



SPF DIGITAL CHAMPIONSHIP 2025



Best Plate Image 2024 – King Charles Puppies by Gillian Temple, Dunfermline PA

The Judging will be held on Sunday 16th Nov 2025 at Victoria Hall, Dunblane, to which all Club members are welcome to attend whether or not your Club plans to enter, so please put this date in your diary.

Tea/coffee and biscuits will be available and is included in your admission ticket price of £8.00, payable cash on the door, on the day - No pre-booking required.

Those successful at FIAP and PAGB Distinctions in 2025 will be presented with their Certificates at this event.

This event will again be run using our event format introduced last year to make a shorter more interesting day following the previous year's feedback. No images will be seen twice, and there will be smaller rounds in both the morning and afternoon sessions.

For 2025 our Championship will once again be run as two separate competitions 'The Plate Competition 2025' and 'The Bowie Competition 2025' both run on the same day, judged by three Judges. Clubs choose which to enter.

SPF WEBSITE NOW OPEN FOR ENTRIES

An email has been sent out to your Competition Secretary listed with us when the site opened. Online CLOSING DATE 10th November 2025

Any website log-in queries or event queries should be sent to Libby.

Full event Rules please see the SPF Digital Championship page of the SPF Website which can be accessed from the below link

<https://www.scottish-photographic-federation.org/spf-digital-championship>



Best Overall Image 2024 – Fur Seal on Ice by John Robson, Dumfries CC



More 2024 Awards L to R by Morag Forbes, Jim Hill, Brian Cathie and Libby Smith (See website for full details)

4th EPS Digital Salon 2025 NOW OPEN FOR ENTRIES

20
25

4th EPS International Digital Salon

Edinburgh Photographic Society



Entries open from
12th August to 9th November 2025 at midnight

There are 4 sections and you can enter up to 4 entries per section:

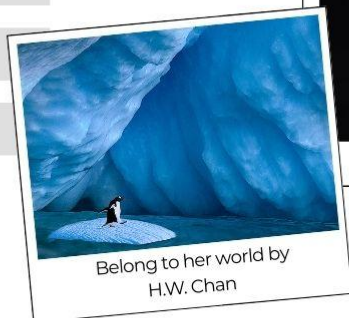
Open Mono

Open Colour

Nature

People

77 awards will be presented to the best images



Enter now!

eps.myphotoclub.com.au

Images accepted in the 3rd EPS International Digital Salon 2024

Entry fees: £12 for one section, then £4 for additional sections
Payment is via PayPal



2025-2005



L.250109



2025/461

This year the Exhibition will consist of **Four (4) Sections** with up to **Four (4) entries** allowed in each: Open Mono, Open Colour, Nature and People.

Full Conditions of Entry can be found [here](#)

76 Awards to be won

This exhibition has patronage from FIAP, PSA, GPU and SPF.

Entry Closes 9th November 2025

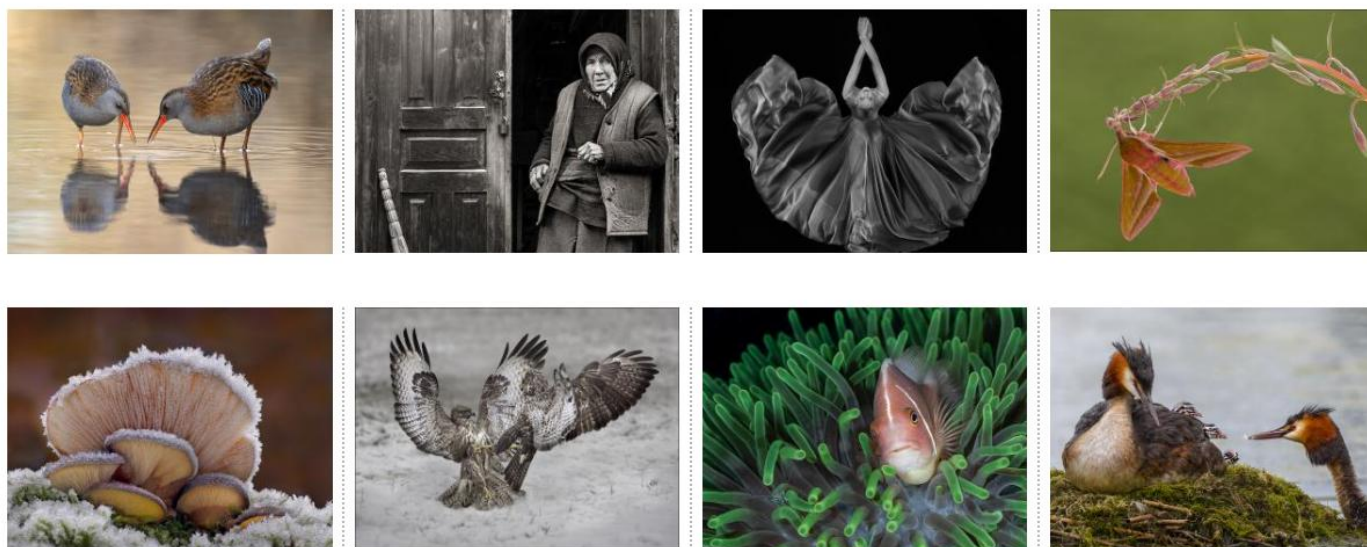
A number of Scottish authors were successful last year, including as Award winners, a few are shown below.



L-R by Morag Forbes (Gold Medal), Morag Forbes (Gold Medal), George Robertson (Acc.), Martin Watt (Acc.)

See last year's full results of the 3rd EPS International Digital Salon 2024 on the following - The Exhibition Catalogue for the 3rd Digital is available [here](#). A Gallery of all Accepted Images and Awarded Images can be found [here](#). The Final list of confirmed entries may be found [HERE](#).

A few more 3rd EPS Digital Salon 2024 successes are shown below.



Top L-R by Ruth Hayton (HM), Rod Wheelans (Gold Medal), Alex McNaughton (Acc.), Lesley Simpson (Acc.)

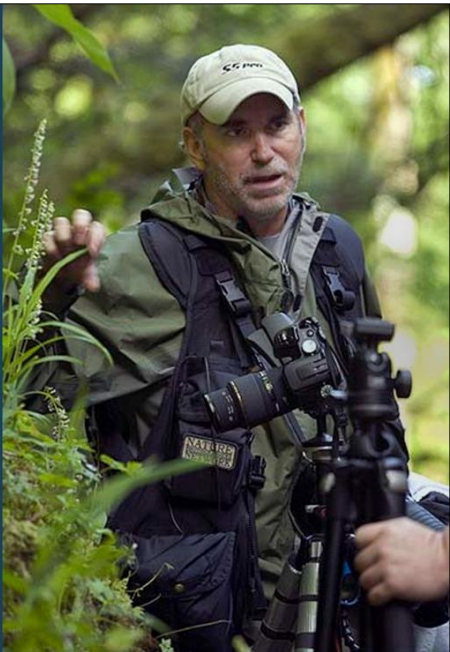
Bottom L-R by Sandy Gilmour (Gold Medal), Wanda Mackie (Acc), Rosemary Gillies (HM), Ian Mitchell (Acc.)

FREE Zoom Presentation by FIAP Photo Academy



FIAP
Photo
Academy
ZOOM Event

Creative Ways to Photograph Flowers
With
Mike Moats



29th October 2025
London: 07.00 PM
fiapphotoacademy@gmail.com
www.fiap.net

This **FREE** zoom event is presented by the **FIAP Photo Academy Online Events** invites you to a presentation **Creative Ways to Photograph Flowers with Mike Moats** on **Wednesday 29 October 2025 at 7pm London Time**. This presentation is by the **American Photographer Mike Moates** who will speak with us about creative ways to photograph flowers.

During this presentation Mike will discuss the equipment he uses. It will cover soft focus, everything in focus, filling the frame, water drop flower refraction, shooting through subjects,

creating and working with backgrounds, natural backgrounds.

In addition, Mike will discuss how to find character in flowers, including flower backsides, backlighting, working with silk flowers and dead flowers.

Mike Moats is an international award-winning full time pro macro photographer from Michigan.

He is a Tamron Image Master, Vanguard Pro, and his articles and images have been published in many photo magazines for over 20 years. He has a Macro Photo Club online with over 2,800 members, from 29 countries.

Mike teaches workshops and speaks at photo conference throughout the US.

See more on Mike's website at <http://www.mikemoats.com/>

Register to attend at this link: <https://bit.ly/3lhQS9k>

SPF Annual Portfolio Shows 2025

The highest scoring entries from this year's SPF Annual Portfolio competitions (Approx. 1/3rd of the total entry) forms the Annual Portfolio Shows of accepted Prints and Projected Images for this year which are available to view by Clubs during the 2025-26 season as MP4 shows supplied via WeTransfer, from Nov.

IF YOUR CLUB ENTERED, PLEASE SUBMIT YOUR FORM BY 20TH OCTOBER TO GET YOUR COPY OF THE SHOWS FOR FREE, AFTER THAT A VIEWING FEE WILL BE REQUIRED. CLUBS WHO DIDN'T ENTER CAN ALSO GET A COPY FOR A VIEWING FEE.

See details on the following page about how your Club can book a copy or check if you've already done so by visiting the SPF Annual Portfolios webpage <https://www.scottish-photographic-federation.org/spf-annual-portfolios>



L to R – Judge's Ch Print - 'The Garden' by Rikki O'Neill, Dundee PS; Best Nature Print - 'Porcelain Crab Feeding in Current' by Rosemary Gillies, Edinburgh PS; Best Creative Print - 'Dried Hydrangea Serrata' by Margaret Elliot, Dumfries CC

All Individual scores for the photographs entered this year have been emailed directly to the Club Competition Secretary who completed their Club's entry. Club Competition Secretaries can also login to the SPF website to see their Club's scores or email another copy after the upload process has been completed. All final placings and lists of Acceptance in the above shows is available from the following SPF Webpage <https://www.scottish-photographic-federation.org/spf-annual-portfolios>

SPF Portfolio 'Request to View' Form 2025

All of the 2025 SPF Annual Portfolios Shows of acceptances are available for Clubs to view in two self-running MP4 shows, that are supplied via WeTransfer from November

REQUEST YOUR CLUB COPY OF THESE SHOWS NOW!

If you wish to receive a copy of this year's SPF Portfolios Shows for your Club, you must book a copy, either at the time of entry or by completing and returning this Form. You do not have to have entered to obtain a copy see details below.

Every Club who completes this form, or completes this request at time of entry, will receive a **copy of the shows via WeTransfer** containing both the Print and Projected Portfolio Shows. We do not require a date from you for viewing.

Those requiring the shows supplied as an MP4 must request this before the deadline. **Shows will not be supplied prior to 1st November 2025**, so please ensure you bear this in mind when completing your syllabus. *If this form is not received by 20th Oct, we cannot guarantee you will receive a copy in time for your club viewing.*

Participating clubs will have no viewing fee to pay provided they have booked a copy **by the 20th October deadline**, **after that time a booking fee will be payable as indicated below for non-participating Clubs. *Clubs who have not entered the 2025 Portfolio Competitions will have a viewing fee of £10 to pay. Payment by Cheque only please made payable to 'SPF'.

**To receive a copy of the 2025 SPF Portfolios Shows via WeTransfer
Please return a copy of this form, together with your payment if applicable,**

To be received by 20th Oct 2025

**Please send to - George Taylor, 4 Lodge View, Hopeman, Elgin IV30 5TS
Email: g3rtaylor@yahoo.com**

Either copy the below details into an email or FORMS are available from -
https://www.scottish-photographic-federation.org/sites/default/files/downloads/spf_portfolio_booking_form_2025_gt.pdf

**You can check if your Club has already requested a copy when they entered –
visit the SPF Annual Portfolios page of our website - <http://www.scottish-photographic-federation.org/spf-annual-portfolios> and scroll down to the 2025 Club Bookings section.**

This section will be updated as often as practical.

CLUB NAME	
Contact Name	■
Contact E-Mail <i>This is the person you wish the copy of the WeTransfer to be sent to (please check that they will be available to receive it in early November)</i>	■
<i>NB - A telephone number <u>must</u> also be supplied.</i>	
Contact Telephone Number	

We wish to receive a copy of the 2025 Projected Image & Print Portfolios Shows	FILE VIA WeTransfer
*Payment of £10 is enclosed / Is not applicable as a Participating 2025 Club**	£

****Whether you have participated, or not, you will require to pay a viewing fee of £10 if your request is not received by 20th Oct.**

HIGHLAND CHALLENGE 2025



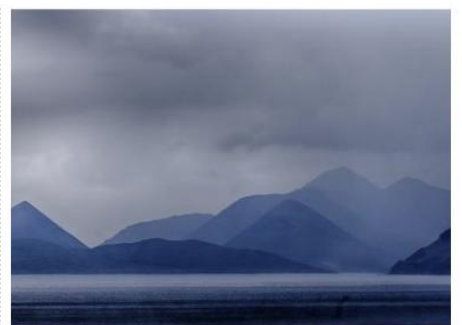
Best Colour Print - Male Zebra Finch by Keith Barnes, Dingwall CC

The Highland Challenge is a photographic competition for clubs in the Highlands and Islands. It was first run in 1999, and the organisation of the competition rotates between clubs. This year Inverness was the host club. Its aim is to promote photography throughout the Highlands and Islands by fostering collaborative learning and discussion. The main event is an annual, full-day, meeting of Lectures, an Exhibition and an Inter-Club competition with the award of the Highland Shield going to the club that scores the most points. Each club is invited to submit 10 images, colour or mono, print or PI's. The composition of the entry, and the selection methodology is down to each club.

The Highland Challenge was judged this year by Libby Smith. Unfortunately, Libby was unable to attend in person, but SPF President, George Taylor stood in at the last moment and ran through the comments and scores provided by Libby.

The Highland Shield final scores were -

Dingwall 185; Cromarty 174; Inverness 166; Isleburgh (Shetland) 165; East Sutherland (Dornoch) 164; Thurso (now Caithness CC) 163; Great Glen (Fort Augustus) 159; Kiltarilty 153; Nairn 151.



Dingwall CC Entry - L to R – Tern Feeding His Mate by Keith Barnes; Flag Carrier by Stan Miller; Triangles by Jim Macdonald.



Dingwall's entries were

Male Zebra Finch by Keith Barnes
 Common Tern Feeding His Mate by Keith Barnes
 Mayfly Amongst Grasses by Tony Houlton
 Flag Carrier by Stan Miller
 Triangles by Jim Macdonald
 Four Eyes by Shona Ward
 Milky Way Over Forsinard by Mark Janes
 Mountain Hare by Jim Biscoe
 No Escape by Jim Macdonald
 Hidden Woodlouse by Simon Prail



Dingwall CC Entry - Top L – Four Eyes by Shona Ward; Mid L - R - Mountain Hare by Jim Biscoe; No Escape by Jim Macdonald; Hidden Woodlouse by Simon Prail; Bottom L - R - Mayfly Amongst Grasses by Tony Houlton; Milky Way Over Forsinard by Mark Janes.

See all of the winning Club's entry as well as all of the Award Winners in the following gallery

<https://www.scottish-photographic-federation.org/highland-challenge-2025-results>

As well as the club competition, there were 4 other classifications and also an overall best image.

- Emma Deeth (East Sutherland) won Best Mono Print with an image entitled Mykonos Windmills
- Keith Barnes (Dingwall) won Best Colour Print with an image entitled Male Zebra Finch
- John Malley (Great Glen) won Best Colour Projected Image with an image entitled Life is not a Bed of Roses
- Owen Cochrane (Inverness) won Best Mono Projected Image with an image entitled The Fishmonger. Owen Cochrane also won the Overall Image with The Fishmonger.



Top L – Best Mono PDI & Best Overall The Fisherman by Owen Cochrane (Inverness); Top R – Best Mono Print Mykonos Windmills by Emma Deeth (East Sutherland); Bottom - Best Colour Projected Image Life is not a Bed of Roses by John Malley (Great Glen).

Ed Smith of the Eleven41 Gallery in Kingussie was the guest speaker. He gave an excellent talk on his photography as well as his journey by canoe along the River Spey. Much of this centred around the process from image capture to making a final print. On digital and film. More can be found on the following links ([click here](#)) and ([click here](#))

Owen Cochrane, Inverness Camera Club

NEW Aug 2025 What is Allowed or Not Allowed when entering SPF Competitions and AI Guidance

A reminder that entries made into all of our SPF Competitions must now comply fully with the 'ethos' contained within this guidance document, and this compliance now appears as a 'Rule' within our competitions (from June 2023). Furthermore, if the SPF is in any doubt of the eligibility of an entry, they may request RAW files or jpegs (incl. neighbouring jpegs).

This document has been updated due to questions received over recent months from Clubs or individuals. We have added additional clarifications to our earlier document and updated our 'What Is and Isn't Allowed and SPF Competitions' document (marked Aug 2025) available from the below link, or from the Competition Guidance page of our website.

https://www.scottish-photographic-federation.org/sites/default/files/downloads/what_is_and_isnt_allowed_spf_competitions_and_ai_2025_5.pdf

It has come to our notice that some people are mistakenly quoting that "The SPF don't allow photos created using 'AI' within their SPF Competitions". Strictly speaking this statement is incorrect. There are no restrictions on using software that is called 'AI' such as Photoshop or Lightroom we have all been using these programs and 'AI' tools for years within previous versions of Photoshop etc. This is because AI (or AI Assisted) uses existing image content only when processing the image.

The SPF do however wish to ensure that all parts of the finished photograph have been taken by the author. We therefore do not allow those 'AI' features that 'Generate' content using other people's imagery or text prompts. This is because AI Generate (or Generative AI) has human-like intelligence, and imports new content into the image, so some or all of the pixels in the image will no longer have been taken by the author.

Key features in Photoshop or Lightroom to avoid that 'generate' content include - Generate Image, Generative Fill, 'Generative Expand', 'Generative Remove', and Text Prompts or Effects. There isn't an overall switch to disable all 'AI Generate' features in Lightroom or Photoshop, it is handled on a tool-by-tool basis as in the following example.

This does not mean that a tool such as the Remove tool cannot be used. In both Lightroom and Photoshop, the remove tool has an option to untick 'Generative AI' or turn off 'Generative AI' in Photoshop (on the options bar). If 'Generative AI' is turned off, the tool still uses the advantages of the new AI Firefly, but it uses it as a Content-Aware removal tool, meaning it is using the information from the photographer's own picture to replace the area, not imagery from other people's photographs, so no infringement of our rules.

The document also has links to relevant web areas you may find of use and explains more about AI Generator Software. The PAGB's position is also given at the end of the August 2025 version of this SPF guidance document 'What Is and Isn't Allowed and SPF Competitions'.

It is appreciated that the individual photographer may not be fully aware of exactly how individual processing functions act, whether in-camera or in post-processing. However, photographers should be aware of when any significant addition has been made to their image which is not part of their original.

The SPF's advice is to try your best to enter images that comply with the 'ethos' or 'spirit' of this document, and the PAGB's 'Only You Can Know' document.

The examples given may also help but they are not meant to be definitive, merely a guide, and should be read in conjunction with the PAGB's 'ONLY YOU CAN KNOW' document supplied at Page 5 or from the following link

https://www.scottish-photographic-federation.org/sites/default/files/downloads/only_you_can_know.pdf

SPF Code of Conduct and Breach of Rules

Following the issuing of a Code of Conduct document by the PAGB recently, the SPF have adopted both its own SPF Code of Conduct and SPF Breach of Rules as of Aug 2025.

Code of Conduct - This SPF Code of Conduct has been introduced largely because of the obnoxious comments we see more regularly on FB and because of personal comments at an event towards organisers or Judges. The purpose of this policy is to provide a safe and supportive environment for all volunteers working for the SPF and for all those attending SPF events or taking part in SPF organised activities.

This policy applies to all volunteers and to all individuals associated with the SPF, as well as to those Federation and Club members whom we serve. It covers all interactions, whether in person, online, or during organisational activities. Where interactions are directly with the SPF or by implication involve SPF activities, individuals whether on their own account or acting as representatives are expected to act with respect for others.

You can download a copy of both the SPF Code of Conduct and the PAGB Code of Conduct below. Clubs may consider having their own Code of Conduct if they don't already have one.

Additional to this is the recently introduced SPF Breach of Rules Procedure which is referenced in the SPF Code of Conduct document.

Breach of Rules - This procedure applies to Breaches of Rules in SPF events and applies to any breaches of our Code of Conduct whether at SPF events or activities and the conduct of related and general business. They involve interactions between individual Club members and others, both in person and virtually.

Copies of both SPF documents can be found on the following links -

https://www.scottish-photographic-federation.org/sites/default/files/downloads/spf_code_of_conduct_issue_1_31st_aug_2025.pdf

https://www.scottish-photographic-federation.org/sites/default/files/downloads/spf_breach_of_rules_issue_1_aug_2025.pdf

and PAGB Code of Conduct –

https://www.scottish-photographic-federation.org/sites/default/files/downloads/pagb_code_of_conduct.pdf

or for all three visit the SPF General Guidance webpage –

<https://www.scottish-photographic-federation.org/general-guidance> and scrolling down to **Code of Conduct**

SPF Diary Dates 2025-26 Season

Date	Event	Location
2nd Nov 2025	SPF Annual General Meeting	Online
10th Nov 2025	SPF Digital Championship 2025 Online Closing Date	Online
16th Nov 2025	SPF Digital Championship 2025 - Audience event	Dunblane
Nov 2025	RESCHEDULED SPF AWARDS WORKSHOP TBC	TBC – Details Coming Soon
Jan 2026	SPF AWARDS WORKSHOP	TBC
Early Jan 2026	SPF Print Championship 2026 Online Entry Opens	Online
24th Jan 2026	SPF Print Championship 2026 - Final Receipt of Prints for Remote Areas	To Remote Drop-Off Points
7th Feb 2026	SPF Print Championship 2026 Final Close for Receipt of Prints to Carluke	Carluke
15th Feb 2026	SPF Print Championship 2026 - Audience event	Dunblane
25th & 26th Apr 2026	PAGB Awards for Photographic Merit Adjudication	Northern Counties
1st May 2026	SPF Annual Portfolios 2026 Closing Date online and for receipt of Prints. Judged July/Aug prints returned by Sept. Portfolio shows available from 1st Nov.	TBC (TBC)