CARLUKE CAMERA CLUB NEWS for Session 2025-26

Friday 24th April 2026 was the judging of our Annual Digital competition by Colin Joyce from Dunfermline camera club.
As you'd expect with an annual competition, there were many excellent images; all were critiqued in a positive manner. There was a good mix of different winners in the various categories.

Next week we bring the 2025/26 club season to an end with our AGM.

The club will recommence at the beginning of September 2026 for the new season.

Chris Bonnington

Friday **27th March 2026** Mick Durham presented his talk 'Antarctica – Heading South'.

An epic journey with fantastic images captured from the stop-off islands and the final destination. The imagery was shown whilst Mick demonstrated his knowledge of the wildlife explaining the need for various eco precautions in addition to providing us with an understand of the wildlife.

Next week, is a members evening, an opportunity to see a mix of imagery from a number of members.

Full details of all of the Club's busy schedule, as well as all contact details, are available on its website at www.carluke-cc.org.uk .

Chris Bonnington

Friday **13th March 2026** was the judging of our final championship competitions (mono and colour prints) by Ken Goodfellow.
As per usual, the standard of quality of the prints was excellent and this was reflected by the number of high scores. Ken was still able to identify some areas for improvement and explained these in a constructive manner. With the judging over, getting a close up look at the prints is a highlight for those of us that appreciate the skill and dedication required to create a fine print.

Next week, club member Libby Smith will be presenting her talk "from digital image to print", a great follow on from tonight's print competition.

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Chris Bonnington

Friday **6th March 2026** we enjoyed the company of visitors from Hamilton, Lanark, and Motherwell camera clubs for our annual 4-way print battle. An evening with the judging of the prints, a chance to see what the other clubs are up to, followed by an opportunity to chat with like-minded individuals from other clubs.

Carluke came 1st in the competition, with Lanark and Hamilton equal 2nd.

Next week Ken Goodfellow will be judging our final championship competitions (mono and colour prints).

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Chris Bonnington

Friday **20th February 2026** Mark McColl presented his talk 'Scottish & Arctic Landscapes with some wildlife'.

In addition to fantastic images from locations in the far North and from Scotland too, Mark also showed us recent images from a trip to Japan where the conditions were perfect for minimalistic snowy scenes, a style of imagery that Japan is well known for.

Next week David Stanton will be presenting his talk 'Photography – The best set of keys I ever had made'.

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Chris Bonnington

Friday **13th February** club member Bob Avery presented his talk 'On Safari'.
Bob gave us the background stories to go along with his images of big cats, elephants and more, captured during his recent trip to Africa, an interesting evening was had by all.

Next week Mark McColl will be presenting his talk 'Scottish & Arctic Landscapes with some wildlife'.

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Chris Bonnington

Friday **6th February 2026** David McKeran presented his talk 'The Barra Collection'.

David explained the concept for his project, a set of portrait photographs depicting residents on the island in a manner that told a story about their life. After showing the images he talked us through the process of determining the layout, choosing a suitable printing company and the finer details such as the Japanese hand binding used to create his beautiful limited-edition book.

Next week club member Bob Avery presents his talk 'On Safari'.

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Chris Bonnington

Friday **30th January 2026** Roger Stewart gave us his critique and scoring for our 2nd digital league competition of the season.
Roger has a very good eye for detail and explained well (amongst many things) the need for image storytelling to be complete and cohesive. We were provided with a very detailed critique that was put across in a helpful manner and a wide range of genres were represented in the awarded images.

Next week David McKeran presents his talk 'The Barra Collection'.

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Chris Bonnington

Friday **16th January 2026** guest speaker, John Farnan, presented his talk 'Floating about with a camera'.
As per last week's speaker (Cameron Scott), John prefers film to digital, and brought along a variety of film cameras that he uses for different creative results. John showed images that he had scanned and explained how the unique creative effects were created by the specific camera (pin-hole, XPan, etc.).

Next week we have an inter-club image battle against Greenoch, it should be an interesting evening with the opportunity to see images from another club.

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Chris Bonnington

Friday **12th December 2025** was our Christmas fun quiz evening.

With nibbles and good humour this was a good fun evening to end the first half of our season. Well done to the winning team: Andy, Noel, Billy and Bob.

We now have a break until 9th January when in-house speaker Cameron Scott will be presenting his talk 'Documentary Photography'.

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Chris Bonnington

Friday **28th November** 2025 guest speaker, Clare Harte presented her talk 'My Wildlife Adventures'.

We were shown a wide variety of species, the excellent images were captured both within Scotland and further afield in all weather conditions. Clare demonstrated a great understanding of the subjects and stressed the importance of considering the subjects wellbeing when photographing them.

Next week we have another guest speaker, Alastair Swan with his talk 'To Infinity and Beyond', it should be an entertaining evening.

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Chris Bonnington

Friday **21st November 2025** was the judging of this season's first championship print competitions (colour and mono) by Ruth Hayton.

Ruth has a very good eye for tonal balance and identifying distractions from the main subject matter. We were provided with a very detailed critique that was put across in a helpful manner for possible improvements to our prints.

Next week we have a guest speaker, Clare Harte giving her talk 'My Wildlife Adventures'.

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Chris Bonnington

Friday **7th November 2025** we hosted visiting speaker Peter Ormsby from Eastwood Photographic Society with his presentation “Home and Away Wildlife”. Peter presented some excellent photography through the whole of the evening, from more familiar to those less familiar birds and mammals. He explained the ‘Home’ hide setup that he used and how he studied the behaviour of the creatures and adapted his setup to accommodate that. His vole pictures particularly really stood out due to this approach. Taking his approach to other areas throughout Scotland and Abroad, Peter explained how his approach evolved to suit what was available to photograph. All in all an excellent evening of photography and helpful tips.

Next Friday (14th Nov) we host what promises to be another excellent evening with speaker Charlie Moore again from Eastwood visiting us with his fascinating presentation on “Underwater Photography”. Visitors are most welcome.

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Libby Smith

Friday **31st October 2025** we were treated to a wonderful and inspiring presentation “Landscapes My Way” by visiting speaker Peter Paterson MFIAP FRPS MPAGB from Tullibody. Peter has been taking photographs for over 50 years. His digital presentation of both colour and mono images had the audience transfixed by the quality and the lighting he had captured. We visited Glencoe, the Trossachs, Lewis and Harris before heading further afield most notably to Iceland, and finishing off with a creative selection, all accompanied by some tremendous quality prints and lots of hints and tips.

Next Friday (7th Nov) we host what promises to be another excellent evening with speaker Peter Ormsby from Eastwood who visits us with his presentation “Home and Away Wildlife”. Visitors welcome.

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Libby Smith

Friday **24th October 2025** we were entertained and educated by guest speaker, Ken Dow with his talk 'Macro my way'.

Excellent images were shown of a wide variety of insects, whilst specialising in butterflies. Ken explained the technical aspects relating to close-up photography, and gave many tips for those interested in having a go. He also brought along a selection of prints for viewing during the tea break; every tiny detail was captured and they were appreciated by the members.

Next week we have another guest speaker, Peter Paterson with his talk 'Landscape my way'.

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Chris BonningtonFriday **17th October 2025** was the judging of this season's first championship competition, an open digital competition, judged by Neil McGregor from Milngavie and Bearsden Camera Club.
The images were critiqued in a positive manner with suggestions for improvement given where appropriate. There were a number of high scoring images due to the quality of submissions that covered a variety of genres.
Next week we have a guest speaker, Ken Dow with his talk 'Macro my way'.
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Chris Bon

Friday **10th October 2025** was the judging of our Annual Print competition by Rod Wheelans from Dumfries camera club.
As you'd expect with an annual competition, there were many excellent prints; all were critiqued in a positive manner with a little humour thrown in for good measure.
Next week is the judging of this season's first club championship competition, a digital competition.
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Chris Bonnington

Friday **3rd October 2025** Club members Jim Hill and Robert Hendry each talked us through their successful submission for the Distinction level of the PAGB awards for merit.

Jim's submission entries were mainly composites, whilst Robert's were mainly sport. What they had in common was a very high standard of quality achieved through a lot of effort. They both shared how they had captured and edited their images to create the final result, and the audience found this very interesting whilst appreciating the quality and effort that had gone in.

Next week is the judging of our annual print competition.

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Chris Bonnington

Friday **19th September 2025** Club member Chris Bonnington started by showing us how he created one of his successful prints, we got to handle and feel the textured paper of the print, something that the print workers amongst us took great pleasure from.

Next, Chris talked through the learnings he has gained since switching his focus from landscapes to close ups and extreme macro photography, showing images and talking us through the techniques that he has adopted in the field. We then had a showing of inter-federation images; a great mix of images from across the UK. There is no meeting next week due to the September holiday.

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Chris Bonnington

Friday **12th September 2025** George Robertson gave his presentation 'The Snows of Kilimanjaro'. We were treated to a selection of images captured over many ascents together with stories of the events that took place and the special memories.

George explained the changes in fauna and flora that were visible in his images as he climbed higher, and explained the steps taken to acclimatise in order to avoid altitude sickness.

An evening full of great images captured at a location few of us would attempt to reach.

Next week we have an evening of two halves by club members. Chris Bonnington will show us how he created one of his successful prints, and then show and talk through the learnings he has gained since switching his focus from landscapes to close ups and extreme macro photography. Following on from Chris, Libby Smith will present "A tribute to the MPAGB"; for those not familiar with the PAGB awards levels, this is the highest level achievable.

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Chris Bonnington

Friday **5th September 2025** was a members evening; this is an opportunity for all members to show a brief selection of what they like to photograph. There was a good mix of images shown from a variety of members, from long standing members to others newly joined. An enjoyable evening!
Next week we have a visit from George Robertson, renowned for capturing fantastic images in remote locations by combining both mountaineering and photography skills; George will present his talk 'The Snows of Kilimanjaro'.
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Chris Bonnington

Friday **29th August 2025** was the opening evening for the new season.
Firstly, a warm greeting was given to our new members (there is space for more).
Libby Smith then ran through the syllabus for the year; we have a good mix with many excellent speakers to look forward to.
Next week is a members' night; an opportunity for all members to show some photos of what they have been up to over the summer.
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Chris Bonnington

Friday **22nd August 2025** Update - On this coming Friday (29th August) at 7.30 p.m. the Club will have its first meeting of the 2025 – 2026 season and this will include the enrolment of existing members of the Club and the welcoming of new members who are always very welcome. As decided at the last AGM, the cost of club membership will remain at £70 for the whole season with no additional fee per meeting. Meetings will continue to be held each Friday evening at 7.30 p.m. in the hall of the United Reformed Church, Carnwath Road, Carluke.

We are a small friendly group of amateur photographers with a like interest in photography. Between us we specialise in a variety of subjects, giving us a wide cross section of knowledge that we are very willing to share. We run workshops at times on a separate night to suit the needs of our members, dates for these are announced as required. Advice is always available on an informal basis anytime. We can help, whether you are novice or advanced... Perhaps you want to find out more about your camera, or help to take better photos... Or you are interested in learning more about processing your digital photos, or learning how to print, interested in Black and White or perhaps you have recently acquired a film camera.You will be made very welcome to join us!
Further details of the Club can be found at www.carluke-cc.org.uk .

John Cannon

Friday **8th August 2025** Update - As we look forward to the start of our new 2025-26 Club season, an update on three competitions having been Judged over the summer. These Annual Portfolios competitions were run by the Scottish Photographic Federation and were open to member Clubs from all over Scotland. The results were to see Carluke CC finish an excellent 2nd equal in the Colour Print, and Digital sections. One Carluke member also won a Silver Medal for the Best Creative Image, which went to Jim Hill for The Acolyte.

Our new 2025-26 season starts with our enrolment night on Friday 29th August. This is a perfect time to come along and meet us over a tea or coffee. We will give an overview of our new season's syllabus. There's no pressure for any prospective members to join on the enrolment night - you are welcome to join us for a few weeks at no cost.

Libby Smith