



Photo editing for fun

U3A COMPUTER GROUP

KEN SURPLICE

Inevitable AI image



Some things to think about

Think before
you shoot

JPG or
Raw?

Fix or
enhance?

Real or
artistic?

Which app?

Store

Publish

DEMO



Think before you shoot



What is in the background?



**Light -
Golden hour**



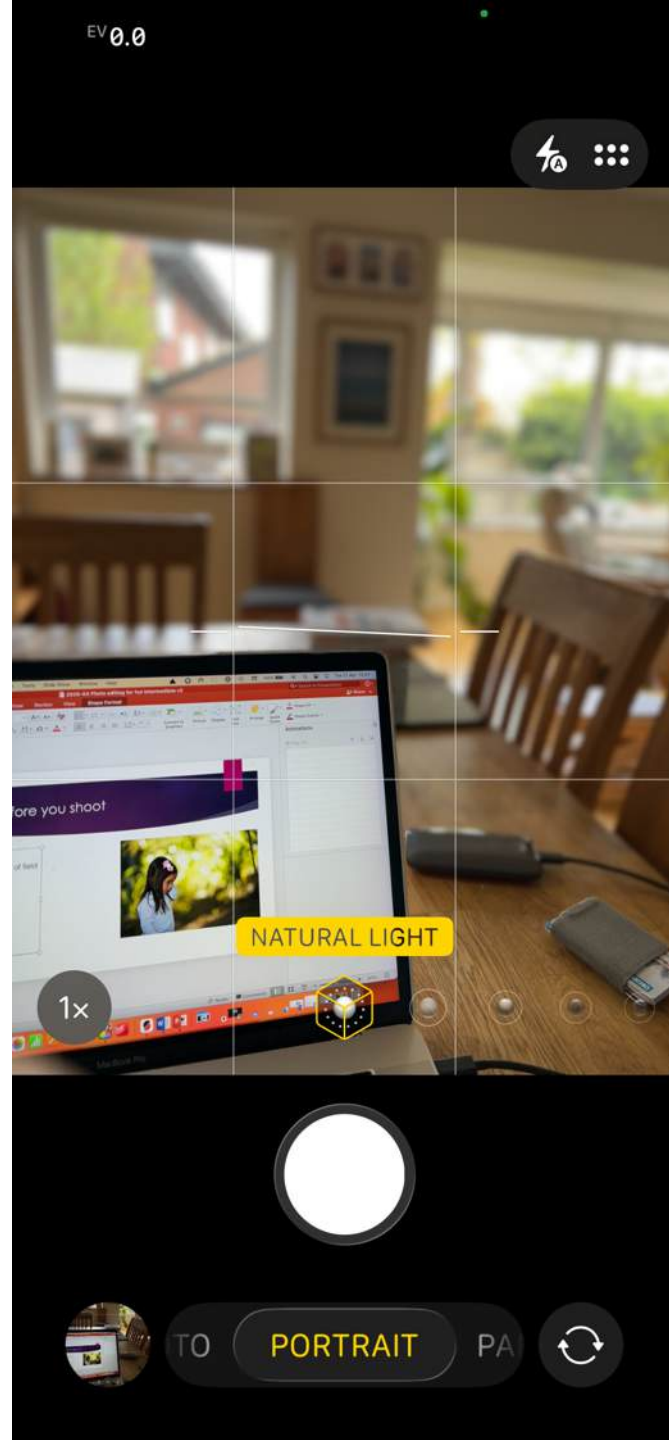
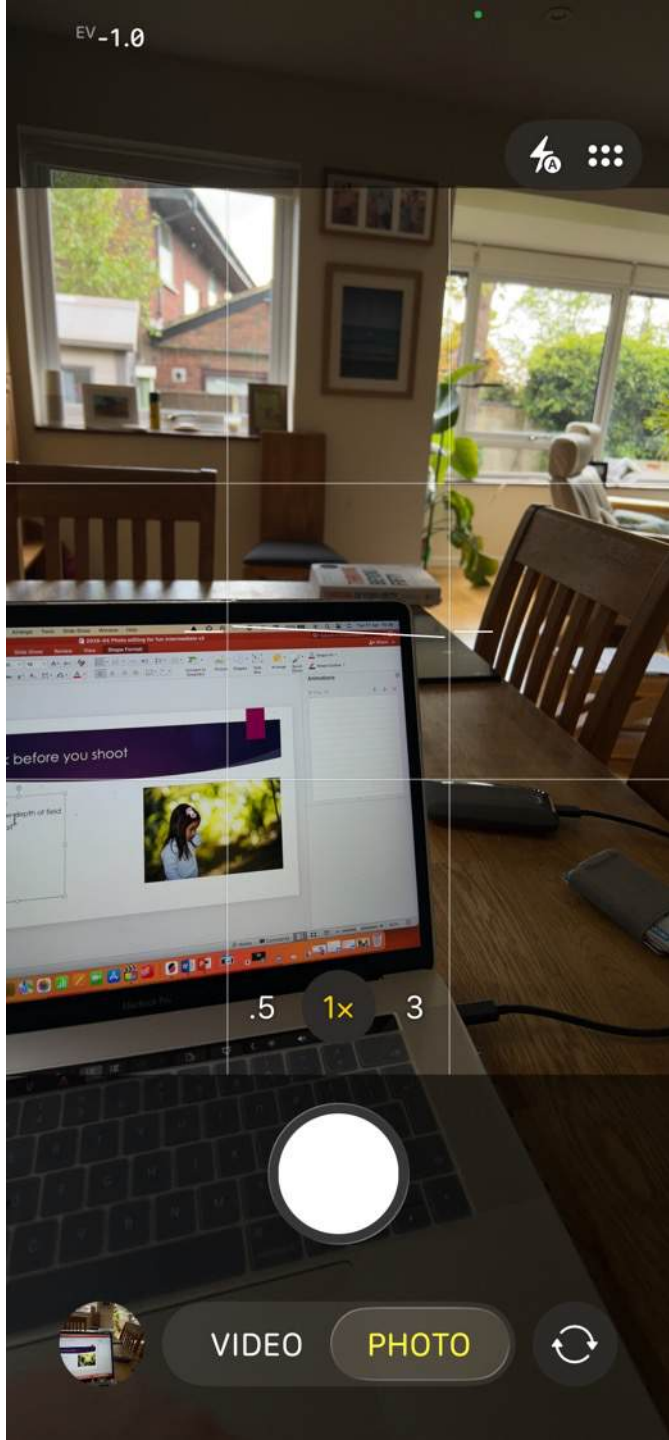
Focus

Think before you shoot

- ▶ Bokeh
- ▶ Shallow depth of field

The word bokeh originates from the Japanese word boke (ボケ), which means "blur" or "haze."





Even my
ancient
iPhone 13
can do bokeh

JPG or RAW?



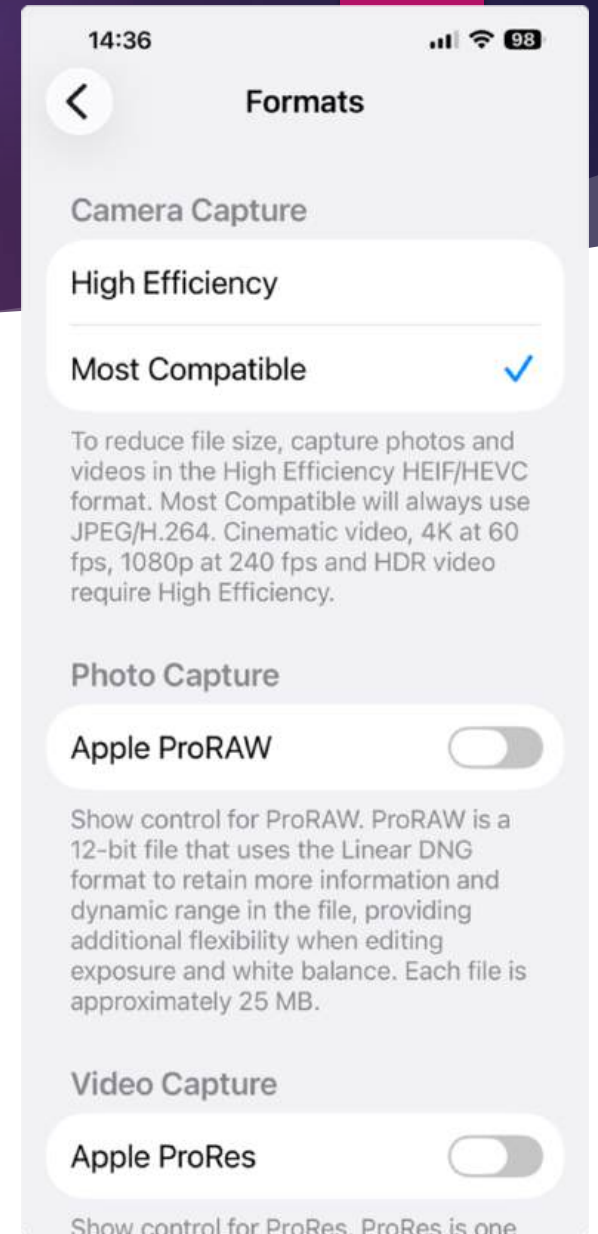
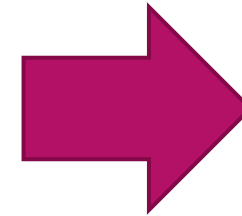
JPG stores a
summary

RAW stores
everything

RAW photos are
more readily
rescued. e.g.
change white
balance; shadows

Choosing RAW on an iPhone 13

Need an
editor that
understands
RAW



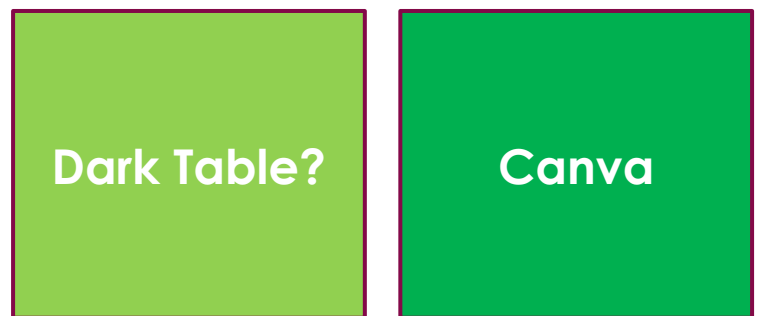
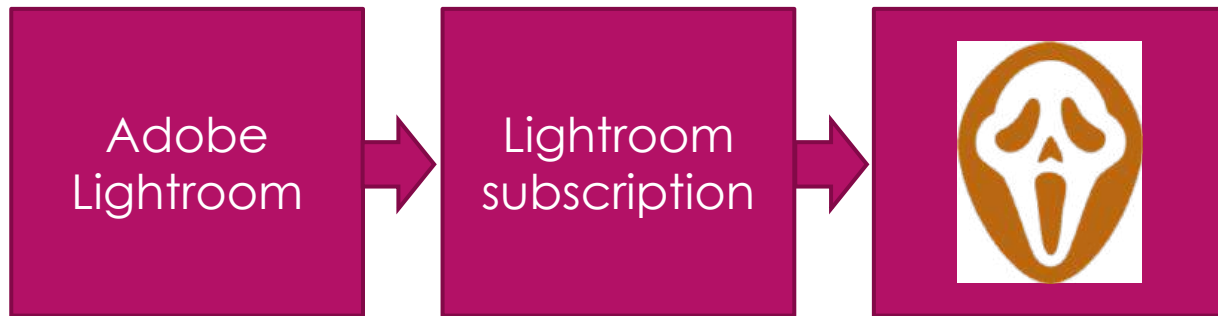
A photo rescued thanks to RAW format



The language of photo editing

- ▶ **Brightness/exposure** Overall lightness or darkness of an image. Affects mood & detail perception.
- ▶ **Highlights / shadows** Adjust light and dark regions separately.
- ▶ **Contrast** Difference between the darkest and lightest areas. Adds depth & definition.
- ▶ **Saturation** Intensity of colours in an image. Influences vividness and emotional impact.
- ▶ **Colour grading** Adjust the style of colours. Black/white. Old school. Exaggerated.
- ▶ **Sharpness** Controls how defined the details of the image will be.
- ▶ **Clarity** Adjust definition & sharpness. Higher appears grainy, lower appears faded.
- ▶ **Vibrancy** Adjust intensity of less-saturated colours to increase the saturation of the skin tone.
- ▶ **White balance** Adjusts colour temperature of lighting. Last resort.
- ▶ **Crop** Removes unwanted parts of image around edges to focus on the subject.
- ▶ **Hue, Saturation, and Luminance** Adjust the saturation & hue (tint) of specific colours in the image.

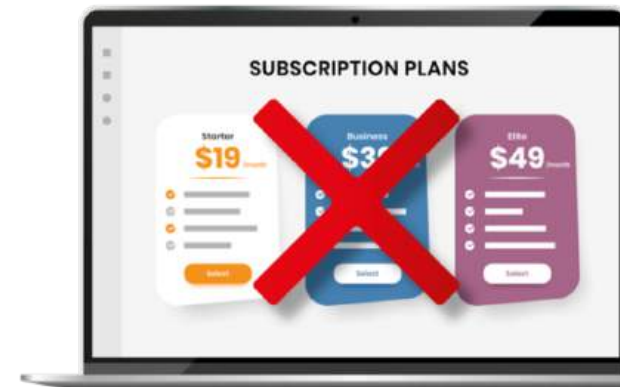
My photo editing history



Apple Creator Studio £13 / month or £129 / year

Which app - paying?

- ▶ Apple Pixelmator Pro, £50. Apple only. Mac & iPad
- ▶ Adobe Photoshop Elements **£87/3 years**. £41 lifetime old version.
- ▶ Luminar Neo advanced AI tools to effortlessly transform your photos into stunning visuals. £99-£129, £110 upgrade.
- ▶ DxO photolab. Advanced RAW editing. **£220**
- ▶ Corel PaintShop Pro. Advanced photo editor delivering a versatile range of pro-level editing £70-£90.
- ▶ Capture One. **£110/year**
- ▶ CyberLink PhotoDirector. Photo Editing Software With Generative AI. £80.
- ▶ Pixlr. £2.50/month For simple or advanced photo editing. For beginners who want fast results. Makes photo improvement unthreatening, great for occasional casual use. Pixlr browser based. Traditional + AI. Photographers and retouchers who are comfortable with the logic of traditional editing software but want AI to handle the time-consuming tasks (selection masking, background removal) will find Pixlr the most natural transition.



Which app - free?

- ▶ Built-in photos app. Free.
- ▶ Web based
 - ▶ **Canva**. Free for most tool. Subscription needed for AI tools —background removal, Magic Eraser, text-to-image. Built for speed and integration into publications.
 - ▶ **Photopea**. Ad supported. Transform your photos with professional-grade tools. AI features, layers, masks, filters, RAW.
 - ▶ **PicEditor AI**. Free, just about, for light use. Background removal, object erasing, image upscaling, style transfer, photography, removing distracting backgrounds, portrait retouching, skin smoothing and lighting adjustments without an over-processed look.
 - ▶ **Fotor**. Free for basic. £35-£56 for advanced editing. Worth a try of free version. Complete set of tools for both individuals and companies to effortlessly edit photos. Uses a drag-and-drop interface to simplify the editing process. Includes AI photo editing tools, AI image and video generation powered by artificial intelligence.

Which app - free?

- ▶ **Snapseed** by Google. iOS and Android. No ads. Professional-quality tools & user-friendly interface, making it suitable for casual users and serious photographers. Many features, including selective editing, RAW file support, and various filters, allowing users to enhance their images effectively
- ▶ **GIMP**. Free. GNU's Not UNIX. The GNU Image Manipulation Program. 'Mature' **open-source** raster graphics editor for photo retouching, image editing, free-hand drawing. Windows, Linux and macOS.
- ▶ **RawTherapee**. Free. **Open Source**. Windows, Mac, Linux. Free, cross-platform raw image processing program. Can do JPG but best for RAW. Very capable.
- ▶ **Darktable**. Free. **Open Source**. Can replace Adobe Lightroom for cataloging and editing photos. application and raw developer. Image editing operations aimed at non-destructive raw photo post-production. Focused on improving a photographer's workflow by facilitating the handling of large numbers of images. Linux, macOS and Windows. Needs a bit of work to become familiar with it. See <https://youtu.be/SPW6h4P87I4?si=s2Jnms5xxluH8ZmE>
- ▶ **Affinity by Canva**. Was Serif. Free forever. Graphic design, photo editing, desk top publishing all in one. Some optional AI tools locked behind a Canva Pro subscription. ~£12.month. Well designed. Get if you're looking for powerful image tools in an impressively well made interface.

Demo time

- ▶ Adjusting light and colours
- ▶ Removing unwanted objects



Demo time

Do it
NOW!

Welcome back

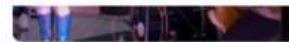
Storing your photos

- ▶ Filenames
- ▶ Keywords
- ▶ Captions

All Photos > PhotoLibrary > 2026 > 2026-03



2026-03 Paul Miami gig R...



2026-03 Paul Miami gig R...



2026-03 Paul Miami gig R...



2026-03 Paul Miami gig R...



2026-03 Paul Miami gig R...



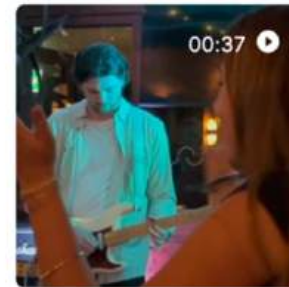
2026-03 Paul Miami gig R...



2026-03 Paul Miami gig R...



2026-03 Paul Miami gig R...



2026-03 Paul Miami gig R...



2026-03 Paul birthday din...



2026-03 NC500 tour Cart...



2026-03 NC500 tour Cart...



2026-03 NC500 tour Cart...



2026-03 NC500 tour Cart...
















2026-03 NC500 tour Cart...

Explicit file names

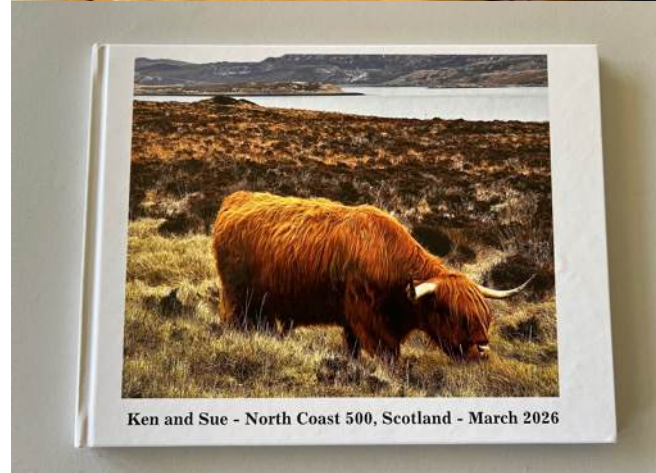
photo > PhotoLibrary > 2026 > 2026-03 ★

Create ▾ Upload ▾ Action ▾ Tools ▾ Settings

Name	Size	File Type ▾	Modified Date
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 2026-03 NC500 Lake District IMG_7882.JPG	6.1 MB	JPG File	04-03-2026 09:15:02
 2026-03 NC500 Lake District IMG_7883.JPG	4.5 MB	JPG File	04-03-2026 09:17:23
 2026-03 NC500 Lake District IMG_7884.JPG	4.2 MB	JPG File	04-03-2026 09:18:28
 2026-03 NC500 Lake District IMG_7885.JPG	4.6 MB	JPG File	04-03-2026 09:18:33
 2026-03 NC500 Lake District IMG_7886.JPG	5.2 MB	JPG File	04-03-2026 09:19:22
 2026-03 NC500 Lake District IMG_7887.JPG	3.1 MB	JPG File	04-03-2026 09:21:45
 2026-03 NC500 motorhome tour IMG_7888.JPG	5.1 MB	JPG File	04-03-2026 15:31:04
 2026-03 NC500 motorhome tour IMG_7889.JPG	4.8 MB	JPG File	04-03-2026 15:31:08
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 2026-03 NC500 motorhome tour IMG_7895.JPG	3.5 MB	JPG File	05-03-2026 09:51:07

Publishing

- ▶ To your computer disk
- ▶ Photo frame
- ▶ Online sharing
- ▶ To your television
- ▶ To a photo printing service
- ▶ To a photo book printing service



You made it!



Your questions please?



Future topics

- ▶ Canva
 - ▶ Edit photos
 - ▶ Easily design great looking leaflets, certificates, documents

Interested



Thank you and happy editing!

Next time

<p>Tue 12 May 2026 2-4pm</p> <p>Beginner topic</p>	<p>Getting started with Microsoft Excel, part 4 – worked examples</p>	<p>Beginners Intermediates Windows PC Apple Mac Linux</p>	<p>This session is for absolute beginners The final session in our series will use real life examples to reinforce what you have learned while showing you how practical spreadsheets can be in day-to-day life. Get ready for Pivot Tables. Speaker: Arthur</p>
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