

# Northern Focus



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PHOTOGRAPHIC FEDERATION**  
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N.C.P.F. Hon. Secretary  
Margaret Welsh

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Barely a couple of months into my first year of office, unscathed by my first Executive Committee Meeting, I am delighted to record the unqualified success of the PAGB Awards for Photographic Merit weekend at the Joseph Swan Academy in Gateshead on 23rd and 24th of April.

PAGB President Roy Thomas, and his travelling team can only have been highly impressed by the superb organisation of the weekend led by John Twizell and his super efficient cohorts from NCPF.

It would be quite remiss of me not to offer sincere personal congratulations to those NCPF Members who gained Distinctions. CPAGB's were awarded to Tim Booth, Carlisle Camera Club; Pauline Pentony ARPS, Northallerton CC and Mark Petheridge, Guisborough PG.

Two of our Members achieved success in the highest Award Category MPAGB and both deserve heartiest congratulations. They are Neil Maughan, Durham PS and Alan Walker, Keswick PS.

Special Thanks of course to the whole PAGB Team.

Our Beamish Weekend continues to enjoy success and an excellent display of prints on the weekend of 21st and 22nd May was a popular "stopping off" point for many visitors to the Museum.

Happy Snapping for 2016  
Alan McCormick ARPS

Welcome once again to this Spring/Summer issue of the Northern Focus. Much has happened over the time since the last issue to clubs, societies and members too. As usual time seems to fly past when it comes to another Northern Focus but the summer is nearly here and everyone no doubt will be looking forward to getting away and building up their portfolio of images in readiness for the new season ahead. I do hope that the weather will be kind to everyone. I hope that over the next few months' members, and clubs, will be putting pen to paper so that items will be flying into me for the next issue.

Once again it has been a privilege to receive articles and items from members within the Northern Counties Photographic Federation. It is so good to receive feedback from you as it helps towards the next issue. Sorry for the delay but things seem to build up as time goes by. I do have to admit that if it were not for others who help out and give a nudge here and there it would be very difficult at times. Still, you all respond when asked and I hope it has been worth it. I do thank those who have contributed to this issue and those who have help to issue it.

Please enjoy the magazine but remember to get your articles into me for inclusion in our next issue. Thanks to Ian Britton for his valuable assistance with the Northern Focus. I do hope all goes well with everyone at this time

John Smith, Editor

## Camera Club's "What's The Future"

Photographic Society's / Clubs have now been operating successfully, and without a great deal of competition since the late 1800s, and I began to wonder what effect the emergence of web sites such as Flickr, Instagram, 500px, Facebook, and many others I may not even heard of might be having on Club membership. Certainly the younger generations seem to do everything on line, and as time passes the older generation are also catching up.

When I consider what my motives for being a member of a Club are, my chief reasons would probably be 1) A desire / curiosity to see and hear about the work of others, 2) To gain inspiration from seeing that work, 3) Have the opportunity to show and receive feedback about my own work. 4) Enjoy the social aspects of interacting with other like-minded people.

Certainly the likes of Flickr give people the opportunity to fulfill at least three of those criteria, and therefore might be considered virtual Camera Clubs. Also in many cases they are free, and don't even require leaving the house to participate.

All this tweaked my curiosity and prompted me to dig out some old copies of the NCPF Directory comparing Club membership figures year on year. On doing so alarmingly I found that we had lost members in each of the past 3 seasons, and that the various NCPF Clubs have shed a total of 118 members over that period. The biggest drop being between seasons 2013 -14 and 2015-16 where we lost a total of 58 members, or the equivalent membership of one decent sized club. The main thing being that there appear to be indications of a definite long-term downward trend.

I can't say with any degree of certainty that the long-term decline in Club membership is as a direct result of on line competition, but it certainly can't be helping. Whatever the causes complacency can't be an option, and so perhaps we need to consider with new vigor what we can do to compete for and attract new members, and just as importantly retain them.

During my travels around the Clubs in the course of Judging / Lecturing I always find it interesting to hear what Clubs have done to attract new members, and thought in light of the above I might pass on some of the more interesting ideas I've come across, together with some thoughts of my own.

Firstly given the importance of the Internet in this day & age, it is now vitally important that your Club has an online presence in the form of a decent web site, fortunately most clubs already do. The next question is whether the site is working as hard as it might to attract new members. To that end it is worth considering the content of your sites home page, does it contain info for new members, or do they have to search other areas of the site for the relevant info (patience isn't in abundant supply these days). Does the site give a welcoming impression. I would go so far as to suggest that ideally the home page of your site is set out mainly with the aim of attracting new members, emphasizing how welcome they would be, including for example a photo or two, ideally including lady members to dilute any pre conceptions of a male dominated environment. Stress the ease of joining. What benefits they can get from membership etc.

If you can't beat them join them and consider opening a Flickr group and Facebook page etc.

Some clubs have found that holding exhibitions can be successful in attracting new membership, especially if members of the Club can man it, and are thereby able to extoll the benefits of membership.

Seeking publicity in local media especially if your club has enjoyed some notable success. To this end it may be worth appointing someone in the position of Press Secretary, to actively search out opportunities to publicize the Club such as:- Producing calendars, Charitable causes, Projects in your area of future historic value etc. Again some Clubs have found these activities to be of benefit.

Where membership retention is concerned, I have spoken to many over the years who have tried Clubs and left pretty quickly, the main reasons quoted include the following:- They found it to be cliquey and felt excluded; Felt the syllabus was exclusively aimed at advanced photography; Felt they received no help / encouragement.

To combat your hard won new members falling victim to these problems and opting for the exit door, consider appointing a Social Secretary (ideally a person with good social skills familiar with the Clubs membership and practices) with responsibility to identify new members on arrival, introduce themselves, sit with the new member and explain what's going on during the meeting, introduce them to other members, invite them to the Pub afterwards if that happens.

Encourage them to enter competitions go on days out etc. The sooner a new member starts to participate in the Clubs activities the likelihood that they will remain with the Club increases enormously.



Perhaps consider creating opportunities for newer members to show, talk about and receive feedback on their work outside of a competitive environment. (Is there too much emphasis on competition? Are we in general too obsessed with technical image quality at the expense of acknowledging and praising creativity?.)

If a member isn't seen for a while consider ringing them to find out why.

The social aspects of the Club are your main weapon / advantage over the internet.

I know a lot of Club's already put into practice many of the ideas outlined above, and I realize that some may not be practical in all cases, but hopefully there are one or two ideas contained within this article for your Club to ponder.

Gerry Adcock ARPS



This is a picture by an unknown photographer, but the subject is known. He is a Blyth member who was President of the Federation 1956/8. Before that he was Portfolio Secretary. He is H.O.J. Bedgod who professionally was a Dentist.



This picture is entitled 'Pleasing Prospect' and is by R.B. Widdicombe.

Nothing is known about the author except that he was a member of South Shields P.S.

If anyone knows anything about him would they kindly contact us.

# NCPF Distinctions

## DISTINCTIONS GAINED

Leo Palmer	Hexham PS	Fenton Medal
Alan McCormick	Hexham PS	ARPS
Mark Petherbridge	Guisborough PG	CPAGB
Pauline Pentony	Northallerton CC	CPAGB
Neil Maughan	Durham PS	MPAGB
Gordon Rae	Dumfries CC	MPAGB
Alan Walker	Keswick PS	MPAGB
Alan Spoors	Ryton CC	APAGB

## **NCPF Club Championship 2016 Results**

Firstly, an apology to any Club whose entry was caught up in the email problem during the entry process. It did cause us a little problem, but in the end everyone's image or print was included in the judging process. Thank you to all the clubs that took part; I think there were some 'cracking good' images on view. We sympathise with Stokesley who were unable to be part of the Prints Competition owing to snow holding them captive in the village and preventing them from attending.

Secondly, a big thank you to everyone that helped the day go along so well. We couldn't have managed the day without you.

We announced the immediate winners immediately after the competition, but here are the results in full. On finally checking I had to make one or two minor corrections to the overall marks of one or two clubs, but they did not alter any placement.

### **PDI Competition**

1 Northallerton	233	11 Stokesley	196
2 Morton	221	12 Cramlington	196
3 Durham	219	13 Alnwick	194
4 Saltburn	213	14 South Shields	193
5 Tynemouth	210	15 Consett	193
6 Blyth	208	16 Gateshead	191
7 Cambois	206	17 Whitley Bay	190
8 Gallery	203	18 Bishop Auckland	187
9 Gosforth	202	19 Ryton	187
10 Sunderland	201	20 Whickham	185

So, Northallerton win the PDI trophy, and they and Morton will represent NCPF in the PAGB Competition later this year. The overall best PDI was judged to be 'Under Attack' by John Doyle of Sunderland.

### **Prints Competition**

1 Northallerton	227	9 South Shields	205
2 Sunderland	225	10 Gallery	195
3 Saltburn	222	Whickham	195
4 Gosforth	220	12 Alnwick	183
5 Morton	215	13 Ashington	191
6 Tynemouth	211	14 Cramlington	189
7 Durham	207	15 Cambois	183
8 Whitley Bay	206		

Northallerton win the Print trophy, and they and Sunderland will represent NCPF in the PAGB competition later this year.

The overall best print was judged to be 'Isolation' by Arnold Hubbard of Sunderland.

Fred Wright  
Club championship Officer.

## North Tyne Area Projected Image Competition 2016

This annual event was hosted by Tynemouth PS this year, on Thursday 31st March.

7 clubs entered and David Richardson was to be the judge. Sarah Timney, the Tynemouth President, welcomed all who attended and explained that unfortunately David Richardson had become unwell and was unable to judge the event. With 8 days to go he had contacted Tynemouth to tell us and also said that he had asked Stephen Fowler, who lives just a short walk from his house, if he would take over as judge. We agreed to that and are grateful to Stephen for stepping in at such a late stage. Each club entered 8 pictures and they were marked out of 30. Only one can have 30 as there is a trophy (The Bonser Trophy) for the best picture.

As expected there were some really good pictures judged but there were very few which had been obviously manipulated or made into composite images. The vast majority were straight pictures covering subjects from landscape to portrait and wildlife to record.

At the end of the night, Tynemouth won the Evening Chronicle Trophy for the top club and Alan Carr of Cramlington won the Bonser Trophy with 'Keeping Warm'.

Cramlington and Whitley Bay tied for second place.



The Chronicle Trophy is one that I just love Tynemouth to win. We have won it more than any other club and it was a Tynemouth member, Alf Brittain, who many years ago set up the competition and trophy (as a slide competition).

Three pictures scored 29. 'Bamburgh Castle' by Stephen Conaty of North Shields, 'Fox Cubs Watching' by Keith Hildreth of Tynemouth and 'Angel Eyes' by John McGuinness of Tynemouth. 28s were 'Relaxing' by Matt Smith of North Shields, 'Eyes' by Pop Brannon of Cramlington, 'Speed' by Derek Grant of Whitley Bay and 'Infinity' by Robin Sinton of Tynemouth. A good night, rounded off with a buffet and the room was filled with chatter.

Howard Wilson, Tynemouth PS







## The Northern Audio Visual Group

The Northern AV Group held one of their popular AV days at St Johns Church Hall, Snods Edge, near Shotley Bridge, Co Durham of Sat 19<sup>th</sup> March 2016. The guest speakers were **Hilary Crick** and **David Rodway** who are both members of the Group. Both speakers use ProShow Producer to produce their sequences.

The day started with individual members showing some of their recent work to an appreciative audience, receiving constructive comments from one of the members of the group (John Harbron). The first sequence was '**How it all started**' by Laurie Little which was a documentary on the founding of Australia, then later concentrating on Sidney in particular. '**2015 Somme Rail**' by Paul Hogarth told us the story of his journey along the Somme Railway. Jonathan Lane then showed us '**Idwals Last Wainwright**' which was the story of a friend who completed his last walk Wainwright on Haystacks. This was a mixture of both stills and video.

After the tea break the rest of the morning was given over to Hilary and David who showed us how to use ProShow Producer to construct sequences. This was a very descriptive session in which we were shown how to use captions, various effects as well as the basics required to make a sequence. The session was very informative and was much requested as about 40% of the Group use ProShow to produce their sequences.

After lunch Hilary and David continued and showed us a range of their sequences. David showed us 2 sequences taken in Swaledale followed by one on '**Breezy Knees Gardens**' near York. This was followed by a sequence on the '**Woodland Trust training day at Castle Howarth**'. His final two sequences were '**Lighthouse Walk**' – Isle of Mull' and '**Thorton Hall Gardens**' near Darlington. Hilary then showed

us her sequences on '**The Hillside Parishes**' which were bases around Silton, Kirkby Knowle etc. She then showed us '**Timepieces**' a fun piece showing sundials, various types and sizes of clocks and watches etc. '**Bempton Birds**' was a very pleasing sequence about Gannets. '**Revolution**' was a story about a track cycling event at the Manchester Velodrome, which included many of the top British cyclists. '**Little Things**' showed us some stunning photographs of insects, butterfly's, moths, beetles etc. The final sequence was '**The Wall**' which was wall graffiti taken in Adelaide.

For the final session of the afternoon, it was back to members sequences. Again constructive feedback given by members Stuart Edgar and John Harbron. It started with a lovely sequence by Jeff Evans on '**Hidden Northumbria**', which took us to Kirkhale, Kirkwhelpington and Elsdon. Val Burdis, showed us a short sequence entitled 'Postcards from Spain' which took us to various villages visited during a trip to the country. Miles Langhorne gave us '**Magic of Scotland**', which showed the wonderful autumn colours in Scotland. '**Up above Crummock Water**' by Andrew Nichol showed us some wonderful landscape images taken from the fells around Crummock and Buttermere. Anne Harbron told a wonderful story of artist Raymond Isidor in her sequence 'House of Shards'. The final sequence was '**The Blast**' by John Harbron which told the story of the 'Blast' and 'Chemica' beaches near Seaham.

Overall everyone had an excellent day and left with lots of ideas and information for future work.

Our next meeting is on 15 Oct 2016 when the Guest Speaker is Malcolm Imhoff. For any further information please contact Geoffrey Darling (Chairman) [geoffrey.darling@btinternet.com](mailto:geoffrey.darling@btinternet.com) or Howard Wilson (Sec) [howard.wilson440@btinternet.com](mailto:howard.wilson440@btinternet.com)

*Stuart Edgar / Kevin Allonby*

## **South Shields host PSA PDI competition**

Tuesday 22nd March saw South Shields Photographic Society play host to a Photographic Society of America Projected Image Division interclub PDI competition.

The Projected Image Division, hold four interclub competitions each year. This year there are five groups of participating clubs predominantly from the USA and including clubs from Europe and Australia. Currently there are 11 clubs from the UK taking part.

Each club enters 6 images into each of the four competitions. Hosting the judging of competitions is undertaken by volunteer clubs from the groups. To avoid conflict the host club undertakes the judging of a different group than it's own.

Having been a member of the PSA interclub PID for five years South Shields Photographic Society volunteered to host one of the four competitions. In doing so we took the view that it would provide a different and entertaining night for the members. South Shields of course are no strangers to hosting international competitions and many will remember the club's history of hosting what is now the NCPF International Print Salon.

To many of the current members who do not have experience of the format of this competition, hosting the competition provided the opportunity to view work of work of photographers from around the world.

Unlike our normal club competitions, PSA PID competitions are judged by a panel of three judges, following a format much the

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same as the current NCPF Club and Annual PDI competitions whereby electronic keypads are utilised to record and total the judges scores.

The NCPF kindly offered the use of their electronic scoring equipment and Jim Welsh, Angela Ellis and Gerry Adcock offered to form the judging panel.



As with all things new a certain amount of preparation is required to ensure success. Several members of the committee undertook the administrative role to ensure smooth running of the competition.

Fortunately, the PSA provide guidance and documentary support which enabled the downloading of 120 images and score sheets. The images were from 19 clubs (16 from USA, 1 Australia, 1 Ireland 1 UK}

The PSA guidelines require that one image is selected as Best of Show and 10% of the entries identified for Award of Merits with a further 10% being given Honourable Mentions.

The judging took place to a near full house of members. The judges are not permitted to preview the images prior to the competition. The initial judging of the 120 images went smoothly and seemed to pass quickly. The review and identification of the award winners took somewhat longer as the judges considered and discussed the merits of the top scoring images. The Best of Show was "Egret on Branch" from South Towns Camera Club New York State. Overall an excellent night was had by all and our thanks go to Jim, Angy and Gerry for their support and a job well done.

In the five years the South Shields P.S. has been a member of the PSA it has provided another platform for members work to be exposed and judged on an international level. It only costs \$55 per year which is a small price to pay to have work from up to 24 members represent your club at an international level.

The PSA has much to offer at both an individual and club level. By way of example our membership of the PSA has enabled our web master, Malcolm Lovell to enter the Society's website into the "Best Website" competition. This has been a great success for Malcolm as he has in the last four years won the Best Website competition twice and come third twice.

If your club has not considered the PSA as an option for interclub competition please visit their website [www.psa-photo.org](http://www.psa-photo.org) for further information.

Colin Dudley, South Shields Photographic Society

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# Celebrity Profile

## Jed Wee

Jed discovered photography through his father, who let him use his film cameras on family vacations while Jed was still a teenager. Since then Jed's enthusiasm for photography has seen him develop his skills and knowledge over time, ultimately turning professional in 2002.

He spent 6 years as a full time sports agency photographer, regularly having work published in newspapers and magazines. He went freelance in 2008, combining his sports work with more general work. Since 2012 Jed has also been passing on some of his knowledge and experience through photographic workshops, including his popular birds of prey workshop, and more recently his landscape workshops.



Having started his photographic journey in the film era, Jed is appreciative of his grounding in film photography. Although he picked up his first digital SLR in 2000 and went fully digital in 2008, he has fond memories of many hours spent in the dark-room, and of his experiences with camera formats from 35mm through to 5x4.

Jed has a keen interest in infrared photography, having photographed with the venerable Kodak HIE back in the film days, and now usually has an infrared converted DSLR with him on shoots.

In terms of subjects, Jed enjoys photographing most things, but has particular interests in architecture, wildlife and landscapes. Over the last couple of years he has spent an increasing amount of time photographing the night sky; star trails, the Milky Way and the Aurora.





Jed first became a member of Durham Photographic Society in 2000, joining the club whilst he was reading Law at the University. He went on to obtain a Masters degree in the Photographic Image from Durham in 2006. He also has Associateships with the RPS (in Visual Journalism) and FIAP.

He has a keen interest in the technical side of photography, whether in the form of camera craft or the digital darkroom. Partly as a result of this he previously wrote reviews for Bronica and Tamron and gave talks for Nikon, back in his native Singapore, as well as writing and moderating for a number of online photographic communities.



Since 2013 Jed has been a lecturer and judge on the NCPF circuit, which he enjoys for giving him the opportunity to meet and talk to other photographers.

His talks range from a showcase of his professional work, through to travel and landscapes, and Photoshop instructionals. Jed's work is available to view at [www.essence-of-light.com](http://www.essence-of-light.com)



# Techniques

## Working on Projects

When I first got into club photography back in the 1980's the pursuit of the single image made finding good images difficult and not particularly fulfilling.

Meeting and chatting to Arnold Hubbard changed my outlook on photography forever with a very simple yet profound quote "Get yourself a project lad!".

I would work all week with little or no opportunities to take pictures, so, the weekend couldn't come quick enough to get out with camera and friends. "Where are we going this weekend" was the familiar question and "When we get there what will we do", was the next.



Portugal Back Street

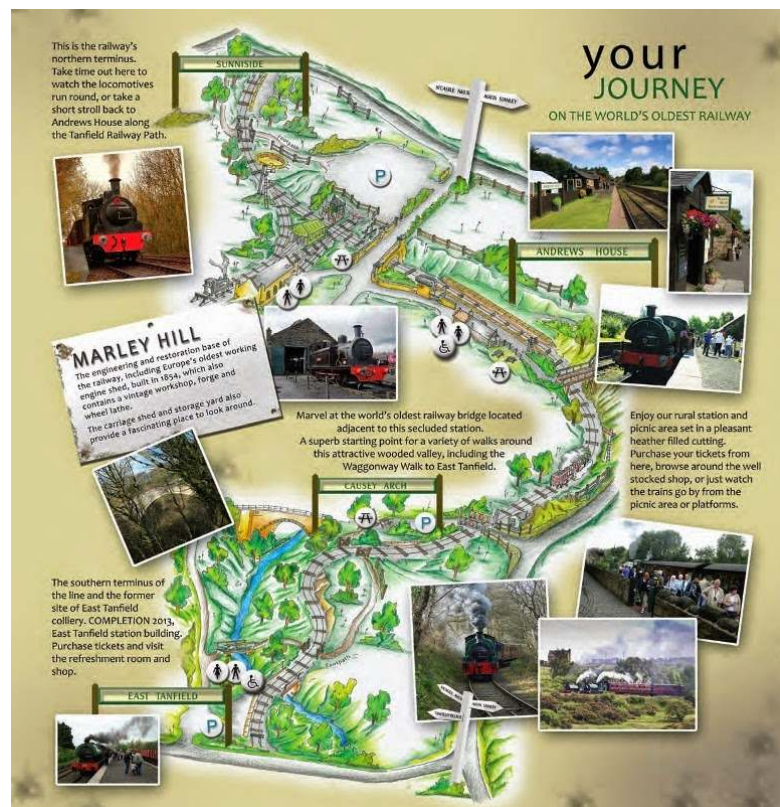
Taking up a project was the answer, in fact having several on the go at any one time meant that no matter what time of year, weather, subject matter, I never get stuck on where to go and what to take when I got there, and of course there was always the odd goodun would come up for competitions.

A lot of these projects led to exhibitions with the Imprint Group. Being a member of the group became very important part of my life, rubbing shoulders with the likes of Alan Fowler, Roy Elwood, David Hall, Clifford Tweats and Frank Bewick, they all kept me on my toes, quickly learning never to take an inferior image to our meetings.

We don't meet as often but when we do, I still get a buzz from them when told "That's a canny snap".

What I like about any project is I can pick up or leave it anytime I want, some are seasonal others may be events that only occur once a year, most are work in progress, hopefully never reaching an ending.

30 years on and I still get a buzz from going to Tanfield Railway, River Tyne, Newcastle city and most recently



would you believe Kielder Forrest, the Northumberland and Durham coast line both different and equally diverse, always finding new images, Beamish Museum another, all on our doorstep.

Long haul days out are preferred on occasion, senior railcards procured to get good deals. Trips to Glasgow, Edinburgh and London with many other towns and cities on our list to explore and enjoy.

Approaching 70 my enthusiasm has never waned, armed with a wicked sense of humour, a lot of good friends, funtography is still as good now as it ever was. Visiting photographic clubs to give talks is a prime reason for getting out there and enjoying myself as often as I can. Peter Dixon ARPS APAGB DPAGB



Kielder Forrest

# Inspiring North East

## **Durham photographers triumph with exhibition**

It all started with an idea from the fertile mind of Durham Photographic Society member John Cogan ARPS.

Take 100 of the North East's most inspirational and influential personalities and produce a quality photographic exhibition.

Not the empty personalities of the tabloid celebrity variety but people who really make a difference.

The project ran for more than a year and involved members of Durham Photographic Society who faced the challenge of meeting characters of substance, some with big national and international reputations. Daunting when you consider that many were more used to being portrayed by top pro photographers.



Author Anne Fine by Tony Griffiths

John tagged his subjects the region's 'movers and shakers' and the resulting exhibition went on to critical acclaim as it showed first at Alnwick Castle in May 2015 after winning support from one of its subjects, the Duchess of Northumberland. It then toured to Newcastle's St Nicholas Cathedral, Sunderland's Art Museum and Winter Gardens, Blyth Arts and Leisure centre and Co. Durham's Bowes Museum at Barnard Castle.



Duchess of Northumberland by Tony Griffiths

'Portraits from the North East' was the name given to the enterprise. John Cogan and fellow DPS members spent around a year photographing and interviewing the chosen selection of people from the worlds of politics, regional administration, arts, sport, business and science to build up the portfolio of prints.

The subjects included international athletics star and TV sports presenter Steve Cram, Sunderland born broadcast journalist Kate Adie, local and national political figures, and police and fire chiefs in Co. Durham, Tyne and Wear and Northumberland.



Durham Chief Constable Mike Barton by David Trout



The arts scene was richly represented by world-renowned opera singer and chancellor of Durham University Sir Thomas Allen, Northumberland folk singer and composer Katherine Tickell and Co Durham based children's author and former Children's Laureate Anne Fine who wrote *Madame Doubtfire*, the book which inspired the hit movie *Mrs Doubtfire*.

Multiple gold medal winning paraplegic games super star Baroness Tanni Grey-Thompson, a member of the House of Lords, represented both sport and politics in the exhibition.



Dame Tanni Grey-Thompson by John Clarke

It kicked off with a visit to Alnwick Castle in 2014 to photograph the Duchess of Northumberland by Durham Photographic Society's Julie Ferry, Tony Griffiths and John Cogan.

The Duchess, who is Lord Lt of Northumberland, was enthusiastic about the idea and subsequently hosted the first exhibition at Alnwick Castle in May 2015, attended by an impressive gathering of many of the region's top people.



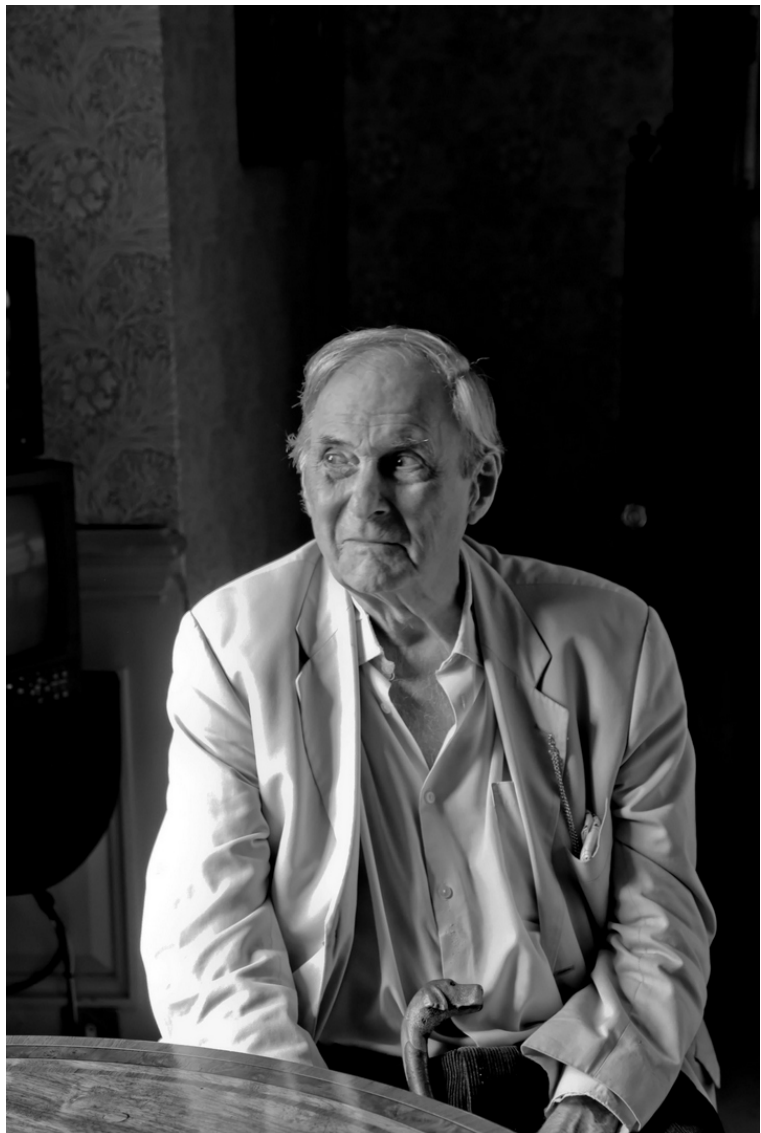
Kate Adie by John Cogan

John Cogan summed it up: "The North East of England is special. We have one of the richest collections of people in the country. We can offer everything from astute scientists to determined sports people, from comedians and actors to top business people. Our exhibition reflects this rich diversity, though we have only scratched the surface."

Durham Photographic Society members who were involved in taking the photos and setting up the exhibitions along with John Cogan were: Tony Griffiths, Peter Walton, John Clarke, Julie Ferry, Jed Wee, Joe Grabham, Joanne Gray, Joanne Coates, Angy Ellis, Ian Stafford, Neil Maughan, Trai Anfield and David Trout.

Since launching Portraits for the North East the team has produced a spin off exhibition featuring veterans from World War 11 and then launched a third exhibition project, people involved in traditional North Country crafts.

David Trout LRPS



Lord Barnard by Peter Walton

# Club Spotlight

## Gosforth Camera Club

Gosforth Camera Club is a spin off from the original Newcastle Camera Club which it appears split in 1949 when some members (as the tale goes) had a falling out and decided they would form their own club, based in Gosforth.

There were three Camera Clubs in Newcastle then – the YMCA and the Newcastle Club plus Gosforth. The YMCA lost their premises when the Eldon Centre was built and they moved to a new building. But both of these clubs suffered because many of their members had worked, but not lived, in Newcastle. They finished work and went home and often didn't want to come back into Newcastle for the evening.

The Gosforth founder members consisted of professional and business men, who met in January of 1949 and held meetings in the Bowling club hut in West Avenue, Gosforth where they listened to an impressive list of lecturers and had three major competitions, all monochrome of course. In 1952 The Lantern Slide competition, which was described as a colour slide competition, was added.

The lack of heating in the hut presented major problems so the move was made to the Windmill cafe on Gosforth High Street, then to Gosforth Modern school where they met for the next 14 years. In those days they used a 6 foot by 6 foot piece of white emulsified hardboard for a screen which was kept in the caretakers cupboard some way from the club room. It had to be transported back and forth and on wild and windy winter's nights it was a hairy experience!

In 1956 the first lady member arrived who was very keen and had a most impressive camera outfit. Happily we now have

many lady members who are just as keen and quite competitive. A few more schools became our Headquarters until we settled on Public Houses for our meetings, I wonder why?

We now meet at the Millstone in South Gosforth. Meeting in a pub has quite an advantage in one way for, after the meeting upstairs, we wend our way down to the pub and mull over events, sharing tips and photographic magazines in a convivial atmosphere with a drink (or two) in our hands. The downside is that we share the room with other organisations so can't leave images round the room but the Manager allows us to exhibit images in the bar.

We were bequeathed several thousand pounds many years ago and our treasurer used some of the money to make sure we had the latest technology for showing images to their best. Then the pub allowed us to install a cinema size screen which makes showing Digital Projected Images easy. This coupled with very modern sound equipment means we can show any kind of image, stills, video or films.

Our club nights are as varied as our Programme Secretary's jokes!! Recently we have been trying to expand the scope of what we do. We thought it would be fun and a challenge to hand out disposable cameras at the end of last season and members had to use these over the summer break to record anything that caught their eye, we've still to see the results.

Last year, one of our members discovered a format for showing images that none of us had heard of, a firm of Architects devised a presentation format to restrict the amount of time someone talks about their images, namely 20 images each showing for 20 seconds then automatically moving on.

Our first try out was hilarious with members struggling to complete their descriptions before the next image was shown, but now we're all very expert and it gives so many more members a chance at showing what they like to photograph. We have had some wonderful lectures from amazing photographers, and our own members have also given us some great evenings showing their work. Periodically we run Modules on various techniques from basic knowledge of camera controls , the use of flash, Lightroom training etc., using the wealth of knowledge of club members to encourage and advise. These are in addition to our usual club evenings.

From those early days of three competitions plus the Lantern slide, we now have very varied competitions, three for prints,



three for Digital images plus competitions on Knock outs , Panoramas, set themes, Nature, Portrait, a Club outing, and a print panel. All of these have awards and we have some magnificent trophies which require the winners to have a large sideboard!

There is an excellent social side boosted by bus trips to various places and these are nearly all "bus sold out" We also have lots of 'Photo Walks' around Newcastle, and groups organise themselves to go for a day's shoot depending on their particular interest.



We have had exhibitions in Gosforth Library, the Northern Rock Building Society and now our annual exhibition is held in the Central Library. It runs for two weeks in late August, early September and from that we have had many enquiries and several new members so that our numbers have maintained an average of 75 for many years. We are a thriving club, progressive, lively and friendly and only 67 years old! Come along any Tuesday evening and see. You'll be among friends.

## **Lilian Waton, Saltburn Photographic Society**

It is with sadness that I advise you of the death of one of our longest serving members and our current Chairman, Lilian Waton. Lilian died in hospital on New Year's Day whilst awaiting an operation.

Lilian joined Saltburn Photographic Society in 1969 and served on the committee from 1977 to 1982 as Publicity Secretary and from 1982 to 1984 as Chairman. She was the NYSD rep in 1990 and 1991.



Lilian was our Ladies Trophy winner in 1975 and 1976. She was the winner of the Harry Brittain Silver Salver in 2002.

In 1978 a Ladies night was included in our syllabus which continued until 1986 with a presentation "Then and now, here and there". Lilian was involved with taking the Ladies compilation to other clubs including Hartlepool and York.

Lilian became our Chairman again in 2014.



## **Robert P Paris ARPS DPAGB**

I am sorry to report that one of our three remaining founder members has died. Bob who made 93 was an active member of Whickham Photographic Club and leading photographer for many years. Bob was a well-known personality who gained great pleasure from his photography and his membership. He was a great guy to know.

Bob started with dark room work but his expertise was as a slide worker. He became an associate of the Royal Photographic Society, and his work was regularly accepted in the NCPF International Slide Salon from its inception about 1980 until it dropped slides. He was also a master of montage in a pre-digital era. He has some of his better known photographs in the Club book, Portfolio Two including a montage, 'Redundant Tyne' shown below.



## 37th NORTHERN COUNTIES INTERNATIONAL SALON OF PHOTOGRAPHY 2016



The Salon enjoys Patronage of the Federation de l'Art Photographique (2016/305), the Global Photographic Union (L160046) (*formerly UPI*) and the Royal Photographic Society (2016/53). For the efficient management of the 2015 Salon it has been granted Special Recognition by the Photographic Society of America (2016/175). FIAP Catalogue Rating - 4 Star.

(NB:- *On-Line Entry for the 2016 Salon is now open for Entries*)

### GENERAL INFORMATION

The Salon will comprise of the following six sections:-

#### Prints

**Monochrome (PPD) and Colour (PPD)**

#### Projected Digital Images

**Open Colour (PID), Open Monochrome (PID),**

**Nature (ND) and Photo-Travel (Trad) (PTD)**

<b>SALON CALENDAR</b>	
Closing Date:-	21st August 2016
Selection:-	1st to 10th September 2016
Notification:-	20th September 2016
Catalogues:-	26th November 2016
Print Entries Returned (where requested):-	26th November 2016

For more information about our Salon, including **Entry Conditions** and **Fees, Definitions** and **On-Line Entry** (when available), or to view the **Results** and **Galleries** from recent years' Salons please use the links on the left hand side panel.

# WILDLIFE PHOTOGRAPHER OF THE YEAR EXHIBITION



“Snow Hare scrabbling for food” by Rosamund Macfarlane  
from Keswick Photographic Society

**The Rheged Centre, Penrith, Cumbria CA11 0DQ**

20<sup>th</sup> May 2016 to 3<sup>rd</sup> July 2016 (10.30 am to 4.30 pm) entry fee  
£3.50

A hundred pictures showcasing the world 's greatest images of nature, thus raising awareness of its fragility and beauty. These are powerful pictures by photographers who seek to understand their subjects, illustrating animal behaviour and breath-taking environments, that will enthrall and amaze.