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Newsletter September 2026

1. September Events

All events start at 8pm unless otherwise indicated.

Date	Location	Event	Leader/Judge/ Speaker
Mon, 7	Drake Hall	Chairman's Night - Introduction to the New Season.	Richard Pitt
Wed, 9	Zoom	Committee Meeting	
Thu, 10	Committee Room	Mono Group - 7:45 start	Roger Wotton/ John Harding
Mon, 14	Drake Hall	SPEAKER: ANN HEALEY 'Wildlife of Costa Rica'	Ann Healey
Thu, 17	Committee Room	Colour Group	Peter Lillywhite/ Andy Smith/ Tracy Bradbury
Mon, 21	Drake Hall	Members Evening - Competitions Explained followed by talk by Brian Ridgley 'Safaris'	John Harding/ Steve Holden/ Brian Ridgley
Thu, 24	Zoom	APS On-Line Group	Tony Wright
Mon, 28	Drake Hall	Members Evening: Mark Farrand 'Low light and Long Exposure' & Charlie Blewett 'My Street Photography'	Mark Farrand/ Charlie Blewett

2. Chairman's Message

Dear Members,

As your new Chairman, it is my great pleasure to welcome you all to the start of our new season. I hope you have had a wonderful summer and found plenty of opportunities to capture some fantastic images.

Our first meeting of the season will take place on **Monday, September 7th**.

The committee has put together an exciting and diverse programme for the coming months, filled with inspiring guest speakers, engaging competitions, and practical evenings designed to help us all develop our photographic skills. Whether you are a long-standing member or joining us for the very first time, we are delighted to have you with us.

Please check your emails and our website for full details regarding the venue, start time, and agenda for this season's meetings.

Finally, I am hoping we can enjoy a refreshment break on the evenings where we have sufficient time. To this end, could I ask for volunteers to help make this happen?

I look forward to seeing you all on September 7th as we kick off what I hope will be a brilliant season.

Warm regards,

Richard Pitt

Chairman, Amersham Photographic Society

3. A huge thank you for a successful Annual Exhibition!

Dear Members,

I am writing to express my sincere thanks to everyone for your incredible support in making our Annual Exhibition such a resounding success, the positive feedback we received is a testament to the images you displayed and the talent within our club.

A special and well-deserved thank you goes to Heather Sparks and her organizing team who made the exhibition happen. Your hard work, meticulous planning, and time behind the scenes ensured the exhibition looked professional and

Thank you once again for making our society so vibrant and successful.

Warm regards,

Richard





4. Programme

Our first speaker of the season is:

ANNIE HEALEY - WILDLIFE OF THE COSTA RICA - 14th September.

Multi award-winning photographer Annie Healey will be presenting her talk to us on Monday 14th September 2026. Annie has spent the last 12 years gaining her distinctions and accreditations, to achieve photographic excellence. She is also one of a select 60 photographers to have a print accepted in the prestigious Photographic Alliance of Great Britain (PAGB) Masters of Print in 2020, 2021 and 2024, winning a Silver Medal for a Judge's Choice in 2021 and 2024. Annie is also an assessor on the Royal Photographic Society (RPS) Natural History Associate & Fellowship Panel.

Annie is renowned for her nature photography and club members will be treated to a plethora of photographs, showing many different species, showcasing the diverse and extensive range of amazing wildlife to be found in the various ecosystems of Costa Rica. Both Annie's RPS Natural History Associateship and Fellowship distinctions were achieved with images of Costa Rican wildlife.

Steve Hunter

Programme Secretary



Granular Glass Frog



Red-legged Honeycreeper



Saddleback Caterpillar



Deadleaf Katydid

5. Print Competitions

We are very nearly at the start of the 2026/27 season of Print Competitions. The first Print Competition is to be held on Monday **9th November 2026**. The Judge is Lloyd Moore. At our opening meeting on Monday the 7th September, I will be issuing the new season's Competition Corners. You must have been

issued with the new corner numbers if you wish to enter the Print Competitions. Last years corners will not be valid for the new season.

John Harding
Print Secretary

6. PDI Competitions

Welcome back to the new season (and to any new members welcome to APS). Projected competitions will restart on **5th October**. For those that haven't entered before the rules and instructions are on the competitions pages of the website

<https://www.amershamphotosoc.com/competitions-internal/>.

Any submissions should be emailed to the competition address at pdientry@amershamphotosoc.com by midnight on the Friday night before the competition on the Monday.

If you have any questions they can be asked to me (Steve Holden) on most Monday nights either at the break or after the meeting, or via the pdisec@amershamphotosoc.com address.

Steve Holden

7. The Mono Group

The Mono Group is an APS Special Interest Group, that supports and encourages members interested in monochrome photography.

We meet on the 2nd Thursday of the month at 07:45pm, with members showing and discussing their images, receiving comments and encouragement from group members.

We are a friendly group with members bringing prints (that don't need to be mounted) to our meetings.

However, you don't have to show prints or images, you can just come to the meetings and contribute to the discussion, if you wish.

Our first meeting is on **10th September at 7:45 in the Committee Room.**

We look forward to seeing you.

Roger Wotton & John Harding

8. The Colour Group

This is a small, friendly, informal group where we enjoy seeing, discussing and celebrating our colour pictures.

- Each member submits up to three pictures (any genre) which are shown and the author talks about them.
- We then chat about the picture expressing both appreciation and often questions on where and how.
- Some authors will ask for feedback to help understand strengths and weaknesses and potential improvements.

It is a fun, enjoyable evening.

When and where: Third Thursday of the month starting at 8.00 and finishing at 10.00. Alternating, each month, between Live and virtual Zoom meetings (see programme).

The first meeting of the season will be on **17th September** at 8.00 in-person in the Committee Room led by Andy Smith.

Look forward to seeing you.

Peter Lillywhite, Andy Smith & Tracy Bradbury

9. Amersham Beyond Group

The Amersham Beyond Group is aimed at creative photography and photo art.

The first meeting of the season is not until **1st October**.

If anyone is thinking about joining us and would like to know more drop me an email.

Cheers,

Steve Brabner

beyondsec@amershamphotosoc.com

10. On-Line Group

The first meeting of the On-Line Editing Group will be on **Thursday 24th September at 8.00 via Zoom.**

Join us for an evening of interactive discussion and real time editing of your photographs.

Submit a couple of images in advance. Join in as the Group suggest edits and see the effect of them being applied in real time. You can use your own software or let us use Lightroom and Photoshop to make the changes. Full details of how to submit your images will be sent out in advance.

Contact Tony Wright at online@amershamphotosoc.com to join the Group. All existing members will be receiving the reminder e-mail.

Tony Wright

11. Outings

We had two club outings over the summer break. Firstly, we enjoyed a wildlife and waterskiing day at Rickmansworth Aquadrome. These are both very challenging subjects to photograph but we got some great shots between us as you will see here and on the club outings Flickr page.

<https://www.flickr.com/photos/10884468@N06/>

Then, in August, a small group explored Ascott House, the National Trust property near Leighton Buzzard. It was a super-hot day but we managed to find some fun things to photograph as well as drinking plenty of tea while chatting in the shade!

The first outing we have planned for the coming season is at Chiltern Open Air Museum on Saturday 10th October where they are holding a special event called "Wild About Wool". All kinds of activities and crafts will be on show giving us lots of photographic opportunities which we hope should range from dogs herding sheep to using the wool in various heritage crafts.

We have a wide range of outings planned for the 2026/27 season and look forward to explaining more at the club meeting on 7th September.

As usual, please email outings@amershamphotosoc.com if you would like to join us on any of the outings.

Juliet & Patrick



GREY HERON by Alan Sturges



THAT SINKING FEELING by John Harding



ASCOTT HOUSE FRONTAGE by Tony Wright

12. Social Media - Facebook

A very warm welcome to all new members of APS. If you are a Facebook user we have a private members only group, Amersham Photographic Society Members Only, which you can request to join. This is a friendly, fun, and secure group page where we all share photographs, give and receive help and advice, and let everyone know about get-togethers and outings.

Chrissi Ratcliffe