

Happy Summer!



Welcome to the latest Newsletter from the Scotland team. Firstly I would like to welcome John Post to the team and you can read a short bio about him further on. He has already assisted us in curating the layout for the 2025 Print Exhibition and with his wider experience he will undoubtedly make a valuable contribution to the Region's activities.

We are still looking for volunteers to join the committee. In particular we require a Secretary to take on some of the administrative tasks.

In terms of communications, we are trying to minimise the amount of email traffic to members as this can become a pain to deal with for recipients.



Ellie Williams - Union Aberdeen

Notification of publication of the newsletter will be sent via e-mail as this is something that all members should find of interest. Area Reps will also send out local emails for events that are being arranged in their areas. Any other emails will be sent to a targeted audience, for example, links to the recordings of on-line talks. The RPS Scotland web-site is the main repository of upcoming events, news and information so please be sure to visit on a regular basis, however Sam will update Facebook with events. The website should be your initial point of contact for any information about what is happening in the Region. If anyone has feedback about the useability of the web-site, or anything that they would like to be included, please get in touch with me. Finally, the RPS Scotland Facebook Group is primarily to be used as a means for sharing images, so please do use this site to show your work and seek positive comments from other members.

Region Event News

On 17th July, in what should be the first of a regular series of on-line talks, Mairi Macaulay ARPS talked about her passion for Eigg, and how she became inspired to create her stunning Associate panel. A link to the recording of the talk has been sent to everyone who booked, if anyone else would like this then please let me know.

The next talk is on 21st August and will be by Thomas Lamont - The Kilted Photographer. Details available on the RPS Scotland website - events pages.



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

Region Events News Contd...

On 15th July, we delivered the 2025 Print Exhibition to Edinburgh Photographic Society. We are fortunate to have it on display at the same time as the Edinburgh International Exhibition, and there is also an RPS Visual Art Group exhibition on show in an adjacent room. The exhibitions will be open for viewing from 2nd - 31st August and the variety of work on display which contain some stunning images from photographers around the world makes this well worth going along to see if you are popping down to Edinburgh for The Fringe events.

Locally, 10 members of the northern group had a day trip out to photograph some abandoned cottages on Dava moor. There is a gallery of images available to view on the RPS Scotland web-site.

RPS News

RPS House should be vacated by 31 July so the RPS will no longer have its own premises. The Society will be making use of shared office space very close to these premises, but this means that there will no longer be a dedicated venue for Assessment Days. In the interim the Society has entered in a partnership with Smethwick Photographic Society to host the next round of Distinctions Panels, to be held in the autumn. Dates for the Autumn Assessment days should be available by the time you read this, and will be running from late September to late November. Unfortunately there is not going to be any on-line streaming of Assessments from Smethwick. I know that there has been some comment on the RPS Scotland Facebook site about the Distinctions process, including how the changes to the Licentiate process were rolled out and the subject of a new Distinctions 'roadmap' which has had limited publicity. ROs and SIG chairs were given an update by Victoria Humphries, the new CEO, on 12 July. The new framework is designed to be more inclusive and relevant to all photographers, and all panel Chairs have been consulted. The panel Assessors will now be given an opportunity to comment. ROs and SIG Chairs have requested to be given early sight of the framework once this is complete. The timetable for rollout is that the new framework will become active from January 2026.

What this means for you is that the next round of Assessments will be the last one under the current scheme. My understanding is that the changes are more evolutionary than revolutionary so anyone working on a panel for assessment after January should not be impacted significantly.

There is a new emphasis on member engagement from the HQ team, and a focus on being out and about and engaging with the regional activities more than may have been the case previously.

Thank you to everyone who is supporting regional activities, and I look forward to meeting more of you at future events.

Peter



We would like to introduce **John Post**, who is joining the committee, as an ordinary member.

Vacancies are still available!

John Post is an artist, scientist, and educator whose work explores queer identity, embodiment, and digital intimacy. With a background in zoology and over fifteen years in biological research, he bridges scientific inquiry with poetic, experimental photography. Using both digital and analogue processes, he examines how the male body, desire, and selfhood are mediated through screens, gestures, and the gaze. His soon to be completed doctoral research at Ulster University focuses on the photograph as an affective surface where meaning accumulates and dissolves, engaging queer male participants in a collaborative exploration of empathy, banality, and self-representation

Post's work has been exhibited across the UK, including with Belfast Exposed, the Scottish Arts Club, Getty Images, and had work in the RPS's IPE 163. A former picture editor working in the media, he has also taught on fine art courses at Duncan of Jordanstone College of Art & Design and Belfast School of Art, supporting interdisciplinary creative practices across undergraduate and postgraduate levels.

Also **Neil Hutton** will be overseeing web editing and the monthly competitions

Neil is a retired adventurer who loves nothing more than hitting the road with his faithful dog by his side. A passionate photographer for many years, he's known for his friendly, approachable nature and an eagerness to keep learning new techniques. Rather than focusing on a single subject, Neil enjoys exploring a wide range of photographic styles—but he has a real soft spot for the creative challenge of light painting. Now, he's looking forward to setting the monthly competitions and can't wait to see the imaginative and inspiring images you all come up with.



Contact details are scotlandweb@rps.org



To view Talk Walk Talk Previous Zines

<https://talkwalktalk.org/node/472>

Autumn will move on to Inland Waters
rivers, streams, canals, waterfalls, lakes,
ponds, reservoirs, even floods



FREE Event with Contemporary & Documentary.

Wednesday 6 August 2025
Edinburgh Fringe

Led by RPS Contemporary Group - Contact Steve Whittaker ARPS
contemporarysco@rps.org



Member led event at Grey Mare's Tail, Selkirk by Jean Robson FRPS.

Thursday 14 August 9am - 2pm

From £12.00
Book online at Scotland Events

Don't forget.....

Loxley Colour

Visit to Loxley in September ! Book your place message Sam at scotlandevents@rps.org
Please note that other Print companies are available and Loxley is not endorsed by The
Royal Photographic Society.



Thomas 'The Kilted Photographer'

Thursday 21 August 2025 7pm

Thomas Lamont, known as The Kilted Photographer, is a Falkirk-based drone and landscape photographer whose distinctive style—wearing a Declaration Tartan kilt—has become his brand signature.

He began his photographic journey in 2015 with a DSLR, embarking on landscape and architectural imagery to showcase Scotland's beauty. In 2017, he added commercial drone photography to his toolkit, attaining CAA Operational Authorisation and full insurance, enabling him to capture breathtaking aerial perspectives.

Thomas's work has earned significant acclaim. He won the People's Choice Award (Drone category) at the British Photography Awards 2024 for a sunset image of the Wallace Monument, and was also named Scottish Aerial Photographer of the Year 2024 at the Scottish Prestige Awards.

www.thekilted.photo



Join us for an online Zoom Macro Talk with renowned Scottish photographer **David Gilliver** on **Monday, September 8th, at 7 PM**. Discover the imaginative world of his "Little People" series, where he uses miniature figurines to craft whimsical and thought-provoking scenes. Don't miss this opportunity to explore how everyday objects become expansive landscapes in his work, offering playful yet poignant commentary on themes like climate change, consumerism, and the human condition.

Get your tickets here!



Peter Wilkinson THURSDAY 25 SEPTEMBER 7PM

My photography journey began over 40 years ago with a Kodak disc camera gifted by my sister, and an early interest nurtured by a friend who worked as a newspaper photographer. While I dabbled in landscapes, rallying, and football photography, life with young children meant years of using only a pocket camera for family snaps. Moving to Scotland reignited my passion, especially as I transitioned from 35mm film to digital. Lockdown—and recovering from a ruptured Achilles—forced me to slow down and notice the rich wildlife around me, sparking a new love for photographing nature's unpredictability. Capturing hard-to-find or amusing moments has since become my focus, bringing joy to others and connecting me with fellow local photographers.

FRIDAY 26 SEPTEMBER 2025 AT 10AM PROMPT

Drum Mains Park Glasgow G68 9LD

Sam has a close relationship with Loxley Colour (other print services are available and is not endorsed by RPS) and has arranged for an in person visit.

The maximum group size is 12 if you would like to come please email and advise if you have any specific access needs

scotlandevents@rps.org



The Kilted Photographer

www.thekilted.photo



ZOOM TALK



Thursday 21 August 2025 at 7pm

TO BOOK GO TO



www.rps.org/regions/scotland/upcoming-talks/

RPS members free non members £5

Thomas Lamont, aka The Kilted Photographer, is a multi-award-winning Scottish aerial photographer based in Falkirk. Known for his striking drone images and unmistakable Declaration tartan kilt, Thomas captures Scotland's landscapes, landmarks, and wildlife with dramatic flair.

🏆 2024 People's Choice Winner, British Photography Awards (Drone Category)

🏆 Scottish Aerial Photographer of the Year – Scottish Prestige Awards

He is also an advocate for responsible drone use and an emerging voice in 360° photography.

What to Expect

A breathtaking visual tour of Scotland from the air

Stories behind award-winning images

Tips on composition, gear, and drone techniques

Key resources and rules (CAA regulations, safety, flight planning)

A brief intro to immersive 360° storytelling

And... a few laughs too!





21st August 7pm Zoom

Thomas Lamont, famously known as The Kilted Photographer, is a multi-award-winning Scottish aerial photographer celebrated for his stunning depictions of Scotland's breathtaking landscapes, historic sites, and iconic wildlife, all while proudly donning his Declaration tartan kilt. Based in the Falkirk area, Thomas has endeared himself to the Scottish creative community, being recognized not just for his striking visuals but also for his commitment to promoting the nation's natural and cultural heritage.

In recent years, Thomas has achieved national acclaim, receiving multiple prestigious awards and making finalist shortlists. His most significant achievement came in 2024, when he won the People's Choice Award in the Drone Category at the British Photography Awards. The winning photograph—a dramatic sunset over The National Wallace Monument, illuminated in orange to raise awareness for Batten disease—captured the public's imagination and garnered extensive media attention. That same year, he was named Scottish Aerial Photographer of the Year at the Scottish Prestige Awards, further establishing his status as a leading figure in the field.

Thomas embarked on his photographic journey in 2015, initially mastering the basics with a traditional DSLR camera before transitioning to drone technology, which transformed his approach to composition and storytelling. He has since cultivated a signature style that merges cinematic aerial perspectives with a profound respect for Scotland's history and landscapes.

Recently, Thomas has begun to explore 360 photography, pushing the limits of immersive storytelling. This innovative format allows viewers to step into a scene and experience locations as if they were physically present—an especially potent tool for showcasing the beauty of the country to those unable to travel.

Soar high (up to 400 ft!) as Thomas invites you into the realm of drone photography. He will present a selection of his standout aerial images, providing insights into both the creative vision and technical processes behind each shot. You will be guided to essential resources for understanding UK Civil Aviation Authority regulations and airspace restrictions. With an emphasis on safety, respect, and planning, Thomas will detail how he prepares for every flight, diving into the techniques that bring his images to life—ranging from low-level compositions and sweeping panoramas to panoramic stitching and immersive 360 photospheres. This is an opportunity to discover Scotland's beauty from above, with a friendly reminder not to be “a numpty” in the sky.

Photography started as a hobby for Thomas but has since blossomed into a passion with a global reach. Although it is not his full-time career, he delights in using his work to celebrate and share Scotland with an international audience.

Recently, Thomas has been joined on his photographic adventures by his two young sons. His eldest, affectionately known as The Wee Kilted Photographer, wears his own Earl of St Andrews tartan and is already confidently capturing drone images of his own.



SCOTLAND

PHOTOFORUM

SCOTLAND

SHARE AND SUPPORT

Bring your work!

Saturday 18 OCTOBER 2025 10am - 4pm

PERTH – Lecture Hall Art Gallery

RPS members £12.00

Guests/Non Members £16.00

Book Online

RPS Scotland Events Page

What 3 words: flames:zebra:ladder
This building has accessible access



scotlandevents@rps.org



www.rpsscotland.org/events





A Walk in the Woods
by
Pat Ness LRPS

The Scotland Region of the Royal Photographic Society will be presenting an exhibition of photographic prints that show the variety of work undertaken by members. It includes images of wildlife, landscapes, people and places taken both in Scotland and around the world and demonstrates a range of photographic techniques to present these subjects.

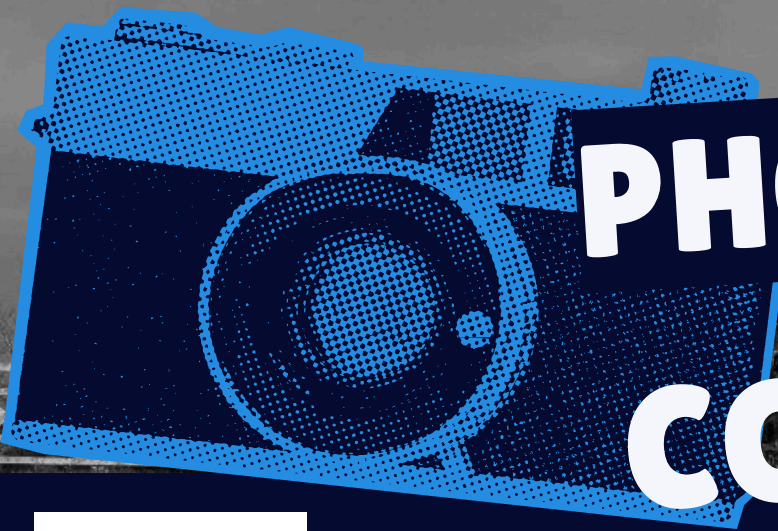
Edinburgh 1 August 2025 - 24 August 2025 by kind permission of Edinburgh Photographic Society

68 Great King Street, Edinburgh
[Edinburgh Photographic Society](#)

The Smith Gallery Stirling - September - October 2025

Eden Court Gallery - Inverness January 2026

Aberdeen Art Centre - Aberdeen February 2026



PHOTOGRAPHY COMPETITION



Entries to
scotlandweb@rps.org

****LIVE****

**1st August – 23 August – Rules
apply**

**PHOTOS WITH A LETTER OF THE
ALPHABET**

PHOTOS WITH A LETTER OF THE ALPHABET

August 2025 Competition

Subject

1 August - 23rd August

Entries to

scotlandweb@rps.org



The Letter V

Entering a monthly online photo competition is a great way for photographers to show their work and gain recognition. These contests usually ask participants to submit their best photos based on a theme. Entries are judged on creativity, technical skill, and how well they match the theme. Winning can lead to benefits like wider exposure, publication opportunities, and sometimes prizes. These contests encourage photographers to improve their skills and create a sense of community. Whether you're a beginner or experienced, joining these contests can be very rewarding.

This competition is restricted to RPS Scotland members only.

RPS Scotland has decided to award a £100 Amazon Gift card at the end of the year (2025) The member who accrues the most points for their images will be declared the winner and receive the prize.

Please email your picture to scotlandweb@rps.org. You should get an acknowledgment. One image per person per month.

Images should be 1000px wide - there is no restriction on how tall your pictures are. So please resize them up to 1000 px by XXXX px. (NOT XXXX px by 1000 px). Please name your jpegs as follows - "Image Title.jpg ". Do not use camera filenames which are meaningless.

Winners (and runners up) will have their images showcased on Facebook and on the website. Voting takes place around the last week of the month - you should receive an email containing the voting link, or check our Facebook Group for the announcement.

Open for entries 1st to 23rd of each month

Voting takes place 24th to 29th of each month (except February)

Results published on Facebook.

Please Note:- All votes will be checked against the RPS Scotland membership and any name not on that list will have their vote deleted.

Please check the RPS Scotland Website to enter <https://rps.org/regions/scotland/scotland-monthly-competition>

Royal Photographic Society Landscape Group Members' Exhibition 2025/26



[See the Exhibition](#)

The RPS Landscape Group is holding its second exhibition of members' work across 8+ locations, starting in May 2025 at Southwark Cathedral, before moving to Bristol Central Library, eventually ending in Scotland in Spring 2026. 80 beautiful prints; from London to Antarctica; land & sea; rural & urban; from big scenes to intimate abstracts.

All venues are outdoors, open 24/7

Southwark Cathedral, London
17 May - 8 June 2025

Central Library, Bristol
21 June - 13 July 2025

**Bridge Field, Rushcliffe,
(Trent Bridge, Nottingham)**
2 - 18 August 2025

**Yorkshire Museum, on Dame
Judi Dench Walk, York**
6 - 21 September 2025

Chester Cathedral, Chester
4 - 26 October 2025

Crow Park, Keswick
8 - 23 November 2025

WASPS, Inverness
2 - 17 May 2026

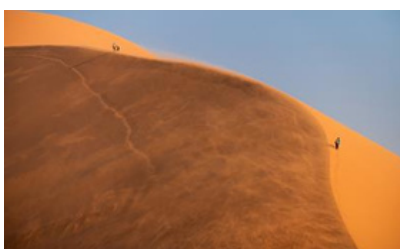
More 2026 dates to be announced



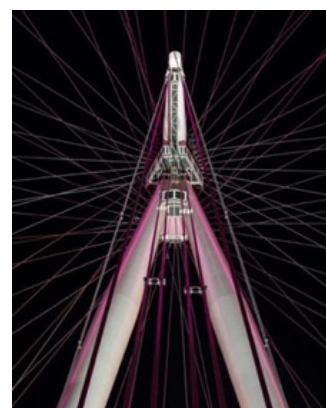
Peter Stott ARPS



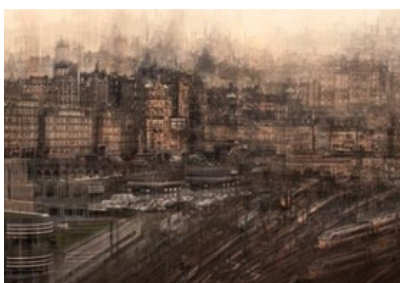
Phillip Dove LRPS



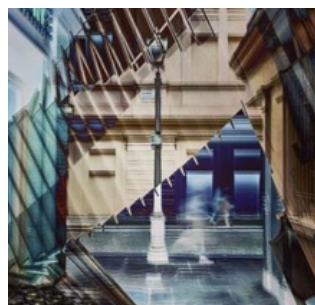
Mark Sims ARPS



Howard Klein LRPS



Morag Forbes LRPS



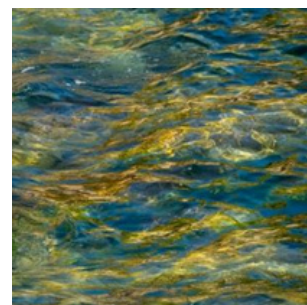
Lesley Peatfield ARPS



Rosemary Wilman HonFRPS



Lindsay Southgate ARPS



Sue Searle LRPS

Founded in 1853, current patron HRH The Princess of Wales, the RPS mission is to bring inspiration, creativity and connection through photography to people of all ages and backgrounds. The Landscape Group has 1200 members and is one of 16 special interest groups.

Website: <https://rps.org/Landscape-EXPO25/> Instagram: [rpslandscape](#) X/Twitter: [@RPSLandscapeExh](#)

Contact: landscapeexhibitionmemberevents@rps.org

We are very grateful to Edinburgh Photographic Society for hosting our travelling exhibition until 24 August 2025.

The Edinburgh International is one of the most highly regarded photographic exhibitions in the UK, and one of the few Print only International Salons in the world. Our Exhibition attracts thousands of entries from all around the world. Our Exhibition has built a strong reputation since its inception in 1861, the year Edinburgh Photographic Society was formed.

Unlike many exhibitions, we only accept what we can display thus, gaining an acceptance is a high achievement and much sought after by photographers who enter year after year. All accepted prints are displayed at Edinburgh Photographic Society's premises during the Edinburgh Festivals in August when the exhibition receives thousands of visitors from all over the world, many of whom visit year after year. All accepted images appear in the A4 printed colour catalogue. We look forward to welcoming you to the 161st running of the Edinburgh International. This year's Exhibition is open from 2nd to 24th August 2025 (10:00-17:00), visitors may pay by card at the door or purchase tickets via the Edinburgh Fringe box office. We recommend that you give yourself at least 1-hour to view the works on display. A full colour A4 catalogue of around 50 pages showing all accepted prints in the international exhibition is provided as part of the entry fee.



161st Edinburgh International Photography Exhibition 2025

plus

- Royal Photographic Society Visual Art Group Exhibition
- Royal Photographic Society Scotland Members' Print Exhibition

£6.50 entrance (includes A4 Exhibition catalogue)
Payment by Card or Fringe Ticket Only (No Cash)



Stag in winter by James Anderson

Edinburgh Festival Fringe 2025
Venue 130

AUGUST 2-24 10:00-17:00
68 Great King Street, Edinburgh, EH3 6QU

The last word.....

If you would like something included please email Peter or Sam before the 20th of each month.

Coming soon

Zoom Talks with

Andrew Allen - Night Sky Photographer www.scotlandsnightsky.com

Neil McIntyre - Author and Wildlife Photographer www.neilmcintyre.com

Jennifer Charlton - MPB Scottish Portrait Photographer of the Year 2024

Adventures.....

Photographic opportunity with Rob Judd and his falconry team at Scottish Deer Centre

Wolfburn Distillery - Thurso

Light Painting with David Gilliver

Night Sky Photography with Andrew Allen - December

Sam is away for a lot of August but still working, just not as much as normal. Dates for above in person adventures will be released in September newsletter and on Facebook page.

If you want Sam to look at any other in person events drop her a message, including drone workshops.

Sam is working on printing papers specialist for a zoom talk, and also a very special guest she hopes for the end of the year.

Shhh

From Land



COMING SOON

RPS SCOTLAND
BOOK PROJECT
2026

THE **RPS**
ROYAL PHOTOGRAPHIC SOCIETY

SCOTLAND