



Musselburgh Camera Club Guide to Club Competitions

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Why Enter Club Competitions?

- Taking part will improve your photography.
- Your images can help the club compete in inter-club competitions.
 - Your best images can also become part of club exhibitions.
- The feedback is useful.
 - Feedback from the judges. Feedback from everyone else.
- The images and subjects give you inspiration.
 - Come along to the “recorded lecture” sessions as well.
- If your images don't do well
 - Don't lose heart.
 - Judges have differing opinions and may not like your work.
 - It happens to all of us.
 - Listen to all feedback. The tea break is also useful.
 - Enter lots of competitions so lots of judges see your work.



Note: You
maintain
copyright on
all images you
enter

Competition Categories

Digital Projected Images

- Digital images are recorded by your camera, processed and saved as JPEG files.
- The files are sent to the competition secretary before the closing date.
- The competition secretary sends those files to a judge.
- On competition night, the images are shown with the club projector and marks are awarded by the judge.
- Up to 3 images may be entered, and the marks are added together.

Print Competitions

- Images recorded by your camera are saved, processed and then printed.
- The prints are mounted onto backing board and given to the competition secretary at a club meeting.
- The prints are packaged in a folder and sent to a judge.
- On competition night, the prints are shown and marks are awarded by the judge.
- Up to 3 prints may be entered, and the marks are added together.

The Trophies

**Photographer Of
The Year Trophy**

**Nikon Shield
(best newcomer)**



**Colour
Shield**

**Colour
Print
Shield**

**Portraiture
Cup**

**Monochrome
Print Cup**

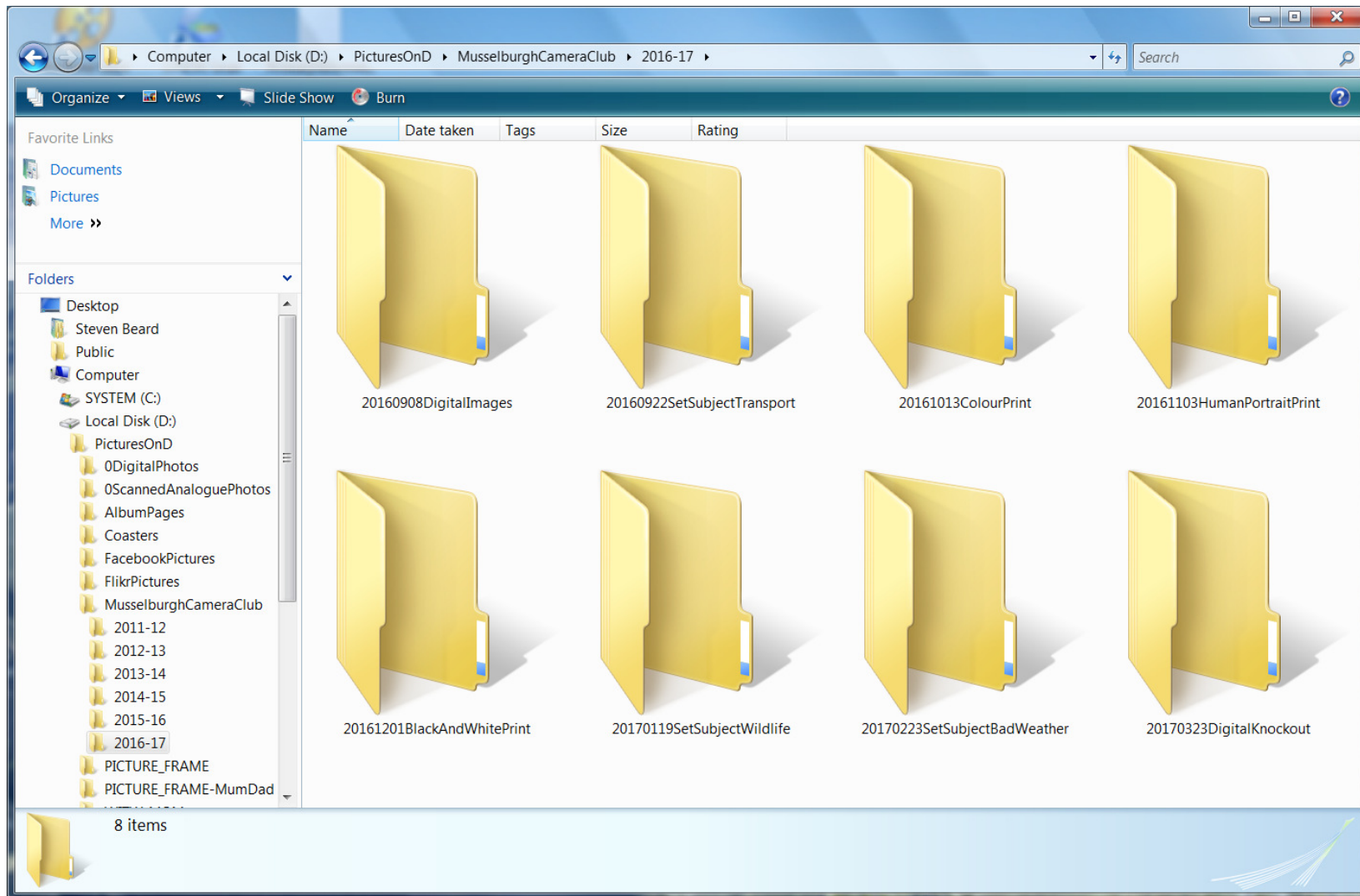
**Colin McKay
Memorial
Quaich**

MCC Competition Calendar 16/17

- Core Club Competitions
 - Digital Projected Images
 - Colour Shield
 - ☐ 8 Sep 16 → 29 Sep 16
 - Colour Print
 - Colour Print Shield
 - ☐ 13 Oct 16 → 3 Nov 16
 - Human Portrait
 - Portraiture Cup
 - ☐ 3 Nov 16 → 24 Nov 16
 - Black and White
 - Monochrome Print Cup
 - ☐ 1 Dec 16 → 12 Jan 17
- Set Subject Competitions
 - Transport
 - ☐ 22 Sep 16 → 13 Oct 16
 - Wildlife
 - ☐ 19 Jan 17 → 9 Feb 17
 - Bad Weather
 - ☐ 23 Feb 17 → 16 Mar 17
 - Colin McKay Memorial Quaich
- Informal Competitions
 - Digital Knockout
 - Mystery prize
 - ☐ 23 Mar 17

Sorting your images:

Make a folder for each competition, named by submission date



Interclub Competitions

Swedish Interclub

With Molnlycke Fotoclubb

☐ 17 Nov 16

3-Way Interclub

Hosted by Stirling, with Edinburgh and Musselburgh

☐ 7 Dec 16

4-Way Interclub

At Musselburgh, with Beeslack, Galashiels and Midlothian

☐ 19 Jan 17

12-Way Interclub

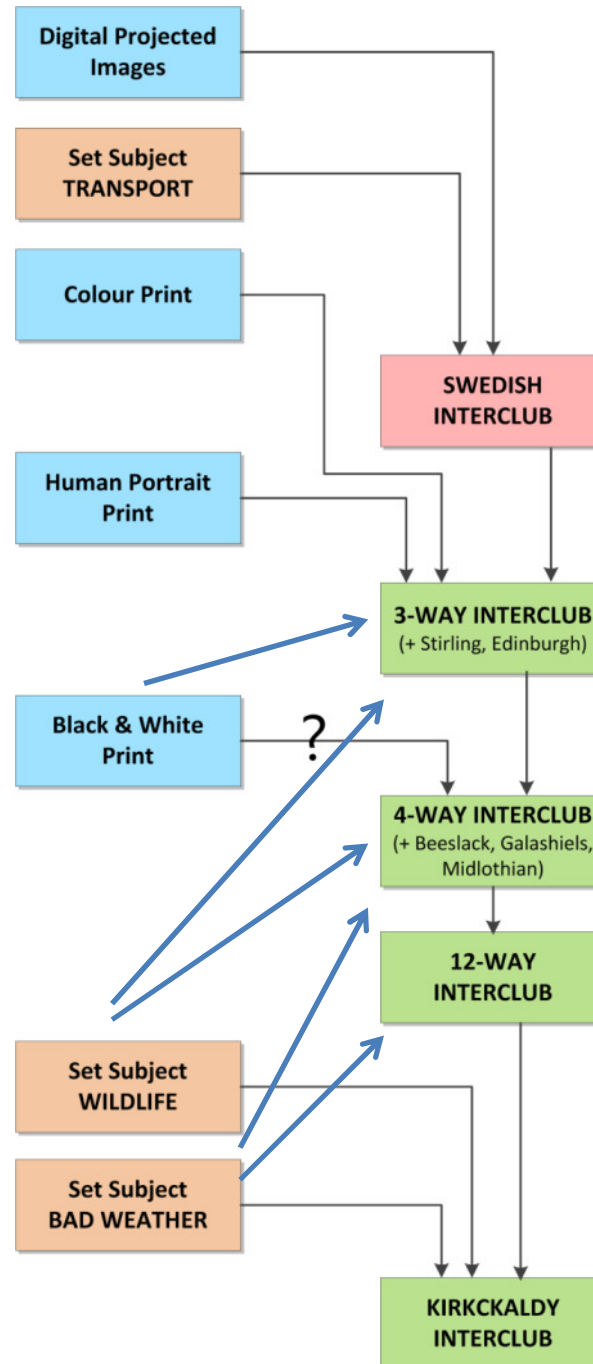
Lady Victoria Mining Museum

☐ Jan/Feb 17 (TBC)

Kirkcaldy Interclub

At Musselburgh

☐ 27 Apr 17



NOTE: To give us flexibility in the interclub competitions, all prints must now be accompanied by digital versions of the same images.

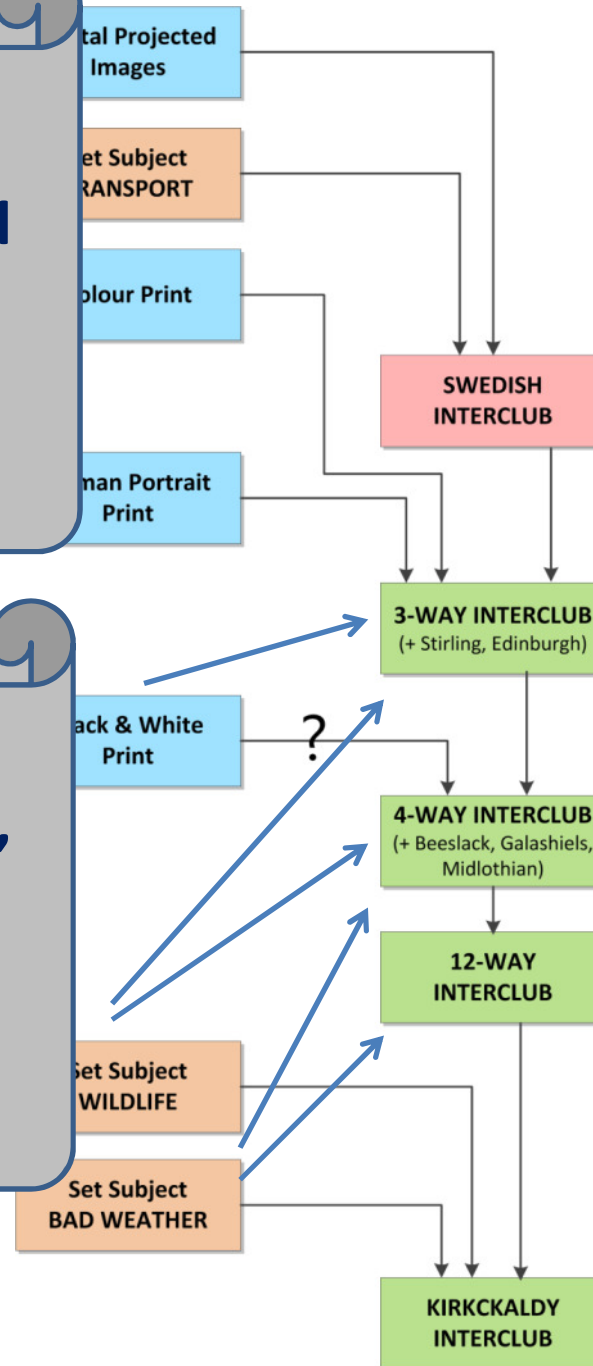
hosted by Stirling, with Edinburgh and Musselburgh

☐ 7 Dec 16

NOTE: To give us a good selection from the beginning, please send your good images at any time. You don't need to wait for a club competition

At Musselburgh

☐ 27 Apr 17



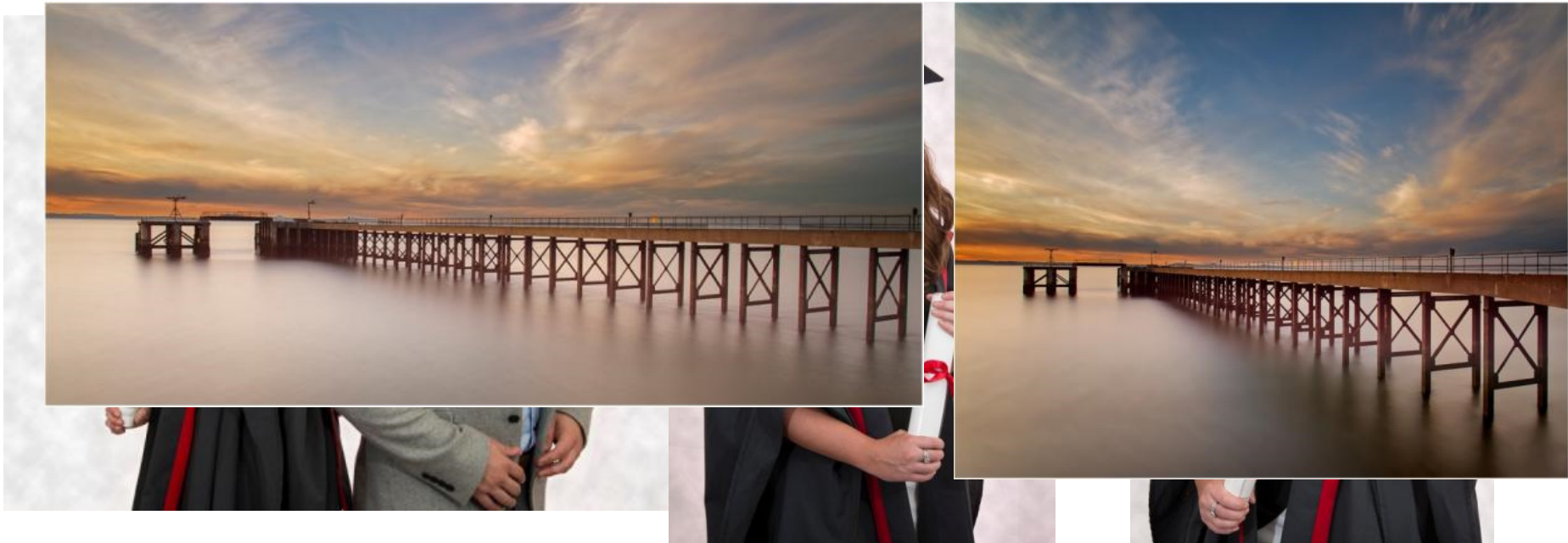
Competition Rules (part 1)

- All images must be entirely the member's own original work.
 - Images which are someone else's work will be disqualified.
 - Be careful when photographing someone else's artwork or using images to make a composite.
 - Images relying on someone else's artwork may lose marks.



Competition Rules (part 2)

- No image may be used that is *too similar* to one used in an earlier competition by the same author.
 - Entering the same image more than once is not allowed.
 - Keep track of your competition entries.
 - Be careful of images taken from the same photo shoot.
 - Applies to images entered for the same kind of competition.



DPI vs Print Requirements

Digital Projected Images

- Up to 3 images
- Must be sized with longest side 1400 pixels
 - E.g. 1400 x 1050, 1050 x 1400
- (RGB colour mode)
- Must be saved in JPEG format.
- File name identifies title and member number.
 - For example:
56_My_Image_Title.jpg
- Submitted on a memory stick, CD or emailed to the competition secretary.

Print Competitions

- Up to 3 prints
- Must be accompanied by digital versions (see left).
- Mounted on mount board
 - Minimum size: 40cm x 30cm
 - Maximum size: 50 cm x 40cm
- Write member number and title **ONLY** on the back.
- Mounted prints must not damage other member's work.
 - No sellotape or masking tape.
 - Make sure there is no excess glue around the edge of the print.

DIGITAL PROJECTED IMAGE REQUIREMENTS

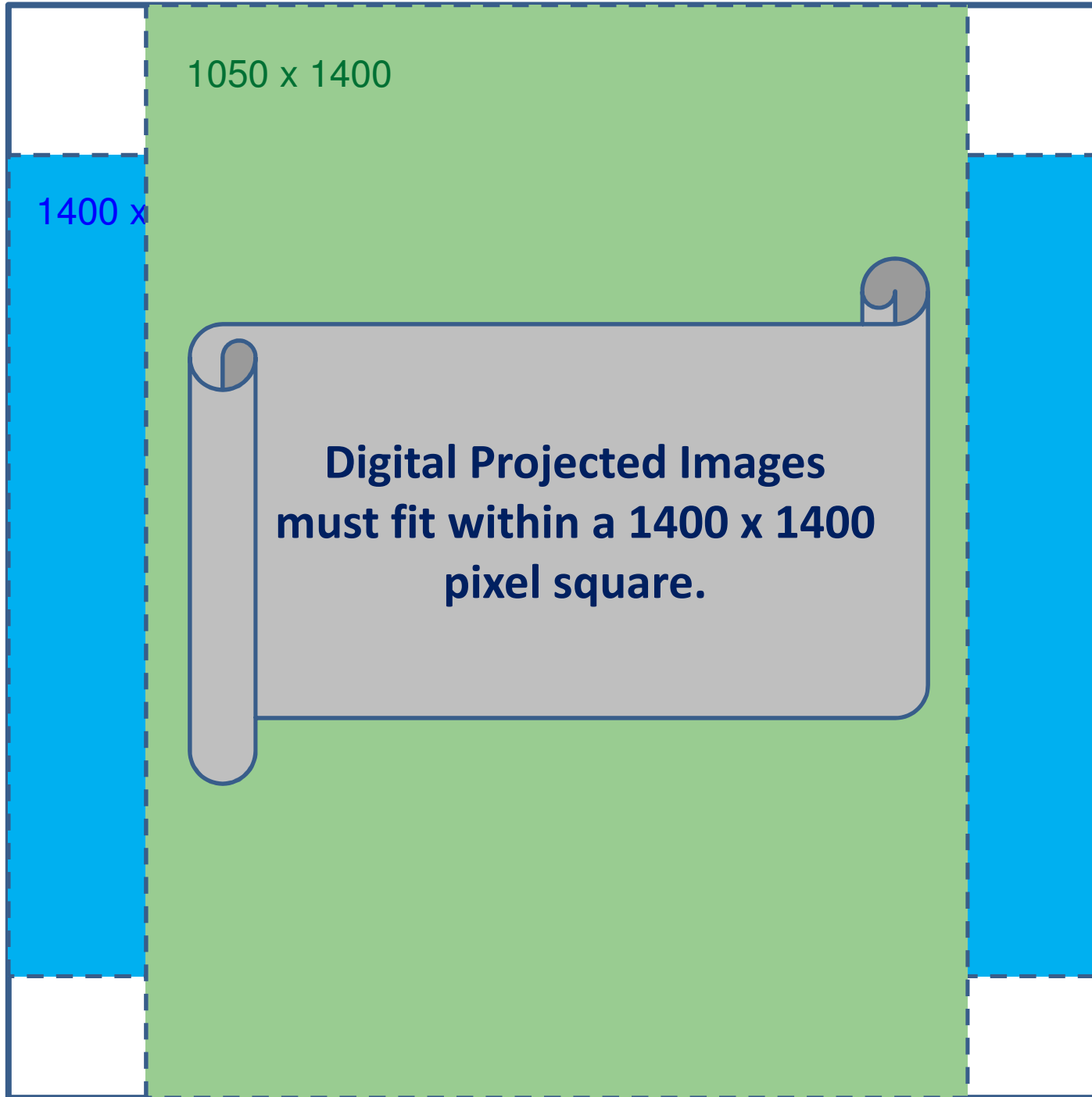
DPI

1050 x 1400

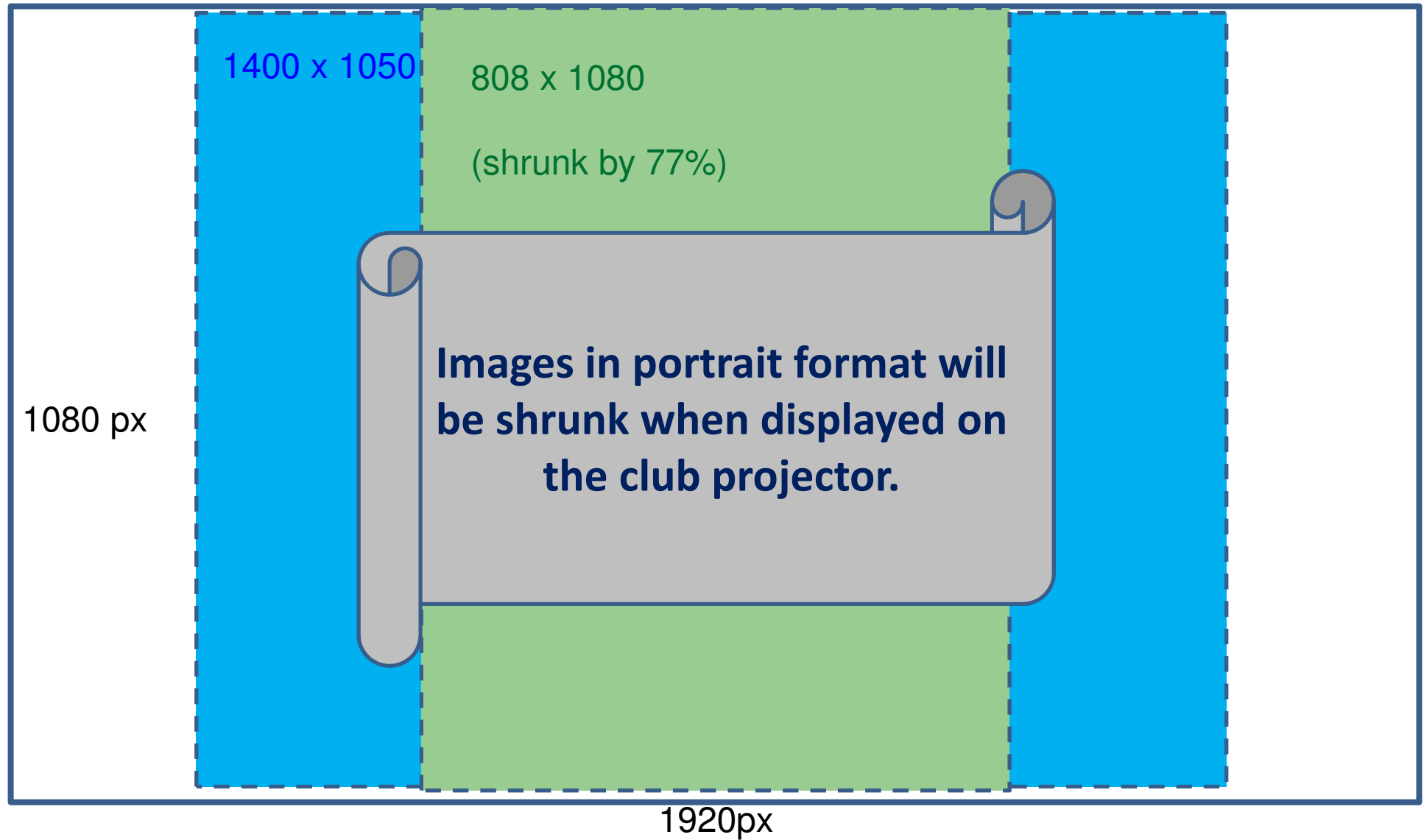
1400 x

1400 px

**Digital Projected Images
must fit within a 1400 x 1400
pixel square.**

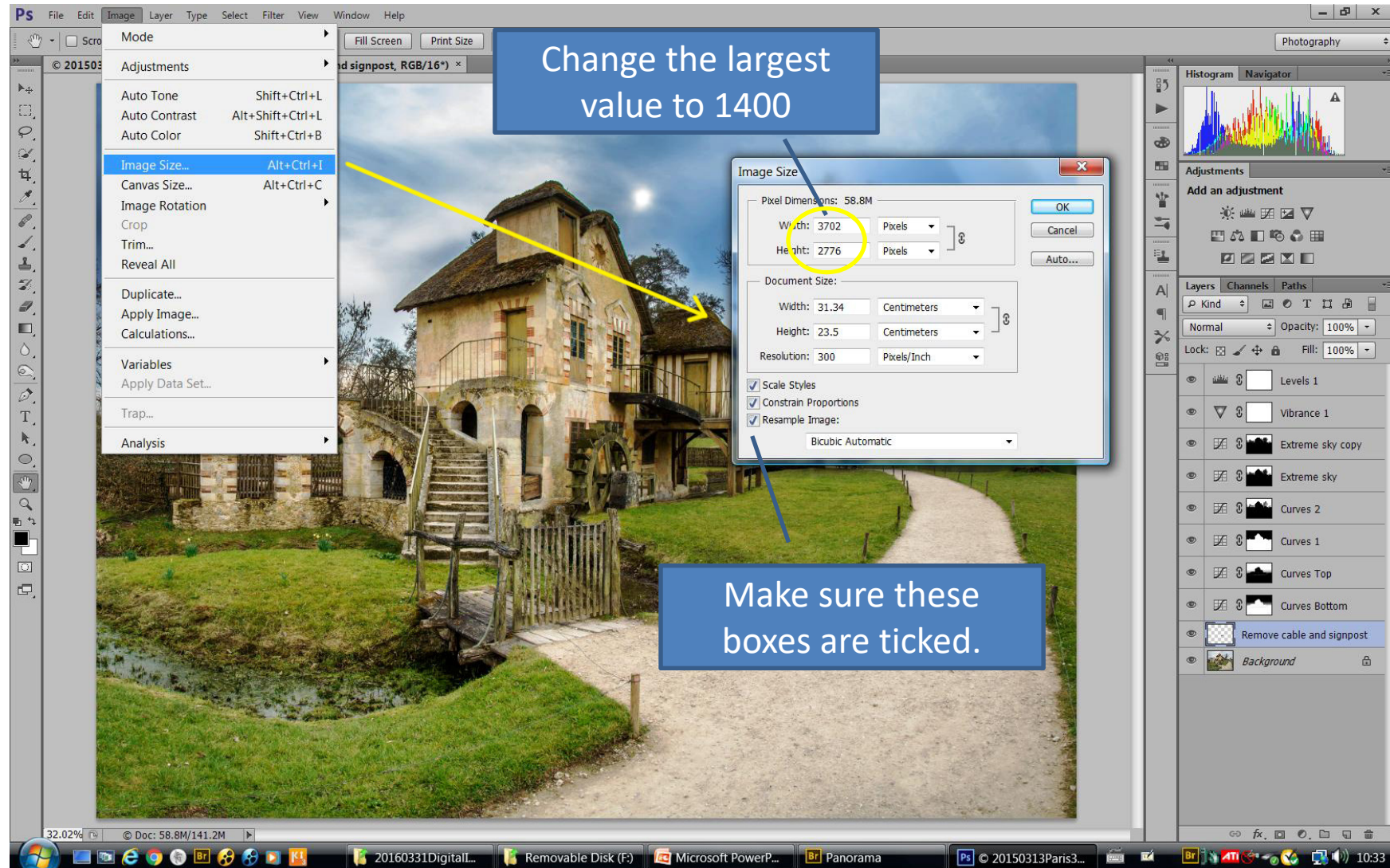


Club projector



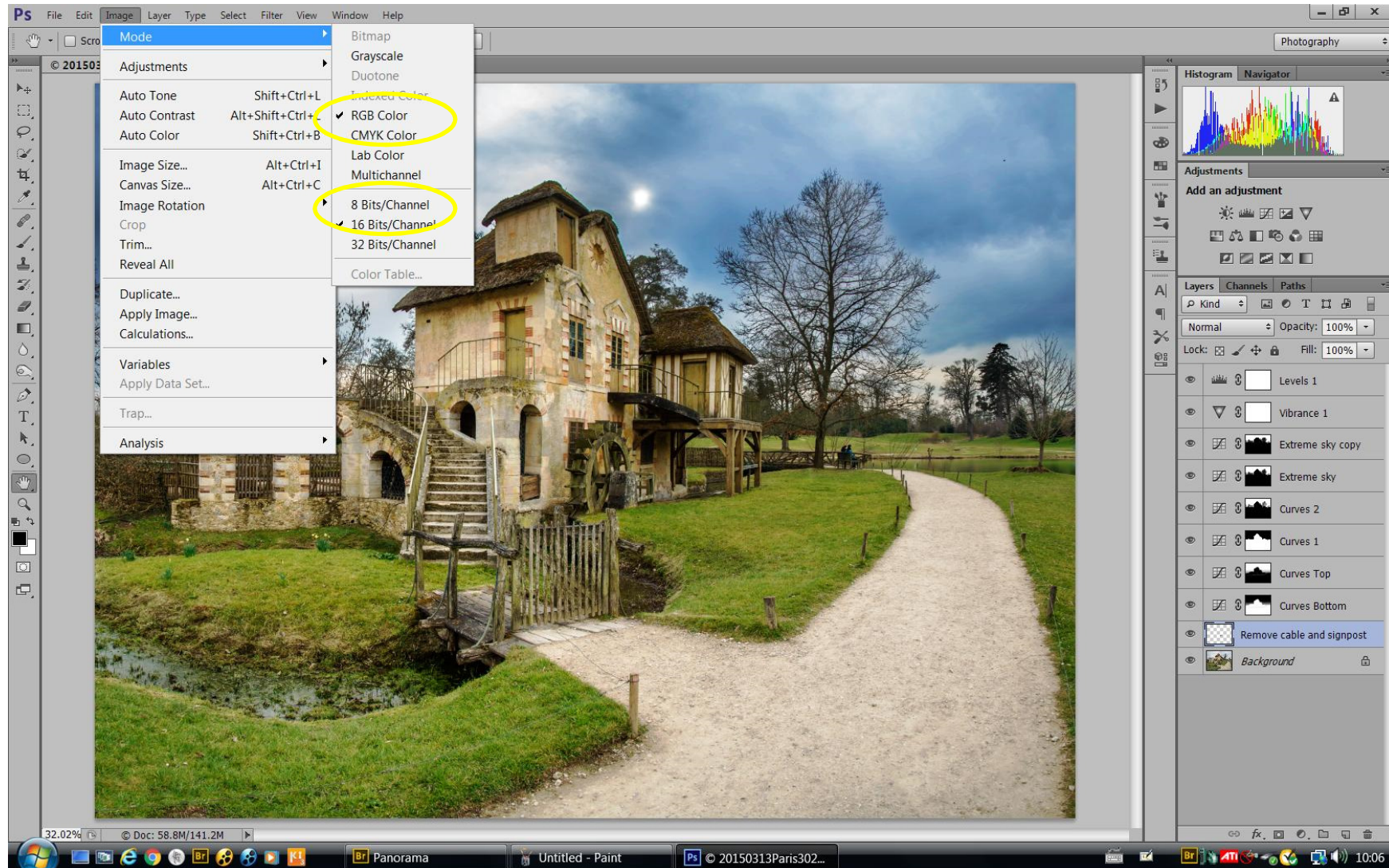
Resizing for DPI Competitions

One image at a time using Photoshop's "Image/Image Size"



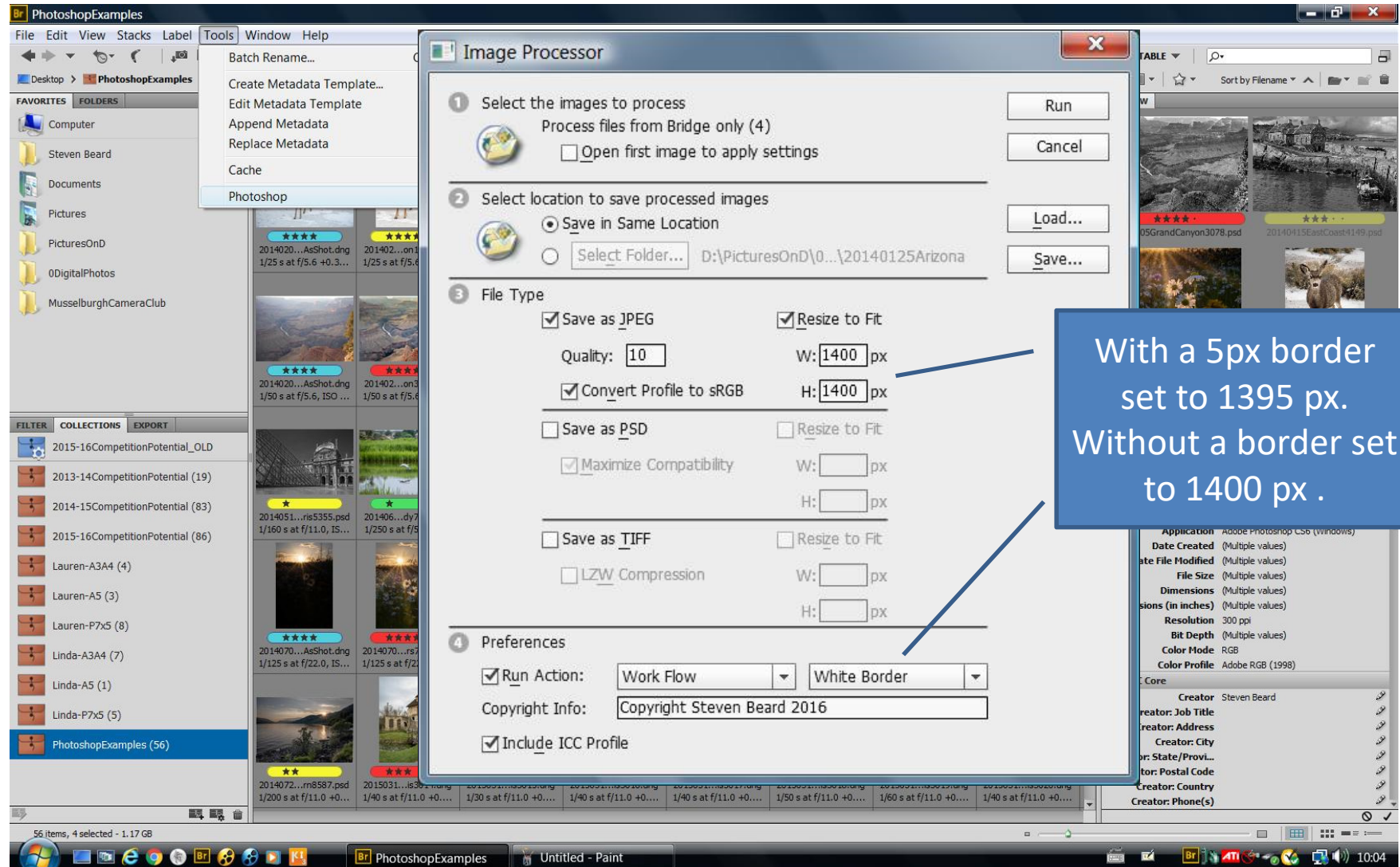
Resizing for DPI Competitions

Don't forget to change the image mode to 8-bit RGB before saving to JPEG



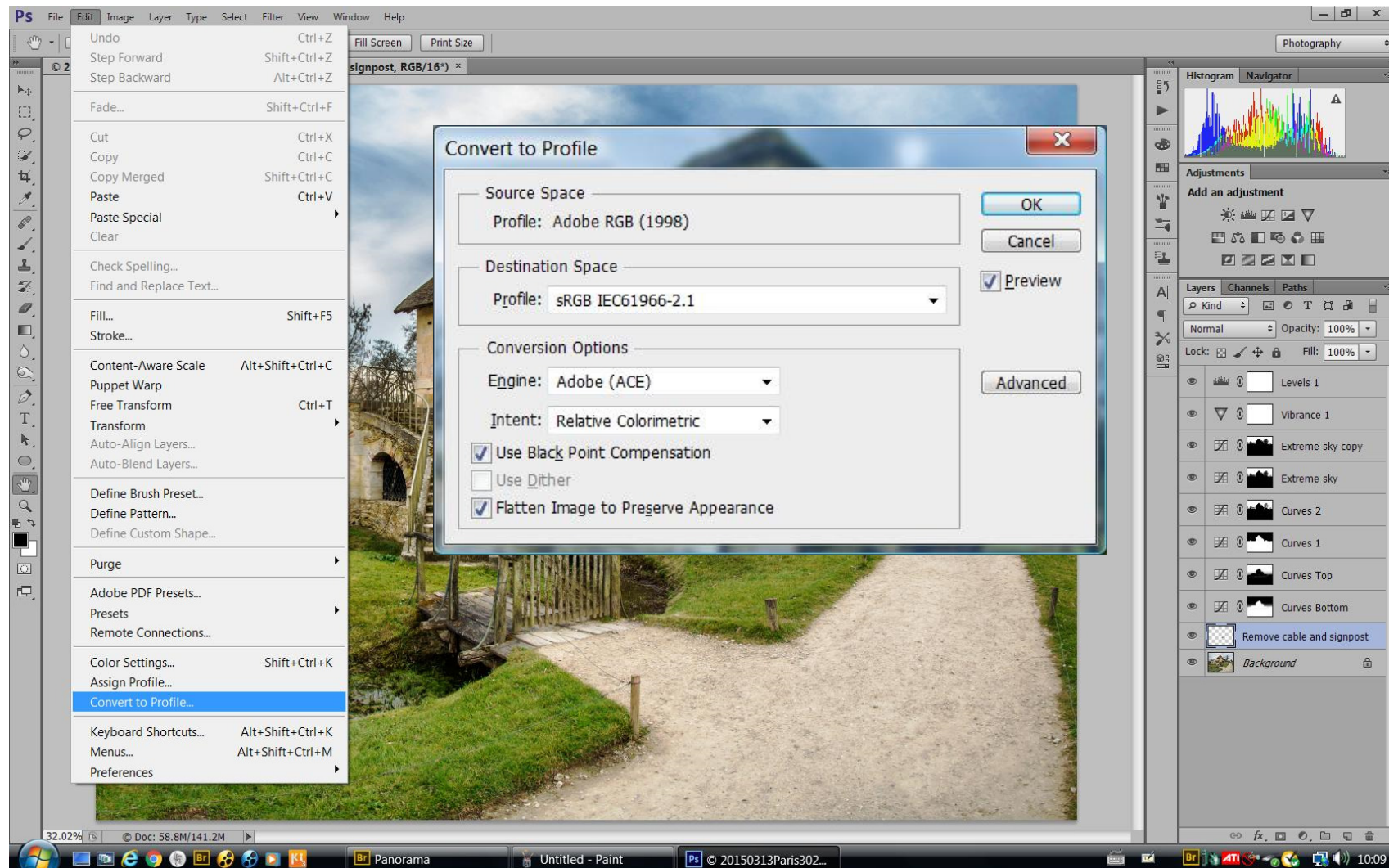
Resizing for DPI Competitions

Many images in one go using the “Tools/Photoshop/Image Processor” from Bridge



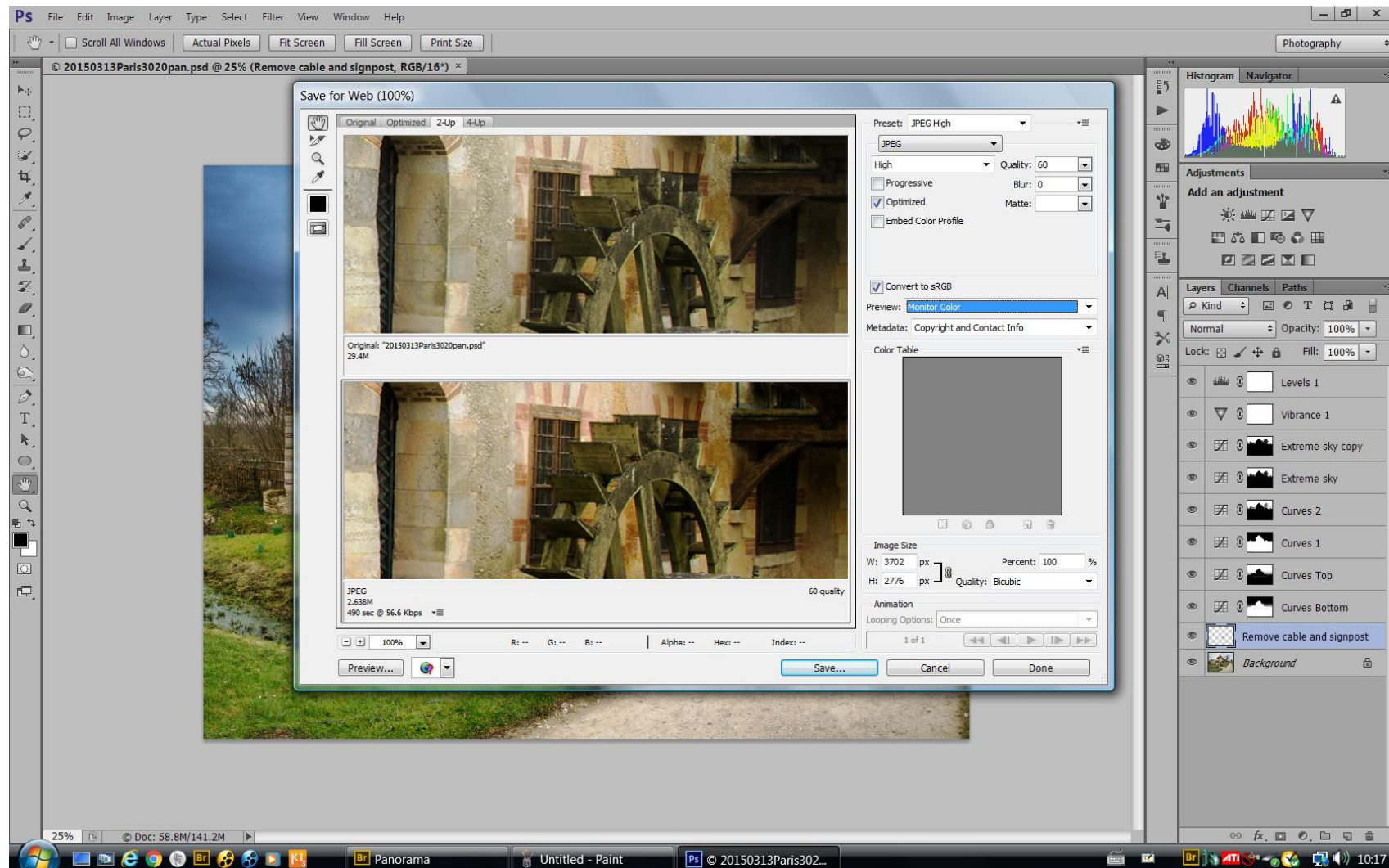
Saving a Digital Projected Image

Changing the colour profile with “Edit/Convert to Profile” within Photoshop.



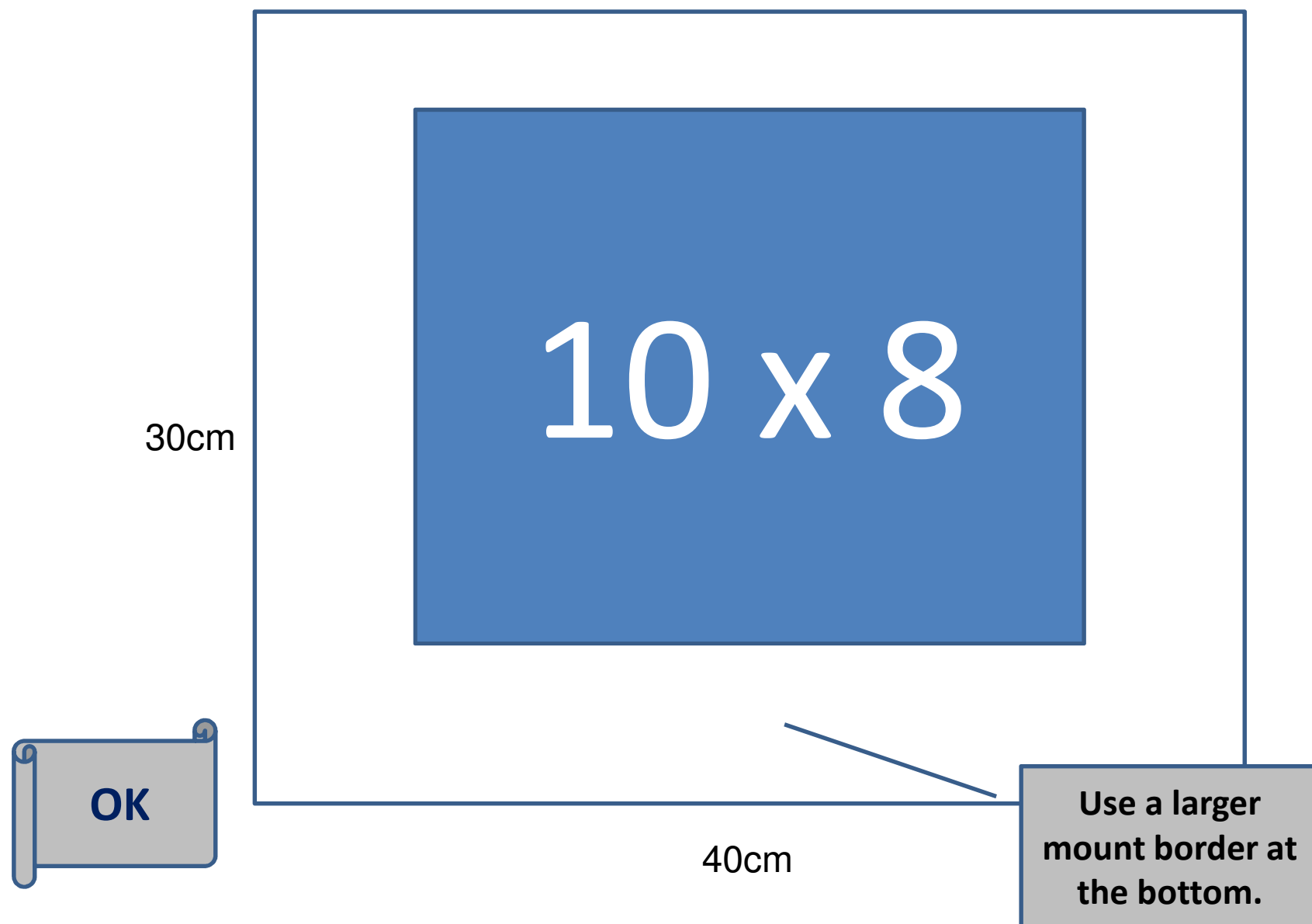
Saving a Digital Projected Image

Photoshop's "File/Save for Web" facility does everything at once.

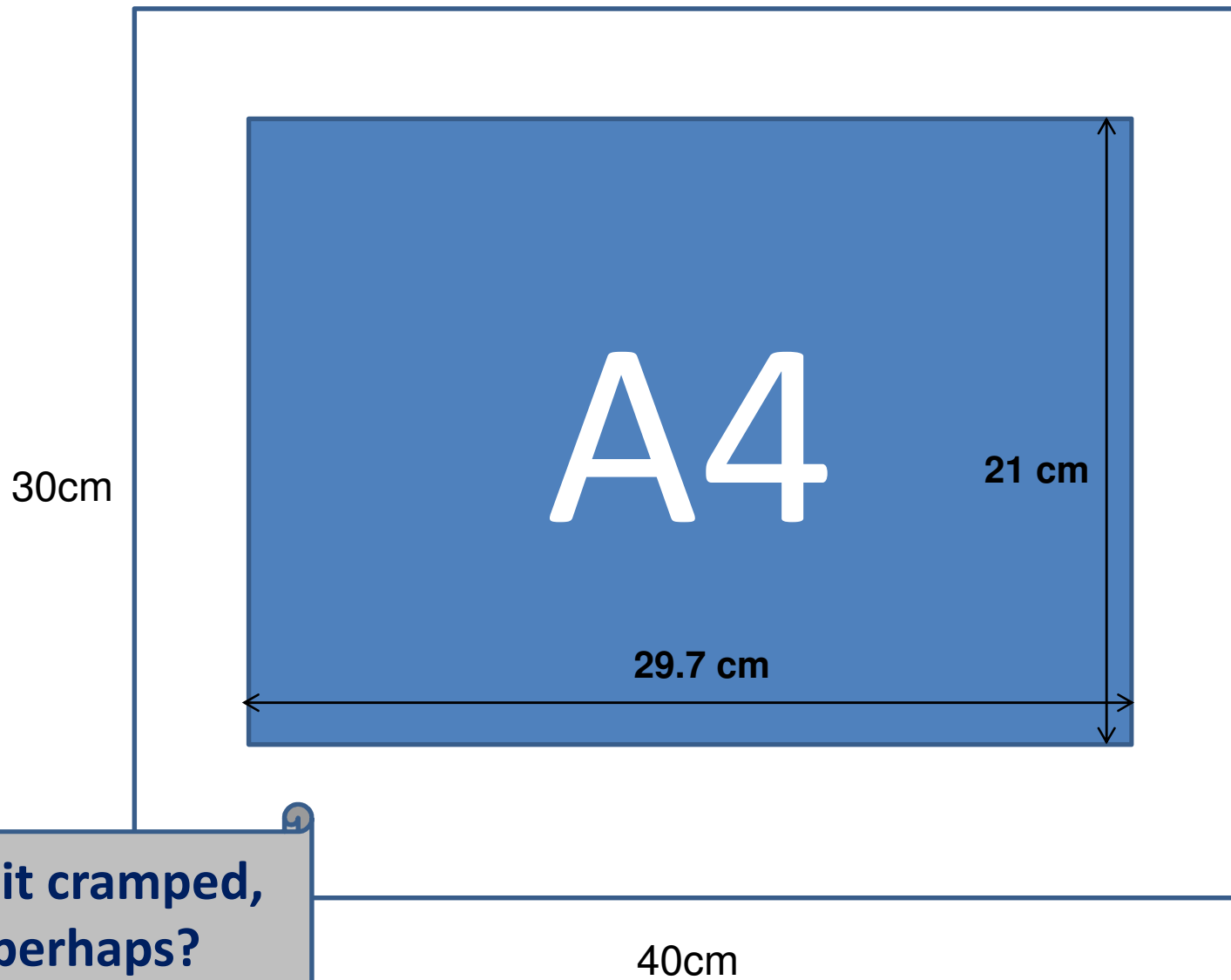


PRINT REQUIREMENTS

Print



Print



Print

40cm

A4

50cm

**Small prints look
better with a
larger mount.**

Print

56 My Funny Little Print

40cm

10 x 15

OK

50cm

Member number and title
on the back, the same
way up as the print

Print

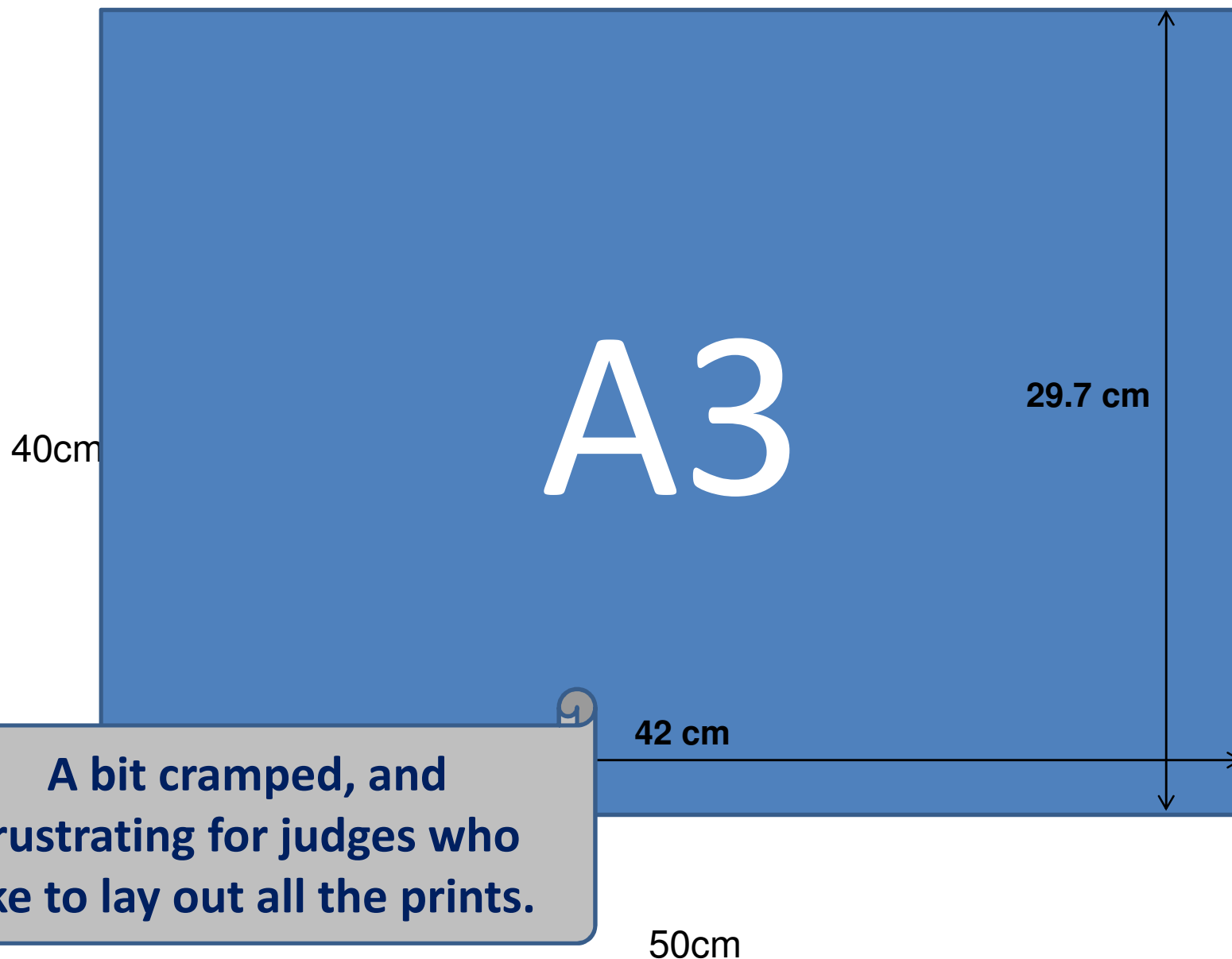


Image Resolution

Prints

Number of Megapixels	Image Dimensions	Acceptable Print Size (Inches)
2.0	1740 x 1160	4 x 6
3.0	2160 x 1440	5 x 7
4.0	2450 x 1633	8 x 10 A4
6.0	3000 x 2000	9 x 12
8.0	3504 x 2336	9 x 12
10.0	3872 x 2592	10 x 15
12.0	4256 x 2832	11 x 17 A3
14.0	4608 x 3072	12 x 18
16.0	4928 x 3264	16 x 20
18.0	5184 x 3456	16 x 20 A2
24.0	6016 x 4000	20 x 24

Digital Images

Name	Image Dimensions
XGA	1024 x 768
HD 720p	1280 x 720
SXGA	1280 x 800
DPI standard	1400 x 1050 *
UXGA	1600 x 1200
HD 1080p	1920 x 1080 **
WUXGA	1920 x 1200

* = Competition standard

** = Club projector

Mounting Prints - 1

- Print your images.
 - Use good quality paper. Museum paper from Calumet and Permajet are popular choices. You don't need to stick with the paper made by your printer manufacturer.
 - You can make test prints first on cheaper paper.
- If the prints don't look good at first, adjust your image and try again.
 - Matching the image displayed on your screen requires a perfectly calibrated printer.
- Trim the edges of the print using a paper guillotine.
 - Aim for equal border thickness all round.

Mounting Prints - 2

- Attach your prints to the mounting board.
 - Use *permanent* photo glue or *strong* double sided mounting tape.
 - Do not use repositionable glue, paper glue or sellotape. Your prints need to last a year of use, and excess glue or tape can damage other people's work.
 - Check around the edge to ensure there is no excess glue or exposed sticky tape. Allow glue to dry.
- Cut the mounting board around the print.
 - Mark the edges first using a pencil and ruler aligned along the edges of your print. Larger border at the bottom.
 - Sticking first and cutting second means you don't need to align the print exactly when sticking it down.

Two recommended ways of attaching prints

**Photo mounting glue.
Use the red “Photo Mount”**



3M glue is a popular and successful choice.

**Double sided mounting tape.
Use extra strong.**



Tesa professional filmic mounting tape and Stix permanent tape are both good.



Spray Glue or Mounting Tape?

Spray Glue

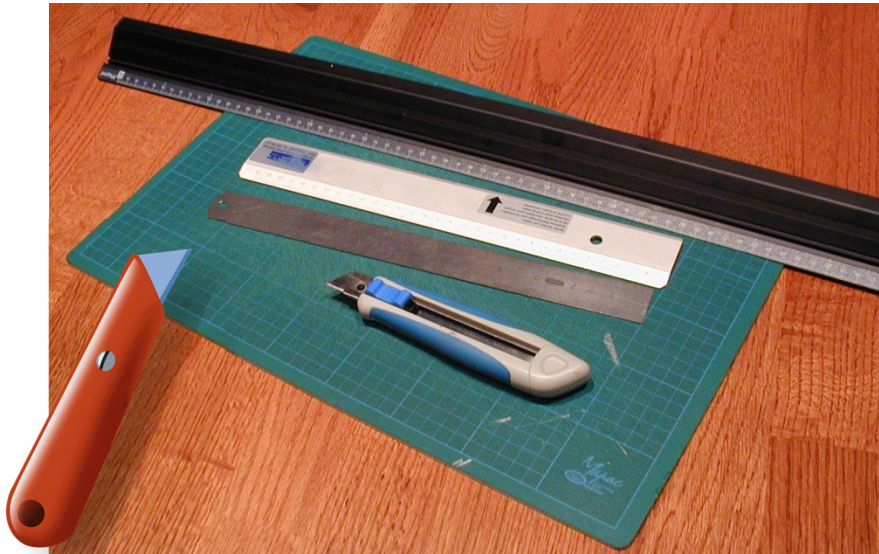
- Easy to use. Covers back surface of a print instantly.
- Covers the surface with an even film which does not show through on thin paper.
- Sticks instantly but needs time to dry.
- Glue can end up where you don't want it. Surfaces need to be protected.
- Excess glue can be tricky to remove.

Mounting tape

- Fiddly to use. You need to cut the tape to exactly the right length.
- Strips of tape can show through. Use thicker paper to compensate.
- Sticks instantly. No drying needed.
- Tape doesn't need surface protection.
- Excess tape can be cut off before sticking the print.

Two ways of cutting mount board

Cut with a craft knife (or mat knife) and steel ruler on top of a cutting mat.



Use a professional mount cutter. Logan are a popular make.

These devices can also cut window mounts.



Competition Hints

- Look closely at your images.
 - Ask someone else to look at your images.
- Crop out unwanted distractions.
- Make at least basic brightness/contrast corrections.
- Try and enter the full 3 images per competition.
 - Your marks are added up.
 - But if you don't have 3 images please still enter.
- Don't leave it until the last minute.
- Enter lots of competitions and listen to all feedback.
 - Become a better photographer.
- Have fun 😊 !



Good Luck! Time for tea