



CPA 2026-2027 Season

Introductions and Programme

Image: Leigh Baber

Our aim

“To promote photography and to assist those with an interest in photography, no matter how basic, no matter which medium, film or digital cameras; everyone is welcome.”



Image: Stephen Boyd

2025-2026 season in review

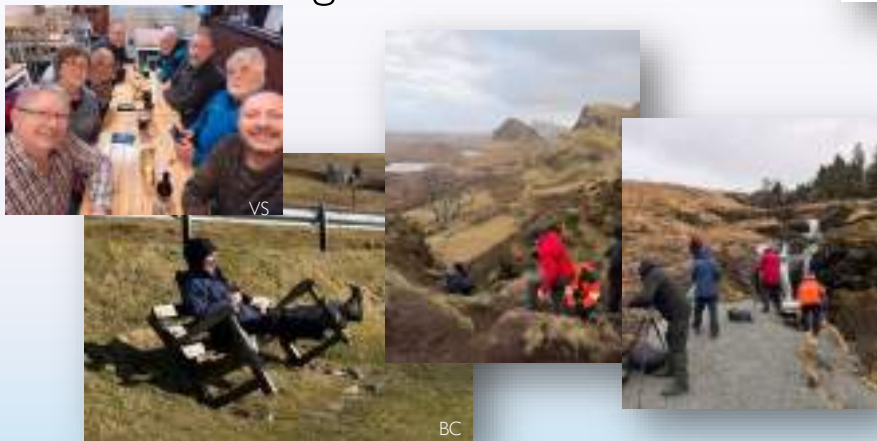
- ✓ 120th Year – our [Book](#) & Exhibition



- ✓ NIPA Interclub: 19 starred images, a Top 3 club for 3rd year running



- ✓ Club trips to Isle of Skye and Donegal



- Congratulations club members!
 - ✓ Sean Evans - LRPS **LIPF**
 - ✓ Kim Haydon – Novice to Advanced

- ✓ Will McCrum Portrait Competition



- ✓ Portrait & practical shoots



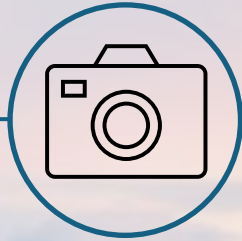
The big picture

A year built around your photography journey



LEARN

- Talks
- Tutorials
- Masterclasses



SHOOT

- Practicals
- Outings
- Outdoor Sessions



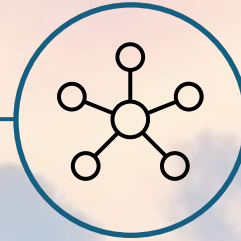
CREATE

- Minimalism
- Pet photography
- Photo Essays



COMPETE

- NIPA
- Club Competitions
- Print Battles



SHARE

- Show & Tell
- Raw to Finish
- Quadrangle Judging



CELEBRATE

- Christmas
- BBQ
- Annual Exhibition

Image: Ossie Bruce



***NIPA Panel
Project
2026***

Image: Robert Sergeant

NIPA Panel Project 2026

Celebrating Northern Ireland on NIPA's 60th Anniversary

- NIPA invites all member clubs to take part in the 2026 Summer Panel Project. A fun, inclusive, non-competitive project designed to encourage participation and collaboration across the whole club.

Theme:

- Document and showcase what makes Northern Ireland special:
 - Summer festivals. Summer celebrations. Rural happenings, garden happenings, town or city happenings, up in the mountains or in ponds or lakes...
 - Your club favourite themes or genres. Things outside or inside, in the sky or on the ground, by the sea or on the street.
 - Northern Ireland's doors, windows, architecture, characters, animals, insects...
- Collaboration encouraged – the more members involved, the better – share your image for the panel

Entering images:

- Submit PDIs to Vittorio upon request, a minimum of 12 from the club is needed



Image: Vittorio Silvestri

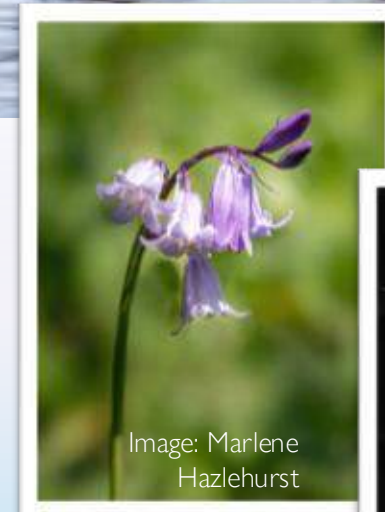


Image: Marlene Hazlehurst



Image: Kim Haydon

Key changes to note this season

Placed images in NIPA rounds

- An image that has **placed in the top three** in a previous monthly competition cannot be entered again in subsequent monthly competitions. **Previously it was top 4.**



1st



2nd



3rd



Reminder: entering images

- An image cannot be entered **more than twice** during the season.
- An image cannot be entered **more than three times** in total.
- This applies to both **prints and PDIs**.
- **Internal Competitions:** please use new material, shots within the last year



This season's programme

September

- ✓ 01 Introductions
- 08 Lightroom Tutorial
- 15 Lighting Technique + Show & Tell
- 22 Practical — Bring your Camera
- 29 NIPA Round 1 — Open

... learn → experiment → enter



October



06 Dog Photography — Darren Brown

13 Practical — Pet Photography

19 NIPA Round 1 Adjudication — CPA
hosted

20 No meeting

27 NIPA Round 2 — Pets

... people, pets & competition

* Late October is the closing date for the Roy Finlay Memorial Natural History entries

Sept → Oct → Nov → Dec → Jan → Feb → Mar → Apr → May → Jun

November



03 Wildlife Masterclass —
Terry Hanna



10 Flora & Fauna – Club
Competition



17 Show and Tell - Skye



24 Minimalism – Sean
Evans

December



Image: Ossie Bruce

01 Practical

08 NIPA Round 3 — Open

15 Christmas Dinner

29 Christmas outing — weather permitting

... shoot, share, celebrate

* Early December is the closing date for the Will McCrum Memorial Cup entries

Sept → Oct → Nov → Dec → Jan → Feb → Mar → Apr → May → Jun

January

05 Will McCrum Memorial Cup — Portraiture

12 Raw to Finish — Members

19 Lightroom New Features

26 NIPA Round 4 — Minimalism

...from RAW to finished image



February



Photo Essay: Leigh Baber

- 02 AI in Photography — John Sullivan
- 09 Judging Quadrangle — Club Members
- 16 Photo Essay + Irish Heritage
- 23 NIPA Round 5 — Open

... story telling

March

02 Composite My Way — Dean Irvine

09 Practical — Bring your Camera

16 Outdoor Practical

23 TBC

30 Closed for Easter

... make something different



Image: Stephen Emerson

*March is the closing date for the NIPA Novice Competition entries **

Sept → Oct → Nov → Dec → Jan → Feb → Mar → Apr → May → Jun

April ... competition season



13 Outings & Practicals -
Club Competitions



20 Image Selection for Print
Battles



27 Print Battle — ARDS
Camera Club



29 Print Battle — CB Camera
Club

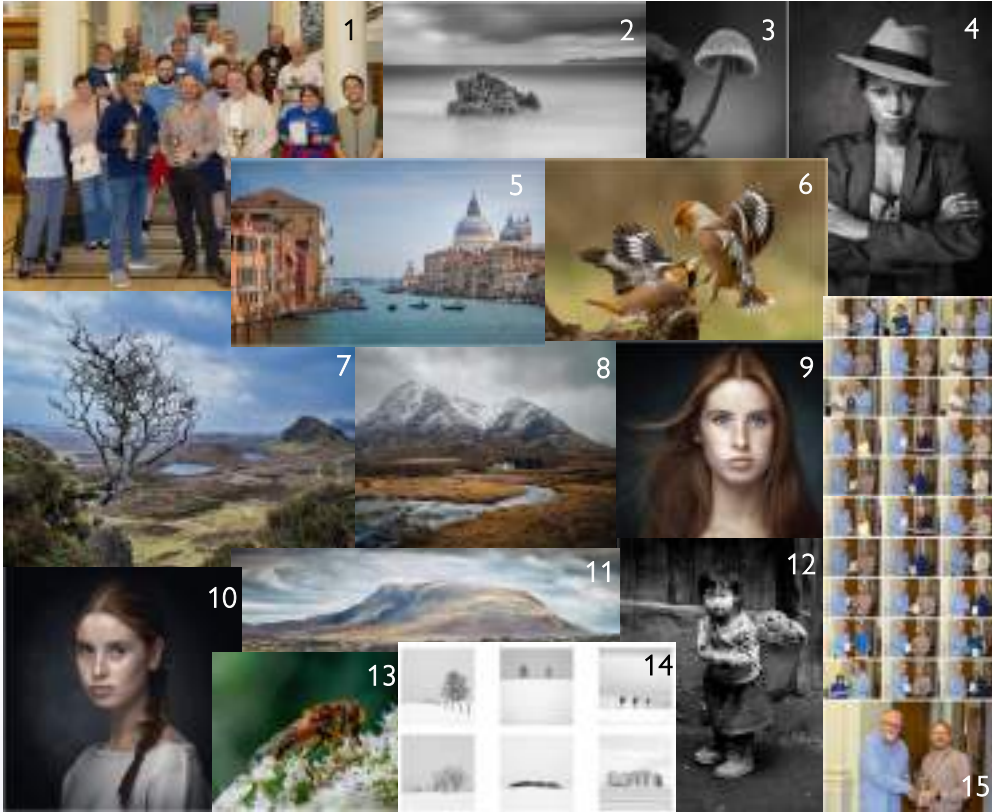
Closing date for CPA Exhibition entries *

Sept → Oct → Nov → Dec → Jan → Feb → Mar → Apr → May → Jun



May & June — the culmination of the year

May & June



- | | | |
|-----------------------|-----------------------|-------------------------------------|
| 1. Avengers Assemble | 6. Vittorio Silvestri | 11. Marlene Hazlehurst |
| 2. Sean Evans | 7. Steve Haydon | 12. Vittorio Silvestri |
| 3. Vittorio Silvestri | 8. Leigh Baber | 13. Vittorio Silvestri |
| 4. Peter Adams | 9. Joe Carberry | 14. Pauline McAleese |
| 5. Robert Sergeant | 10. Joe Carberry | 15. Exhibition Trophy Presentations |

11 May Annual Exhibition — Judges' Feedback

18 May Annual General Meeting

25 May Club BBQ

03 June Annual Exhibition — Belfast Central Library



Results & Prize
Giving



Sept → Oct → Nov → Dec → Jan → Feb → Mar → Apr → May → Jun

Club trips & outings

Image: Kim Haydon

Club trips & outings



- Recent Club trips:
 - Vietnam, Iceland, Portugal, Isle of Skye & Glencoe
- Summer trips:
 - Sligo, Donegal, Kerry
- Regular outings & get togethers:
 - Over the breaks





Your photography journey

Your photography journey

FROM LEARNING TO EXHIBITING



1

LEARN

Wildlife
Lighting
Lightroom

2

PRACTISE

Camera
Practicals
Pets

3

CREATE

Minimalism
Composite
Essay

4

FEEDBACK

Show & Tell
Judging
NIPA

5

COMPETE

Club
Competitions
Print Battles

6

SHOWCASE

Annual
Exhibition

A large seabird, possibly a booby, is captured in mid-flight against a clear blue sky. The bird has white plumage with dark wingtips and a distinctive yellow-orange head. Below it, a large colony of similar birds is gathered on a rocky, brownish shore. The scene is brightly lit, suggesting a sunny day.

The year at a glance

Image: Vittorio Silvestri

2026–2027: *The year at a glance*

Every session, its timing and its primary theme

BUILD FOUNDATIONS			EXPLORE & CREATE				SELECT & SHOWCASE			
SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	
01  Introductions	06  Dog Photography	03  Lightroom Tutorial	01  Bring Your Cameras	05  Will McCrum Portrait Cup	02  AI in Photography	02  Composite My Way	06  TBC	04  TBC	03  Annual Exhibition + Prizes	
08  Wildlife Masterclass	13  Pet Photography Practical	10  Flora & Fauna Competition	08  NIPA R3: Open	12  Raw to Finish	09  Judging Quadrangle	09  Bring Your Cameras	13  Club Competitions	11  Exhibition Feedback		
15  Lighting + Show & Tell	19  NIPA R1 Adjudication	17  Skye Show & Tell	15  Christmas Dinner	19  Lightroom New Features	16  Photo Essay + Heritage	16  Outdoor Practical	20  Print Battle Selection	18  Annual General Meeting		
22  Bring Your Camera	20  No meeting	24  Minimalism	22  Closed for Christmas	26  NIPA R4: Minimalism	23  NIPA R5: Open	23  TBC	27  Print Battle: ARDS	25  Club BBQ		
29  NIPA R1: Open	27  NIPA R2: Pets		29  Outing, weather permitting			30  Closed for Easter	29  Print Battle: CB			





2026–2027

Learn. Shoot. Share. Improve.

And most importantly — enjoy your photography

A person is seen from below, suspended under a blue and white paraglider, floating over a vast, hazy blue landscape. In the background, soft, rolling mountains are visible under a clear sky. The entire scene is framed by a thin white border.

Appendix of usefulness

Image: Stephen Emerson

Monthly NIPA Competitions

The Essentials

Everyone can enter

- Paid-up members
- Novice or Advanced classification

Up to 6 images per round

- 2 Colour Prints
- 2 Monochrome Prints
- 2 PDIs (jpegs)

Prints

- Maximum mount:
 - 30 × 40 cm or
 - 12 × 16 in
- Name + title required on the back

PDIs

- Maximum 1600 wide × 1200 px high
- Maximum 2 MB
- sRGB

Re-entry rules

- Don't re-enter a previous **Top 3** image
- Maximum 2 re-entries in one season
- Maximum 3 re-entries overall

Don't miss the deadline

- Upload to [suCCESs](#) website
- Normally by **midnight Sunday** before judging

Printing

- Some suggestions of where to get prints
 - Online printers e.g.
 - [DS Colour Labs](#)
 - Local printers e.g.
 - Chris Curry – [Think Pro Images](#)
 - Snappy Snaps
- Buy a Printer
 - [Wex](#)
 - [Canon](#)
 - [Epsom](#)
- Popular Paper
 - Lustre
 - Pearl
 - Titanium
 - Matt

Mounts & Mounting Prints

- Mount sizes for NIPA Rounds
 - 30 × 40 cm or
 - 12 x 16 in
 - For A4 prints and any smaller crop/ratios like square crops



- Where to get mounts:
 - Online/Amazon or make them: [Hoopers Picture Framing](#)
 - Source card from e.g. The Range or bespoke craft shops

- Best Guillotines/cutters “Logan”:



- Avoid these:



Editing skills checklist (example list)

Skill	Lightroom	Status	Photoshop	Status
1	Import & Organisation	☐	—	☐
2	Ratings & Keywords	☐	—	☐
3	Basic Adjustments	☐	—	☐
4	Local Adjustments	☐	—	☐
5	AI Masking	☐	AI Selection	☐
6	Colour Control	☐	Colour Layers	☐
7	Black & White	☐	Mono Finishing	☐
8	Noise & Sharpening	☐	Advanced Sharpening	☐
9	Panorama/HDR	☐	Layer Blending	☐
10	Competition Workflow	☐	Final Polish	☐
11	Printing	☐	Soft Proofing	☐
12	Exhibition Image	☐	Exhibition Image	☐