Orpington Photographic Society
Programme 2026/27 – Version 1.1 24/08/2026

Week	Date	Event	Action
1	15th September 2026	Summer Challenge - Summer in the City (see notes)	
2	22nd September 2026	OPS v Rotorua competition. - (See Notes)	
3	29th September 2026	Members' Evening - Subject Perspective (See Notes)	PDI Competition 1 due
4	6th October 2026	Zoom Talk – Photography Projects and Photobooks by Stewart Wall	
5	13th October 2026	PDI Competition 1 Judge – Carol White-Griffiths	
6	20th October 2026	Members' Evening - IT Support & Photo editing Event (See Notes)	PDI Challenge 1 due
7	27th October 2026	PDI Challenge 1 Theme – Film Genre (see notes) Judge – Darren Pullman	Print Competition 1 due
8	3rd November 2026	**No meeting / Break**	
9	10th November 2026	Print Competition 1 Judge – Mick White	
10	17th November 2026	Members' Evening Workshop - Kitchen & Household Items (see Notes)	PDI Competition 2 due
11	24th November 2026	PDI Competition 2 by Zoom Judge – Paul Adams	
12	1st December 2026	Members' Evening - Subject = Out of Place (see notes)	Print Competition 2 due
13	8th December 2026	Members' Zoom Evening Feedback / Present your Kitchen & Household Items (see Notes)	
14	15th December 2026	Christmas Quiz Night	BYO Refreshments
	22nd December 2026	**No meeting Happy Christmas**	
	29th December 2026	**No meeting Happy Christmas**	
	5th January 2027	**No meeting Happy New year**	
15	12th January 2027	Print Competition 2 Judge – Alan Lomakin	PDI Challenge 2 due
16	19th January 2027	Members' Zoom Evening Subject = Odd Numbers (see Notes)	
17	26th January 2027	PDI Challenge 2 Theme – Shooting from the Hip (See Notes) Judge - TBC	PDI Competition 3 due
18	2nd February 2027	Members' Evening – Food Photography (See Notes)	

19	9th February 2027	PDI Competition 3 Judge – Andy Smith	Print Competition 3 due
20	16th February 2027	**No meeting /Break**	
21	23rd February 2027	Print Competition 3 Judge – Nick Ryan	
22	2nd March 2027	Zoom Talk – Abstract and Minimalism photography by Daniel Bridge	
23	9th March 2027	Members' Evening Subject = A Quiet Moment (See Notes)	Print entries of the Year due
24	16th March 2027	Members' Zoom Evening Subject = Negative Space (See Notes)	
25	23rd March 2027	Colour and Mono Prints of the Year Final Judge – Darren Woolway (Provisional)	PDI of the Year entries due
26	30th March 2027	**Members' Evening or No Meeting / Break TBC**	
27	6th April 2027	PDI of the Year Final Judge - TBC	
28	13th April 2027	AGM	

Notes and Details of each meeting / event:

Summer Challenge - 15th September 2026 = "Summer in the City"
"Hot town, Summer in the City. Back of my neck getting' dirt' and gritty"
An opportunity to present your images interpreting the theme of Summer in the City.
It can be any City anywhere, but it must be during this summer 2026. It can be street photography, urban landscape, architecture, daytime or nighttime. It does not matter what the weather conditions are, hot, sunny, dry, wet or cloudy etc. It's about your take and thoughts on how you represent the challenge.
See the bottom of the Programme for the full lyrics of the song that could be inspirations for your images.

OPS V Rotorua – 22nd September 2026 – Presentation by Ian Stedman of the OPS v Rotorua Competition.
Walkthrough of the images submitted by both Rotorua and OPS, along with individual image scores and the reveal of the competition winning club.

Members Evening - 29th September 2026 Subject = Portraying "perspective"
It's all about Perspective - the art of drawing solid objects on a two-dimensional surface so as to give the right impression of their height, width, depth, and position in relation to each other when viewed from a particular point. Perspective is when you look down a set of railway lines, only to see them converge to a point (but not railway lines heading into the distance). It's the way your brain understands depth in a scene. Or you can opt for something creative and instead depict your perspective on a topic or scene; this would be more story-based, as opposed to compositional. Present your images and tells us about your approach and thinking behind them.

Zoom Talk – 6th October 2026 Subject = Photography Projects and Photobooks by Stewart Wall
This talk offers an introduction to the core techniques essential for project photography and photobook creation. It looks at a selection of the projects and photobooks the speaker has completed over the last decade, and some of his favourite photobooks created by others. The talk covers - Creating Photography

for Photobooks, Project and Photo-Essay Development looking at how to conceptualise, structure, and organise photographs into cohesive projects and photo-essays, essential skills for creating meaningful narratives in your photobooks, Integration of Text and Images by developing the confidence to pair photographs with text, enriching your photo-essays and enhancing the storytelling potential of your work. It also looks at Collaborative Photobook Projects which could be an ideal activity for a club.

Members Evening - 20th October 2026 = IT Support Event & Photo Editing
Bring your IT issues and kit with you or any photo editing issues. This will be an opportunity to share any problems and hopefully get some answers from other members. George has offered to host this event.

PDI Challenge 1 - 27th October 2026 = Film Genres
Last seasons "The Movies" challenge was a great success so this seasons its films again but this time its film genres and not film titles. Capture and show some images that represent film genres e.g. Horror, Romance, Action, Sport etc.

Members Evening - 17th November 2026 = Kitchen & Household Items
A workshop to capture kitchen and household items from a different perspective and context. Bring in any of your kitchen and household items and use the Society's lighting as part of a workshop. Then edit and share the results at a future meeting.

Members Evening – 1st December 2026 = Out of Place
This challenge is all about creativity! Out of place can be subtle or surreal, funny or jarring. For example; a rubber duck in a toolbox, a dancer in a factory, a laptop in the woods. Something that doesn't belong, or feels like it has landed in the wrong context. It's all about contrast between subject and environment, emotion and setting, expectation and reality. Start getting creative and show us the best images.

Members Zoom Evening – 8th December 2026 = Kitchen & Household Items feedback
Present your images from the Kitchen and Household items workshop held on 17th November 2026.

Members Zoom Evening - 19th January 2027 Subject = Odd Numbers
It's all about using odds in our photography. Present images showing how you have used the rule of odds. For example, an odd number of objects (people, animals, things), etc. Think in threes, arrange your subjects in a way that guides the viewer's eye through the image and uses an odd number to create a sense of balance while maintaining visual interest.
Whether you choose three flowers, five people, or seven stones, make sure your composition leverages the power of odd numbers to draw the viewer's eye and create interest. Look for interactions with an odd number of people chatting in the coffee shop, children or dogs playing in the park, or maybe an odd number of musicians playing music. Street scenes are full of life and stories and oddities**!**

PDI Challenge 2 - 26th January 2027 = Shooting from the Hip
Shooting from the hip means holding your camera at waist level and taking photos without looking through the viewfinder or LCD screen.
This technique forces you to trust your instincts, rely on your sense of framing, and embrace the unpredictable. It's about spontaneity over precision**,** capturing life as it unfolds rather than carefully composing every element.
This technique works particularly well for street photography and candid moments where raising a camera to your eye might make your subject aware of you. Shooting from the hip helps you stay invisible, capturing people in their natural state. You'll likely need to take more shots to get one that works, but the authentic moments you capture are worth it.

Members Evening – 2nd February 2027 = Food Photography. Show us your best 5 to 8 images.
Have a go at your own food photography or attempt to recreate a food advert and present your results. This

could be your favourite meal, a beloved snack, or even the ingredients that make up your dish. Whether it's plated perfection, a quick bite, or a messy masterpiece, show us the delicious details. It is also a good chance to showcase some of the unique aspects of your location, people, or culture through the food that you eat! Food photography is about telling a story of flavours, textures, and colours. You might capture the vibrant colours of fresh produce, the steam curling from a cup of coffee, or the texture of a homemade meal. Complement the food with utensils, napkins, or cutting boards. Keep the background clean or use elements that enhance the story. Play with contrasting or complementary hues to make your subject pop.

Zoom Talk – 2nd March 2027 = Subject = Abstract and Minimalism photography by Daniel Bridge

Abstract and Minimalism photography talk looks at ways to refine and simplify compositions, creating abstract images from a variety of different subjects, making use of techniques such as Intentional Camera Movement (ICM), long exposures, making use of windows and doors to frame a view, and more.
Daniel also discusses how he uses selective vision to home in on the relevant details to include and avoiding extraneous elements to highlight what caught his eye in the first place.

Members Evening - 9th March 2027 = Subject = "A quiet Moment"

Shoot and submit photos encapsulating a "quiet moment". Where is your quiet place a morning coffee, sunset yoga, a specific landscape or places that mean something to you or maybe even a Heavy metal concert?
The challenge is to find your quiet place (s) or moment(s) and work out how to best to capture it or them and represent it in an image(s). Show your images and talk about your "quiet moment (s)" and why you chose it / them.

Members Zoom Evening - 16th March 2027 Subject = Negative Space

When you highlight negative space, your subject stands out, and your image can feel more calm or impactful. Think of wide, open skies, minimalist interiors, or uncluttered walls. Aim to simplify your scene so the viewer's eye is drawn exactly where you want it. Less can definitely be more. Present your images and talk through your approach.

Members Evening / Break - 30th March 2027 = TBC

OPS Vs Invicta - TBC

Hot Town Summer in the City – Lyrics and Acknowledgements
The Lovin' Spoonful 1966

Hot town, summer in the city
Back of my neck gettin' dirt' and gritty
Been down, isn't it a pity?
Doesn't seem to be a shadow in the city
All around, people looking half-dead
Walkin' on the sidewalk, hotter than a match head
But at night it's a different world
Go out and find a girl
Come on, come on and dance all night
Despite the heat it'll be alright
And babe, don't you know it's a pity
The days can't be like the nights
In the summer, in the city
In the summer, in the city

Cool town, evenin' in the city
Dress so fine and lookin' so pretty
Cool cat lookin' for a kitty
Gonna look in every corner of the city
'Til I'm wheezin' like a bus stop
Runnin' up the stairs, gonna meet you on the rooftop
But at night, it's a different world
Go out and find a girl
Come on, come on and dance all night
Despite the heat, it'll be alright
And babe, don't you know it's a pity
The days can't be like the nights
In the summer, in the city
In the summer, in the city

Hot town, summer in the city
Back of my neck gettin' dirt', and, and gritty
Been down, isn't it a pity?
Doesn't seem to be a shadow in the city
All around, people lookin' half-dead
Walkin' on the sidewalk, hotter than a match head
But at night, it's a different world
Go out and find a girl
Come on, come on and dance all night
Despite the heat, it'll be alright
And babe, don't you know it's a pity
The days can't be like the nights
In the summer, in the city
Summer in the city

Source: Musixmatch
Songwriters: Tarik L. Collins / Malik Smart / Steve Boone / John Benson Sebastian / Mark Douglas Sebastian / Kenyatta Saunders / Karl B Jenkins / Phillip N Blenman
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