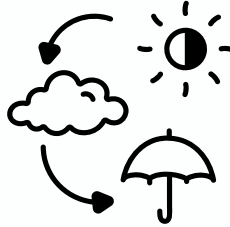


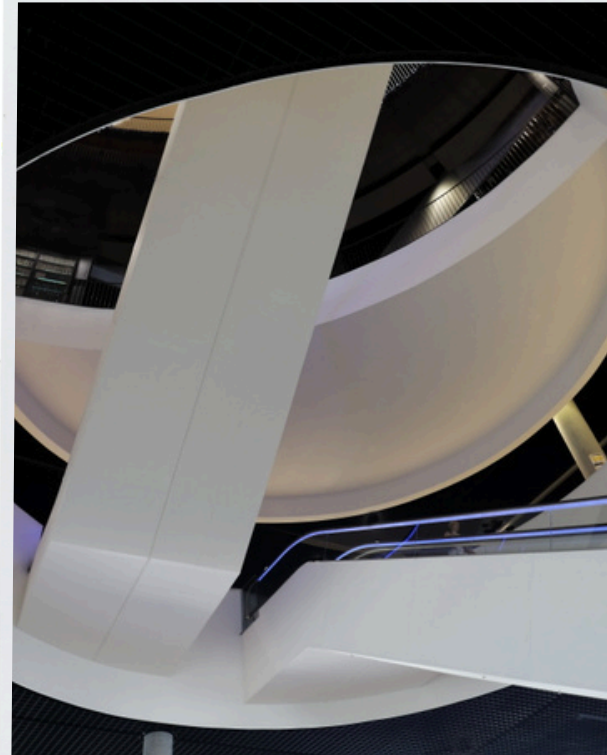
So long Summer!



Welcome to the latest Scotland Region Newsletter. During the month we had a very interesting on-line talk from Thomas Lamont on his approach to drone photography, including some good advice for budding drone photographers on the rules and regulations for operating a drone. There are two talks planned for September and more in the pipeline - see details in this newsletter or on the RPS Scotland website.

August also saw the return of our monthly competition which is intended to be a bit of lighthearted fun for members, notwithstanding the prizes on offer. A total of 13 entries is a promising start, but there is a great deal of untapped photographic talent in our region so please do have a look at joining in.

The Print Exhibition has finished its showing in Edinburgh and will be moving to Stirling at the start of September.



Peter Roberts - Library Q

Distinctions News. By the time you read this the bookings will have closed for the current round of Associate and Fellowship assessments, the last ones to be conducted under the current criteria and guidance. Anyone who has been following the subject will be aware that there is a new Distinctions Framework under development which will be rolled out in 2026. There is still ongoing discussion with assessors, Regional Organisers and SIG Chairs about the final content. I have seen a draft of the new Distinctions Framework but am not allowed to pass on any details. For anyone working towards an A/F I recommend contacting the Distinctions Dept to discuss how you should progress with your work pending release of the new framework in 2026, as these are the only staff who are able to provide substantive guidance at this time. A separate strand of work is about to start looking at the support and advice that is provided to members who are on their Distinctions journey, and this is something that I will be seeking your views on.

Behind the scenes we are working on our programme of events for 2026, with the possibility of some high profile guest speakers, and some in-person talks. If anyone has any suggestions, feedback or just wants to chat about what the Region is doing or where they are going with their photography then please get in touch with any of the team.

Peter



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

Region Events News Contd...

Join us in Perth for a day of inspiration, discussion, and community! Bring along your work and connect with fellow photographers. This is also a great, informal way to have your L panels reviewed and get constructive feedback.

RPS Scotland Committee members will be in attendance.

📅 Saturday 18 October 2025

🕒 10am – 4pm

📍 Perth – Lecture Hall Art Gallery

🎫 RPS Members £12 | Guests/Non-Members £16

🔗 Book online: [RPS Scotland Events Page](#)

This event is a fantastic opportunity to share your images, exchange ideas, and get support from the Scottish photography community. Don't miss it!



RAPTOR WORLD

BIRD OF PREY LOVERS WANTED

An exciting opportunity has been afforded to RPS Scotland members.

The Head Falconer of Raptor World, Rob Judd at The Scottish Deer Centre in Fife is kindly offering a small group of 3 people, to trial their new woodland setting photography experience.

This will take place on **Thursday 11 September at 10am**, you will need to be there for 9.45am.

The experience will last for 2 hours.

The birds in flight will mostly be owls, but if conditions allow we may also be able to capture the peregrine in flight.

This event is Free, but in return you would agree to share some or all of your images with the Deer Centre, for which you will be credited, should they be used, however I would also suggest a donation at the door.

I will be present as an observer to allow members this opportunity exclusively.

This trial event may lead to further collaboratin between RPS and Raptor Wold and The Scottish Deer Centre

Email Sam at scotlandevents@rps.org to secure your place. This will be on first come basis.





W O L F B U R N

Exclusive RPS Scotland Opportunity – Wolfburn Distillery, Thurso

Some of you aren't active on Facebook, so I don't want anyone to miss out on this event.

I've been in discussions with the team at Wolfburn Distillery – the most northerly distillery on the Scottish mainland – to arrange a photographic experience (with optional whisky tasting) exclusively for RPS Scotland members.

Access to capture the character of this modern, independent distillery, set against the rugged beauty of Caithness.

Wolfburn is renowned for its award-winning single malts and its deep connections with the local agricultural and countryside management community.

We're looking at a Saturday afternoon in early October – the perfect time to combine creative photography with a dram (if you wish!).

In addition, the far North offers excellent photographic opportunities nearby, including the dramatic Flow Country landscapes and the historic Castle of Mey.

For anyone travelling, I can suggest good local accommodation, having spent plenty of time in the far North myself, plus dog friendly beaches.

Please let me know if you're interested so I can firm up arrangements.
scotlandevents@rps.org



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





Building on the success of previous T-W-T walks over the last 2 years, covering such topics as Coastal, Architecture & Built Environment, Woodland, and Parks & Gardens, the Landscape and Digital Image Group is pleased to announce the next in the series, Inland Water.

Inland Water can be rivers, streams, lakes, ponds, reservoirs, waterfalls, canals, even floods or recreational venues. You can shoot the water for its beauty, colour, tranquillity or turbulence.

Walks in Scotland:

02/10/25 The Blue Door, led by Steve Whittaker ARPS
03/10/25 Raiders Road, led by Jean Robson FRPS
07/10/25 The Kelpies, Falkirk, led by Viv Cotton ARPS
09/10/25 Water of Leith, led by Colin Balfour LRPS

04/10/25 Birnie & Gaddon Lochs led by Monica Vella
22/10/2025 The Birks of Aberfeldy led by Robin Millar

The T-W-T programme is free to all RPS members; the public is welcome to join us, but there is a charge for their participation.

On 29th September do join us to be inspired by landscape photographer Vanda Ralevska on how to capture images for this walk series.

Bookings open 25th August - go to talkwalktalk.org. When you book your walk you will also be sent the Zoom link for Vanda's talk.

Key dates:

Bookings open: 25 August
Bookings close: 22 September
TALK - Vanda Ralevska: 29 September
WALKS - choose from c.50: during October
TALK discussion groups: during November

Loxley Colour

Visit to Loxley in September ! Book your place message Sam at scotlandevents@rps.org
They have also generously given a 10% discount code for Photographic and Fine Art Prints specifically for RPS Scotland members, single use code **RPS10**

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

Inland Water



Bookings open
Bookings close
TALK - Vanda Ralevska
WALKs - choose from 50+
TALK discussion groups

25 August
22 September
29 September
during October
during November

Inland Water can be rivers, streams, lakes, ponds, reservoirs, waterfalls, canals, even floods or recreational venues. You can shoot the water for it's beauty, colour, tranquility or turbulence. The humans or animals enjoying the water. It is the basic requirement of life, so think laterally.

Full information for all UK WALKs will be available on the booking date . Go to

www.talkwalktalk.org

ALL ZOOM TALKS CAN BE BOOKED VIA [RPS SCOTLAND EVENTS PAGE](#)



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.

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.

A FEW SPACES REMAIN

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 a 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

Andrew Allan - Scotlands NightSky THURSDAY 30 OCTOBER 2025 7PM



In this Night Sky and Astrophotography Zoom talk, Andrew takes guests through the world of astrophotography in Scotland, blending technical insight with personal passion. Drawing from experience photographing some of the most breathtaking Scottish night skies, Andrew explores the Northern Lights on how to forecast and how to photograph them. Milky Way tips and tricks such as the best dark sky locations.

The talk covers how seasonal changes in Scotland influence visibility and photographic opportunities, offering tips on when and where to shoot for the best results. Andrew also dives into moon photography, discussing timing, equipment, and techniques to capture the moon in its many phases. Guests will gain practical advice on night sky photography, including camera settings and gear recommendations.

Whether you're a seasoned astrophotographer or a curious beginner, this talk provides inspiration, education, and visual storytelling. Andrew is passionate at promoting the dark skies of Scotland and has done through social media, BBC programmes and self-publishing books.

Andrew also shares content from abroad trips to the arctic for the aurora and the milky way core in Tenerife.

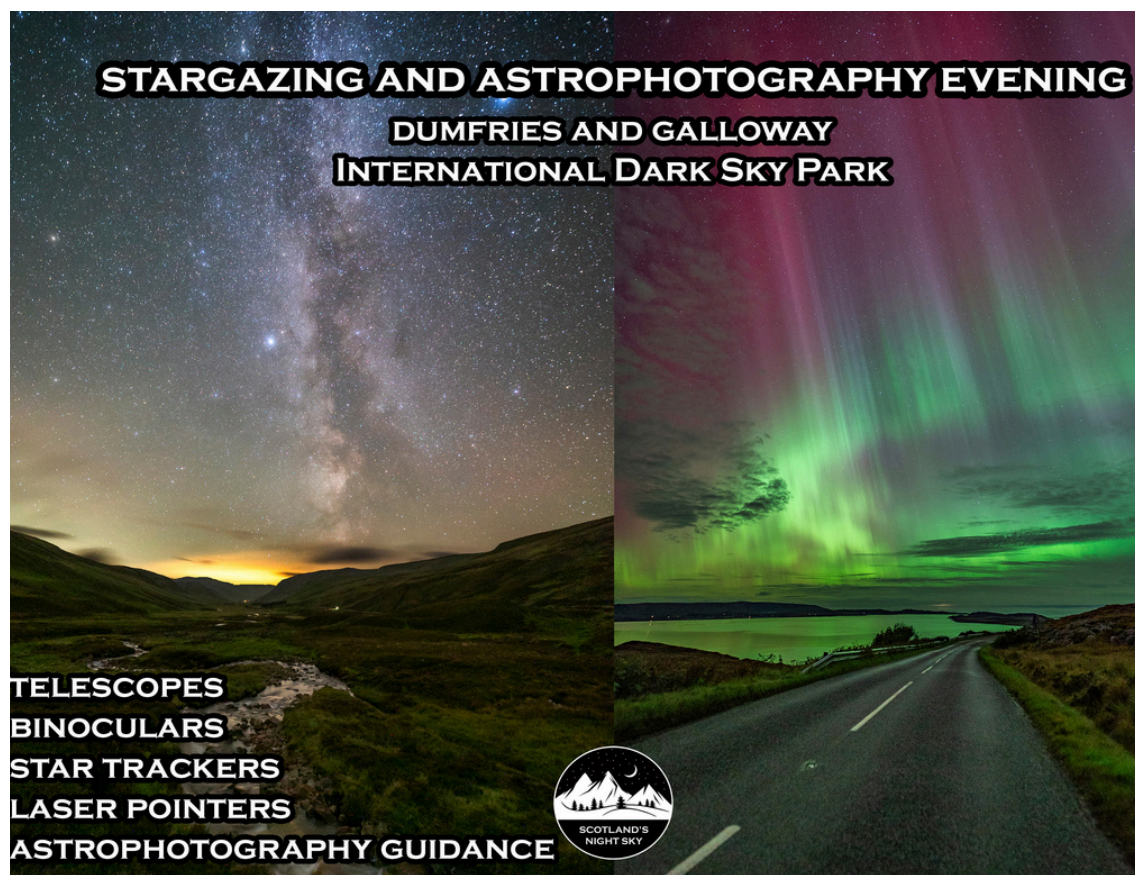
Shahbaz Majeed - Frame Focus Capture, and Landward Monday 1 December 2025 7pm

Details to follow in next months
newsletter

**ANDREW ALLAN -
SCOTLANDS NIGHTSKY**

**£25 PER PERSON
12 PLACES AVAILABLE**

**FRIDAY 19 DECEMBER 2025 MEETING TIME TO
BE CONFIRMED**



Come along for a relaxed and inspiring evening under the stars with professional astrophotographer Andrew Allan, where you'll explore the night sky like never before. Using telescopes, binoculars, a laser pointer, and astrophotography gear such as star trackers and filters. Andrew will guide you through the constellations, planets, and other celestial sights visible on the night.

You'll learn how to spot key features in the sky and get hands-on experience looking through telescopes. For anyone curious about astrophotography, there'll be friendly tips on how to capture the night sky with your own camera.

Whether you're a stargazer or photographer Andrew will help you enjoy the beauty of the dark skies of Scotland.

Bring your own refreshments, soup and a roll recommended.



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.

The Smith Gallery Stirling - September - October 2025

Eden Court Gallery - Inverness January 2026

Aberdeen Art Centre - Aberdeen February 2026

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

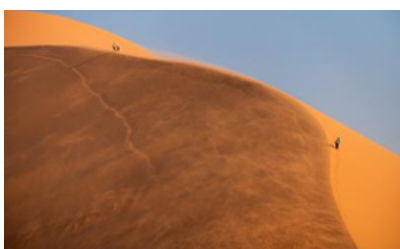
More 2026 dates to be announced



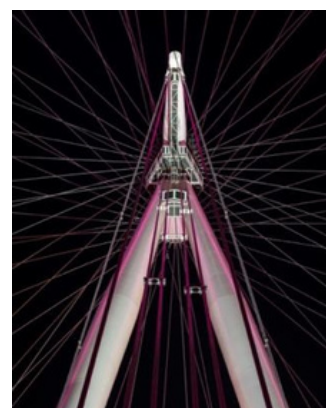
Peter Stott ARPS



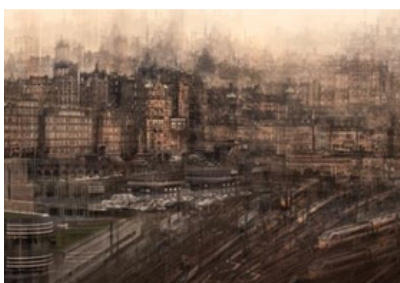
Phillip Dove LRPS



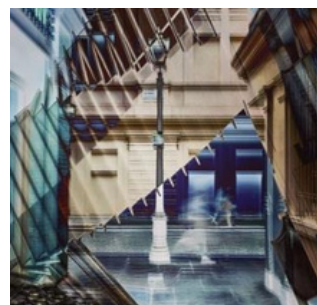
Mark Sims ARPS



Howard Klein LRPS



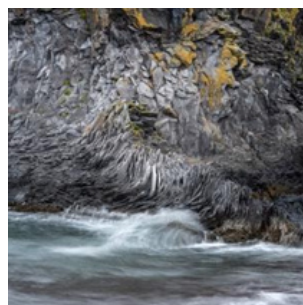
Morag Forbes LRPS



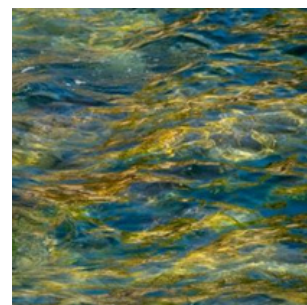
Lesley Peatfield ARPS



Rosemary Wilman HonFRPS



Lindsay Southgate ARPS

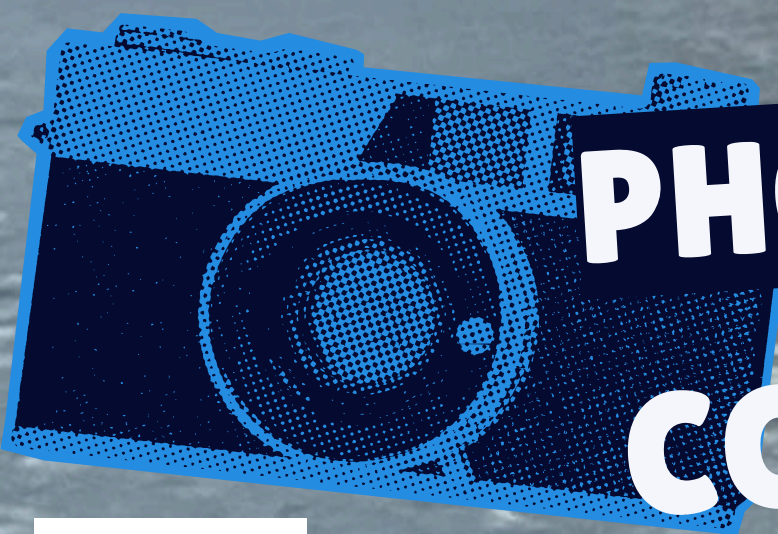


Sue Searle LRPS

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



PHOTOGRAPHY COMPETITION



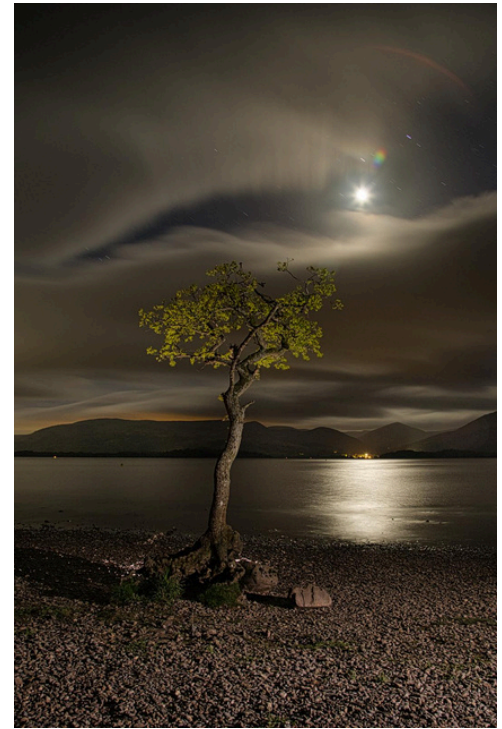
****LIVE ****
1st September – Rules apply

PHOTOS WITH A SHAFT OF LIGHT

PHOTOS WITH A SHAFT OF LIGHT

September 2025 Competition
1 September - 23rd September

Entries to
scotlandweb@rps.org



Dear Members,

I'm delighted that our monthly competitions continue to attract interest. To make sure everything runs smoothly and fairly for everyone, the rules have now been reviewed and updated.

I also want to let you know that the voting process has now changed. Voting will now take place via SurveyMonkey, where you'll be able to score each photo with a star rating from 1-5 (or leave it blank). SurveyMonkey will then automatically calculate the results on aggregate, ensuring a fairer and more transparent outcome.

Another change is that the theme for the monthly competition will now be set each month, rather than published as a year-long month-by-month breakdown. This restructuring is designed to encourage participation from photographers at all levels and to keep the competitions fresh and engaging.

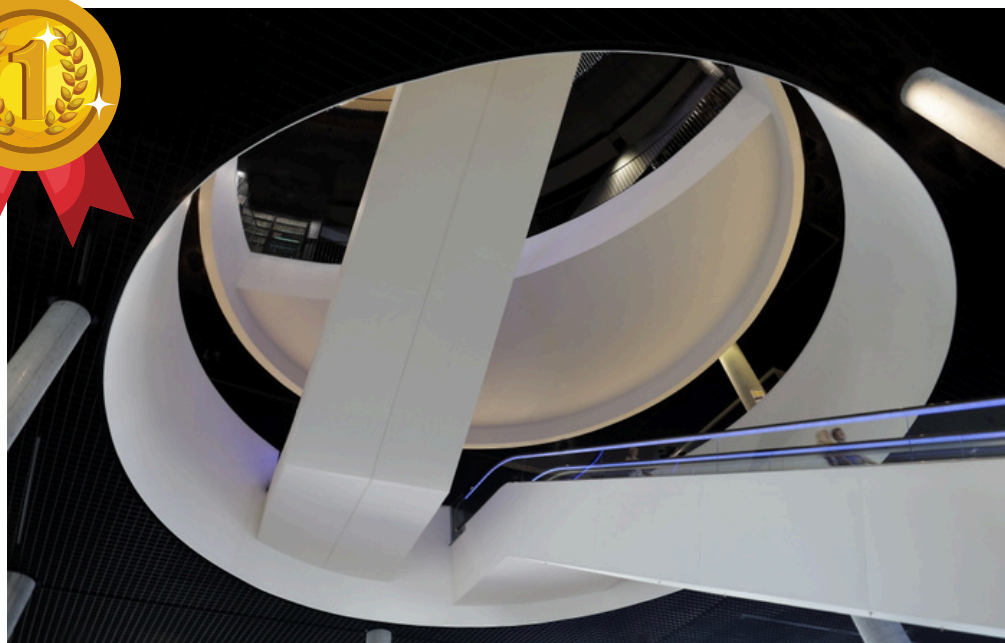
These updated rules are not intended to put anyone off entering, but simply to ensure fairness and clarity for all involved. We kindly ask that all members take a few minutes to read the updated rules before submitting entries.

Thank you for your support, enthusiasm, and creativity — it's what makes these competitions a success. We'd love to see even more of you take part each month and share your photography with the group.

With best wishes,

Neil Hutton
Scotland Web Officer- Volunteer

Winners and placements August 2025 Competition - Show me a Letter



1st Place - Peter Roberts - Library Q



2nd Place - Roger Hinton LRPS - All at C



3rd Place - Professor Paul A Fowler,
BSc Hons, PhD, FRSB -
Leafy K



RPS Scotland Monthly Competition Rules (2025–2026)

The following rules have been updated to ensure that the monthly competitions are fair, transparent, and enjoyable for everyone. These rules are not intended to put anyone off entering — they are simply in place to provide clarity and safeguard both participants and organisers. We warmly encourage all members to take part, share their creativity, and enjoy the spirit of friendly competition.

Eligibility

- This competition is open to current RPS Scotland members only.
- All votes will be checked against the RPS Scotland membership list. Any votes from non-members will be deleted.
- Entrants must be 18 years or older. Entrants under 18 must have the consent of a parent or guardian.

Annual Prize

- The annual competition period runs from 1 August 2025 at 00:01 until 31 July 2026 at 23:59.
- At the end of this period, the member who has accrued the most points for their images will be declared the winner and will receive a £100 Amazon Gift Card.
- The winner will be notified by email within 72 hours. Please ensure your email address is up to date on your RPS profile and that you have opted in to receive emails from us.
- If we are unable to contact the winner after three attempts, the prize may be forfeited.
- The prize is non-transferable and there is no cash alternative.

How to Enter

- Entry is free.
- One image per member per month. Entries must be submitted by the named member only and cannot be transferred.
- The monthly competition subject is set by the RPS Scotland Web Officer and the Events & Engagement Officer.
- Email your entry to scotlandweb@rps.org. You will receive an acknowledgment email.
- Images must be:

- 1000px wide (height can vary) – resize to 1000px × [your proportional height] (NOT [height] × 1000px).
- JPEG format only.
- Named as: Image Title.jpg (do not use camera filenames).
- Maximum file size: 5MB.
- Entries must not contain watermarks, borders, or identifying marks.
- An image may not be entered in more than one monthly competition.

Content Standards

- Entries must be suitable for a general audience and must not contain NSFW (Not Safe For Work) content, including but not limited to nudity, sexually explicit material, graphic violence, or offensive/derogatory imagery.
- AI-generated images (fully or partially created using Artificial Intelligence tools such as MidJourney, DALL-E, etc.) are not permitted. All entries must be the original work of the submitting photographer.
- Plagiarism and copyright infringement are strictly prohibited. Entrants must hold the copyright for all elements of their submitted image(s). Use of third-party images, stock photography, or work copied from another photographer will result in disqualification.
- Model release: Unless otherwise notified, it is assumed that all identifiable models featured in submitted images have signed an appropriate model release form permitting the image to be used for the competition and for RPS Scotland publicity (website, Facebook, newsletter). Responsibility for obtaining releases rests with the entrant.
- Image editing: Standard adjustments (cropping, exposure, colour balance, sharpening, dust spot removal) are allowed.
- Composites and major adjustments are permitted within reason, including the removal of people or objects, or blending multiple exposures.
- However, edits must respect the spirit of photography. Entries that rely on excessive digital creation, such as full AI generation, fabricated scenes, or heavy manipulation that no longer represents a photograph, are not permitted.
- Any image deemed inappropriate or in breach of these rules by the RPS Scotland committee will be disqualified.
- Any breach of these rules will result in immediate disqualification and removal of points awarded.
- The committee's decision on suitability is final.

Copyright & Usage Rights

- Entrants retain full copyright over their images.
- By entering, members grant RPS Scotland a non-exclusive licence to use their submitted images for the purposes of administering and promoting the competition (website, social media, newsletter, exhibition).
- By entering, members consent to their personal details being used for competition administration in line with RPS GDPR policies.
- Competition entry data will be retained only for the duration of the competition year and then deleted.

Competition Timeline (each month)

- Entries: Open from 00:01 on the 1st of each month. Entries must be received in the scotlandweb@rps.org inbox by 23:59 on the 23rd of the month. Late entries WILL NOT be accepted.

- Voting: Opens on the 24th of each month via the RPS Scotland Facebook page.
- ■ Please note: as all member mailings must now be issued via RPS HQ, there may be a short delay in the voting email being sent if the 24th falls on a Saturday, Sunday, or a bank holiday in England.
- Results published: Shortly after voting closes, results will be posted on the RPS Scotland Facebook group and website.
- All dates and times stated are for the United Kingdom (GMT).

Voting Process

- An email with the voting link will be sent to members (via RPS HQ) around the 24th of each month.
- The same link will also be posted in the RPS Scotland Facebook group.
- Only votes from verified RPS Scotland members will be counted.
- In the event of a tie, the Scotland Web Officer will cast the deciding vote.

Showcasing Winners

- Monthly winners and runners-up 1st place up to and including 3rd place, will have their images showcased on the RPS Scotland Facebook group and website.

Liability

- RPS Scotland accepts no responsibility for entries not received due to technical issues (e.g., email errors, internet outages, file corruption).
- Proof of sending does not constitute proof of receipt.
- Entrants are solely responsible for ensuring their entries comply with these rules.

Conduct & Final Authority

- Entrants must participate in the competition in the spirit of fair play. Any entrant whose conduct is deemed to bring the competition into disrepute may be disqualified.
- The RPS Scotland committee reserves the right not to award a prize if no suitable entry is received.
- The RPS Scotland committee reserves the right to amend these rules if necessary to ensure fairness or compliance with law.
- The RPS Scotland committee reserves the right to make the final decision in all matters relating to the competition.
- No correspondence will be entered into regarding results or judging.

Where to Enter / More Information

- Full details and entry link are available on the RPS Scotland website:
- <https://rps.org/regions/scotland/scotland-monthly-competition>



RPS Scotland Monthly Competition – Voting Guide

What's New?

- Voting for the RPS Scotland Monthly Competition is now carried out via SurveyMonkey.
- This replaces the previous voting method and provides a fairer, clearer, and more transparent process.

How Does It Work?

- All images entered into the competition will appear in a SurveyMonkey survey.
- For each image, members can give a star rating from 1–5 (or leave it blank if you choose not to score that entry).
- Each member may only vote once — duplicate or repeat submissions will not be counted.
- Once voting closes, SurveyMonkey automatically calculates the aggregate scores to determine the winners and runners-up.

Key Points to Remember

- Only current RPS Scotland members may vote.
- A link to the SurveyMonkey voting page will be emailed to members (via RPS HQ) and also posted in the RPS Scotland Facebook group.
- Voting normally opens on the 24th of each month and runs until the 29th, unless adjusted for weekends or bank holidays.
- In the event of a tie, the Scotland Web Officer will cast the deciding vote.
- Results will be shared on the Facebook group and website after voting closes.

Why the Change?

- Provides fairness by allowing all entries to be scored, not just a single vote.
- Ensures transparency, with SurveyMonkey running the tally automatically.
- Makes the process simpler for members and organisers alike.

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

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

Jennifer Charlton - MPB Scottish Portrait Photographer of the Year 2024

Adventures.....

Light Painting with David Gilliver Zoom and In person, February / March 2026

Thomas Lamont Drone Workshop

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

LAUNCHING From Land



A captivating collection
of landscape photography
by RPS Scotiand members.

Through striking imagery, *From Land* reveals Scotland's evolving relationship with its land from historic traditions to modern practices. Discover scenes of untamed wilderness, flourishing flora and fauna, distinctive native wildlife, and portraits of the people whose lives are shaped by the land they call

Home