

The Society's Monthly Image Challenge is the perfect opportunity for members to test their photography skills, and to compete with other members in a friendly environment without the rigours of formal competitive photographic competitions. It is, therefore, a perfect challenge for anyone who has recently joined NDPS, particularly if they are just starting out on their photographic journey, and/or, have not entered a photo-competition before.

Each monthly challenge begins on the first day of the month and closes on the last day of the month. The 'image of the month' and two runners up will normally be announced within 7 days.

The theme for each month's challenge are shown below. It is a 'PICTORIAL' challenge meaning there is no restriction regarding the composition of the image and post-processing techniques.

September 2023	Less is More The phrase is attributed to Chilon of Sparta and is a good one for us to explore photographically. Ask not what can be added to the frame, but what can be removed.	March 2024	Outside Norfolk On our travels, we see many incredible things, photographing the great natural and man-made wonders, as well as the smaller places and moments of beauty.
October 2023	Black & White Street Photography that was shaped by documentary greats such as Cartier-Bresson, Doisneau, Maier, Atget, Evans and many more	April 2024	Close Up Portraits can be a particularly revealing type of likeness - one that doesn't spare the details - but as a way to take the viewer deeply into the person, a portrait that focuses mainly on the face can't be beaten.
November 2023	Fashion What's fashionable is subjective, representing different styles of clothes and accessories, and shot in different ways. The brief is relaxed, but the photography should be aimed at showcasing a look, the clothes and/or accessories.	May 2024	Beach Groynes are usually made of wood, concrete or stone and is built to limit the movement of beach sediment. The groynes should be the focus of the image. Images can be colour or monochrome.
December 2023	Graveyards and Cemeteries A classic haunt for photographers, on the hunt for atmospheric imagery. Any season, colour, or monochrome.	June 2024	Family The most photographed group of individuals. We spend many hours capturing our families. What elevates a snapshot image to a more serious, artistic one?
January 2024	Reflected Landscapes are ones that incorporate bodies of water to reflect the landscape back at the viewer and add another layer of interest to the image.	July 2024	Composition - A Frame Within a Frame A piece of compositional fun. The framing of all or part of a scene within some other frame in the scene, be it natural or man-made. A gap in some trees; a view out of a window; or maybe you have lugged a gilt picture frame up a hill . .
February 2024	Cattle Images can show cows, bulls, or calves in any setting (but please no bullfights). Photos can be in colour or monochrome.	August 2024	Taken From a Low Viewpoint Photos captured from a low viewpoint with the camera on or very close to the ground. The subject can be anything you like but it must be captured from low to the ground. This viewpoint is often known as a "worm's eye view"

The selected 'image of the month'

- * will be displayed on the Society's website together with a gallery showing all the other images entered in that month's challenge. There will also be an archive so members can look back through the galleries of past monthly challenges.
- * will also appear on the cover of In Focus, the Society's monthly newsletter.

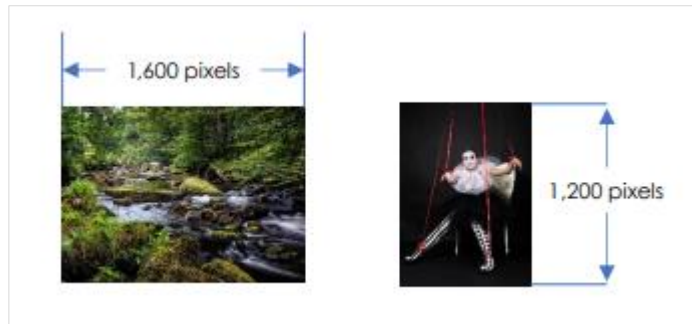
Monthly Image Challenge Rules

As with all other photographic competitions, there are few rules to follow. These are required to create a 'level playing field' for all who participate and because it is much easier and quicker to handle and store the images if they all arrive correctly named in the same format and size. In addition, for members who are less familiar with submitting images into formal competitions it is also good practice, under no pressure, for the real thing...!

1. The Monthly Image Challenge is open to all **CURRENT** members of the Society including eMembers.
2. The member must have solely captured and created the original exposure(s) using a camera.
3. All digital manipulation must have been performed solely by the member. Any image that has been reproduced from an existing photograph, portrait, graphic or any other artwork produced by another person is not allowed, this includes stock images, and digital backgrounds.
4. Images must be the sole copyright of the member.
5. The member's name must not appear on the face of the image.
6. Members can enter a maximum of **TWO** images each month.
7. An image previously entered in another NDPS competition such as a POTY cannot be entered. However, using the Monthly Image Challenge to test the strength of an image before entering it in another competition is encouraged.
8. The same image (or one that is fundamentally similar) may not be entered more than once under any condition.
9. Images must have been captured within the previous **TWELVE (12)** months preceding the closing date of the challenge.
10. Any images submitted that are not correctly formatted and named will be automatically rejected.
11. The Society reserves the right to change or modify the rules.

Preparing images for submission

12. Images must be formatted to fit within a frame of 1,600 pixels wide x 1,200 pixels high. Therefore, a landscape image must not be more than 1,600 pixels wide, and a portrait image must not be more than 1,200 pixels tall.



13. Images must also be Jpegs, in sRGB colour profile.
14. Image resolution should not be less than 72ppi. A range of 72 to 150ppi is preferred.
15. Minimum picture quality 10.
16. Images must be titled EXACTLY as follows including capitalisation and underscores where shown. Additional characters such as hyphens, apostrophes etc MUST NOT BE USED.



17. The Reference shall consist of FOUR (4) characters, for example MC01. In this example, 01 is the January challenge, 02 February, and so on through to 12 for December.
18. Images **must be entered** via the Society's website using the 'Monthly Image Challenge' option.

Selector

19. When each challenge closes a 'Selector' will be asked to select an image of the month and two runners-up together with a few words explaining their selections.
20. The 'Selector' will be provided with a slideshow that contains all the images that have been entered in that month's challenge. Only the title of the images will be visible, and all metadata will be deleted.
21. Selectors will be reminded that the 'Monthly Image Challenge' has everything to do with being fun and inclusive. It is not about winning or losing but rather should reward those members who take a chance, are bold with their composition, try something new or simply invoke emotion in the mind of the viewer.

Need help...?

Anyone you has any queries or would like help with anything to do with the 'Monthly Image Challenge' please send an email to ndps.infocus@gmail.com and someone will get back to you as soon as possible.

Effective from 1st September 2023