



NEWSLETTER DECEMBER 2024



WELCOME to the December issue of the N&EMPF Newsletter. Again, thank you very much for your contributions and I hope you enjoy your holiday reading!! Without your news, there is no news!

WISHING YOU ALL A MERRY CHRISTMAS AND GOOD HEALTH AND HAPPINESS DURING 2025.

Lesley Grand-Scrutton, Newsletter Editor

A Message from Steve Walters, N&EMPF President

Merry Christmas everyone,

Congratulations to all of you with acceptances in the 2025 N&EMPF Exhibition and commiserations to those who weren't successful this time.

It has always been said that you could make another exhibition with the images that didn't get accepted, so this year we have done just that. Our Exhibition Secretary, Gary Langley, has produced a Touring Print Exhibition, so why not get your club to book this talk so that you can see for yourselves the quality of images that didn't get accepted this time round, showing the depth of quality photographers we have in the Federation.

It is a busy time of year for members of the Executive. As well as finalising the Exhibition, we are also preparing for our AGM in March. However, we realise that not all of you will understand the role and work that the Executive undertakes, so we will be starting a series of bitesize chunks of information about Executive Members and their roles!

I hope you all have a peaceful holiday period and get the opportunity to take and process some photographs. We would love to see them on the N&EMPF Facebook page or even within our newsletter!

Warm wishes. **Steve Walters, President**

Bitesize Chunk – Who Does What?

Judges Secretary

The Judges Secretary is responsible for the provision and training of the N&EMPF judges who are volunteers, giving their time free of charge (they can claim travel expenses only) to judge your club's competitions.

This involves arranging and running judging seminars, providing performance updates to the judges from club feedback reports, monitoring progression through our judge's pathway and making recommendations to the Executive when judges should move levels.

The Secretary will also support any new judges as they start their judging journey and the person taking on the role has to be empathetic, honest and have good communication skills to ensure that our judges remain committed to judging for the federation.

Audio Visual Competition Secretary

The AV Competition Secretary is responsible for running our annual AV competition. This involves booking the venue, getting a judge, advertising the event, liaising with entrants and receiving entries, making sure we have the correct equipment on the day to run the competition, compere for the day and sending out the results.

Notes about Photographer Eligibility

The North & East Midlands Photographic Federation Executive have voted in favour of adopting the PAGB definition and processes for Photographer Eligibility for entering its annual Exhibition, Inter Club PDI and Print Championships.

Clubs should ensure that all members' work used in these championships meets this definition and that appropriate approval is sought from the PAGB for anyone that doesn't meet the immediate conditions.

PAGB Guidelines on Photographer Eligibility

The eligibility of a Photographer applies to a particular Club as part of an entry by the Club, or as part of an entry which references that Club.

A Photographer who is, or has been, a member of more than one Club may be eligible via one Club, but not via another. It is a universal requirement that a Photographer's Images may only be submitted to one Event by one Entrant. The Photographer and Clubs must have clear arrangements in place to ensure this happens.

Clubs have the relevant information about their members and have primary responsibility for determining Photographer eligibility. Clubs should be prepared to explain the basis of a Photographer's eligibility on enquiry from the PAGB, the Federation or the Photographer. Clubs will have a local catchment area covering distances which would allow members to attend physical meetings. Members from another Federation recruited from outside that area can only be considered eligible to enter PAGB competitions via the Club after specific PAGB approval, which will only be granted in exceptional circumstances.

If a Club is entering a PAGB Competition and there is doubt about eligibility, the Club should apply for a ruling from the PAGB. Prepare an application to include the following, with your justification for seeking an exception:

- Name of the Club and Federation.
- Name and postcode of the person concerned.
- Duration of membership of the Club.
- How often the Club has physically met in the last 12 months and how many times this person has physically attended. Do not include online meetings or outings.
 - Any specific reasons why this member cannot attend regularly or cannot attend a more local Club.
 - Any known membership of other Clubs.
 - Why the eligibility is being claimed.

Send the application to: eligibility@thepagb.org.uk

The application will be considered and the Club should retain the reply for reference.

A revised application should be made if the original information changes significantly.

Advice to Photographers

Consult with your Club if you are in any doubt about your eligibility based on the Event conditions and this guidance. Explain to your Club if you need to opt out from allowing entry of your Images to any PAGB events.

Sue Wilson, N&EMPF Alliance Exhibition Secretary

PAGB 2025 Inter Federation Print Exhibition

This Exhibition is to be displayed at Mansfield Museum, opening **12th January 2025** and closing **1st February 2025**.

This will be well worth a visit and it is arranged so that you can visit both this exhibition and Patchings on the same day if coming from further away.

The Museum is open **Tuesday to Saturday from 10 am to 3 pm**. The Post Code is: NG18 1NG.

Please don't forget to start to collect your club's entries for the 2025 PDI Inter Club Competition. All details to be circulated in the New Year.

Peter Farnworth LRPS, PDI Championship Coordinator

ADVANCE NOTICE - N&EMPF CLUB PROJECTED DIGITAL IMAGE TROPHY COMPETITION

This annual competition, which will take place on 16th March 2025, serves many purposes - there is the serious side, which is to find the champion club and also to find two clubs to join Rolls Royce Derby to represent N&EMPF at the National Championships at Warwick School in July, but also, it is not the winning, it is the taking part which is important.

Read the rules and it says submit 40 images, but that is a **maximum** so that you have a good selection to choose for your second round. As long as you can comply with the rules about the number of nature images and number of images per author, the **minimum** is 26 to compete in the final. Only 16 images will give you entry to round 1 only - your choice!

We are also aware that Arnold is a long way from Lincolnshire and the east coast, so I will point out that you do not even have to be present at the event to compete - just send in your images with round 2 preselected (if competing in that round) and let us handle it, your results will arrive in an email afterwards.

All the paperwork will be sent to all clubs and will appear on the website. I hope to hear from a lot of clubs! If you need any clarification, please contact me at the email address below:

peter.farnsworth@nempf.org

Gary Langley, Exhibition Secretary

The N&EMPF Exhibition

I would like to take this opportunity to speak about our exhibition and give some of my personal thoughts on a few matters.

A few things to know and one of the most important things to realise is we want you to be successful, and if you are not a regular winner, we love it when you do well.

We love it when new clubs are named as a trophy winner, and it's a joy when new people get acceptances. It is one of the best feelings in the world when I must inform someone who is not one of the traditional winners, that they have won.

This year 2025 we have a few new clubs and new individuals gaining acceptances and awards, which is great, and we love it. We love it when the exhibition has a better reflection of what is going on in the world of camera clubs, and we would love for every club to be represented. However, you must enter to stand a chance of being a winner or gaining an acceptance, and we would like to encourage everyone, and every club to give it a go. The exhibition celebrates its 70th year this year and everyone involved in the exhibition is so excited to celebrate along with you.

How we judge the exhibition

We have four sections currently and each section is judged by three judges. Each judge has a scoring paddle that has buttons between 2 and 5 and they can select one of these per image shown to them. They have less than 3 seconds to hit the button and make their score. However, any one of the judges can ask to have a closer look at any picture and we will halt proceedings while they do that. We have a daylight lamp for the prints, and we use Nottingham and Notts PS projector to show our DPI's. When the judge or judges are happy, we move on. I, as the organiser, give a short briefing before we commence judging and it goes along these lines, this is done in private and its myself and the three judges alone.

I start off by welcoming them and thanking them for giving up of their time. I then explain that this is an exhibition and not really a competition, although we are looking for quality images. This means, above all else, we need a variety of subjects, genres, styles and authors. I mention that they can hit the 5 button as often as they like, but we discourage you from hitting the 2. When the 5 button is hit the helpers on the day always give a cheer and a clap to encourage the judges to do it more. I tell them (at every selection day I have organised) that we like landscape images and would like to see more in our exhibition. I go on to say that if you are in two minds about an image and it's a landscape image then give it the benefit of the doubt and let it in. To get the PAGB patronage we must have at least 4 of the 6 judges with a PAGB accreditation so they can judge at this level. These are judges that have been nominated by their federation and selected by the PAGB to judge such exhibitions, so these are judges with a lot of judging experience. The other two judges can be any judges from any federation, and we do sometimes have the two less experienced judges on our panels of 3. The PDIs are judged on the Saturday and the prints on the Sunday, and for each day it's a different set of judges.

We do not get feedback on individual images because, for the hundreds of images we must go through, it would take forever. It just isn't practical and to be fair life's too short, and it would mean getting the information on over 600 prints and maybe twice as many PDIs. The PDI day is far less labour intensive as the print day and on the PDI day we have around 4 helpers. The print day is really hard work and it's full on organising the different piles of prints by score. We have around 12 helpers on the print day and everyone is kept busy and it's normally a full day. You could really help us by remembering a few things, things that really slow down the process.

Some of the information you'll read here is simple, but every year people forget. It is up to the officials at the clubs to check these things as you only have one club to check, while we have 36 plus.

Check that the image you are entering belongs in the category you are uploading it to, and only that category. The sections are: -

Open Colour

Open Mono

Nature

Open Mobile Colour

Open Mobile Mono

The first thing I am asking you to remember is that all sections, apart from Nature are open, and Nature is for nature images only. So, if you put an image of, say a pride of lions in the open colour section, the judging will be instructed to down score those images because we have a Nature section already, just like we would if a colour image was put in the mono section.

If it looks like nature, we will judge it like it were nature, or down score it if it is in the wrong section. We do not have the time (and it causes issues with the software if we try and move that image to another section) so surely its easier for the club to sort that out as opposed to us trying to do so on a busy judging day.

The final few words on judging must be that not everyone is going to like your images, and not every judge will agree with the last set of judges.

Your images may well have been accepted into multiple exhibitions in the past and may have won multiple awards. So, if you do not get an acceptance in this exhibition, it's no good getting yourself all worked up about it because it's just someone else's personal opinion. We do try and pick judges with years of experience and we do manage to do this. It can come across that you have a sense of entitlement at best or sour grapes at worst. Most of our top photographers just accept this and move on, but for some people getting over the fact that not everyone likes their images seems to be a problem. This, however, is a very small minority of people, and if you have a genuine issue with the way the exhibition is judged and you're not happy with my explanation, the exhibition is not compulsory and it's not worth getting stressed out.

Mounting your prints

Make sure your images are mounted in the correct sized mount, or these images will be returned to the photographer after judging is completed. We are also unable to mount images which are falling out of the mount, and I am very reluctant to alter the size of anyone's print. We have in the past been told that an image is part of an RPS panel and no longer fits into a cohesive panel because we have changed the mount. So, I'll not do it, and the image will be dealt with accordingly.

How to ask a question or make a complaint

If you have an issue with any aspect of the exhibition you can address it with your club or the club's official collector/organiser. Social media is not the right place if you seek an answer to your questions. They then (I hope) will bring that to my attention, and I'll answer to the best of my ability. If you are still not happy with the answer I give, you have the right and ability to vote me off at the AGM. We are always looking for people who want to work and do a job and I would gladly either face a vote, stand aside and allow someone else to do the job in the future.

Members of the executive work very hard to keep this federation running and I am confident that most of you do not have a clue what's involved. Get yourself on the executive and find out first hand. We all look forward to welcoming new members on board, so speak to your club about how to do this.

The Travelling Exhibition

This is new for 2025 and should not be confused with the annual exhibition - they are not the same. You can have an image in the travelling exhibition, and it can be resubmitted for a future year in the N&EMPF exhibition. This is **not** possible with an accepted image because accepted images can only be put in the exhibition once. It already seems to be causing confusion to some people and all you need to do is simply read the rules.

The travelling exhibition was recently presented to Long Eaton Camera Club, and it was a thoroughly entertaining and interactive evening. I cannot promise the same at your club unless you're willing to be open minded and you like looking at pictures.

It must be booked either via Louise Langley or myself and it will cost £15. If we are invited along to lead and start the discussions, we will charge a fee according to the PAGB mileage rate. If you decide to do it yourself, it must be returned no more than 24 hours after the club has shown the prints. Clubs are already beginning to show interest, so don't miss out, get it booked today!

Final thoughts

- It's an exhibition not a competition. We love to see as many people as possible enter, but it's not compulsory.
- We love to see new people winning and gaining acceptances for your club.
- Because it's an exhibition, variety is of the utmost importance. Nobody wants to see 30 diving kingfishers off the same branch!
- Remember that if you failed to gain an acceptance, you're in the majority and not the minority. There will be hundreds of others just like you - all disappointed.
- If you are disappointed by your lack of acceptances and you decide to tell me, do not be surprised if I am not as sympathetic as you would have hoped. It takes me all my time to contend with my own disappointment, so I'll not have much time for yours.
- If you don't like the way the exhibition is run, then get someone else to stand and challenge me at the AGM
- Thank you to the 99.9% of people who just get on with it and make this exhibition enjoyable and an absolute pleasure to run. You are the ones who keep me coming back for more. Good luck for the future and I hope you all have a blessed 2025, and for the rest get over yourselves.

Carol Cheetham, AWARDS OFFICER - PAGB AWARDS FOR PHOTOGRAPHIC MERIT

The PAGB Awards for Photographic Merit took place on 23rd and 24th November 2024 at Widnes.

I am pleased to congratulate the following N&EMPF successes in the event:

BADGE (BPAGB) - Prints only - 7 Applications - all successful

Patrick Crowhurst – Sileby PS

Barbara Thompson – Clay Cross PS

MASTER (MPAGB) - 7 Applications – 3 successful

Carol McNiven Young – Rolls-Royce Derby PS

We have an enormous amount of talent in our Clubs and it would be great if more club members would apply for one of these awards.

There are 5 categories – B, C, D, E & M all with different criteria

Adjudications are held twice a year - April and November - hosted by different Federations.

For more information see the PAGB website or contact: carol.j.cheetham@nempf.org

CALENDAR OF EVENTS 2025



THE NORTH & EAST MIDLANDS PHOTOGRAPHIC FEDERATION

CALENDAR OF EVENTS 2025

2025

January 1	Subscription due and should be paid by 1 January **Don't forget your insurance**
January 11	Exhibition Opening & Presentations – Patchings Art Centre
January 11 - Feb 16	Exhibition Prints on display at Patchings Art Centre
February 1	PAGB Executive Meeting
February 8	N&EMPf Executive Meeting
March 16 (Sun)	AGM/Club Projected Image Championship – Arnold Leisure Centre 10.30 Annual General Meeting 1.45 Federation Inter-Club PDI Championship
March 23 (Sun)	AV Championship at South Muskham
April 10 (Thursday)	PAGB AGM – Virtual meeting only
April 12	PAGB Executive Meeting
April 26-27	PAGB Awards for Photographic Merit – hosted by SPF – Dunblane
April 26	N&EMPf Executive Meeting
May 18	N&EMPf Inter-Club Print Championship – tbc
June	<i>Photoday- tbc</i>
July 6 (Sunday)	PAGB Inter-Club PDI Championship – Warwick school
October 4	PAGB Exec Meeting
October 11	N&EMPf Exec Meeting
October 19 (Sun)	<i>N&EMPf Exhibition On-line Closing Date - tbc</i>
November 22-23	PAGB Awards for Photographic Merit - hosted by CACC
November 28	N&EMPf Memorial Lecture, Duchess Theatre, Long Eaton
December 6	N&EMPf Exec Meeting

N&EMPf APM Advisory Day – no date agreed at present

**** CLUB NEWS ****

Bakewell Photo Club

Our 'Southwell Day' proved to be a great success, helped in no small way by the beautiful weather. The highlight of the very well attended agricultural show were the ploughing matches, which went on all day and offered great photographic opportunities. The bright sunlight, however, proved challenging and post-processing was needed to even-out the contrasts.

Two speakers on the N&EMPF list were employed this term with great success. Robert Falconer judged one of our open Print and PDI competitions and on another occasion delivered his 'Digital Derbyshire 2' illustrated talk containing many magnificent images, often taken in the cold early morning.

The other speaker was Michael Poole's 'If it moves, shoot it'. Again, excellent images and a very entertaining presentation - highly recommended.

In a new venture for us, we had a 'Photo-Editing' session in which, well before the meeting, everyone was sent six images which were in great need of improvement. The results were brought along and the various versions of each image compared. The differences were amazing, and each person explained how they had used post-processing to achieve their improvements. We will definitely be repeating this exercise again as it was both entertaining and informative.

We end the Autumn session with self-judging of the prints held over from the cancelled meeting on November 18th due to snow, followed by festive food.

Pat Thacker, Chairman of Bakewell Photo Club

Deepings Camera Club

Deepings Camera Club are enjoying a great season with some amazing speakers so far, e.g. Justin Minns, Tracey Lund and Emma Finch. Last week we did something a bit different when Mike and Salli Gainsford came, complete with lights and backdrop to give us a practical demonstration. Mike talked us through setting up the lights (only two, although Salli often uses eight!) while Salli got our model ready. Many of you probably know our Chair, Dave Stewart, as a judge, but last week he became a truly regal Viking elder. (see images)



Our Annual Exhibition was held over the weekend of October 26th/27th and had a steady flow of visitors over both days. The exhibition has always been a good chance for all members to display their prints and for the last two years, their digital images. This year we had the bright idea of selling coffee and cake to be enjoyed whilst sitting and watching the loop of images in a separate area. These refreshments, along with a stall of pre-loved photographic books and equipment, went a long way towards offsetting the cost of putting on the exhibition.

We'd like to give all N&EMPF members a heads up that we will be celebrating our 40th Anniversary with a Day of Photography next June. Along with Charlie Waite and Bill Ward, our Programme Secretary has just confirmed Ben Hall to complete our trio of top speakers. The date is Sunday June 8th and we'll be at the Coronation Hall in Market Deeping. Tickets will be £25 and should be on sale in the New Year. Watch this space for further updates or contact us via our website <https://www.deepingscamera.club/contact>

Miriam Knight

Grimsby Photographic Society

This year has been a good one for Grimsby and its members. Although we may be a fairly small club, we feel we can hold our own against larger clubs.

We came second in the LPA Battle final, which in itself was a good result. However, we also came first in the Foster's Colour Challenge Trophy competition, again supported by the LPA.

You would have thought that we would be satisfied with excellent print competition results, but we entered the LPA Inter Club Digital competition, and again walked away as the winners.

One of our members entered our internal prestigious print panel competition and what do you know, he won and came runner up with a colour and a mono panel.

With that in mind, he was encouraged to enter the prints into the LPA POTY, where again we were pitted against the strongest clubs in the LPA. We are delighted to say that Gary Briggs won the Mono panel section, the Colour panel section and the best Individual Colour print.

Grimsby PS have a Zoom presentation with Leigh Preston planned for Thursday, 16th January. Leigh will be talking about and showing some of the work of Hugh Milsom and we all know Leigh's anecdotes are worth listening to on their own! If anyone would like to join us on the Zoom meeting for a small fee, please contact the Secretary for further details.

Jo Humberstone, Hon Sec, Grimsby Photographic Society. jo_humberstone@msn.com

Killamarsh Amateur Photographic Society

We are only a small club of about 15 members, so when the N&EMPF Annual results came through this morning, we were really excited to receive a 'Best in Class' in the Mono section for our member Steven Wharton for his picture: Snake Wood (copy attached).

After many years of entering, this is the first time we have ever received such an award and, needless to say, Steve is still buzzing! So, congratulations to him!



Steven Wharton - SNAKE WOOD

Also, following our securing of a small grant earlier this year, I approached ASDA Drakehouse, near Killamarsh recently to discuss using a room for a small promotional exhibition of our prints. Thanks to their Community Champion, Liam Timms and the team from Neighbourly Lab, London headed by Annette Holman, we were able to utilise the room on the 6th November and were able to offer our work to shoppers as they came in and went out.

Hopefully, we will see a few more members come through the doors from this promotional exercise.

Kind regards, Andy Cotton

Lincoln Camera Club

Please see below official notification of our Annual Winter Exhibition.

Lincoln Camera Club Annual Winter Exhibition

Held at Lincoln Central Library, Free School Lane, Lincoln

Start - Monday 16th December Finish - Saturday 4th January

Rushcliffe Photographic Society

NEMPF Newsletter – December 2024

Our website continues to attract membership enquiries, and we're pleased to have welcomed three new members this season. Our Chair, Andy McDonald, submitted an article featuring Rushcliffe Photographic Society to Amateur Photographer, which has been accepted and will be published in the December 10th 2024 issue.

As part of our commitment to the community, we were pleased to be invited to participate in the Rushcliffe Health and Social Prescribing Community Hub, which aims to enhance health and wellness within the community through a wide variety of activities. This proved to be a successful event.

Exhibitions Our exhibition season has just come to an end with three exhibitions being held in Tollerton (two days), West Bridgford (three weeks) and Bingham (four weeks). A total of 174 images were displayed over the three exhibitions.

Hot off the press

Several of our members have been successful in receiving RPS and PAGB distinctions and awards at external exhibitions,

ARPS In November 2024 Andy McDonald was awarded the distinction of Associate of the Royal Photographic Society for his black and white fine art architectural panel submitted for the genre Visual Art Photography. His entry 'Sheffield Wave' was one of 10 selected in the FIAP Monochrome Print Biennial Competition in India.

LRPS - Judy Thomason was awarded her Licentiate of the Royal Photographic Society in November 2024

United Photographic Portfolios of Great Britain - Chris Keenan's 'Autumn Leaves' has won The Ralph Couchman Memorial Salver in the 2024 UPP Exhibition for the most creative image.

London Salon of Photography - Chris's image 'The Quiet Reader' was accepted in the 2024 Exhibition

N&EMPF

This year we have seen a significant increase in the number of acceptances for the N&EMPF 2025 Exhibition with 27 Acceptances including a **Selectors Choice** for John Watson and **Commended** images for Martin Hollingworth, Chris Keenan and Judy Thomason.

To round off a busy first half of our 2024/2025 season, we will be holding a Skittles social evening in a local pub.

Merry Christmas everyone.

Wendy Stanton, Secretary

Sileby Photographic Society

Our 2024 season got off to a good start early in September with a 'Bring and Tell' evening where members brought some of their own pictures for others to comment on. This was considered a success such that a similar evening is planned for February with the intention of developing the 'critiquing' concept further to help members improve their photography skills. At the end of the same month we had the judging of our 3rd Quarterly competition by Phil Peat, who was able to give excellent and helpful comments on each entry. The competition is over four quarters but those scoring 20 this time were:

Digital: Mating Fire Bugs by Gianpiero Ferrari and The Wonderland Sculpture by Colin Machin

Monochrome: Pedestrian Crossing by Colin Machin

Colour: Silver-washed Fritillary on Heather by Gianpiero Ferrari

In October we had a presentation from Dave Wharmby and colleague 'My Photo Journey' describing his route to being a successful professional photographer, and a presentation by one of our own members, Gianpiero Ferrari, titled 'Masai Mara: The Jewel of Kenya'. As usual with Gianpiero the photographs were stunning and of the highest quality, giving us a good insight into the human and wild life of that area.

Later in October we had the judging of our annual Graham Johnson 12-shot Challenge, the rules of which called for panels of 12 images which must all have been taken on a mobile phone without any post-processing other than cropping. This year saw an increase in the number of entries, possibly a result of our realising how good modern mobiles are at taking good quality images in a range of conditions. Winners were:

1st: The Red Hat Goes to University by Mandy Sherrington

2nd: On the Doors by Colin Machin

3rd: 12 Shots by Colin Machin

November meetings included presentations by Ian Pinn 'My Photography', an evening with Nigel Atkins (one of our members) and 'Derbyshire in Digital, Part 2' by Robert Falconer. Looking forward to December we will have a presentation by one of our members, Patrick Crowhurst 'Slovakia', judging of the 4th Quarterly competition by Steve Myall and our final meeting of 2024 'Pictures and Pies' where we will bring our own images to show while enjoying some festive fare.

Sileby Photographic Society wish all N&EMPF members a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

Sileby Photographic Society: <https://silebyps.org.uk/>



The poster features a man with a beard and a bow tie shouting into a megaphone. The background is a light grey gradient. The text is primarily in white and orange/gold colors. A circular badge highlights the closing date. A logo in the bottom right corner identifies the competition as the 2025 Audio-Visual Competition.

N&EMPF
7th Audio-Visual & Photo Harmony Championship

CALL FOR ENTRIES

Closing date:
9th March

Championship: **Sunday 23rd March 2025**
Venue: **South Muskham Village Hall, Main St, South Muskham NG23 6EE**
Judge: **Tony Collinson**
Contact: **David Gibbins, ARPS APAGB EFIAP/b BPES, david.gibbins@ntlworld.com**

N&EMPF AV 2025 AUDIO-VISUAL COMPETITION

Obituaries

Colin Gibson, FRPS

It is with deep regret I have to announce the death of Colin Gibson who passed away peacefully in hospital after a short illness.

He worked for the same company as I, in Long Eaton based Gimson and Slater. He was the Designer and I was Mill Manager and we soon became friends and found we had a common interest photography.

Colin was a member of Long Eaton Cooperative Camera Club as it was then called. I quickly found he had a passion for mono, but hated colour. I was soon building a darkroom in the loft and joined his passion for mono.

We went on many photo sorties together, both using Pentax Spotmatics.

Some 25 years ago he was the founder of the Print Project Group, a group of like-minded photographers producing mono prints.

He was of the Old School doing wonderful woodwork mainly by hand and his photography was of a similar vein, often mixing his own developer etc. from bulk chemicals.

Colin was a wonderful photographer and a thoroughly nice guy to whom I owe a lot of my love of photography.

Typical Colin there is no funeral or wake so, as Emma his daughter said, raise a glass of his favourite tippie - a G and T.

I have on good authority - he always claimed that he was the first to take pictures of the Ratcliffe Cooling Towers.

Colin also served as an Ordinary Member of the N&EMPF Executive for 2 years 1976 & 1977.

Cheers friend and colleague

Roy Maddison

Jeff Hoffman - an appreciation

Jeff Hoffman joined Derby City Photographic Club after he retired from a working life spent in General Practice. After hearing a talk from one of the professional photographers who was involved in "Natures Images", he went on a day's workshop for woodland birds. This was followed by a trip to photograph sea birds on the islands of Saltee and Skoma. By the end of these he was "hooked" and if anyone asked him what he did, he would reply "I'm a Wildlife Photographer".

Natures Images trips took him from the USA to many parts of Europe, the Middle East and Scandinavia. He loved becoming totally immersed in photography during these times away, being alongside professional and enthusiastic amateur photographers - learning from them and sharing his knowledge.

Another regular fixture was his annual winter one to one trips with Neil McIntyre in the Cairngorms or Scottish Islands capturing Mountain Hares, Otters, Red Squirrels, Red Deer Stags and Crested Tits.

The images he brought back from these trips away were used by Derby City, and more latterly by Synergy, for inter-club, national and international competitions - often receiving ribbons or medals for their high quality. He eschewed going for any formal photographic qualifications as he wanted his photography to be for his pleasure rather than a source of pressure.

He was more than willing to try other genres of photography including portraiture, athletics, dance, tennis, horse racing and landscape. His desire to learn and improve led him to read widely around subjects and he watched photographic u-tube videos most days. He developed a wonderful “photographic eye” for what made a good image.

He was a valued member of Synergy from its foundation. He had a perceptive brain and a quirky sense of humour, bringing a lightness to any meeting he attended. He worked hard to contribute to the group and was a loyal member over many years. This continued despite him developing Parkinson’s Disease in his last years.

His images provide a much better tribute than our words and a selection is shown in this section of our web-site. He will be much missed.



Jeff Hoffman



Jumping Red Squirrel - Jeff Hoffman



Backlit White-Tailed Sea Eagle - Jeff Hoffman



Mountain Hare in Snow Hole
Jeff Hoffman



Lady in Red
Jeff Hoffman

Reg Lowe

The members of Beauvale Photography Group are sorry to announce that our friend and fellow photographer, Reg Lowe, passed away peacefully on the 17th November at the QMC, Nottingham.

Reg was an active member of Eastwood Photographic Society for many years until, in 2016, he became a founding member of Beauvale Photography Group and for some time performed the role of Treasurer. Reg had varied interests, but engineering and transport were subjects which often featured in his photography.

Rob Palmer's words describe Reg perfectly when he says:

"I believe Reg was exactly the sort of person that every photo club and voluntary organisation needs. Always supportive, always loyal and always willing to undertake and fulfill any task that was needed for the benefit of the club and its members. On a personal level I found Reg to be an interesting, kind and thoughtful person. I never heard him say a bad word about anyone. He will be missed by many. RIP Reg."