

## **Show Your Images at their Best**

From time to time people ask what is the best way to present their digital images. There are numerous choices from using Windows Viewer to Lightroom and many other options.

The club was not satisfied with the pictures quality when using Windows Viewer for competitions, although it is perfectly satisfactory for casual use. Visiting speakers often use PowerPoint and this is good if you wish to run your notes alongside using the 'presenter' mode. One thing to bear in mind is to keep your picture resolution fairly high, 1600x1200 pixels is fine and 1920x1080 pixels works well too. I often use Keynote which is the Apple Mac equivalent and am perfectly happy with that.

But for the club laptop we use **XnView**. The image quality is excellent and the file structure mimics that on your hard drive so is easy to navigate. This is available as a **free download** and comes with none of the disadvantages of limited trial period, spam or advertising. The software was researched by John Shepherd, trialled and has been in service with us for a couple of years. It's available for both Windows and Mac OS (you will need the XnView MP version for Mac OS).

If you wish to make sequences that run automatically, accompanied by music and voiceover then Pictures to Exe is hard to beat. This is what the club uses for showing the Tom Crowe Challenge. It must be noted that it's available for purchase and is not free. *Note well, It's principally a Windows based software that can export a Mac OS file but this can be temperamental to run.*

Some people create AV sequences in software already on their computer and produce an MP4. This runs in Quicktime or similar and can have music attached.

It's quick and easy to use but the image quality is not the best and it produces large files.

**Here are a couple of links:**

**XnView** - <https://www.xnview.com/en/>

**Pictures to Exe** - <https://www.wnsoft.com/en/pte-av-studio/>