

Photo competition 2026

If you have a question about any aspect of the competition, please email photocomp@mknhs.org.uk

Rules and instructions

The competition is open to all members of the Society.
Any non-members who would like to participate are welcome to join the Society in order to take part; you can join online: <https://mknhs.org.uk/26432-2/>

Only digital images can be entered. There is no print competition this year.

The closing date for entries is **03 February 2026**

There are five categories, and each member may enter a maximum of 2 images per category. (That's a maximum of 10 images in total.)

The five categories are:

1. Birds
2. Invertebrates
3. All other animals, including mammals, fish, etc.
4. Plants and fungi
5. Habitats, geological, astronomical

Photos of animals in captivity, domestic animals, pets, and cultivated plants are not eligible.

People must not be a major subject of any photograph.

May the best photograph win! It could be yours!

Specifications

Images for all categories should have been taken in the UK between 01 January 2025 and 03 February 2026

Maximum size of photo file: **4MB**

(A 4MB image can produce a good A4 print, which is what we used in the past.)

Recommended maximum dimensions: **2048 pixels by 1536 pixels**

We also recommend that you submit photos **in .jpeg or .jpg format**.

Photos can be horizontal (landscape) or vertical (portrait).

How to submit your entries

Send your entries to the mailbox (photocomp@mknhs.org.uk) by **11pm on Tuesday 03 February 2026**.

Please state the category of entry for each image and provide a brief caption for each photo stating species if known/relevant, and when and where taken. If you submit 10 photos with one email, make sure it is clear which caption goes with each photo!

When submitting a number of photos together, please use a file transfer method, such as WeTransfer or FileTransfer, to avoid problems with large files via email.

By sending in your photos, you confirm that they are your own work and that you hold the copyright. You're giving the Society permission (non-exclusive and royalty-free) to use your images for the competition and to help promote the Society afterwards — this may include our website, social media, or printed materials.

Winning entries will be celebrated publicly and shared on the Society's social media channels. Any personal details you provide will be kept safe, used only to run the competition and handled in line with GDPR.

How the 2026 MKNHS Photo competition will be run:

1. Entries received in the mailbox (photocomp@mknhs.org.uk) by **11pm on 03 February 2026**
2. Members photos will be posted in the 5 categories on the website Photo Competition 2026 page two weeks after the deadline (i.e. on **17 February 2026**)
3. **Round 1 voting:** Members have a week to decide their choice of the top 2 per category for Round 1. Members send in their choices by email to the same mailbox. (Votes to be received by **03 March 2026**)
4. The votes are counted and the top 2 photos selected from each category. The top 10 photos are posted on the website one week after the deadline for voting in Round 1 (i.e. by **10 March 2026**)

(If there is a tie for 2nd place in a category, each of the tied photos will go forward to the final.)
5. **Round 2 voting:** Members have one week to send in their votes for the top 3 photos across all categories. (Votes to be received by **17 March 2026**)
6. Votes are counted and the top 3 selected.
7. Winners are announced at the MKNHS meeting on **24 March 2026**, one week after the deadline for voting for Round 2.
8. The final 10 photos will each be shown at this meeting and the photographers will be asked to say something about their photos.
9. The final 10 will be put on the website gallery page for the photo competition winners 2026.

Please note! Photos **MUST** be sent in by **11pm** on **03 February 2026** at the latest.
Entries will **NOT** be accepted **after 03 February!**

Votes will **NOT** be counted **if received after the Round 1 and Round 2 deadlines.**