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Steve Ransom Trophy – DEVELOPMENT PORTFOLIO (Part 1 of 2)

April 28, 2026 @ 20:00 - 22:00



We think our past member Steve would have approved of this opportunity to develop our skills, repertoire and confidence as a photographer.

The concept:

- Each member will pick their own development opportunity (e.g. a new genre, a new technique, new kit, old kit, better editing skills, etc.....)

It's entirely up to you to choose!

- Everyone is encouraged to work with others to learn as much as we can (and make new friends)
- The output is a portfolio of up to 6 projected images (and a single portfolio image)
- Competitors will present their portfolio, without slides or props. You might present images from the end of the journey, or at points along the way. What did you hope to achieve? What did you learn? Where next?
- The competition is about the development demonstrated as much as the quality of the presented images.

We may well hold the competition over two nights, a fortnight apart. About 2/3 of submissions will be reviewed tonight; we'll review the remaining 1/3 on 12 May, leaving time for the scoring and celebrations.

Our judge for both events will be Ben Pike. Ben has judged similar competitions previously and recommends it to everyone. We'll work with him to finalise the detail.

We'll check in from time to time through the year to consider progress. You're encouraged to ask for help and to offer it, share ideas, share images – both those you're pleased with and those destined for the bin.

It's a great learning opportunity. Enjoy!

Projected Image - Guidelines for submission can be found [here](#).

(e.g.) Macro

- Inspired by Andy Sands and his arty slime moulds, I bought a 90mm macro lens from OM Systems.
- Just need to work out how to use it.
- Target: to get something selected for display at home.

Step 1 - Focus



“Borrowed Chris Bennett’s 60mm macro and played with focus, depth of field.”

Step 2 - Focus again



August, in the garden.
Despite slow motion-
insects, and little
wind, nothing keeps
still.

Composition without
distraction?

Step 3 - Stacking



May, in the field:
Footless fly.

Nice detail.
In-camera stacking
crops close.
And there's something
in the way.

Step 4 – Dragonfly Hunting



August at Panshanger:

Kind coaching by
Emma and Chris
Bennett

Pollen being
distributed.

Step 5 – Slime Mould?



October in the Oval Woods:

No slime mould spotted!

Dead man's fingers.

Nearly in focus.

Quite like the composition.

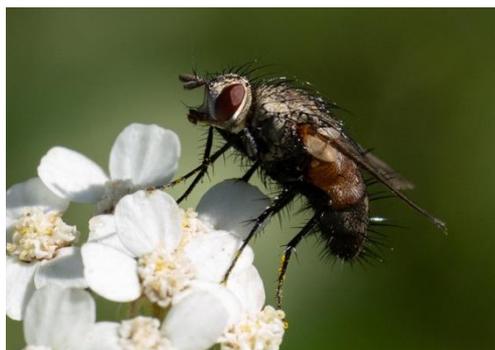
In-camera stacking leaves
'ghosts'.

Need to find a better way!

Step 6 – Slime Mould!!!



MACRO



Infra-red? Film? Camera-phone? Emulate one of the greats?

