



Ext Comp Report: 61st Annual Essex Inter Club - 26th Mar 2026, Virtual Zoom DPI



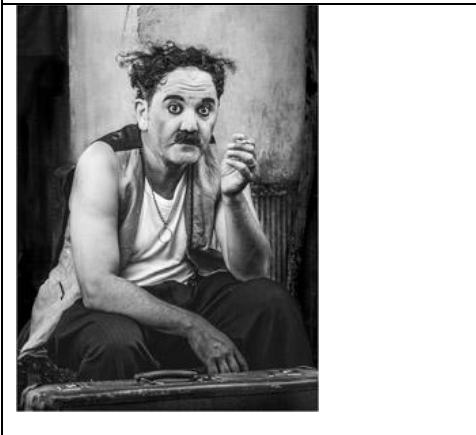

Photofold were one of 7 clubs competing which this year saw Thurrock replace Hadleigh who will also return next year. There were slight issues with free vs paid zoom (45min limit) and their software had similar issues to those experienced by Photofold in recent competitions. Each club fielded 6 images with a maximum possible score of 60 points. The Judge was Jim Bennett who scored between 8 and 10, awarding 8 “10’s” on the night. (Benfleet x3, Thurrock x2, Maldon x2, Ingatestone x1).

The judge mentioned that he was a member of Cambridge camera club and also involved with the EAF. He had reviewed images ahead of the Zoom competition and rated them as he had originally seen them on his own colour calibrated screen and not over zoom (which appeared lighter). The scoring was generally very high. The final results saw Benfleet win by 2 points, scoring 3 “10’s”, but there was a good performance from Thurrock who came joint 2nd and got image of the night with a rather gruesome looking boxing shot. Photofold came 5th on the night so thank you to everyone for supporting Photofold with your images.

Final Results were as follows:

1 st	Benfleet CC (3x10)	56 ½ pts
2 nd	Thurrock (2x10)	54 ½ pts
2 nd	Maldon Camera Club (2x10)	54 ½ pts
4 th	Ingatestone (1x10)	54 pts
5th	Photofold	53 pts
6 th	Upminster	51 ½ pts
7 th	Leigh on Sea CC	49 pts

Image	Author	Judge Comments: Jim Bennett	Result
	Corfe Castle Steve Stringer	An often-photographed location. You have bought weather to the picture with spectacular mist and clouds. I like the sunrays and the Monochromatic look. The silhouette of the castle works well.	9 pts
	Food Delivery Bob Hook	The title “Food delivery” draws your attention to the beak and the insect. Lovely sense of movement with room to move. The background is helpful, muted soft focus but with identifiable flowers. Panning skills are good.	9 pts

	<p>Dawn Rollers</p> <p>Chris Wooldridge</p>	<p>This one is a very evocative image. Very moody landscape with lighting that brings that bit extra. The shutter speed is enough to give movement in the sea, but I am not convinced by the timing of the wave.</p>	<p>9 pts</p>
	<p>Just Chilling</p> <p>Barry Harrington</p>	<p>Appropriate title, interesting image. Very poster like image with a hyper real feel. I like the idea of the beach hut and it was added in a good position. The young lady looks relaxed and is well positioned in the image. The horizonless feel adds to the image.</p>	<p>8 ½ pts</p>
	<p>Taking a Break</p> <p>Denise Brown</p>	<p>He's got his fag and it definitely has a Charlie Chaplin type feel. I like the character of the shot, he looks a bit wild, so I don't know what he was taking a break from? I like the suitcase in the foreground and the conversion for Mono was a good choice.</p>	<p>9 ½ pts</p>
	<p>City Lights at Blue Hour</p> <p>Chris Wooldridge</p>	<p>Here we are looking for balance between artificial and manmade light. Good grouping of buildings and choice of shutter speed. The water is flat and mirror like which suits the image. The vignette looked a bit heavy but the image has great letterbox potential.</p>	<p>8 pts</p>

The judge was very descriptive and generally scored on the high side with no image scoring below 8.

Dave Hussey:- External Competitions Secretary – 26th March 2026