

Canal Photo Competition

The winning entries in this year's Grand Western Canal Photographic Competition have been announced. The competition, which ran from February to November, was open to all amateur photographers and attracted 381 entries. There were three categories – Canal Landscapes, Canal Wildlife and Canal Activities – and a winner and runner-up were selected for each. Entries were judged by Eyal Lesk of PhotoLesk, Ray Yardley of the Tiverton and Heathcoat Photography Club, and local freelance photographer Mike Slater. Each category winner received a £100 PhotoLesk voucher with the runner-up receiving a £50 PhotoLesk voucher.

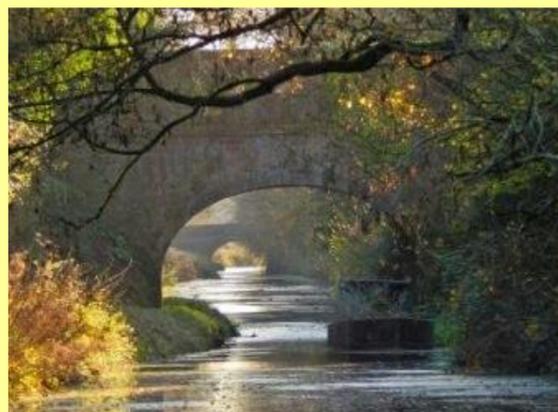
Canal Landscape

Mark Gliddon won the Canal Landscapes Category with his stunning picture of a sunset from Dudley Weatherly Jubilee Bridge.



This was the judge's favourite photo in the competition. They thought it was perfectly executed, with great colours, reflections and silhouettes, and a balanced composition that draws your eye towards the setting sun.

Runner-up in the Landscape Category was Gareth Jagger, with his photo of the view through Whipcott Bridge.



The judges agreed that this was a great composition with really nice autumn colours.

Canal Wildlife

In the Wildlife Category the judges chose Tony Nixon's 'I'm shy', depicting a Damselfly resting on a reed at dusk.

They particularly liked this quirky and amusing portrait which they felt was eye-catching and characterful.



Runner -up in the wildlife category was Martin Weighell's 'Love at fist sight'.

The judges felt that this classic shot of two swans forming a heart shape was really nicely executed.

Pictured to the right are the winners (L-R) Tony Nixon, Nicky Cook and Mark Gliddon.



Congratulations to all of the winners and runners up and a big thank you to the judges, Cllrs Des Hannon and Ray Radford who used their Locality Budgets to contribute to the prize pot and to everyone who took part.

Canal Activities

Nicky Cook won the Canal Activities Category with her shot of an angler near Snakes Wood.



The judges felt that this image captured the peaceful and serene mood of the canal, enabling the viewer to imagine how relaxing the angler finds his beautiful surroundings.

Runner-up in the Activities category was Christian Schoter.

The judges loved his image of the colourful horse-drawn barge emerging from the Snake's wood, capturing one of the iconic sights of the Grand Western Canal.

