

# THE NEW VIEW

It's not just clicking a button





4 *Christmas*

10 *2020*

X *Profile*

X *Competitions*

X

X

## Special thanks

Alexander Hodgkins-Jones

Interviewees - Abe-Chan (Wagolimages), Mark Philips (Frame The Toys), Paul Hands (Hinckley and Burbage Photographed)

Photography - Jade Burrell, Photoshop, Olin Rogers, Tim Hearn, Charlie Davidson, Roland Kranitz, Daisy Gilardini, Mark Fitzpatrick, Rooful Ali, Karim Omran, Ghulam Rasool, Pexels

Other: Strajk Kobiet, Leicester, Photoshop, The Photography Show, Kodak, Leicester Photography Group, Comedy Wildlife Photography Awards, Paul Joynson-Hicks, Tom Sullam

# 7 Perfect Photography Gifts

Christmas is just around the corner, and it's time to start shopping for that perfect gift for your loved ones. This year, with so much disappointment and worry hitting us at every turn with Covid-19 taking away our entire year, we're determined to take Christmas back and make it more special than ever before. There's still a lot of uncertainty surrounding us and we may not be able to spend Christmas with all of our loved ones this year, but we can still get

them great gifts to make their 2020 Christmas one to remember. Here are our favourite gift ideas.

**1** - SD Card Reader for Android £8.99  
This SD Card reader allows you to upload images straight to your phone. This small device is great for storing and sharing your photography on-the-go.

**2** - Bottle Cap Tripod £7  
The bottle cap tripod is such a quirky invention, great for

compact cameras and GoPros. The tripod fits on top of any bottle - and pivots at a 15 degree angle - making this a great gift for travel and nature photographers.

**3** - Portable Lightbox Studio £15  
Portable Lightbox Studios are a cool, foldable studio box that can fit in your backpack. The studio box lets you photograph small items as if you were in an actual studio. The studio, often called a studio tent, comes with multiple colour backgrounds and built-in

lights.

**4** - Gorilla Tripod £120 (5k)/£15 (smartphone)  
The Gorilla tripod really is an amazing tripod to have in any photographer's equipment kit. It can be adjusted to stand on unlevel surfaces and even wrap around branches, bars, and more for unique angles and great shots.

**5** - Lens Buddy/Shutter Huggers £15+  
The lens buddy, which can be found for cheaper on etsy, or pricier

on Amazon, depending on quality, is actually the perfect gift for a children's photographer.

**6** - Lens Wrap £20  
The lens wrap by Tenba is designed to keep you organised and your camera lenses safe. This wrap comes in different sizes allowing for you to wrap not just your lens in a smaller wrap, but also wrap all of your equipment.

**7** - Pocket Printer £119.99  
There are a lot of pocket printers out there

from the Polaroid Hi-Print to the PC Sprocket printer, but for this list, we have the Polaroid Mini Pocket Printer. This device uses Bluetooth and Zink Zero Ink technology printing 2x3" photographs using an app on your phone.

With any of these gifts, you're sure to make that special loved one's Christmas day one to remember. Time to get on Amazon, Etsy, or the bus to town and start buying that perfect gift. It's the thought that counts!



# 12 Days of (Christmas) Photography

The best part of Christmas is undoubtedly the countdown and now that it's finally December, the countdown has begun! To get us in the Christmas spirit, we have the 12 days of (Christmas) Photography.



**1** - *O' Christmas Tree*  
Have you put up your Christmas tree yet? Well, get it up and snap a photo of it! Or maybe you don't have a Christmas tree at home? Go into town and take a picture of that Christmas tree. You could even just take a photo of a random tree with a festive twist or Christmas bauble hung on a branch.

**2** - *The Christmas Rush*  
December is the busiest months for retailers. It may be quieter this year with people staying indoors but you can still get out and take a picture of shoppers - or maybe someone online shopping at home.

**3** - *Candy*  
Everyone's favourite thing to do at Christmas is eat all those Christmas goodies. When did a little bit of holiday weight hurt anyone, anyway?

**4** - *Christmas Gifts*  
If you haven't bought your Christmas presents yet, this is your reminder. Get out - or online - and order something great. Don't forget to buy a nice present for you dog, too! They deserve some Christmas love.

**5** - *Something White*  
The most traditional Christmas would be that magical white

Christmas. Whether it's snowing or not, find something white and take a picture.

**6** - *Christmas Markets*  
Maybe they won't be as fabulous this year, but the Christmas markets are a fundamental part of Christmas and there's got to be something bright in town to photograph.

**7** - *Warmth*  
Christmas is a lot of fun but it's important to keep warm. December is one of the coldest months of the year and you'd hate to have a cold at Christmas. Pop the kettle on and get your camera.



**8** - *Red and Green*  
The most festive colour combination out there. Halloween has orange and black - and a hint of purple - Christmas has green and red.

**9** - *Christmas Lights*  
Christmas can be such a pretty time of the year, especially if you're visiting the Christmas markets after dark. Christmas lights are everywhere - the town's lights, your tree lights, sparklers, or one of the

many Christmas ornaments you've spread all over the house. Find something festive and pretty and capture the beauty of Christmas.

**10** - *Ho Ho Ho*  
You can't have a Christmas list without Santa. Find yourself a Santa Claus or have your children make a wish list for him and take your photos.

**11** - *Your Christmas*  
What does Christmas mean

to you? Is it the gifts? The family all together? Whatever it is, express it in your photo!

**12** - *Something Delicious*  
You're never short of delicious food when it's Christmas so whether it's your Christmas day turkey, your favourite Christmas desert, or a Santa-shaped chocolate, snap that delicious food.

**Have fun snapping your festive shots and have a happy holiday.**



2020

# Photoshop Now The World's Most Advanced AI Application



As of October 20 2020, Photoshop is now the most advanced AI application for creatives in the world. This is due to the release of their new version of Photoshop that is accessible on desktop and iPad.

This new version introduces five major new artificial intelligence, adding to the already robust Adobe Sensei AI. The new features include Neural Filters - "a major breakthrough in AI-powered creativity and the beginning of a complete reimagining of filters and image manipulation inside Photoshop" - Sky Replacement, the new Discover panel, and two new Refine Edge Selections (object aware and refine hair) improvements.

The Neural Filters, which is a new workplace inside Photoshop, introduces new "non-destructive" filters to aid you and your creativity.

With the Neural Filters, Photoshop has taken existing features and improved them by reducing the complexity and turning it into a one-click or a couple of sliders using machine learners. "You can try more



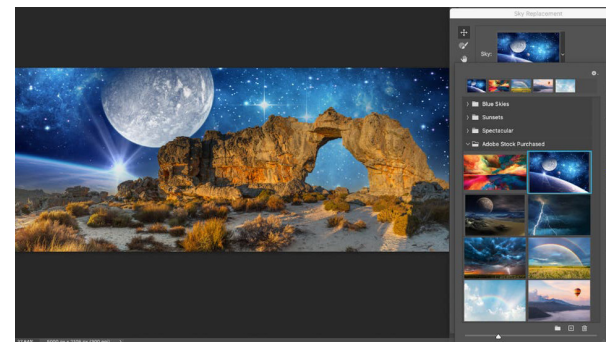
creative (and labor-intensive) ideas than ever in the time you booked for your project, and you have all the power of Photoshop when you take your Neural Filters result back to the canvas for final touches."

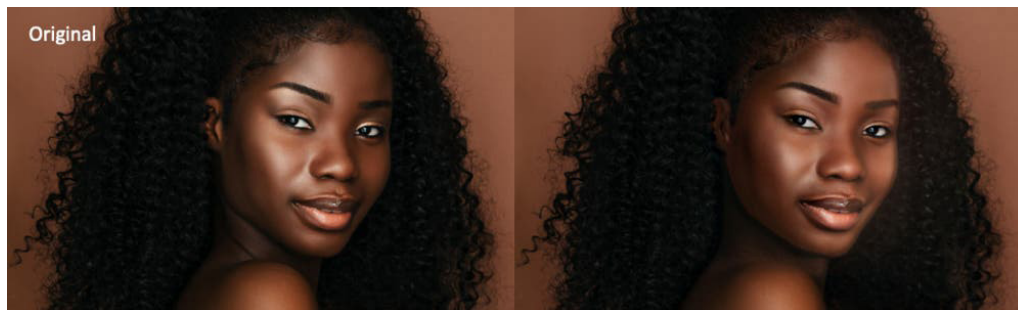
With Sky Filters, Photoshop

has made it faster and easier than ever before to create stunning images by swapping in a new sky. Smarter than ever, Photoshop can now tell the difference between the foreground of a photograph and the sky. "Let the new

Sensei-powered, machine-learning models do the masking and blending. You can zoom in and select just a section of sky, or move the sky around to find the right configuration of clouds or colour (or planets) you want.

Imaging scientists have made Refine Edge selections so easy it's basically a one-click operation. The Refine Hair Mode is a convenient little button located in the Options bar. It finds the people in the image and "automagically" refines. The Object Aware Refine Mode takes what was once a difficult process





and makes it even faster, even if the foreground and background are similar colours. Introducing a state-of-the-arts learn and search experience is the new Discover panel. The in-app learn content is hugely expanded, there

is a new powerful search functionality, and brand new step-by-step tutorials. The new Photoshop update is amazing and innovative with tons of other amazing features including livestreaming abilities, iPad accessibility, a document properties

panel, preset search, and more! Creatives are now able to work faster than ever before "so you have way more time to be creative. Creatives are now able to work faster than ever before "so you have way more time to be creative."



The Photography Show (TPS) has announced a sooner-than-expected return with another online event taking place in early March. Promising a refreshed format, the show organisers have said they will hold another virtual event between the 6th and 7th March. TPS had to cancel their regularly scheduled event this year (2020) due to Covid-19 and eventually decided to turn the show into a four-day weekend-long virtual show in



exclusive tutorials and masterclasses; plus product demos and interactive advice clinics hosted by kit specialists and big brands. "The show will also feature exclusive deals, and offer you the chance to purchase all the kit and accessories you need from a range of outlets." Newsletter subscribers and social media followers were also warned to keep an eye out for more information coming

soon. In a newsletter from TPS, subscribers were told "visitors can expect an extensive programme of

soon. The show will also return to the NEC in Birmingham on 18-21 September 2021.

# Back to the 70's Kodak's Metal Film Case



In 1988, Nikon released the first commercial DSLR camera and the photography world changed forever. Now, as we reach the end of 2020, Kodak wants to transport us back half a century with the release of their 70's inspired metal film case.

This nostalgic tin, that comes in six different colours, allows you to truly immerse yourself into the world of film photography. The metal cannisters are emblazoned with the iconic Kodak brand logo and comes in red, blue, yellow, silver, black, and white.

The cases are described as "an essential piece to every film lover to

preserve and organise film rolls.

"The portable steel case organises five rolls of 135mm film, and segregates them neatly by an inner case."

The inspiration for these cannisters comes from Kodak's film packaging from the 1970's. Originally made of aluminium and the cap made of steel, the package was later swapped for grey-top plastic containers. "The cannisters were painted in colours and carried lots of joyful memories. It was indeed a big part of the film photography history," Kodak aims to recreate these tins in a more practical and stylish fashion.



# INFINITE POSSIBILITIES



After being forced to sell his favourite camera due to Covid-19, has decided to keep his spirits up and his creativity alive by building a 4x5 large format camera using LEGO blocks. The photographer, Abe-Chan, who goes by @wagoimages on social media decided to not let his creativity go to waste and pulled out some boxes of LEGO, a lens, bellows, and ground glass. The finishing touches on the camera are two spirit levels held up by LEGO dogs and guarded by a

Lego figurine. "In 2020, due to the influence of the new coronavirus, I gave up all cameras in order to survive the poor management of restaurants, which is his main business." Using his son's LEGO, Abe-Chan created "a large format camera that focuses on the expansion and contraction of the bellows. As he built the camera, he decided he wanted to add a number of functions that he usually lacked, including a tilt function and a swing function. He also wanted to use a telephoto lens.

Abe-Chan says that Tokushima, the city in Japan where he lives, is a beautiful nature surrounded place. "I live in a place that is worth shooting. And I want you to know its beauty" Since the amazing creation, the photographer has been travelling around Japan to test this peculiar invention. Despite the camera being made out of a child's toy, the photos he takes are amazing. "LEGO has infinite possibilities. "The fun of LEGO is that if you fail, you can remake it."



Toy photography opens your eyes to a whole new world of photography that can be found inside your own home, and you don't even need kids to be able to do this. We're all children at heart and probably have some old toy lying around that you couldn't bare to get rid off or maybe you've invested in that £600 Millennium Falcon to build during Lockdown.

Amateur photographer, Mark Phillips, takes his children's toys and creates amazing photographs.

Starting out as a photography theme to keep him occupied during Lockdown, Mark hopes to continue with his toy photography. "I have great fun with it and the kids give me inspiration so it's a win-win."

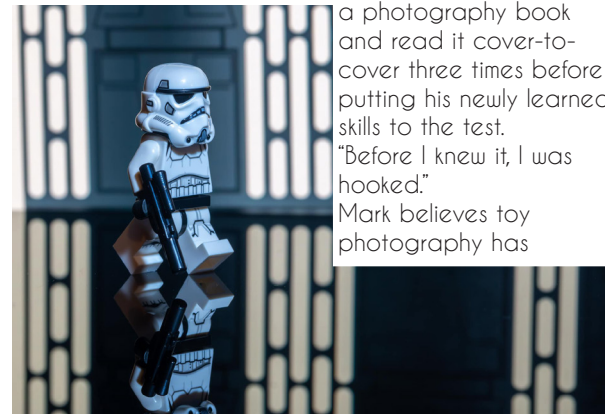
## TOY STORY

Mark hasn't been doing photography for very long - only starting out six months before the first Lockdown started - but quickly learned the basics through photography books and watching Photoshop tutorials on YouTube. In the summer of 2019, Mark decided he wanted to explore further into the world of photography and venture away from taking photos of his children. He took the "plunge" and invested in a Nikon D3500.

"I wanted to do it right so vowed never to use auto-mode ever". Instead, Mark purchased a photography book and read it cover-to-cover three times before putting his newly learned skills to the test. "Before I knew it, I was hooked." Mark believes toy photography has

become a bit of an obsession for him and it was a fun change from photographing his kids. When setting up for a toy photoshoot, Mark says he is "very basic and simple". His regular photoshoot kit is a torch, a tripod, and either his kit lens or a macro lens for Lego shots. Occasionally he will print out a background. When he's got his kit, he's ready to shoot.

"With a tripod, it doesn't matter about shutter speed so I shoot in aperture priority and stop down to about f/11 to get the subject sharp enough to my needs." However, Mark does hope to continue exploring the world of photography and upgrading to a full-frame camera to explore portraiture photography. "I want to try my hand at composite images using my my kids as subjects. I've already done a few lockdown inspired images."





## Putting the Pieces Together

One look at a college's darkroom and photography studio and Paul Hands was smitten. He just knew he had to sign up for a level three course right then. It was love at first sight for Paul. After losing his job as a telesales consultant in 2012 and his wife losing

her job shortly after, they had no idea what to do. "We both panicked" Paul said but they soon chose to go back to college to get into the healthcare industry. "It would have meant doing an access course and the thought of it bored the pants off me." During a visit to North Warwickshire and Hinckley

College to discuss their options, Paul opted to take a leap of faith and asked to check out the college's photography department. "We'd both always thought about learning more about photography but planned to wait until retirement." Deciding that then was a great opportunity to enter the



world of photography, Paul signed up for a two year course and then stayed on for an extra two years doing a Higher National Diploma (HND). From his time at college, Paul began his ongoing project by creating a Facebook page called "Hinckley Photographed" - now Hinckley and Burbage Photographed. He then finished his studies with a two year BA Honours at De Montfort University. Fast forward to 2020, Covid-19 hit and Paul lost all of his commissioned work, which included a four-film deal with a local rock music school. "I had enough work to support me for

a year but it all just fell away." Desperate to find a new way of putting food on the table for his family, Paul took a long, hard look at himself and decided to do whatever he could do to make money with what he had, and what he had was over ten thousand photos from his Hinckley and Burbage Photographed project. "I discovered a company that operates a photographers scheme, allowing only one per area." After applying to have his photographs viewed by this company, they opened up their product line to him, which included jigsaws, calendars, and

colouring books. From this, he has made almost a dozen 1000-piece jigsaws using his most popular photographs - his first jigsaw creation being a photograph of St Catherine's Church, a Hinckley and Burbage colouring book - a photobook about the Covid-19 lockdown, calendars for both 2020 and 2021, framed prints, and Christmas cards. These items can be purchased from his stall at the Hinckley market or via his website. "The first lockdown gave me the kick up the backside that I needed and my business rose out of the darkness."

# The British Photography Awards

The British Photography Awards, which launched its annual competition on August 3, closed the doors for entries on November 3. The British Photography Awards is "a fully independent community-driven venture, with no parent company or managing corporate interest. The teams are comprised of photographers, volunteers, charity employees,

ambassadors, and our three Directors who oversee the Awards, Development, and Events respectively. The photographs, which will be shortlisted between November 4 - November 30, will be judged by Clare Jones, Richard Peters, Damien Demolder, Benedict Brain, Angela Nicholson, Richard Bradbury, Lee Martin, Verity Milligan, Gillian Burke, Sanjay Jogia, Karen Massey, Leon Yearwood, and Gavin Prest.



With sixteen different categories to choose from, including: fashion, drone, documentary, and birdlife, members of the public can also vote their favourites for the People's Choice Award between Dec 3 and January 3. The competition, which is open to all British-based photographers of any nationality and all British passport holders all over the world, are partnered with sixteen amazing charities.

- Animals Asia
- Breast Cancer Haven
- Born Free
- Butterfly Conservation
- Dallaglio Rugby Works
- Hebridean Whale and Dolphin Trust
- Help For Heroes
- Hundred Heroines
- Medicines Sans Frontiers
- Ocean Youth Trust Scotland
- One Family
- Rainforest Concern
- Sense
- Shelter
- Surfers Against Sewage
- The Wildlife Trust
- The Racehorse Sanctuary
- Tusk
- World Cetacean Alliance
- 10:10



"Free Sprit" by Rooful Ali  
Category: Fashion  
Charity: Sense

"Antonia's Portrait" by Karim Omran  
Category: Portrait  
Charity: Breast Cancer Haven

"Acrobat of Dolphins" by Ghulam Rasool  
Category: Water Life  
Charity: Animals Asia



## WINNERS

The winners of the 2020 Comedy Wildlife Photography Awards were announced on Tuesday 27 October via Instagram and Facebook Live.

The comedy wildlife photography awards are divided into several categories with one overall winner of the entire competition.

This year, there were 44 finalists and all of them were amazing and hilarious.



The winner of the junior award (for 16's and under) is 10-year-old Olin Rogers with the photo: "I've Got You This Time", taken in Hwange National Park, Zimbabwe.



The Spectrum Photo Creatures of the Air Award went to Tim Hearn with this photo entitled "Hide and Seek", of an Azure Damselfly, taken in Devon, UK.



The Alex Walker's Serian Creatures of the Land Award winner is Charlie Davidson with his photo of a raccoon entitled "Almost Time To Get Up", taken in Newport News, VA, USA.

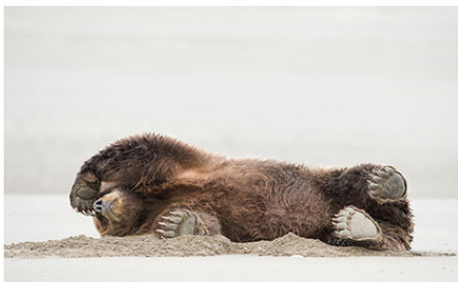
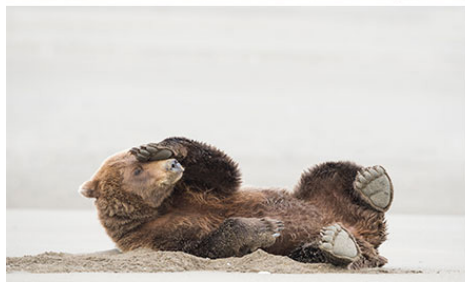
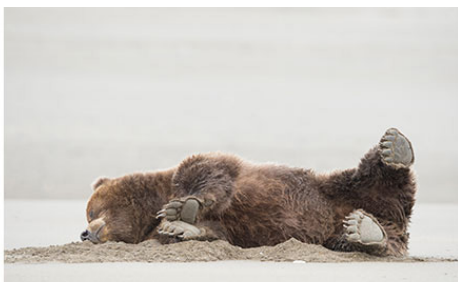
"The raccoon was just waking up and stretching. We have a raccoon in this tree every so often, sometimes for a night and sometimes for a month."



The Affinity Photo People's Choice Award was given to Roland Kranitz for his photo entitled "O Sole Mio", taken in Spermpophile, Hungary.

Nearly 18,000 people voted in the People's Choice Award and Roland Kranitz was the best!

For being fan favourite, Roland won an iPad, pre-loaded with the Affinity Photo Editing Software.



The Amazing Internet Portfolio Award was given to Daisy Gilardini with her four-image portfolio, entitled "Deadly Fart". This four-image series is of a brown bear lifting its leg to smell after a fart... then collapses. Taken at the Lake Clark National Park in Alaska, United States.

There was also a video award, which went to Dipali Shah with their video "When no one is around to scratch your back".

Tom Sullam, co founder of the competition, said 'it's brought a lot of humour, it's brought a lot of people together, and ultimately the message is conservation can be a

positive thing."

The overall winner of the 2020 Comedy Wildlife Photography Awards - which was up against 7000 entries worldwide - was Mark Fitzpatrick and his cursing turtle photograph, entitled "Terry the Turtle Flipping the Bird", which was taken at Lady Eliot Island, Queensland Australia. His



photo was the award winning photo in the Creatures of the Sea Category.

Mark Fitzpatrick told the Comedy Wildlife Photography awards that he "is so stoked and honoured to be the comedy wildlife photographer of the year. I could never have imagined when I took the photo of Terry the turtle flipping me the bird that so many people all around the world would get such a kick out of it."

The winner of the entire competition, Mark Fitzpatrick, won a week-long safari trip with Alex Walker's Serian in the Masai Mara, a Nikon Z6 camera with a 24-70 lens, a Think Tank camera bag, and the Comedy Wildlife awards trophy which is handmade by men and women with disabilities in Tansanir.

Co-founder, Paul Joynson-Hicks called the competition the Oscars of photography. 2020 was yet another successful year for the comedy wildlife photography awards.



## Priceless Pets!

©Elke Vogelsang/Mars Petcare Comedy Pet Photo Awards

The winner of the 2020 Mars Petcare Comedy Pet Photo Awards has been announced (Nov 24) and the photos are hilariously amazing.

The Comedy Pet Photo Awards - officially partnered with Mars Petcare - called on pet owners and animal lovers during the summer to submit their funniest photos of their furry friends.

Aiming to showcase the

"incredibly positive impact that pets have on our lives", the competition also wants to spread the message of competition's sponsor's Mars Petcare's mission of "Ending Pet Homelessness."

The competition and official partner are also raising funds for pet welfare by donating 10% of the sponsorship fee and 10% of all entry fees (£5 for five photos or £10 for 15) to Blue Cross, a national pet charity.

The funds provided to them by this competition will help them with their work rehoming pets and providing veterinary treatments and care. The competition's press release said: "At a time when most of the nation was spending more time with their pets than ever, the competition saw pet lovers across the world capturing funny moments with their much-loved pets."

Created by the founders

of the Comedy Wildlife Photography Awards, Paul Joynson-Hicks and Tom Sullam, the competition is now in its second year and are asking for people to "keep those funny pics safe" until the 2021 awards that will be open for entries on April 1st. Tom Sullam, co-founder of the competition said: "In all the gloom of 2020 the Comedy Pet Awards managed to raise our spirits more than most things."



Overall winner of the competition, Elke Vogelsang said "it's wonderful to be associated with something that makes people happy. This dog definitely is a mood-lifter. Happy to share her funny, gorgeous face with the world."

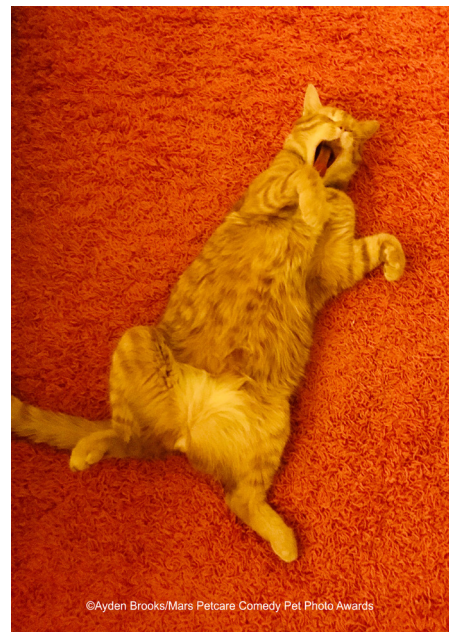
The winning dog named Noodles - a Galgo Espanol mix breed - was rescued by Elke's family from a kill shelter in Spain, making this competition close to Elke's heart.

But not only did Elke save Noodles' life, Noodles and their other dog, Scout, saved Elke's husband's life ten years ago when they alerted her that he was unconscious in the bath, later revealed to have been a severe brain haemorrhage due to a ruptured aneurysm. "If it hadn't been for the dogs, I would have found him too late. Thanks to them and the great doctors he survived, but during the stressful months that followed, I found photography as a creative outlet."

Honouring her rescue dogs, Elke plans to reinvest a part of her £3000 prize money back into an organisation for pet rescue.

"Our dogs are not only pets, but also family members, muses, friends."

Tom Sullam says that "the importance of pets in our lives - the positive life affirming friendship that they bring without even realising it is often underestimated and taken for granted."



Here are the individual category winners. The "Pets Who Look Like Their Owner" winner is Hannah Seeger with her image entitled: "Morning Mood". The winner of the "Our Fabulous Feline Friends" aka Cat Category is Malgorzata (Gosia) Russell with her photo entitled "Why are you upside down Mum?". The "All Other Creatures, Great or Small" Category winner is Anne Lidner with "Drama Queen". The winner of the "Mighty Horse" category is Magdalena Strakova's "Gossip Girls" image. The Junior Award Category winner went to Ayden Brooks with his video entitled "Good Morning Fox Mulder!" And, of course, the "Our Best Friends" aka Dog Category, of course, went to Elle Vogelsang with her photo entitled "Guard Dog on Duty".





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