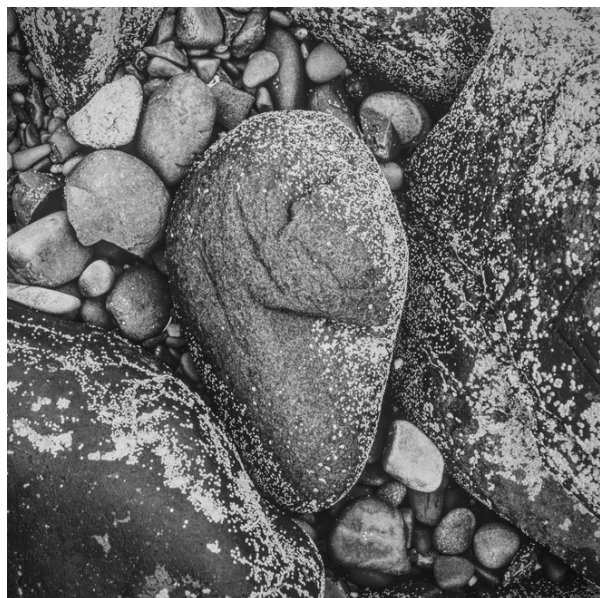
Peter

Loxley Colour

Have generously given a 10% discount code for Photographic and Fine Art Prints specifically for RPS Scotland members, single use code LOXLEYRPS10

Please note that other Print companies are available and Loxley is not endorsed by The Royal Photographic Society.

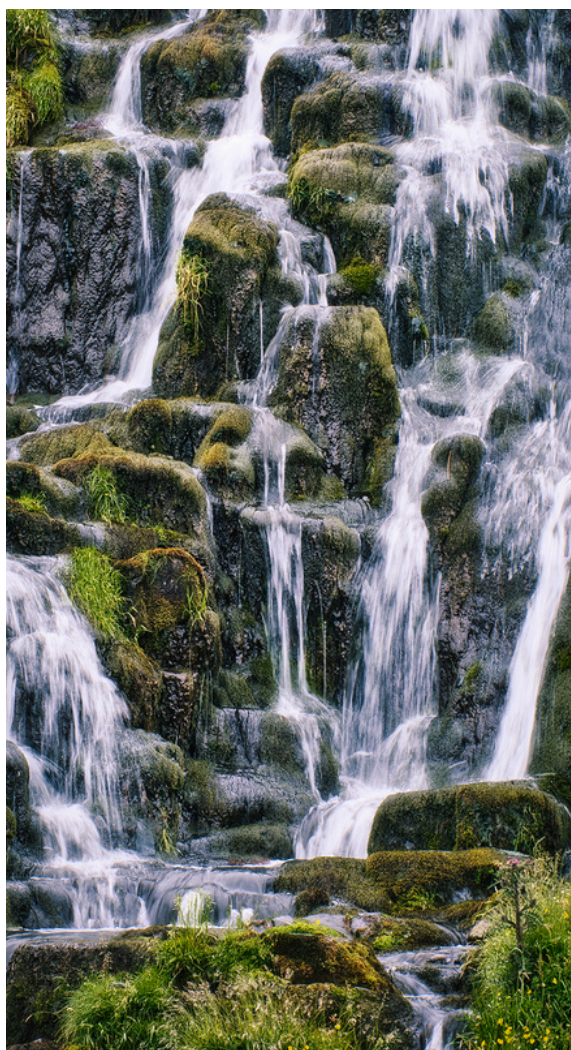
**Simon Dodsworth FRPS
Isle of Skye Weekend June 2026**



**Stuart Chalmers LRPS
Isle of Skye Weekend June 2026**



**Gordon Allan
Isle of Skye Weekend June 2026**

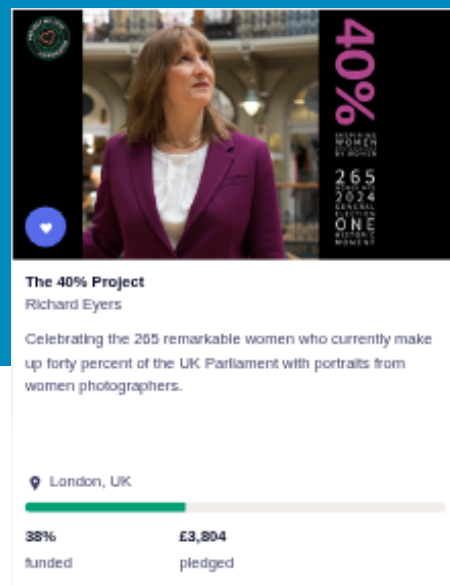


**Samantha Dearlove
Isle of Skye Weekend June 2026**



**Jeremy Fraser-Mitchell
Isle of Skye Weekend June 2026**





Heather Kerr

LRPS

Congratulations to RPS Scotland member Heather Kerr, whose three portraits of women MPs have been selected for publication in The 40% Project.

The 40% Project celebrates the historic milestone of women making up 40% of Parliament for the first time, creating a lasting photographic record of this significant moment in British political history.

Heather joined the Women in Photography group because she recognises that some women can feel intimidated in what is often a male-dominated environment. The group exists to support and encourage women photographers, and Heather says that achieving her Licentiate distinction with the Royal Photographic Society gave her the confidence to become involved in this important project.

Reflecting on her involvement, Heather said: "This project celebrates women making up 40% of Parliament for the first time in history. I think that's worth recording and celebrating, and I'm delighted to have been able to play a small part in documenting it."

The project is currently seeking support through its Kickstarter campaign: joined the Women In Photography group as I am aware that some women feel intimidated in a male dominated environment. The WIP group is all about supporting and encouraging women photographers.

This project celebrates 40% of parliament made up of women for the first time in history. I think that is worth recording and celebrating. I was happy to be involved especially having gained a bit more confidence myself achieving my Licentiate distinction.

The project is currently seeking support through its Kickstarter campaign:
<https://www.kickstarter.com/projects/iar/the-40-project>

It has been another busy and exciting few weeks across RPS, with plenty happening both nationally and here in Scotland. Head Office has recently shared details of the current Trustee roles, and members who are interested can find more information through the usual RPS channels. Closer to home, our Scotland programme continues to grow, with upcoming events including Iain McFadden's fascinating Deep Space talk, our visit to the Inverness Highland Games, and another return to the spectacular Scone Palace International Horse Trials. Looking a little further ahead, we're already looking forward to our Garvau House weekend in October. With exclusive use of this wonderfully remote Highland lodge, it promises to be a fantastic opportunity to immerse ourselves in photography, great company and some of Scotland's most unspoilt landscapes. It really is in the middle of nowhere—and that's exactly its charm.

Our From Land project also continues to gather momentum, with entries steadily arriving from members across Scotland. It's been wonderful to see the range of interpretations already submitted, and we're excited to watch the project continue to grow over the coming months. Later in 2026, the project will open nationally—using the same criteria—to all RPS members and non-members across the UK, giving even more photographers the opportunity to contribute. Entries will remain open until midnight on 31 January 2027, so there's still plenty of time to get involved and document your own connection to the land. We're also delighted that the RPS Scotland Travelling Exhibition continues to visit venues across the country, bringing members' work to new audiences and showcasing the breadth and quality of photography being produced in Scotland. If you haven't had the opportunity to see it yet, keep an eye on our events and social media channels to find out where it will be appearing next.

A huge congratulations also goes to RPS Scotland member Heather Kerr LRPS, whose portraits have been selected as part of The 40 Project—an important photographic initiative celebrating the first time women have made up 40% of Parliament. It's a wonderful achievement and a project that captures a significant moment in our history through photography.

Finally, a special thank you must go to Simon Dodsworth and everyone who joined us for our Isle of Skye photography weekend. Despite being welcomed by a spectacular thunderstorm that rolled across Skye for almost twelve hours on the Thursday evening, the weather only added to the atmosphere, producing dramatic skies and some wonderfully atmospheric photographs. Over the weekend we shared sunrises, conversations, laughs, ideas and, of course, plenty of photography. Events like these are about far more than the photographs we bring home; they are about learning from one another, making new friendships and enjoying the shared experience of exploring Scotland together with a camera in hand. A heartfelt thank you to Simon for sharing his local knowledge and enthusiasm throughout the weekend, and to everyone who came along and helped make it such a memorable few days. We can't wait to see many of you again at future events.

Sam



The Whims of Street Photography – Edinburgh Fringe Walk

Wednesday 12 August | 6.00 pm – 9.00 pm

Following on from his highly successful Zoom presentation, The Whims of Street Photography, Michael Morley joins us for an evening of practical street photography in the heart of Edinburgh during the Fringe Festival.

If you missed Mick's Zoom presentation and would like a copy of the recording, please email me at scotlandevents@rps.org.

We're delighted that Mick has generously agreed to share his knowledge and experience with RPS Scotland members. Known for his engaging, down-to-earth teaching style and infectious enthusiasm for street photography, this is a fantastic opportunity to learn from someone who is passionate about helping others develop both their skills and confidence behind the camera.

With the city alive with performers, visitors and countless unscripted moments, this is the perfect opportunity to put Mick's ideas into practice. As you explore the streets together, he'll share his approach to seeing beyond the obvious, anticipating decisive moments, working with available light and creating images that tell compelling stories.

If you're feeling a little nervous about trying street photography, you're certainly not alone. Mick will provide plenty of guidance and encouragement throughout the evening, ensuring everyone feels supported and able to work at their own pace.

The evening will also include practical guidance on the legal and ethical aspects of street photography. Every participant will receive an exclusive Street Photography Legal Reference Guide to take away—a practical guide to help you photograph confidently and legally in public spaces.

Date: Wednesday 12 August

Time: 6.00 pm – 9.00 pm

Meeting Point: Scott Monument, Princes Street. Please arrive by 5.45 pm for a prompt 6.00 pm start.

This event is open to both RPS members and non-members. Everyone is welcome.

Places are limited, so early booking is recommended. Book Online at RPS Scotland

**Nocturne Weekend at Garvault House
2–4 October 2026**

Two nights. Fourteen photographers. **Exclusive use of Garvault House.** Endless stars. Escape to the heart of the Highlands for an unforgettable photography retreat in one of Scotland's finest dark sky locations.

With exclusive use of Garvault House, you'll share the weekend with just 14 photographers, giving you the time, space and personal guidance to develop your photography in a relaxed and inspiring environment.

Led by Andrew Allan – Scotland's Night Sky, you'll photograph beneath exceptionally dark skies with the opportunity to capture the Milky Way and, if conditions are on our side, the Aurora Borealis.

The experience doesn't stop when the sun comes up. During the day, you'll have plenty of opportunities to explore and photograph the stunning Highland surroundings, from dramatic landscapes and tranquil lochs to local wildlife, flora and fauna. Whether you're behind the camera or simply enjoying the peaceful setting, there's always something to discover. This isn't just a workshop—it's a chance to step away from everyday life, enjoy great food, relax in comfortable accommodation and spend time with like-minded photographers in a truly special location.

Your weekend includes:

Exclusive use of Garvault House

Two nights' accommodation

Dinner, bed & breakfast, afternoon tea and Saturday lunch

Expert tuition throughout the weekend

Night sky photography under exceptionally dark skies

Daytime landscape, wildlife and nature photography opportunities

A small-group experience with just 14 places available

Places are limited and bookings will close soon. Once the remaining rooms are allocated, no further places will be available.

If you've always wanted to experience Scotland's incredible dark skies—or simply enjoy a unique photography retreat in the Highlands—this is your opportunity.

Book your place today.

For further information, please contact Sam at scotlandevents@rps.org.

weekend

THE RPS

ROYAL PHOTOGRAPHIC SOCIETY

SCOTLAND

Nocturne

WHERE DARKNESS GLOWS: NIGHT SKY
PHOTOGRAPHY AT GARVAULT HOUSE

Andrew Allan - Scotland's Nightsky

FRIDAY 2ND AND
SATURDAY 3RD
OCTOBER

Garvault House
Hotel

Accommodation & Catering – Garvault House
Exclusive use of Garvault House for workshop attendees

Photographic Opportunities

- Chance to photograph the Milky Way under exceptionally dark Highland skies
- Potential for Northern Lights (Aurora Borealis) during the stay
- Night sky photography guidance throughout the event
- Daytime photography opportunities including:
 - Local landscape
 - Flora and fauna
 - Wildlife

Room Options

- 2 x single rooms £255 per person for 2 nights
- 3 x double rooms £215 per person for 2 nights

The Stables: Has one shared bathroom

- 1x double room £215 per person for 2 nights
- 1 x twin room (partitioned) £255 per person for 2 nights

What's Included

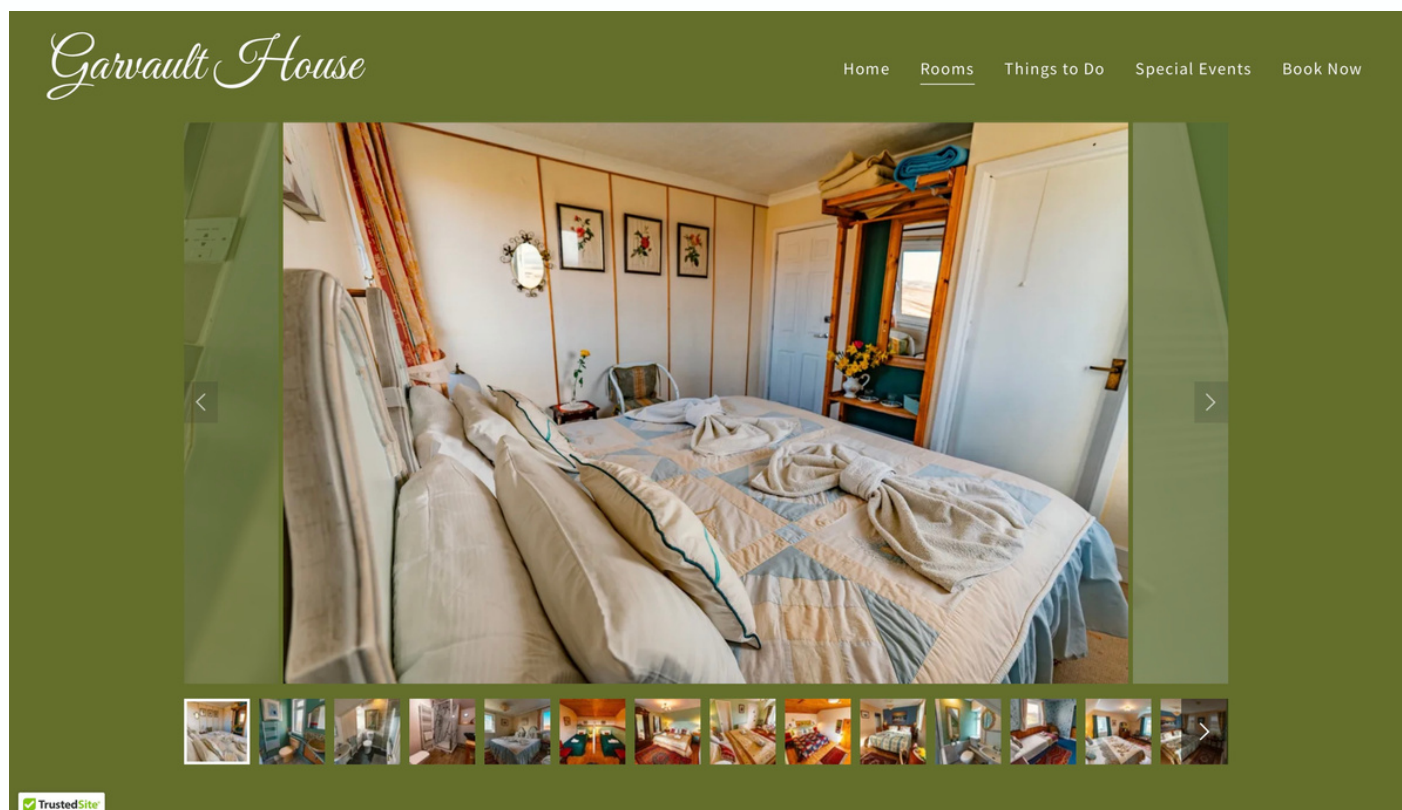
- Dinner, bed & breakfast
- Afternoon tea
- Light lunch on Saturday

Extras

Dog-friendly accommodation 🐾

For Information about Garvault house please visit

www.garvaulthouse.uk



For Information about Andrew Allan please visit

www.scotlandsnightsky.com



Meet. Shoot. Sip. – Camera & Coffee!

NOW BOOKABLE ONLINE AT [RPS SCOTLAND EVENTS](#) BUT NOT ESSENTIAL

It's a relaxed, informal, and a short event all about connecting with fellow photographers

 One meet-up per month (weather permitting!)

 **Saturday July 11th Inverness Highland Games 10am-2pm - tickets available**
www.invernesshighlandgames.com

 **Saturday 29 August Cross Country Horse Trials Scone Palace 10am-2pm -tickets available**
sconehorsetrials.com (NOTE: You can apply for media passes for the day as well)

 **Friday 11th & Saturday 12th September Isle of Lewis, own accommodation and transport to the Isle. Calanais Visitor Centre and Stones. TBC**

 **Friday 2nd October - Sunday 4th October Exclusive use of Garvaul House with Andrew Allan, Scotlands Nightsky, plus plenty of wildlife & landscape.**

 **November - To be decided**

 **Friday 11 December 10am - 2pm Edinburgh Festivities**

Why join us?

Meet fellow members and enthusiasts in a relaxed setting

Share stories, ideas, and inspiration

Explore new areas with your camera in hand

Enjoy coffee, food, and a welcoming atmosphere

 We'd love your suggestions!

Email Sam at scotlandevents@rps.org if you'd like Camera & Coffee to come to your area, or if you're happy to help host.



Thursday 9 July 2026 7PM

**IAIN MCFADYEN
ARPS, DPAGB, EFIAP/G**

I have had an interest in photography and astronomy since I was a teenager, which was a long time ago!

My photographic interests are mainly wildlife, architecture and landscapes using Canon cameras and lenses. I compete regularly in International FIAP salons and I am currently applying for the EFIAP platinum award. Some of my images can be viewed on my website iainmcfadyen.com. I am a member of the Paisley Photographic Society and have served on the committee in various positions over a number of years. I am also a member of the Astronomical Society of Glasgow and very active in the imaging group there. Since I retired a few years ago I have been able to devote more of my time to astrophotography. All of my images are taken from my home in Kilmacolm and last year I have housed my telescopes in my observatory.

Talk

My talk is on deep space astrophotography where I aim to show the hidden wonders of the universe. I will be discussing nebulae, stars, distant galaxies, comets and solar system objects. I will also cover imaging methods, narrowband and broadband imaging, how to find your way around the night sky, types of telescopes, cameras and mounts required. I will demonstrate and explain how to process these images using free software.



Wednesday 19 August 2026 7PM

CLAIRE CARTER

Perpetually in Motion Part 1.

I believe that landscape photographers have to be in tune with the fourth dimension - the passage of time. This talk illustrates all the forces of nature that create motion and change and discusses how they generate creative possibilities.

Bio

Claire is a working photographer and as such has had to have her fingers in many pies to earn a living, but her passions were always landscape and studio botanical subjects. For the last 15 years she has run workshops in the UK and abroad and is now focused on running these from her Highland home, which has licenced accommodation. Her website www.carterart.co.uk has her full CV but her successes include **LPOTY, SLPOTY, Scottish Nature Photography Awards and IGPOTY.**

**TBC - September - Peter and Trish
Roberts**



Wednesday 7 October 2026 7PM

DEAN ALLAN

My route into photography has been anything but conventional. Originally pursuing a career as a professional footballer, injury brought that ambition to an abrupt end at the age of 20. Undeterred, I redirected my energies into photography (my father was a Professional Photographer), spending three years at photographic college before beginning a professional career in London.

I served my apprenticeship assisting two leading fashion photographers before establishing myself in the world of fashion and advertising photography. Over the next twelve years or so I worked extensively in London, producing imagery for major brands and advertising campaigns. A growing passion for travel led me into a new chapter of my career, working with UK and international tour operators, airlines and travel organisations to create imagery for holiday brochures and travel publications around the world. It was during these 15 years that my love of landscapes and the natural world began to flourish.

Drawn increasingly towards wild places and the changing moods of light, I eventually made the decision to devote himself entirely to landscape photography. That decision has led to the creation of one of Scotland's leading landscape photography businesses.

Today, based in the Scottish Highlands, I lead up to 25 residential photography workshops each year across the Highlands and Islands of Scotland, sharing not only my technical expertise but also my passion for creativity, observation and storytelling through the landscape. My work has earned numerous awards, including the current Scottish Seascape Photographer of the Year



Wednesday 25 November 2026 7PM

RICHARD HUNT-SMITH (AKA RICHFOTOGRAFI)

Richard is an Argyll-based photographer specialising in street and documentary photography, focusing on real, everyday moments as they unfold. He has been making one photograph every day since beginning a 365 project in February 2008, a discipline that has helped shape his instinctive and honest approach to storytelling through images.

Much of his work centres on the streets of Glasgow, capturing the humour, character and unpredictability of the people and places that make the city unique.

Alongside his personal projects, Richard has volunteered as a photographer with Homeless Project Scotland for the past four years, creating more than 1,000 images to support the charity's work and raise awareness of homelessness. His photography has documented the efforts of the street team, the night shelter and the experiences of rough sleepers, while also helping to build the charity's image library and public profile.

Organiser's note: While Richard has not requested this, his commitment to Homeless Project Scotland over the past four years has been remarkable. If you enjoy his presentation and would like to support the cause he has documented so extensively, donations to the charity are always appreciated, especially during the winter and Christmas period.

Website: www.richfotografi.com

Instagram: @richfotografi

To coincide with the Edinburgh Fringe Festival Edinburgh Photographic Society, are graciously hosting the start of our travelling exhibition.

From 8th August 2026

THE RPS
ROYAL PHOTOGRAPHIC SOCIETY
SCOTLAND

Photographs that speak to one another.

A curated collection of photographs by members of the Royal Photographic Society Scotland Region.

Rather than arranged by subject or genre, these photographs are brought into dialogue through echoes of colour, light, shape, rhythm and atmosphere. Connections emerge, contrasts spark new perspectives, and meanings unfold in the spaces between images.

**No single story.
Countless conversations.**

RPS SCOTLAND

MEMBERS EXHIBITION 2026

PHOTOGRAPHS IN DIALOGUE

A curated collection of photographs by members of the Royal Photographic Society Scotland Region.

A TRAVELLING EXHIBITION
Bringing inspiring photography to venues across Scotland.

VISITING VENUES THROUGHOUT 2026 AND 2027
Check the website for the latest tour dates and locations.

CELEBRATING THE CREATIVITY AND VISION OF OUR MEMBERS
Supporting photographers and sharing diverse perspectives.

FIND OUT WHERE THE EXHIBITION IS NEXT
rps.org/scotland

#RPSScotland