

PhotoSCENE 2025-26

PhotoSCENE Natural History Photographic Competition.

This year's event was held, for the first time, in the Kelvin Hall on Tuesday 10th February 2026 and was attended by roughly 50 members and friends. As always, the Society is very grateful to the University of Glasgow's School of Biodiversity, One Health and Veterinary Medicine (SBOHVM) for help with both the funding and the judging of the competition and to Lorna Kennedy for her help in receiving and compiling all the entries from Society members and students and staff of SBOHVM. The Society would also like to thank both Roy Petrie, former photographic editor for *The Herald*, and Professor Stephen Philips from SBOHVM for their help in judging the competition. This year there were 33 entrants resulting in a total of 144 photographs being submitted. Of these 144 entries, nine were awarded prizes totalling £750 by the judges. This year's overall winner of *The David Palmar Prize* was Scott Shanks, with his excellent photograph entitled "Strutting toad" (which won him £200). Second place was awarded to Kirsty Menzies, who received £150 for her image "Sawfly on oxeye daisy". The third-place prize of £100 was awarded to Clare Branston for her image of "Two sand martins". Additionally, there were six highly commended entries each receiving £50. This year there was a further rise in student entries to the competition with many (but not all) taken on University Exploration Society field trips or Ph.D. overseas research projects.

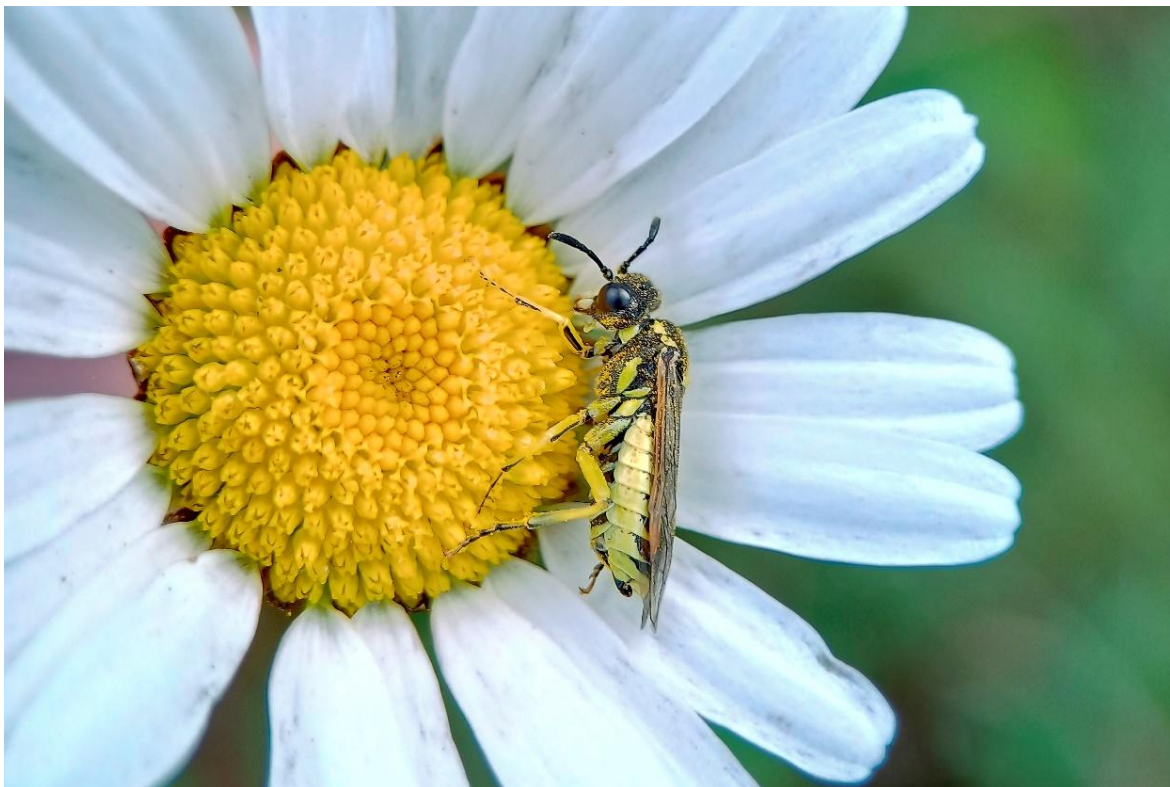
A. Colville Wilson

Overall winner:



Scott Shanks – Strutting toad (*Bufo bufo*), near Cardhu Distillery, Moray, Scotland, Spring 2025.

Second Prize winner:



Kirsty Menzies – Sawfly (*Tenthredo* sp.) on oxeye daisy (*Leucanthemum vulgare*), Boylestone Quarry, Barrhead, East Renfrewshire, Scotland, 7th July 2025.

Third Prize winner:



Clare Branston - Two sand martins (*Riparia riparia*) prospecting a cavity at an artificial nesting bank, Gailies Marsh Reserve near Irvine, North Ayrshire, Scotland, 12th April 2025.

Highly commended entries:



Alexander Levai -

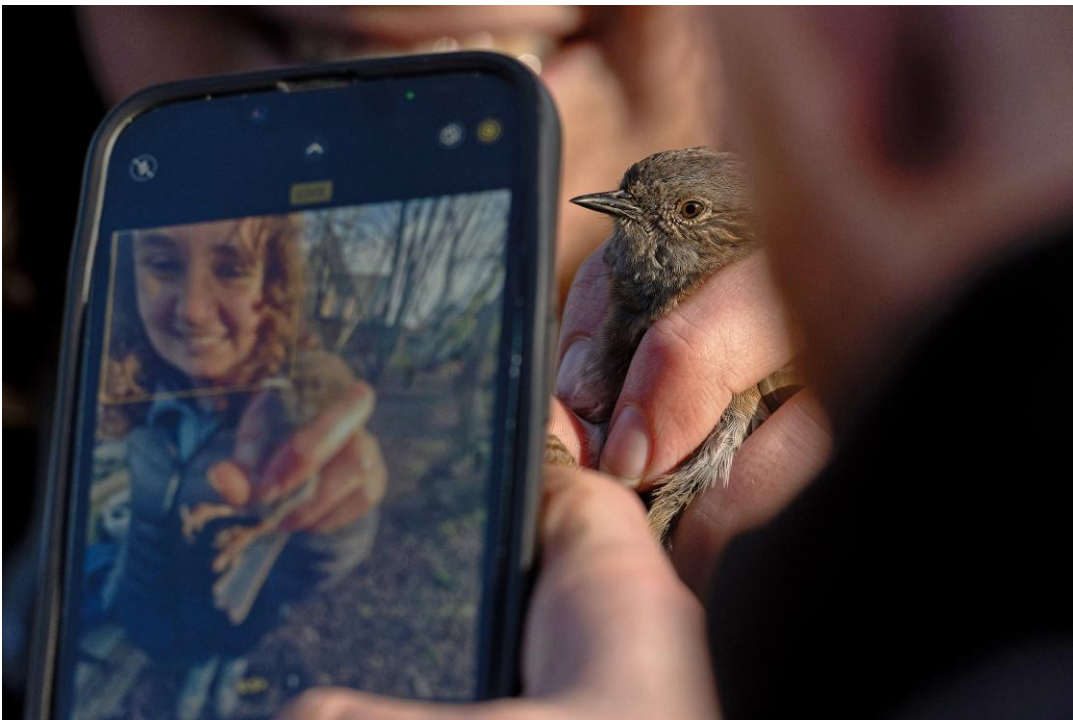
Longhorn beetle (Cerambycidae), University expedition to Tobago, 6th August 2025.



Rebecca MacArthur - Juvenile raccoon (*Procyon lotor*), Alberta, Canada, 29th June 2025.



Mark Pitt – Common blue male (*Polyommatus icarus*), Hamiltonhill Claypits Nature Reserve, Glasgow, Scotland, August 2025.



Lionel Horn - Dunnock (*Prunella modularis*) ringing with Zoology students, Hamiltonhill Claypits Nature Reserve, Glasgow, Scotland, 1st April 2025.



Ewan Parry – Sawfly larva (*Nematus septentrionalis*) on a birch leaf (*Betula* sp.), walkway by the River Kelvin, Glasgow, Scotland, 31st August 2024.



Heather Snow – Puffin (*Fratercula arctica*) with sand-eels, Lunga, Treshnish Isles, Scotland, 2024.