



N M C P F  
News  
July 2026      Edition 208



# C O N T E N T S

## If you haven't made the INPUT, can you claim the OUTPUT?

Unsure about AI what you can and shouldn't do?

Then read these articles in the latest edition of the PAGB enews

AI - A CHALLENGE TO PHOTOGRAPHIC TRUTH?

and

ONLY YOU CAN KNOW.

Click on the link below:

<https://www.pagbnews.co.uk/sites/default/files/newsletters/en406%201%20June.pdf>

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## Useful MCPF Contacts:

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Seminar Secretary: [seminarsec@mcpf.co.uk](mailto:seminarsec@mcpf.co.uk)

Print and Pdi Championships:

[mcpfchampionship@mcpf.co.uk](mailto:mcpfchampionship@mcpf.co.uk)

## Calling All Club Secretaries

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Please forward any information that is emailed to you from the MCPF about: exhibitions; entry forms; and events, including the Newsletter cover letter to all your club members.





Carla Jann Wassell~ Cannock PS

## MCPF Diary 2026/2027

More details about each of the events can be found at [www.mcpf.co.uk](http://www.mcpf.co.uk)

| Date   | Event                              | Contact Details/Venue   |
|--|------------------------------------|---|
| <b>2026</b>  |                                    |   |
| Apr 18 <sup>th</sup>                               | Print and PDI Championships        | Peter Owen, <a href="mailto:mcpfchampionship@mcpf.co.uk">mcpfchampionship@mcpf.co.uk</a><br>Venue: Braunstone Civic Centre, Braunstone  |
| May 14 <sup>th</sup>                               | Closing date Photofolio 2026       | Bob Goode <a href="mailto:photofolio@mcpf.co.uk">photofolio@mcpf.co.uk</a>  |
| Jun Wed 10 <sup>th</sup><br>~ Sat 13 <sup>th</sup> | Photofolio Exhibition              | Bob Goode <a href="mailto:photofolio@mcpf.co.uk">photofolio@mcpf.co.uk</a><br>Venue: Smethwick PS. The Old Schoolhouse, Oldbury B69 2AS<br>Days and times to be announced               |
| Jun 13 <sup>th</sup>                               | MCPF Annual General Meeting        | Christine Lovatt <a href="mailto:sec@mcpf.co.uk">sec@mcpf.co.uk</a><br>Venue: Smethwick PS. The Old Schoolhouse, Oldbury B69 2AS  |
| Jul 12 <sup>th</sup>                               | APM Workshop                       | Mike Sharples <a href="mailto:seminarsec@mcpf.co.uk">seminarsec@mcpf.co.uk</a><br>Venue: Smethwick PS. The Old Schoolhouse, Oldbury B69 2AS   |
| Jun 22 <sup>nd</sup>                               | Midland Salon                      | Midland Salon Closing date  |
| Aug 8 <sup>th</sup> - 15 <sup>th</sup>             | Midland Salon Exhibition           | Judith Parry: <a href="mailto:chairman@midland-salon.com">chairman@midland-salon.com</a><br>Venue: Smethwick PS. The Old Schoolhouse, Oldbury B69 2AS<br>Days and times to be announced |
| Sep 19 <sup>th</sup>                               | General Meeting                    | Christine Lovatt, <a href="mailto:sec@mcpf.co.uk">sec@mcpf.co.uk</a><br>Venue: Smethwick PS. The Old Schoolhouse, Oldbury B69 2AS   |
| Sep 19 <sup>th</sup>                               | Closing date Panel Exhibition 2026 | Nasar Hussain   |
| Oct 17 <sup>th</sup>                               | Panel Exhibition                   | Nasar Hussain<br>Venue: Smethwick PS. The Old Schoolhouse, Oldbury B69 2AS  |
| TBA  | General Seminar                    | Mike Sharples <a href="mailto:seminarsec@mcpf.co.uk">seminarsec@mcpf.co.uk</a><br>Venue: Smethwick PS. The Old Schoolhouse, Oldbury B69 2AS   |
| Dec 5 <sup>th</sup>                                | Print Seminar                      | Mike Sharples <a href="mailto:seminarsec@mcpf.co.uk">seminarsec@mcpf.co.uk</a><br>Venue: Smethwick PS. The Old Schoolhouse, Oldbury B69 2AS   |
| <b>2027</b>  |                                    |   |
| Jan 30 <sup>th</sup>                               | AV Competitions                    | Alastair Taylor <a href="mailto:avchamp@mcpf.co.uk">avchamp@mcpf.co.uk</a><br>Venue: Priory Centre, Church Road, Stretton Burton on Trent, DE13 0HE                                     |
| Feb 13 <sup>th</sup>                               | MCPF General Meeting               | Christine Lovatt, <a href="mailto:sec@mcpf.co.uk">sec@mcpf.co.uk</a><br>Venue: Smethwick PS. The Old Schoolhouse, Oldbury B69 2AS   |
| Feb 13 <sup>th</sup>                               | MidPhot 2027 Closing Date          | Ralph & Lu Duckett <a href="mailto:midphot@mcpf.co.uk">midphot@mcpf.co.uk</a>   |
| Mar 17 <sup>th</sup> –21 <sup>st</sup>             | MidPhot 2027 Exhibition            | Ralph & Lu Duckett. <a href="mailto:midphot@mcpf.co.uk">midphot@mcpf.co.uk</a><br>Venue: Smethwick PS. The Old Schoolhouse Oldbury, B69 2AS   |

## Contact

Newsletter Editor  
[newsletter@mcpf.co.uk](mailto:newsletter@mcpf.co.uk)

## Subscribe

To subscribe to the MCPF Newsletter for FREE please go to the MCPF website homepage where you will find a link to the subscribe page or click on this link <https://mcpf.co.uk/newsletter>

## Editorial Notes

As you can see I am trying to use as many images as possible in the newsletter. I hope I am not upsetting anyone by not contacting them directly for permission, but I would like to point out that they are of low resolution and as part of our Exhibition rules, we can use your images to promote the MCPF and its member clubs. Any opinions expressed are not necessarily the opinions of Midland Counties Photographic Federation and neither the Editor nor the MCPF accepts any liability for any content. Any mention of products or services in e-news does not constitute an endorsement or approval of those items.

## Articles and Club Adverts

Send your club event, exhibition or news to: [newsletter@mcpf.co.uk](mailto:newsletter@mcpf.co.uk)

Please send it in text format along with an image and a poster. All this information will be forwarded to the Webmaster for inclusion on the MCPF website.

Closing date for submissions is 28<sup>th</sup> of each month. The editor reserves the right to withhold any submitted article if it is deemed inappropriate for this publication and to postpone publication if required.

## Website News

All the clubs who have websites should have the www icon next to their names in the "Find a Club" on the MCPF website. If, for whatever reason, you change the address, please ensure that you update your details on our database. Whilst going through and checking, I did notice a couple of clubs have changed their venue address but have not updated this on our database. Help us to help you by keeping your details up to date with us.



# MCPF

## Photographic Events

# Sep 19

Societies are entitled to be represented at the General Meeting in accordance with rule 6.

All club members are welcome to attend and would be most welcome, but only delegates have the power to vote.

In order to save time at the meeting, it would be most helpful if apologies and amendments to the minutes of the last meeting could be sent to the General Secretary in advance of the meeting. sec@mcpf.co.uk THANK YOU

Venue details: www.smethwickps.co.uk

Doors Open at 1.30pm

Meeting will commence at 2.30pm

General Meeting Enquiries: Please contact:

Christine Lovatt. 26 Dane Grove, Cheadle, Stoke on Trent, Staffs. ST10 1QS sec@mcpf.co.uk

The Old  
Schoolhouse  
Churchbridge  
Oldbury  
BS69 2AS

## Hand in date for MidPhot Panel Exhibition

## MCPF September General Meeting

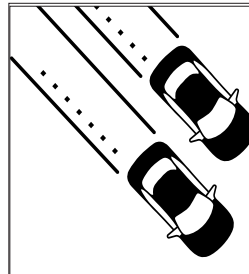
### Important Notice to All Treasurers.



### MCPF Annual Subs

The subscription fee per club remains at £52.00 (consisting of £41.00 for the PAGB portion and £11.00 for the MCPF portion), with the PAGB keeping their rate steady.

The subscription fee per member is set to rise from 75p to 85p, reflecting economic challenges and increased travel costs.



### Important update to Mileage Expenses for PAGB Judges and Lecturers

The government has announced an increase in the car mileage rate to 55p/mile backdated to April

2026. The rate had been 45p/mile since 2011. The PAGB has therefore increased its maximum mileage rate to 55p/mile. See more details on the Speakers page on PAGB website <https://thepagb.org.uk/services/speakers/>

55p/mile is not the cost of running any particular car: it is a compromise rate which HMRC will accept as expenses regardless of the actual car used. PAGB uses this maximum rate as a protection for listed speakers and also to provide some certainty to Clubs when planning their programmes.

For Clubs, the increase is just over 20%. For comparison, the CPI and RPI increases since 2011 are about 50% and 75% respectively

Best practice to check expenses at time of booking, plus remember to check if lecturer charges any additional fees.



## Annual General Meeting Report

The meeting commenced with the announcement of Judith Parry's passing on June 7th. This was followed by a moment of silence, after which Hon-Vice President Ian Bailey delivered a tribute to Judith.

The President, Ralph Duckett, then officially opened the meeting by sharing his annual review. Following this, the Treasurer's report was approved.

The meeting having started on a sad note ended on a happier

The subscription fee per club remains at £52.00 (consisting of £41.00 for the PAGB portion and £11.00 for the MCPF portion), with the PAGB keeping their rate steady.

The subscription fee per member is set to rise from 75p to 85p, reflecting economic challenges and increased travel costs.

theme, with the presentation of MCPF Roll of Honour to Graham

Reports from Council members holding Portfolios were presented.

Jayne Hutchings offered a vote of thanks for the Council, Graham Profitt gave thanks on behalf of member clubs to the Judges and Lecturers, and David Goacher gave the final vote of thanks to Smethwick PS for allowing the use of the Old Schoolhouse.

Walton and Mike Sharples. (see citations on page ...

## PAGB Awards for Photographic Merit

Presented on the opening evening of Photofolio 2026



BPAGB ~ Ken Page Duston PS



CPAGB ~ Ruth Elnor Whitchurch PS



EPAGB ~ Bob Goode Stourport CC



Anna Warrington with her EPAGB panel

# MCPF Travelling Portfolio

**Now open for 2026-  
2027 bookings**

**The Travelling portfolio is available  
to all MCPF affiliated clubs to show  
from September 2026**

To make your booking please complete  
the booking form available on the web site  
<https://mcpf.co.uk/travelling-portfolio> and  
email to: [portfoliosec@mcpf.co.uk](mailto:portfoliosec@mcpf.co.uk).  
A booking fee of £12 is payable when  
making the booking

The 2025 Travelling Portfolio is also available as  
a PDi presentation (MP4 format) with recorded  
commentary of the print section. A great  
standby programme for short notice booking.  
It can be booked at anytime from the Portfolio  
Secretary.





# MIDPHOT PANEL EXHIBITION 2026

Entries Open

3 August

Entries Close

13 September

Final Date for Print hand-in

19 September

Selection

20 September

Exhibition

17 October

Prints can be dropped off at the Old Schoolhouse on afternoon of the MCPF General Meeting Sept 19<sup>th</sup>

Exhibition will be held  
17th October  
The Schoolhouse, Churchbridge, Oldbury B69 2AS



## Be Part of the Midlands Photographic Community

Join the MCPF Newsletter to the latest exhibitions, event updates, Competition news, and inspiration from photographers across the region.



[Subscribe Here](#)





## MCPF Seminar 5th December 2026

### Resume your Passion, Get Motivated

## Get Back to Printing

The MCPF council are seeking to encourage the use of the print medium as a means to boost print exhibition entry numbers.

This year's seminar has at its core a workshop designed to help you:

Understand The Basics of Colour Management

To be able to produce prints of exhibition standard

The Workshop, designed and delivered by PermaJet, will, it is hoped, set you all on the road to successful printing and, hopefully, get those awards flooding in.

#### The Morning Session.

##### **The Basics of Colour Management (Print with Confidence)**

Why do we need colour management?

Monitor calibration, why and how

Choosing the right paper

Paper profiling, why and how

#### The Afternoon Session

##### **From Print to Perfection**

Delegates can bring an image on a USB Pen Drive.

These will be discussed and suggestions will be given of paper types that may suit and enhance the image.

The PermaJet range of papers will be discussed so the delegates can appreciate the importance of choosing the right paper for the right image, and how it can make a huge difference to the final print.

This session is designed to be interactive, delegates can ask questions and study the papers prior to their prints being produced.

A Canon Pro 310 printer will then print off the delegates images on different paper types so the difference can be seen.

#### **Tickets**

Cost: £15.00 per person

Last booking date 14th November 2026

#### **Times**

Session one commences 10.00 hrs to 13.00hrs

Lunch Break

Session two commences 14.00 hrs to 16.30 hrs

#### **Catering**

Tea and Coffee available (bring your own packed lunch)

#### **Event Location**

Smethwick Photographic Society

Churchbridge

Oldbury

West Midlands

B69 2AS

#### **Contact details**

Mike Sharples MFIAP MPAGB FBPE EFIAP ARPS

[seminarsec@mcpf.co.uk](mailto:seminarsec@mcpf.co.uk)

Mobile 07774 321411

**Places are limited to 30**

# David Travis FRPS

Congratulations to David for achieving his FRPS. David is Chairman of Leek PC, and well known on the photographic exhibition circuit.

## Architectural Blueprints

We're pleased to announce that Dr David Travis, chair of Leek Photographic Club, received a fellowship distinction from the Royal Photographic Society (RPS) in June.

The Distinction 'Fellowship of The Royal Photographic Society' is the highest level of the RPS's distinctions. The fellowship criteria calls for a distinctive, cohesive body of work that communicates an individual's vision and understanding.

David submitted a panel of 21 images along with a statement of intent. The assessors were unanimous in their praise of the panel, describing it as "absolutely exquisite", "quite extraordinary" and "showing enormous artistic precision".

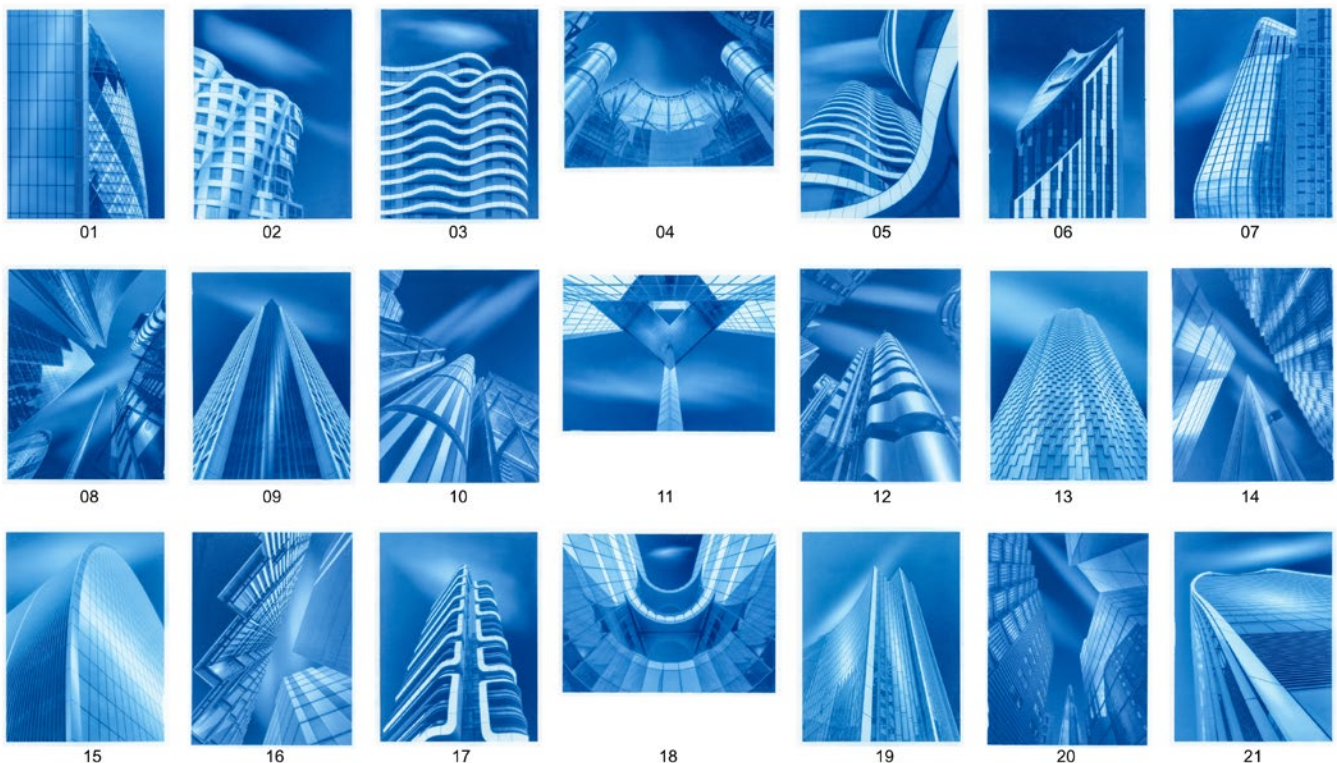
## Statement of Intent

This panel uses one of photography's oldest techniques to draw attention to the lines, curves, angles and shapes formed by London's modern buildings.

Assembled over three years, the prints are cyanotypes contact printed from digital negatives. I use cyanotype for its historical connection to architectural blueprints and for the mindful way of working it demands. Masking and sensitising the paper, exposing the negative to UV light, and finishing the print requires patience. Working with cyanotype also requires acceptance of the small imperfections that give each print its unique character.

This mindful way of working mirrors how I deal with the disorder of the city. I grew up here, in a place I find crowded, noisy and chaotic. But when I look at London's architecture through a viewfinder I slow down, accept what I cannot control, and frame a version of the city that feels empty, quiet and organised.

### Presentation Layout



Applicant Name: **David Travis**

Assessment Date: **04 June 2026**

Genre: **Visual Art**

# Cuba

by

**HABARI MONOCHROME**

An exhibition of Large Format Black & White Silver Gelatin Prints



## Antlers Coffee House

Market Place, Abbots Bromley, WS15 3BS  
01283 904881

Monday 6<sup>th</sup> July – Friday 31<sup>st</sup> July 2026  
8am – 4pm Monday – Friday  
8.30am – 4pm Saturday  
9am – 3pm Sunday

TYNDALE PHOTOGRAPHY CLUB

# PHOTOGRAPHY EXHIBITION

**FRI 3 JULY** 7PM - 9PM | **SAT 4 JULY** 10AM - 4PM

**DURSLEY METHODIST CHURCH**  
CASTLE ST, DURSLEY GL11 4BS

Relax and enjoy, refreshments available



## Midland Salon 2026 Exhibition

8<sup>th</sup> ~ 15<sup>th</sup> August 2026  
The Old Schoolhouse  
Churchbridge, Oldbury  
Birmingham B69 2AS  
Opening Times  
Details and times to be announced



Inter Club Print Championship  
**Weston Building**

**Inter Club Projected Digital Image Championship**  
19 July 2026 - mark your diary now.



Houdet Stretches Off Court by Alan Young, RR Derby

The 2026 PAGB Inter-Club Print Championship will be held on **Saturday 24 October 2026** and it will be held at Harper Adams University in Newport, Shropshire.



**Awards for Photographic Merit Adjudication for Audio Visual**

The PAGB will be holding an online Awards for Photographic Merit Adjudication for Audio Visual entrants on Sunday 20th September 2026.  
The cost of entry is £80.00 - CPAGB, £120.00 - DPAGB and £160.00 - MPAGB.

Application Forms are available from Alan Lovatt at [apmsecretary@mcpf.co.uk](mailto:apmsecretary@mcpf.co.uk)

Photographic Alliance of Great Britain

# MASTERS OF PRINT

Sponsored by CEWE and Online Paper

**Wilkinson Cameras, 14-16 English St, Carlisle CA3 8HX**  
OPENING Saturday 16 May. Closing 6 June 2026

**Bedwelty House, Morgan St, Tredegar NP22 3XN**  
OPENING 1 August 2026. Closing 30 August

**The Old School House, Churchbridge, Oldbury B69 2AS**  
OPENING Saturday 5 September. Closing 30 September

**Edinburgh Photographic Society, 68 Great King Street**  
OPENING Saturday 10 October. Closing 31 October

# Midland Counties Photographic Federation



## Roll of Honour Graham Walton DPAGB

Graham Walton DPAGB began his photographic journey with a Pentax ME Super, purchased in 1980, and has maintained a lifelong passion for image-making ever since. Although he once processed black-and-white prints, RA4 colour prints, and Cibachrome prints in his own darkroom, he now works primarily in black and white using Photoshop and an Epson 3880 printer. His long-standing commitment to photographic craft underpins every aspect of his work and judging.

Graham has been actively involved in photographic societies since 1986, contributing over 40 years of continuous service. He has been a member of Wythall PS, Shirley PS and now a member of Arden Photo Group, where he participates in assignment projects, discussions, and national competitions and championships.

He consistently achieves National Photographic Exhibition

acceptances, demonstrating both technical skill and creative consistency.

He is an A-List Judge for the Midland Counties Photographic Federation (MCPF) and has been judging for 16 years. Each year, he visits 40–50 photographic clubs to judge competitions, exhibitions, and interclub events.

In 2017, Graham was appointed an Approved National Judge for the Photographic Alliance of Great Britain. His judging experience is extensive and includes:

- BPE Exhibitions — British Photographic Exhibitions
- Home Internationals
- Federation Championships
- Federation Exhibitions

Graham has contributed significantly to the MCPF: Served on the MCPF Council for 14 years

Held office as President of the MCPF from 2021 to 2023

Has been the Midland Counties Inter-Federation Photographic Competition Officer since 2016.

Graham has decided to take life a little easier, and is stepping down from his role of MCPF Inter-fed Competition Officer, but will remain on Council as a Past President of the Federation.

Graham Walton DPAGB is receiving the MCPF Roll of Honour for his 40 years of continuous service to photographic societies, highlighted by his dedication as an MCPF 'A List' and PAGB National Judge, his 14 years on the MCPF Council, and his leadership as Federation President.

# Midland Counties Photographic Federation



## Roll of Honour

### Mike Sharples ARPS FIAP MPAGB EFIAP FBPE FIPF

#### The man with so letters after his name!

We are honouring a man whose passion for photography began when he was barely knee-high to a grasshopper. Like so many, he received a Box Brownie as a child — and the rest, as they say, is history. Life, of course, intervened: school, college, girls, and career all took priority, and photography slipped into the background. But a move to South Wales — along with a very understanding wife — finally gave him the chance to nurture this early fascination.

He enrolled in evening classes at Penarth College, earning both O-Level and A-Level qualifications. Together with friends he met on the course, he began taking regular photographic trips. You could say this was his first club, even if it was an informal one.

Work eventually brought him back to the Midlands, where he and his family settled — of all places — in Stafford. There he joined Stafford Photographic Society and was welcomed into the world of club photography, competition, and distinctions. His work flourished,

and he developed a distinctive personal style.

Seeking new challenges, he later joined Smethwick Photographic Society, gradually transitioning from Stafford. He also took on the demanding roles of judge and speaker, going onto the lists in 2012. He is now one of the busiest on the circuit, judging at club, national, and international levels, and serving regularly on the PAGB Awards for Photographic Merit panel.

At Smethwick PS, he has twice served as President and continues to act as Building Officer — a role in which he has achieved far more than the title suggests. He oversaw the installation of the new bar-area ceiling and has driven numerous improvements and innovations for the club's facilities.

He joined the MCPF Council in 2015 and was soon persuaded to become Seminar Secretary. The print seminar was his idea, and he negotiated directly with PermaJet to make it happen. He organises the

Judges' Seminar and manages the running of those events, and he is also responsible for the upcoming APM workshop in July. At one time, he even served as the Midlands organiser for the RPS.

In June 2023 he became President of the MCPF. During this period — while still fulfilling all his Council and Smethwick responsibilities — he also served as Worshipful Master of his local Freemasons lodge in Stafford, where he helped raise thousands of pounds for charity.

And through all of this, he has continued to pursue his photographic passion with remarkable dedication, earning an impressive collection of distinctions — the most recent being a Fellowship of the Irish Photographic Federation.

One can only stand back and admire the breadth of his contribution and the depth of his commitment. The appointment of Mike Sharples to the MCPF Roll of Honour is not only fitting — it is richly deserved.

# Photofolio Presentation Evening

Thanks to all the clubs that participated in this year's Photofolio; there's always room for more entries. Also, thank you to everyone who came out to see the exhibition. Please encourage more of your members to join in and appreciate the work on display.

Congratulations to Smethwick for taking home all three Championships, and to everyone who earned trophies and medals.

During his vote of thanks on the opening night, Bob Goode acknowledged the judges for their patience through the technical difficulties and thanked the Council members and the members of Stourport CC, who assisted with the exhibition, especially Christine Lovatt for creating the music sequence for the Pdi.

The Travelling Portfolio will soon be ready for its journey around the MCPF. If you think your club would be interested in hiring it an evening, please get in touch with Ian Bailey, whose details can be found on page 6.



James Walton



Mike Sharples



Dave Myles



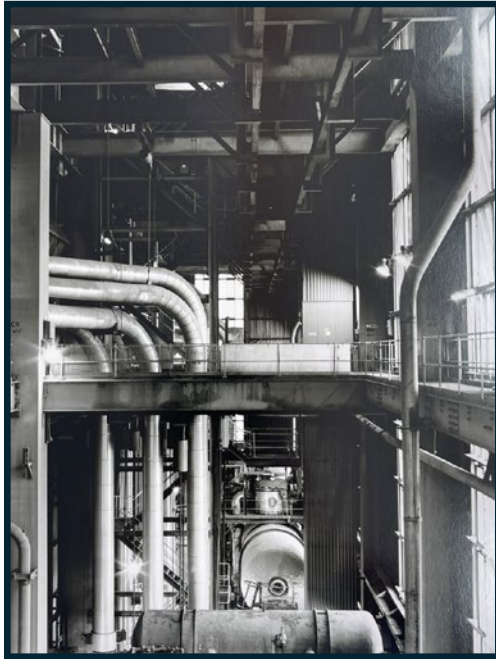


# Rugeley Power Station

by

**HABARI MONOCHROME**

An exhibition of Large Format Black & White Silver Gelatin Prints



## Antlers Coffee House

Market Place, Abbots Bromley, WS15 3BS  
01283 904881

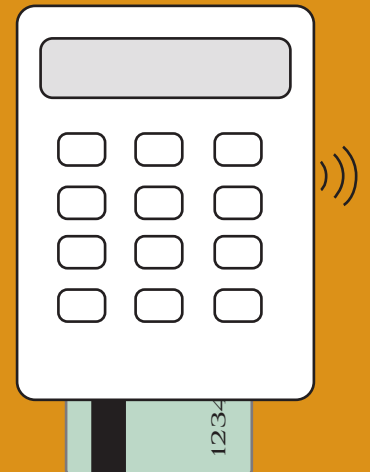
Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> August to Friday 11<sup>th</sup> September 2026  
8am – 4pm Monday – Friday  
8.30am – 4pm Saturday  
9am – 3pm Sunday

# GOING CASHLESS?

Is your Camera Club thinking of going cashless?

More and more members asking to pay their evening subs by card or phone?

SumUp are offering a discount and transaction fees and terminals to all Camera Clubs.



For details contact Mia at SumUp at

**Mia Amor**

**Account Executive, POS TribeSumUp Point of Sale. Own your business.**

16-20 Shorts Gardens | Seven Dials | London WC2H 9US

+44 7401 106230 | [mia.amor@sumup.com](mailto:mia.amor@sumup.com)  
[sumup.com](https://sumup.com).

## A Tribute to Barry Mead 1947-2026



Barry was very much a larger-than-life character, always fun to be with and full of countless stories and anecdotes which meant he was great company.

He had a long and distinguished secondary teaching career in the Bristol area where many of his students excelled at both art and photography. He was able to inspire children from challenging backgrounds and exhibitions of their work, curated by Barry were greatly admired.

Barry was involved in photography for over 50 years, and his outstanding teaching skills were in great demand. In the days of film, he organised countless large format workshops for the RPS and for his services was awarded the Fenton Medal by the

Society. He gained his Fellowship of the Society in the early 90's with a panel of highly distinctive multi layered prints. Barry was fond of telling the story of how the Chair of the adjudicating panel had said he disliked the prints intensely but nevertheless felt they were of Fellowship standard!

Barry became a member of the Bristol PS. In the mid 70's and served in many roles over his lifetime. In particular, he was Chair on four separate occasions as well as External Competition Secretary, Webmaster for 12 years and editor of the society Newsletter. He also served in the honorary role of Club President from 2016 -2021. Throughout his membership he regularly supported club events and enjoyed club competitions where his original and highly creative images met with regular success.

In the wider amateur photographic world Barry was a very highly respected judge and lecturer for both the Western Counties Photographic Federation as well as the PAGB. He

was awarded both an APAGB and an MPAGB. His images were exhibited all around the world and he reached the lofty heights of EFIAP/Diamond 3, gaining countless medals and awards along the way.

Barry very much embraced the digital age where his creative skills were given free rein. His highly original images were the product of a truly creative eye, always extremely accomplished technically and regularly revealing a sense of humour. Above all else he was a most accomplished printer. In addition, he enjoyed taking images of the natural world on the many journeys he made to locations around the world.

On a personal note, I have lost a good friend, Bristol Photographic Society has lost a talented and devoted member, and the wider photographic world has lost a person who made an enormous contribution in so many areas.

Our thoughts and sincere condolences go to his wife Ann and son Ollie.

John Chamberlin

# PAGB Inter-Fed Competitions 2026

## Inter-Federation Colour Print Competition 2026

Sum of top 15 scores.

| Position Federation   | Total | No. Counted | Av Mark |
|---|-------|-------------|---------|
| 1st MCPF - The Midland Counties Photographic Federation         | 221   | 15          | 14.7    |
| 2nd LCPU - The Lancashire and Cheshire Photographic Union       | 219   | 15          | 14.6    |
| 3rd EAF - The East Anglian Federation of Photographic Societies | 216   | 15          | 14.4    |
| 4th SPF - Scottish Photographic Federation                      | 210   | 15          | 14.0    |
| 5th NEMPF - The North and East Midlands Photographic Federation | 206   | 15          | 13.7    |
| 6th SCPF - Southern Counties Photographic Federation            | 205   | 15          | 13.6    |
| 7th WPF - Welsh Photographic Federation                         | 203   | 15          | 13.5    |
| 8th SPA - Surrey Photographic Association                       | 202   | 15          | 13.46   |
| 9th NCPF - The Northern Counties Photographic Federation        | 201   | 15          | 13.40   |
| 10th NIPA - Northern Ireland Photographic Association           | 200   | 15          | 13.3    |
| 11th YPU - Yorkshire Photographic Union                         | 196   | 15          | 13.0    |
| 12th WCPF - Western Counties Photographic Federation            | 195   | 14          | 13.9    |
| 13th CACC - The Chilterns Association of Camera Clubs           | 192   | 15          | 12.8    |
| 13th = KCPA - The Kent County Photographic Association          | 192   | 15          | 12.8    |
| 15th NWPA - North Wales Photographic Association                | 166   | 13          | 12.7    |

- 1. Best Image Morning Stroll Laurie Campbell CB Camera Club
- 2. Judge 1 Award Stop the Music Mike Sharples Smethwick Photographic Society
- 2. Judge 2 Award Relentless Drive Aamir Sabzwari Oldham Photographic Society
- 2. Judge 3 Award Japanese Still Life Tom Plucinski Chelmsford Camera Club
- 3. PAGB Ribbon Aqua Heart Pat Frewin Colchester Photographic Society
- 3. PAGB Ribbon Melodies of the Old City Steve Dormer Doncaster Camera Club
- 3. PAGB Ribbon Four Kings Adrian Lines Chorley Photographic Society
- 3. PAGB Ribbon What is it Lynda Haney Southport Photographic Society
- 3. PAGB Ribbon The Knights Prayer Phil Newman Bolsover Camera Club
- 3. PAGB Ribbon Storm Over Chesil Beach Chris Lapsley Earl Shilton Camera Club



Stop the Music\_Mike Sharples\_Smethwick PS



Storm Over Chesil Beach - Chris Lapsley - Earl Shilton

## MCPF entries

### Nature Prints

|                                  |   |               |
|----------------------------------|---|---------------|
| David Myles Smethwick PS         | Banded Damoiseles                                 |               |
| Darron Matthews Lichfield CC     | Chocolate Tip Moth on Bracken                     | y             |
| Mike Lane Arden Photo Group      | European Bee Eaters                               |               |
| Anna Warrington Stafford PS      | Fighting Common Cranes                            | y             |
| Tony Stamp Cannock PS            | Iberian Lynx                                      |               |
| Darron Matthews Lichfield CC     | Male Black Arches Moth on Bracken                 | y             |
| Mike Taylor Walsall PS           | Male Kingfisher in Flight                         |               |
| David Myles DPAGB Smethwick PS   | Marbled Whites on St Johns Wort                   | y             |
| Mick Schilling Arden Photo Group | Mating White Legged Damsel Flies                  |               |
| Dave Bowen Tamworth PC           | Miniature Crab Spider Clinging to Silene Catchfly | y             |
| Paul Greenfield Cannock PS       | Mother Bear and Cubs                              | y             |
| Gillian Smith Stourport CC       | Orange Tip on Greater Stitchwort                  |               |
| John Gafney Solihull PS          | Pelicans After Sunrise                            |               |
| Paul Greenfield Cannock PS       | Reservoir Rats                                    |               |
| Angie Tucker Smethwick PS        | Rhino and Calf                                    |               |
| David Goacher Ashby CC           | Ringlet Butterfly on Oat Stem                     | y             |
| Tony Stamp Cannock PS            | Rock Thrush and Scolopendra                       |               |
| Mark Davies Cannock PS           | White Tailed Sea Eagle                            |               |
| Dave Bowen Tamworth PC           | Wild Lynx Kits .                                  | y PAGB Ribbon |
| Jo Monro Solihull PS             | Young Barbary Macaque With Mother                 |               |

### Colour Prints

|                                   |                                 |               |
|-----------------------------------|---------------------------------|---------------|
| Paul Hassell Arden Photo Group    | A Last Farewell                 | y             |
| Bob Moore Arden Photo Group       | Bird Lady                       | y             |
| Andrew Buckley Cheltenham CC      | Broken Hearted                  | y             |
| Isobel Chesterman Earl Shilton CC | Eloise                          |               |
| Kevin Faulkner Arden Photo Group  | Follow Me to The Cellar         |               |
| Peter Gennard Smethwick PS        | Harbir Singh                    |               |
| Peter Gennard Smethwick PS        | Harriet and Her Sister          |               |
| David Wheeler Smethwick PS        | Harriet in The Doorway          | y             |
| David Wheeler Smethwick PS        | Nude in Quarry                  |               |
| Dave Tucker Stafford PS           | Number Four                     | y             |
| Mike Sharples Smethwick PS        | Stop The Music                  | y Judge Award |
| Chris Lapsley Earl Shilton CC     | Storm Over Chesil Beach .       | y PAGB Ribbon |
| Dave Bowen Tamworth PC            | The Long Trudge Home            | y             |
| Geoff Moore Vale of Evesham CC    | The Manse Isle of Skye          |               |
| Dave Bowen Tamworth PC            | The Old Sentry Post             |               |
| Warren Alani Smethwick PS         | The Yellow                      | y             |
| Mike Sharples Smethwick PS        | Waiting for My Sister           | y             |
| Graham Hales Smethwick PS         | Winning                         | y             |
| Warren Alani Smethwick PS         | Winning is Everything           |               |
| Andrew Buckley Cheltenham CC      | Winter Shack in Snowy Landscape |               |

### Monochrome Prints

|                                  |                                      |               |
|----------------------------------|--------------------------------------|---------------|
| Warren Alani Smethwick PS        | Perfect Landing                      | y             |
| Warren Alani Smethwick PS        | The Priest                           | y             |
| David Lowe Smethwick PS          | Eyes on the Leader                   | y             |
| David Lowe Smethwick PS          | Study in Vulnerability               |               |
| Kevin Faulkner Arden Photo Group | Breaking and Entering                | y             |
| Bob Moore Arden Photo Group      | Foundry Worker                       | y             |
| Lilliana Alani Smethwick PS      | Happy Hour                           | y             |
| David Wheeler Smethwick PS       | Impoverished                         |               |
| Bob Moore Arden Photo Group      | Jack the Lad                         |               |
| Paul Hassell Arden Photo Group   | Lost                                 |               |
| Mike Sharples Smethwick PS       | Lute                                 | y PAGB Ribbon |
| Peter Gennard Smethwick PS       | Memories of the Past                 |               |
| Charles Ashton Arden Photo Group | Morning Wash                         |               |
| James Walton Arden Photo Group   | Roman Riding                         |               |
| Tim Pile Smethwick PS            | Sadness                              | y             |
| Graham Walton Arden Photo Group  | Steam Shed Foreman                   |               |
| Phil Mallin Earl Shilton CC      | Stokksnes                            |               |
| Steve Albutt Burton on Trent PS  | The Attic Door                       |               |
| Andrew Buckley Cheltenham CC     | Tired of Waiting Under the Mistletoe |               |
| Mike Sharples Smethwick PS       | Tribal Friends                       | y Best Image  |

## Inter-Federation Nature Print Competition 2026

Sum of top 15 scores.

| Position Federation   | Total Mark | No.Counted | Av. Mark |
|---|------------|------------|----------|
| 1st LCPU–The Lancashire and Cheshire Photographic Union       | 221        | 15         | 14.7     |
| 2nd MCPF–The Midland Counties Photographic Federation         | 214        | 15         | 14.2     |
| 3rd NEMPF–The North and East Midlands Photographic Federation | 212        | 15         | 14.1     |
| 3rd = SPA–Surrey Photographic Association                     | 212        | 15         | 14.1     |
| 5th EAF–The East Anglian Federation of Photographic Societies | 211        | 15         | 14.0     |
| 5th = SPF–Scottish Photographic Federation                    | 211        | 15         | 14.0     |
| 7th SCPF–Southern Counties Photographic Federation            | 209        | 15         | 13.9     |
| 8th YPU–Yorkshire Photographic Union                          | 202        | 15         | 13.4     |
| 9th CACC–The Chilterns Association of Camera Clubs            | 199        | 15         | 13.2     |
| 10th KCPA–The Kent County Photographic Association            | 197        | 15         | 13.1     |
| 10th =NIPA–Northern Ireland Photographic Association          | 197        | 15         | 13.1     |
| 10th =NWPA–North Wales Photographic Association               | 197        | 15         | 13.1     |
| 10th =WPF–Welsh Photographic Federation                       | 197        | 15         | 13.1     |
| 14th NCPF–The Northern Counties Photographic Federation       | 188        | 14         | 13.4     |
| 15th WCPF–Western Counties Photographic Federation            | 182        | 14         | 13.0     |

|                  |   |
|------------------|---|
| 1. Best Image    | Chance Encounter Christine Hart Colchester Photographic Society         |
| 2. Judge 1 Award | Cribraria Aurantiaca Slime Mould Tim Clarke Godalming Photographic Club |
| 2. Judge 2 Award | Gannets of the Bass Rock Sandy Gilmour Queens Park Camera Club          |
| 2. Judge 3 Award | Scarlet Tiger Moths Gianpiero Ferrari Sibley Photographic Society       |
| 3. PAGB Ribbon   | Fox and Fish Rick Du-Boisson Beverley Photographic Club                 |
| 3. PAGB Ribbon   | Hyena Scavenging for Food Ian Roberts Chichester Camera Club            |
| 3. PAGB Ribbon   | Evening Drink Aneurin Phillips Conwy Camera Club                        |
| 3. PAGB Ribbon   | Black Tailed Godwits Locking Bills Steve Walters Ilkeston Photo 2000    |
| 3. PAGB Ribbon   | Roosting Eastern Festoons Annie Healey Molesey Photographic Club        |
| 3. PAGB Ribbon   | Wild Lynx Kits Dave Bowen Tamworth Photography Club                     |



Wild Lynx Kits\_Dave Bowen\_Tamworth PC

## Inter-Federation Mono Print Competition 2026

Sum of top 15 scores.

| Position Federation   | Total Mark | No.Counted | Av.Mark |
|---|------------|------------|---------|
| 1st LCPU - The Lancashire and Cheshire Photographic Union       | 223        | 15         | 14.8    |
| 2nd EAF - The East Anglian Federation of Photographic Societies | 221        | 15         | 14.7    |
| 3rd MCPF - The Midland Counties Photographic Federation         | 220        | 15         | 14.6    |
| 4th SPF - Scottish Photographic Federation                      | 216        | 15         | 14.4    |
| 5th SCPF - Southern Counties Photographic Federation            | 208        | 15         | 13.8    |
| 6th SPA - Surrey Photographic Association                       | 207        | 15         | 13.8    |
| 7th NEMPF - The North and East Midlands Photographic Federation | 204        | 15         | 13.6    |
| 7th = NIPA - Northern Ireland Photographic Association          | 204        | 15         | 13.6    |
| 7th = NWPA - North Wales Photographic Association               | 204        | 15         | 13.6    |
| 10th NCPF - The Northern Counties Photographic Federation       | 199        | 15         | 13.2    |
| 11th YPU - Yorkshire Photographic Union                         | 198        | 15         | 13.2    |
| 12th CACC - The Chilterns Association of Camera Clubs           | 196        | 15         | 13.06   |
| 13th KCPA - The Kent County Photographic Association            | 195        | 15         | 13.0    |
| 13th = WPF - Welsh Photographic Federation                      | 195        | 15         | 13.0    |
| 15th WCPF - Western Counties Photographic Federation            | 181        | 13         | 13.9    |

|                  |   |
|------------------|---|
| 1. Best Image    | Tribal Friends Mike Sharples Smethwick Photographic Society |
| 2. Judge 1 Award | A Silent Plea Chrissie Westgate Beyond Group                |
| 2. Judge 2 Award | Leopard Family Lynda Haney Southport Photographic Society   |
| 2. Judge 3 Award | Solitude Owen Edmonds Bargoed Camera Club                   |
| 3. PAGB Ribbon   | 400m Hurdles Finish Peter Milsom Beyond Group               |
| 3. PAGB Ribbon   | The Cleric Richard Pitt Amersham Photographic Society       |
| 3. PAGB Ribbon   | Cat Nap Over Lynne Thomas Taunton Photography Group         |
| 3. PAGB Ribbon   | Chapel Ruin Nick Bodle Launceston Camera Club               |
| 3. PAGB Ribbon   | Face To Face Philip Hinton Ashford Photographic Society     |
| 3. PAGB Ribbon   | Lute Mike Sharples Smethwick Photographic Society           |

Tribal Friends\_Mike Sharples\_Smethwick  
Photographic Society



Lute\_Mike Sharples\_Smethwick Photographic Society

# Where are our future members?

In these difficult times the majority of Clubs Nationwide are finding it difficult to attract and retain new members. This applies not only to Photography clubs but other interest groups generally. Unfortunately, there's no easy answer, and any solutions involve some work from current members and committees. Despite this, the benefits and rewards are there for those prepared to put in the effort to attract new members.

The overall area to look at initially is 'Publicity'. How well known is your club in the local community? and how do you interact? I have put together a list of suggestions following a discussion at the last MCPF General meeting for you to investigate, some of which have worked for other clubs and may work for you.

## Advertising

**Newsletter** – Does your club have a regular Newsletter to communicate to existing and potential members. These can be distributed externally.

**Leaflets** – Organise a club flyer to either advertise a specific event of generic to promote the club, I would suggest collating a list, so work isn't doubled up. These can be left at various public places for example.

### **Local Shops & Supermarkets**

**Library** – They are always happy to promote local groups.

**Doctors Surgery, Dentists & other Medical Centres** – We all end up reading various leaflets whilst waiting for the Doctor or Dentist!

**Cafés & Pubs** – Notice boards or in windows.

**Leisure Centres and Sports Facilities** – Notice boards

**Workplaces** – members place of work to distribute.

### **Churches & places of Worship**

### **Community Centres**

### **Museums & Art Centres**

**Schools & Nurseries** – it's the Parents you're targeting!

### **Garden Centres**

Consider a door-to-door leaflet drop in your local area.

### **Events**

Do you have An annual Exhibition? If so, do you advertise and invite the local Public. You could consider displaying members work at various local events, in-fact anywhere where the public may gather. Examples include:

**Local Fetes** – These would include local summer Carnivals, village & School fetes. All you need is a Gazebo, and couple of Stands and some prints. a Few members to discuss Photography with passing public along with a few flyers and to take their details with permission so you can contact them later to invite them personally to the club.

### **Local Arts Venues**

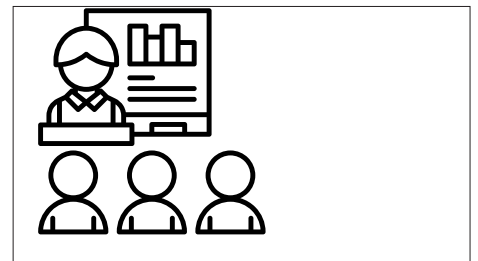
### **Museums**

**Library** – If they have space, they would normally Welcome local art.

### **Local Sports Events**

**Garden Centres & Supermarkets** – They may allow a small, manned display.

**Empty Shops or spaces in town Centres** – Speak to the local Council. They may be interested in displaying local art instead of having An empty space.



**School events in addition to Fetes** – You would be looking to attract Parents primarily, but in the case of High Schools and colleges the Pupils may also be a target Audience.

**Link with Colleges** – especially those that offer Art classes to discuss Photography.

**Interest groups** – Ask if you could present to their members and by return, they could give a talk to your Club. These groups could include,

### **Local History Groups**

### **Wildlife Groups**

### **Women's Institute**

**Drama Groups** – You could also offer to take Photographs for them!

**Sports Clubs** – again you could offer Photography services plus it's a Photo event for members to attend.

### **Music Clubs**

### **Craft Clubs**

### **Publicity**

All the above encompasses Publicity, its all about getting the clubs name out into the community to promote your activities and ultimately Attract new members.

**Club Website** – is your website up to date and welcoming. it should have plenty of current news and images to inspire. This is the ideal vehicle to promote your club.

continued overleaf..

**Social media** – Are you up to date with your social media. Do you have Facebook / Twitter / Flickr / Tik-Tok even? These should be kept up to date with members encouraged to put up images and comments. This will attract the General Public as its seen to be 'vibrant' These are also platforms for promoting events & club evenings.

**Local Newspapers** – It's worth contacting the local newspaper to promote events and also Exhibition successes, even sending them monthly competition images for them to show. They're always looking to fill column inches and images attract people's attention. If its regular people will get used to seeing it and it will generate interest in the club.

**Local Magazines / Speciality magazines**–for example Shropshire life or Staffordshire Life – Put together An article on the club along with images for them to publish. Take out An advert in local magazine–for example in the Cannock area there's a free trader magazine that's sent to every household in the area.

**Local Radio** – If you have a local community Radio Station in your Area, speak to them they may invite you along to talk. An ideal opportunity to promote the club.

**Arts Council** – Do you have a local Arts Council? If so, join it. Not only is it An ideal opportunity to network with other local groups and they can also give out small Grants.

**Other Photography Clubs** – Advertise your events and talks with other local clubs to increase revenue on the door.

## Summary

Other things to consider are offering incentives to join your club including:

An introductory offer on membership

Free attendance vouchers to be handed out at An event or once you have their e-mail address (with their consent) to invite them along.

Offering brief training on Camera use and photographic techniques

Consider Mobile phone photography as An avenue to attract a younger demographic!

Change your programme to suit more members for example more practical evenings, and virtual meetings.

Re-structuring your payment system so members pay monthly!

Remember if you're taking People's details you must have their permission and most importantly, you must follow up. One of the biggest mistakes made in Sales & Marketing is not following up on hot leads!!!

I hope the above has sparked An idea within your club but remember not all the above will work for everyone, but if one works for you, then it's a success.

Also, very few of the Few may have immediate effect, you may have to keep re-visiting the ideas. Persistence is the key.

As we know getting people through the door is only half the work, the hard work starts in making prospective new members welcome and keeping them. I'm afraid that's then down to each individual club!

If you have any other ideas or any of the above has worked for you, then please share, lets get a discussion going and help each-other through these difficult times.

Thank you.

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## Urgent Appeal from Smethwick PS

The Old Schoolhouse is currently organizing its spaces and clearing out stored items.

We kindly ask all local photographers and photography club representatives to retrieve their belongings.

## Send us your News

Tell us what your club has been up to in recent months, how you have attracted more members, events you are hosting, and photographic tips.

Use the MCPF Newsletter and website to advertise your event.

Let us know what you would like to see in the newsletter. It does not matter if they are things you have seen in other parts of the country. If it is about photography, we want to hear about it.