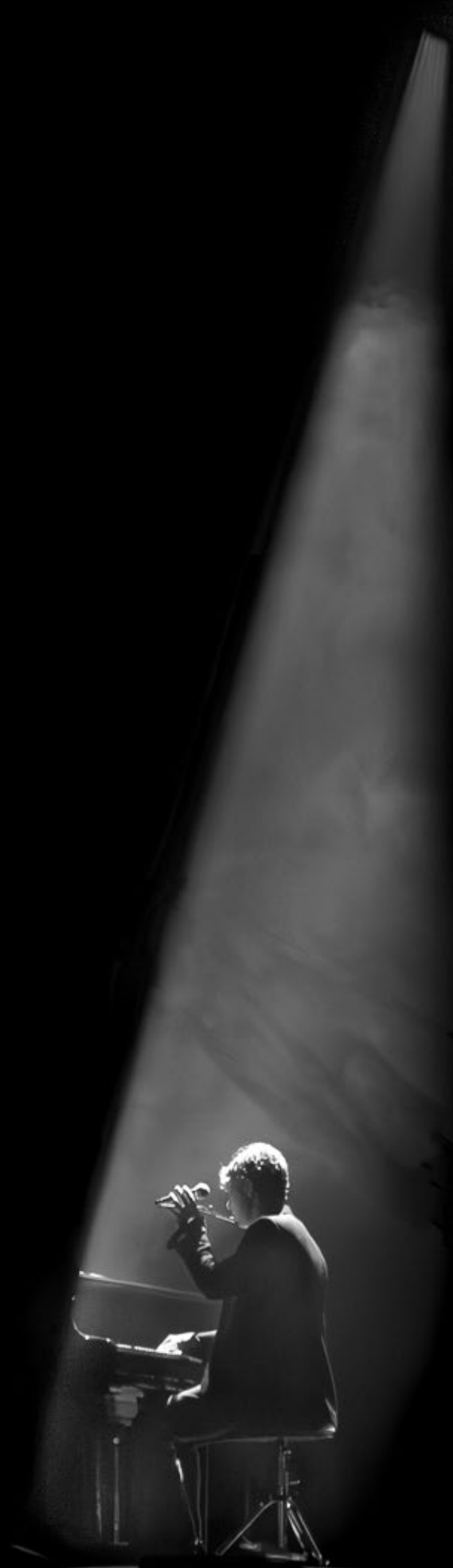


# NMCPF News

Edition 211

Oct 2026





# 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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President: [president@mcpf.co.uk](mailto:president@mcpf.co.uk)

General Sec: [sec@mcpf.co.uk](mailto:sec@mcpf.co.uk)

Webmaster: [webmaster@mcpf.co.uk](mailto:webmaster@mcpf.co.uk)

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

Treasurer: [treasurer@mcpf.co.uk](mailto:treasurer@mcpf.co.uk)

MidPhot Chair: [midphot@mcpf.co.uk](mailto:midphot@mcpf.co.uk)

Photofolio Chair: [photofolio@mcpf.co.uk](mailto:photofolio@mcpf.co.uk)

PAGB Awards for Photographic Merit:

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

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



Print and Pdi Championships:

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



The Pianist  
Richard Plant  
Lichfield CC

## 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

Both the MCPF Audio Visual Competitions and MidPhot Print and Pdi Exhibition will be launching soon.

Look at for details on the MCPF Website, in the Newsletter and postings to all Club Secretaries

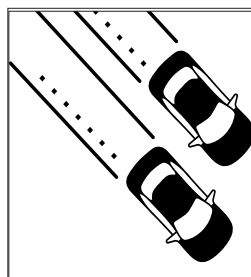
## Important Notice to All Treasurers.



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.



# MIDPHOT PANEL EXHIBITION 2026

Selection by Heather Woodhams

Exhibition will be held  
17th October

Times 12 noon ~ 4pm

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 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.





## 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

# Street Photography Legality - by Richard Speirs to the NCPF

Photographers and others have recently become concerned by misleading information issued by the Home Office in a Guidance Leaflet for Asylum Seekers. This incorrectly states that it is illegal to photograph people in public spaces. The National Union of Journalists, and others, have written to the Government pointing out the error and urging that it is corrected. They rightly express concern that this implies an infringement of Civil Liberty.

Currently In the UK, it is generally legal to photograph people in public places without their permission. Public places include streets, parks, beaches, public squares, and other areas where the public has access.

Key points:

- No general law requires consent to take a photograph of someone in a public place.
- You may photograph adults, police officers, buildings, public events, and street scenes from public land, provided you are not breaking another law.
- Photography can become unlawful if it amounts to harassment, stalking, voyeurism, or other criminal conduct. Repeatedly following and photographing someone in a way that causes distress may lead to legal consequences.
- People have a reasonable expectation of privacy in places such as toilets, changing rooms, and private homes, even if a photograph is taken from elsewhere
- Upskirting and other voyeuristic photography offences are criminal offences.
- Special restrictions may apply in certain security-sensitive locations, such as some military or national security sites.
- Taking the photograph is one issue; using or publishing the image can raise separate concerns, particularly for commercial advertising, data protection, defamation, or misuse of private information. A model release is commonly used for commercial purposes.

So, if you are standing in a public street in the UK and take a normal photograph of people going about their daily lives, that is usually lawful. The main legal risks arise from harassment, privacy breaches, voyeurism offences, or certain restricted locations.

Extracted from PAGB e-news edition 413 15 Sep 2026



# Earl Shilton Camera Club

## Annual Exhibition 2026

The Earl Shilton Camera Club Annual Exhibition 2026 was held at the Atkins Building in Hinckley and provided a wonderful opportunity to showcase the outstanding photographic work of the club's members, celebrating their achievements and sharing their work with the wider community.

The exhibition featured a diverse collection of images covering a wide range of subjects, styles and techniques. The images highlighted the creativity, skill and passion of photographers within the club.

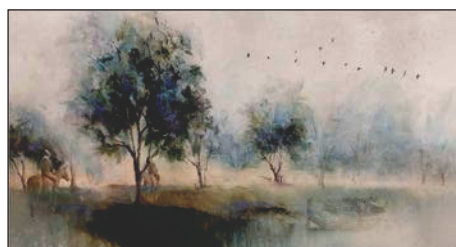
Visitors were able to enjoy landscapes, wildlife and nature studies, portraits, and some imaginative creative images, all produced by club members.

Alongside the main exhibition, awards were presented to the winners of the club's annual competitions, recognising excellence across a variety of photographic categories,

The exhibition marks the start of the new season and we look forwards to another great year.



Study in Deduction - Chris Lapsley



A ride by the lake - Horace Goodenough



Morning-SPears



Thats My Egg-Mark Blowers



Winter - Phil Mallin



The Silent Exchange - Isobel Chesterman



Blue Whispers 1-Julie Holbeche Maund



On the Jubilee Line



Guys and Dolls - Alan Wardropper



## A Royal Start to Dunchurch's 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Season

With honoured guests and a letter from King Charles III, the Society began its new year on a memorable high.

Dunchurch Photographic Society opened its new season in memorable fashion, marking not only the return after the summer break but also the beginning of its 50th anniversary year.

The Society was delighted to welcome Councillor Nooria Sayani, Mayor of Rugby, and Ralph Duckett, President of the Midland Counties Photographic Federation, who joined members and visitors for this special occasion.

Adding further significance, the Society had also received a congratulatory letter from King Charles III.

The evening provided an opportunity to look back at the previous season, with David Bray presenting a series of impressive audio-visual sequences showcasing members' diverse work. The images demonstrated the breadth of photography within the Society, from landscapes and wildlife to travel, sport and creative work.

The new season was formally opened by Society Chair Mark Ellis, who outlined an exciting programme of competitions, visiting speakers, practical evenings, inter-club events and special activities celebrating five decades of photography at Dunchurch.

With a packed room and many new faces, the 50th anniversary year is clearly off to an excellent start. Here's to another fifty years of photography, friendship and inspiration!







WEST HADDON PHOTO CLUB

# 12<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL PHOTO SHOW

Northamptonshire's biggest and best photo exhibition



**SAT 10<sup>th</sup> & SUN 11<sup>th</sup>  
OCTOBER 2026  
10am-5pm**



**All Saints' Church  
West Haddon  
NN6 7AP**

**FREE ADMISSION EACH DAY**





OVER 300  
PHOTOS

BY LOCAL PHOTOGRAPHERS

*Refreshments Available*

We welcome images from all photographers

Entries close  
**24<sup>th</sup> September**  
and are free to submit

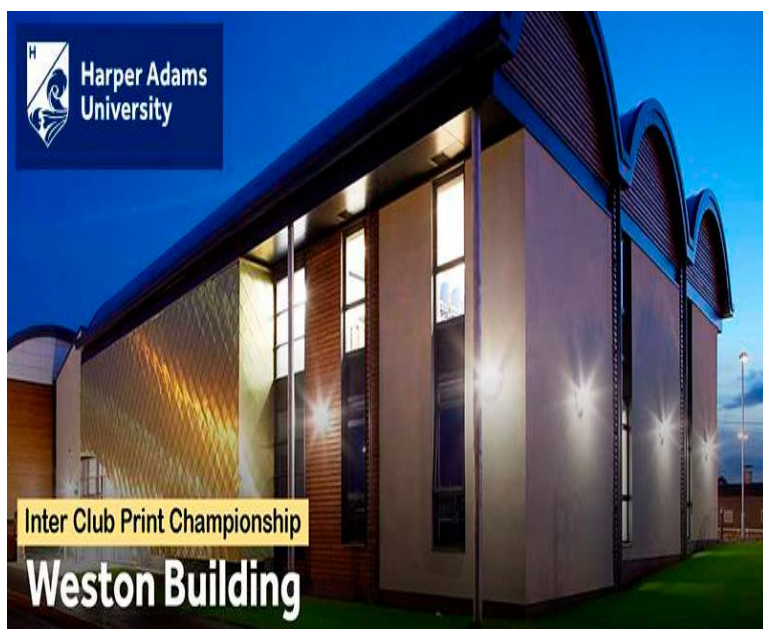
Visit  
[www.whphoto.club](http://www.whphoto.club)  
for details











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.

Tickets Now on Sale via PAGB's CMSsystem.

£15 each.



NPC · NEWPORT PHOTOGRAPHIC CLUB · ANNUAL KEYNOTE

An Evening with

# Iolo Williams

**Welsh Wildlife — Live on Stage**

BBC Springwatch presenter

**Tuesday 17 November 2026**

7:00 – 9:30pm · £25 · Open to the public

The Weston Building, Harper Adams University,

Newport TF10 8NB

**npc newport**  
photographic club

Book online now

[newportphotoclub.com](https://newportphotoclub.com)



## An Evening with Iolo Williams: Welsh Wildlife Live on Stage

A warm, insightful celebration of Wales's remarkable wildlife with BBC Springwatch presenter Iolo Williams.

We are delighted to welcome BBC Springwatch presenter and acclaimed Welsh ornithologist Iolo Williams to our stage on Tuesday 17th November 2026 for an inspiring live presentation, Welsh Wildlife.

Iolo's trademark blend of humour, insight, and deep field experience promises an uplifting celebration of Wales's natural world — from the iconic red kite to rare plants, fungi, and insects. It's an exceptional evening for photographers, nature enthusiasts, and families, offering both entertainment and fresh perspectives on the wildlife of Wales.

### Iolo's Welsh Wildlife

Join Iolo Williams for a vivid and engaging journey through the wildlife of Wales. From birds of prey and elusive insects to native flora and fungi, Iolo shares stories, science, and conservation insight with warmth and wit.

### Event Details

Date & Time: Tuesday 17th November 2026, 7:00pm–9:30pm

Venue: The Weston Building, Harper Adams University, Edgmond, Newport, Shropshire, TF10 8NB

260-seat lecture theatre with excellent acoustics and full level access

Tickets: £25 (includes tea and coffee)

Booking: Visit [newportphotoclub.com](https://newportphotoclub.com)

Logistics: Free on-site parking (vehicle registration required).

Directions and What3Words information are available on our website.

# Help us uncover the story of Ruth Handley FRPS (1899–1957)

A family appeal to preserve her photographs and piece together her life and legacy  
A personal appeal

I am Ruth Handley's grandson and the present custodian of a substantial collection of her original negatives, including glass plates, together with family records. This search is personal as well as historical. I want to preserve my grandmother's work, identify the people and photographs in the collection, and understand more fully the recognition she received during her lifetime and after her death.

I would be very grateful to hear from anyone who knew Ruth, remembers her work, holds one of her photographs, or has come across her name in an exhibition catalogue, camera-club record, newsletter or archive. I am particularly keen to hear from archivists, photographic historians, and past or present members of the Royal Photographic Society, the Midland Counties Photographic Federation, Handsworth Photographic Society and Beacon Camera Club.

Even a small piece of information could matter: a name written on the back of a print, a dated programme, a photograph of a trophy, a recollection passed down through a family, or a reference in old society minutes. Practical advice on safely cataloguing, conserving and digitising the negatives and glass plates would also be greatly appreciated.

If you can help identify a person, place, photograph or event, or suggest someone I should contact, I would be pleased to hear from you. Each contribution may help reconnect the family archive with the public record and bring Ruth Handley's story back into view.

## Contact:

**Lee Harrison — [leeharrison444@gmail.co.uk](mailto:leeharrison444@gmail.co.uk)**

What has been found so far What follows is the information gathered so far from family knowledge, published annuals, exhibition records and archive listings. Some details are well supported; others still need to be checked against original catalogues, society records and surviving photographs.

## Ruth Handley and her photography

Ruth Handley (1899–1957) was a British portrait photographer based in Handsworth, Birmingham. She specialised in portraiture and appears to have photographed actors and actresses at her Handsworth studio. Her standing extended beyond local studio

practice: surviving references place her work within the British salon and photographic-society exhibition circuit.

The evidence is dispersed. Birmingham's archives hold a substantial group of her photographs; the former Royal Photographic Society collection, now at the Victoria and Albert Museum, includes prints attributed to her; published annuals and exhibition records identify individual works; and the family retains original negatives, glass plates and records. A modern book, *Take a Pair of Sparkling Eyes: Photographs by Ruth Handley FRPS (1899–1957)*, compiled by Lee Harrison, draws partly on privately held material and Handsworth Photographic Society sources.

The designation FRPS identifies Handley as a Fellow of the Royal Photographic Society, historically the Society's senior distinction. Establishing when, why and on the basis of which submission she received the Fellowship is therefore central to assessing her professional standing.

## Photographs and exhibitions

Three named works currently provide anchors for Handley's chronology. Just William appeared in *Photograms of the Year 1953*. Gaynor in *Picture Hat*, dated 1955, was accepted and hung at the Royal Photographic Society's Autumn Exhibition of Pictorial Photography in London in 1955, then accepted at the Handsworth Photographic Society International Exhibition and the Midland Salon of Photography in 1956, and at the South Shields International Salon of Photography in 1957. Rusty, a portrait identified by the family as Handley's daughter Gaynor, appeared in *Photograms of the Year 1956*.

Family evidence also identifies portraits of Handley's children: Julie Adeline Handley, who trained at RADA; Gaynor Handley/Sterchi, also RADA-trained and active as an actress in the United Kingdom and United States; and Jeremy Handley, who appeared in a work titled *The Chessman*. These identifications are important because they can connect unlabelled family negatives with published or exhibited prints.

Together, the exhibition acceptances show that Handley's portraits were assessed within an organised national and international salon culture rather than

remaining solely commercial studio products. A complete exhibition chronology, however, has not yet been established.

## **Her work in the Royal Photographic Society collection**

The Royal Photographic Society is central to this research because Handley held its Fellowship and exhibited under its auspices. The Society's historic collection was assembled from approximately the 1890s onward and eventually comprised about 270,000 photographic objects, together with equipment, books, periodicals and archival material.

The collection was transferred in 2003 to Bradford's National Museum of Photography, Film and Television, later renamed the National Media Museum and now the National Science and Media Museum. In 2017, the former RPS collection moved to the Victoria and Albert Museum in London. The relevant institutional route is therefore: RPS, Bradford, V&A.

A current V&A box listing identifies photographic prints by Ruth Handley within the former RPS material. This creates a potentially significant provenance trail linking her membership and exhibitions to surviving prints. Examination of these objects may reveal titles, dates, processes, labels, annotations and earlier ownership or exhibition history. The historical collection should be distinguished from the new collection now being developed by the RPS around its institutional history, membership and photographic education.

The freely searchable RPS Journal archive, covering 1853–2018, may contain considerably more about Ruth than is visible in modern web sources. A systematic search should use name variants and contextual terms, including "Ruth Handley", "Handley, Ruth", "R. Handley", "FRPS", "Handsworth Photographic Society", "Birmingham photographic exhibitions", "RPS exhibitions" with particular attention to the 1930s–1950s, "portrait competitions", "exhibition acceptances", and "RPS distinctions" or "fellowships". Results should be checked in surrounding pages, indexes, exhibition lists, society reports and captions, since brief notices may not be captured by a simple name search.

There is also a wider historical connection worth exploring. The RPS Historical Group, founded to promote knowledge of photographic history and the preservation of photographs, equipment and documents, continues to support research through events and its journal, *The PhotoHistorian*. Its interests provide a useful context for understanding the relationships between photographic societies, exhibitions, collecting and institutions such as Bradford. In May 2025, the Group organised the RPS

biennial Hurter & Driffield Memorial Lecture at the National Science and Media Museum in Bradford, demonstrating that this institutional connection remains active.

## **The photographs still held by the family**

Handley's grandson holds a substantial body of original negatives, some glass plates and family records. This private archive may preserve images not represented in public collections and may help identify sitters or match negatives to known exhibition prints. Its evidential value will depend on systematic cataloguing and preservation.

A working catalogue should record, where available: format; dimensions; condition; process; negative or plate number; sitter; image title; approximate date; studio markings; inscriptions; publication history; exhibition history; related prints; copyright information; and links to family testimony. Digitisation should follow conservation assessment rather than substitute for it. High-resolution reference images, stable filenames and redundant storage would support comparison with Birmingham, V&A, RPS and photographic-society holdings.

## **How Ruth is remembered**

Handley's name survives in two distinct awards. The Midland Counties Photographic Federation currently awards the Ruth Handley Memorial Trophy for the Best Monochrome Portrait Print. The origin, donor and early history of this trophy remain unknown. Separately, Handley's grandson donated the Ruth Handley FRPS Cup for portraiture to Beacon Camera Club in Malvern, where he was formerly a member. The later Beacon cup should not be conflated with the older MCPF memorial trophy.

The survival of these awards, together with Handley's exhibition record, suggests a durable reputation within the Midlands camera-club, salon and pictorial-photography tradition. Documentary evidence is still needed to explain how that reputation was formalised after her death.

## **Questions we still hope to answer**

Her life and studio:

Where and from whom did Ruth Handley learn photography?

When did she establish her Handsworth studio, and at which addresses did it operate?

Who were her clients, assistants and professional collaborators?

Which actors, actresses and other sitters can be securely identified?

How did her family relationships shape the subjects, titles and circulation of her portraits?

Her Royal Photographic Society connection:  
When did Handley join the RPS?

When was she awarded Fellowship, and what work formed her Fellowship submission?

Do RPS distinction records, membership lists, correspondence or exhibition catalogues preserve further information?

Which Handley prints survive in the former RPS collection at the V&A?

What titles, dates, processes, labels, annotations and provenance are recorded for those prints?

Did any Handley material remain in Bradford or enter the RPS's newer institutional collection?

Her exhibitions and published photographs  
What is the complete list of Handley's exhibition acceptances, awards and reproductions?

Can the reported appearances of Just William, Gaynor in Picture Hat and Rusty be confirmed in original annuals and catalogues?

Are Rusty and other known portraits represented by negatives or glass plates in the family archive?

What might the RPS Journal archive reveal when searched for "Ruth Handley", "Handley, Ruth", "R. Handley", "FRPS", "Handsworth Photographic Society", "Birmingham photographic exhibitions", RPS

exhibitions in the 1930s–1950s, portrait competitions, exhibition acceptances, and RPS distinctions or fellowships?

Did contemporary reviews discuss her technique, style or standing among portrait photographers?

## **The Ruth Handley Memorial Trophy**

Is there a complete list of previous winners?

The archive and the people in the pictures

What is the full extent of Handley material in Birmingham's archives, and how is it catalogued?

Can family-held negatives and plates be matched to public prints, published reproductions or exhibition records?

Which conservation body or photographic archive can advise on safe storage, cataloguing, restoration and digitisation?

What metadata and rights information are required before images can be shared or published?

Can family identifications of Julie, Gaynor and Jeremy be documented as formal provenance?

Are there further privately held prints, albums, correspondence, studio ledgers or records among descendants and former photographic-society members?

## **Contact:**

**Lee Harrison — [leeharrison444@gmail.co.uk](mailto:leeharrison444@gmail.co.uk)**

Important: Please send any information or responses only to Lee Harrison at the address above. Please do not send information to any MCPF email addresses listed in the newsletter.

**SMETHWICK  
PHOTOGRAPHIC SOCIETY  
6th MIDLAND  
MONOCHROME 2026**

**A SHOWCASE  
OF SUPERB  
MONOCHROME PRINTS**

**4th - 10th OCTOBER 2026**



**SUNDAY 4th OCTOBER  
2pm**

**Official Opening and Award Presentations  
(Doors Open 1pm)**

**TUESDAY 7th OCTOBER  
10am to 4pm**

**THURSDAY 8th OCTOBER  
6.30 to 8pm** Followed by SPS Club Meeting 8 to 10pm

**SATURDAY 10th OCTOBER  
1 to 5pm**

**UK FIAP EXHIBITION CENTRE**

**The Old School House, Churchbridge, Oldbury, West Midlands, B69 2AS**

**On the Cusp by Chris Evans**

**THE RPS**  
ROYAL  
PHOTOGRAPHIC  
SOCIETY

# The TWENTY-FOURTH NATIONAL AUDIO VISUAL CHAMPIONSHIP

**2026**  
**NAVVC**  
RPS AUDIO VISUAL GROUP

**Judges:**

**Keith Leedham FRPS EFIAP FIPF**

**Cathy Fordham CPAGB/AV**

**Mark Allen MPAGB/AV**

<https://rps.org/groups/audio-visual/navvc/>

**14<sup>th</sup> - 15<sup>th</sup> November, 2026**

**SMETHWICK Old School House**

# MIDPHOT '27

## Audio Visual Competition

### SATURDAY 30<sup>th</sup> JANUARY, 2027



**JUDGES:**  
**Pat Mansell**  
**JEFF MANSELL CPAGB/AV**

**Priory Centre, Church Road, Burton upon Trent, DE13 0HE**  
**DOORS OPEN 09:30. £9.00 on the door for Attendees**  
**Bring Your Own Lunch • Free Tea & Coffee**  
**CONTACT: ALASTAIR TAYLOR 07989 737760**  
**midphotavcomp@gmail.com** <https://mcpf.co.uk/av-competitions> for details



Bee Leaving Mexican Sunflower Richard Harding

## 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.