

# **Walsall Photographic Society**

The Home Of Friendly Photographers

(Also known as the Walsall Camera Club)

Founded 1892



# **Members' Handbook**

## **2017-2018**

[www.walsallphotographicsociety.org.uk](http://www.walsallphotographicsociety.org.uk)

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## Welcome

Our Society (Walsall Photographic Society) was founded in 1892 and has been closely linked with Walsall for an astounding 125 years.

We are a small, informal friendly group sharing an interest in all aspects of photography.

Our activities continue to evolve and last year we saw more emphasis on practical work with the introduction of workshops on various topics. However, we still have well known and respected photographers coming to show us their work and share their knowledge along with some of our more experienced members. In addition to the Society's published activities we also have groups of members interested in photographing a wide variety of different subjects such as sport, wildlife and nature who meet outside the normal meetings on an informal basis.

Competitions are an important part of our programme and we have four Merit Competitions and an annual Exhibition competition scheduled for the 2017/18 season. The competitions are divided into two categories, print and projected images and two sections, Beginners and Advanced and are a great opportunity for members to compare their work with others and to receive useful critique from our experienced judges. At the end of the season trophies are awarded to the members who have accumulated the most points from the Merit competitions in both of the categories and also for the winners of the Exhibition competition. The 2015/16 season saw a new trophy (the Tony Woodvine trophy named in honour of one of our past members) being awarded for the winner of the Black and White themed competition which this year will be incorporated into our Exhibition competition (for more information on our competitions see below). In addition to our competitions we will once again be having an interclub Battle with Acton Trussell.

We will continue to develop our "buddy" system where experienced members link up with less experienced members to develop their skills. This is an important part of the group and has helped to support less experienced members and allowed them to grow as photographers.

The Society has increased its visibility outside with our continuing success in MidPhot and our participation in outside venues such as Compton Verney. Exhibiting our work in the foyer of the Forest Arts Centre has also made the public more aware of our activities.

The new season starts on September 11th with an informal get together where we will show some of the work of the Society and give newcomers the chance to chat with us and ask any questions they might have with a view to joining us not to mention the opportunity for current members to meet up after the summer break.

Everyone is always welcome no matter how experienced or inexperienced or what type of camera they use be it the latest DSLR or a compact "holiday" camera.

Stephen Tyler

President

Walsall Photographic Society

Tel: 01902 633849/07779797088

## The People Involved in Running the Society



**Stephen Tyler**  
*President, Webmaster*



**Mike Page**  
*Vice President*



**Dave Newell**  
*Treasurer*



**Teresa Tunnell**  
*General Secretary*



**Jo Yarnall**  
*Programme Secretary*



**Jacquie Noyce**  
*Council Member*



**Dave Cope**  
*Competition/Exhibition Secretary*



**Dan Moore**  
*Competition/Exhibition Secretary*



**Mike Taylor**  
*External Competition Secretary*



**Les Atkins**  
*External Competition Secretary*



**Brian Felgate LRPS**  
*Publicity Officer*



**John Beech**  
*MCPF Delegate*



**Tony Cox**  
*Immediate Past President*



**Linda Cross**  
*Council Member*



**Martin Hill**  
*Council Member*



**Phil Hodgkinson Snr.**  
*Council Member*

## Buddies

### Tony Cox

I joined Walsall Photographic Society because I was not happy with the photographs I was taking of my travels abroad. They were just general snaps and did not reflect the atmosphere or impact of the scenes being photographed. Membership of the Society allowed me to see pictures taken by well known and experienced photographers. I also found the Society very friendly with members only too willing to help and guide newcomers. The practical sessions give hands-on use of your own camera.

My images tend to focus on my travels abroad, photographing "lived-in" faces of the people who live there. More recently I have become interested in macro and extreme macro photography using techniques to produce highly magnified detailed images of small objects and insects.

### Brian Felgate LRPS

I joined the company Photo Club in the 1950's when photography was still 'Black & White', spent a short time with the Company Photographer and had use of all the latest equipment. My interest waned when unable to afford my own kit and was not reawakened until the 1980's when my son took up Motor Sport. This is when I joined Walsall Photographic Society and quickly became embroiled in the affairs of the Society. I take photo's (many) to record all that is happening around me, am rarely without a camera. I believe that photography is personal and if you achieve what you set to portray, that's all that matters. If others like your pictures and are encouraged by them, then that is a bonus. I am quite prepared to share my experience with others in the knowledge that that I too can gain by experiences shared.

### Calvin James

I started my journey into photography during my teens with an old Zenit SLR, but it was the arrival of an Olympus OM10, where my interest became more than just taking 'snaps'. I joined a local night class to learn lighting and black and white developing. Unfortunately, after a few years and hitting my early twenties, I lost interest and sold everything. It was following the birth of my first child, I decided that getting a new camera was a must and slowly, over the following years, built my camera gear back up and started photographing people; I loved it, and still do today. I joined WPS when my local night class was closed down and it's been an interesting first year. I'm certainly no expert when it comes to photography but I enjoy it, and for me, that's what matters the most.

### Mike Page

I first started photography when my Grandparents bought me a camera from Woolworths and a family friend developed and printed my black and white photos. I progressed to a better camera which had a built in flash for bulbs but could take slides and finally an S.L.R. I found myself interested in people photography and spent several years on an evening course in portraiture at Wednesbury College. I have taken photos for a friend of the fashions he was selling and also some fashion shows he organised. I have taken some front of house shot for local amateur drama societies. I do have a digital camera but am not very good at computer manipulation. I have an interest in 3d photography and am a member of the Stereoscopic Society.

### Stephen Tyler

I became interested in photography whilst still at school over 40 years ago. Despite photography being my main hobby since leaving school I've only really become more serious about it in the last six years. I joined the Society in 2012 and in 2013 I enrolled onto a Level 3 City and Guilds course which I passed with a distinction. Since then I've joined the West Midlands Fire Service as a volunteer fire photographer and more recently become the photographer for a group of Medieval and Elizabethan dancers called Gloriana Living History. In October 2016 I took early retirement in order to be able to devote more time to photography and enrolled onto a two year HND photography course at Wolverhampton City College. I don't particularly have a favourite subject that I like to photograph and my portfolio captures many different subjects such as still life, landscape, nature and portraits. I shoot mainly digital images but I also sometimes use film using a Pentax 645 medium format camera.

## Our Meetings

Our season runs from September to June with meetings starting at 7:30pm. We meet on a Monday evening at the Forest Arts Centre, Hawbush Road, Leamore, Walsall. WS3 1AG. We charge an entrance fee and a small annual membership subscription. The costs for our 2017/18 season are listed below:

Visitors £2.00 on the door

Members £1.50 on the door

Member subscription is £17.50 for the year

Family Membership £25.00

A programme of events for the year can be viewed and downloaded from our website:

[www.walsallphotographicsociety.org.uk](http://www.walsallphotographicsociety.org.uk)

## Our Annual Competitions

### Merit Competitions

There are four Merit Competitions spread throughout the year. Entries for these competitions can be colour or monochrome. For the Black & White element of the exhibition competition **toned images will not be accepted.**

### Classes of Competition

Each competition provides the following classes:

- ADVANCED Prints
- BEGINNER Prints
- ADVANCED Digital Projected Images
- BEGINNER Digital Projected Images

### Conditions of Entry

Entries are limited to three per member for each class and must be handed in to the Competition Secretaries with an entry form. In the event of an excessive entry the Competition Secretaries shall have the right to reduce to two entries per class per member. In this case the first two entries on the form will be selected.

The following points will be awarded in each competition section

First	6 points
Second	5 points
Third	4 points
Highly Commended	3 points
Commended	2 points

Each entry not receiving an award will receive 1 point.

The winner of each section at the end of the year will be the member who has accrued the most points. The winners of the Beginner classes have the option of electing to be promoted to the Advanced Section. For example, a Beginner who wins only the Prints Class will have to option to be promoted to both the Advanced Prints and Digital Projected Image Classes. Winners can compete for only one more year in Beginner's at the discretion of the competition secretaries to prevent past winners dominating the category. Each entry that receives an award will also receive a certificate.

### Re-submission of images

The rules on the re-submission to competitions of images which have previously gained awards are set out below.

- Both a print and a DPI of the same image cannot be submitted in the same merit competition session (e.g. merit 1). However, a print of an image submitted in one merit session can be submitted as a DPI in a subsequent merit session.
- The same image either as a print or a DPI can be submitted to different competitions e.g. merit, exhibition, MidPhot etc.
- The same image (print or DPI) can be re-submitted to the same series of competition (e.g. merit 1, merit 2 etc.) if substantial changes have been made either on the advice of a judge or otherwise.
- Examples of changes NOT acceptable include changing colour to black & white, tonal changes and tweaks to the colour balance.
- Images that have not gained awards (e.g. first, second, third, highly commended, commended) can be re-submitted without alteration.

If in doubt the advice of the Competition Secretary should be sought.

Please also see General Conditions of Entry.

## Exhibition Competition

We have an Exhibition competition which is an internal competition with images of any subject. Pictures from this competition will go into the exhibition at the Forest Arts Centre. Entries can be colour or monochrome. However, only black and white images will be considered for the Tony Woodvine trophy.

### Classes of Entries

- Prints – Beginners
- Prints - Advanced
- Digital Projected Images – Beginners
- Digital Projected Images - Advanced

### Conditions of Entry

An unlimited number of entries may be submitted and must be handed in to the Competition Secretaries with an entry form. However, work selected for exhibition will be determined by the space available. In the event of an excessive entry the Competition Secretaries shall have the right to limit the number of entries per class per member. In this case the first entries up to the limit on the form will be selected.

Please also see General Conditions of Entry.

## General Conditions of Entry

All entries may be home or trade processed. Digital image manipulation is acceptable in all classes. Only fully paid up members are able to enter.

All completed entry forms for both prints and digital images must be handed in at the meeting preceding the competition. These are available beforehand at meetings or can be downloaded from our website. Digital images must be handed in at the same time and prints can be brought in on the evening of the competition. Please note that late entries cannot be accepted. Also please write clearly on entry forms so that they are legible.

Prints are to be suitably mounted and identified with the title and author's name. The maximum size including the mount is 20" x 16".

Digital images must be jpeg format with a maximum 1400 pixels wide by 1050 pixels high. Portraits should be a maximum of 1050 pixels high. Instructions on how to resize images can be found on our website [www.walsallphotographicsociety.org.uk](http://www.walsallphotographicsociety.org.uk). Images can be submitted on disks or USB memory sticks which will be returned. Please label these clearly with your name.

Every reasonable care will be taken with members' entries but no responsibility can be accepted.

## External Competitions

Each year individual members can enter external competitions such as MidPhot and the VECC Annual Exhibition. Please note that each external competition will have its own rules which will need to be adhered to.

### MidPhot

This competition takes place around March each year. Full details can be found here

<http://www.mcpf.co.uk/midphot.html>

Members can enter a number of prints and digital images in each of the classes. The Society will pay the entry fees for up to three images per member. All entries to be handed to the Competition Secretaries who will deliver them to the competition organisers.

## Trophies

Each year at our Annual General Meeting we present awards and trophies to members.

### Trophies Associated with the Merit Competition

Advanced Prints

Beginners Prints

Advanced Digital Projected Image

Beginners Digital Projected Image

Tony Woodvine Trophy for the overall winner of the Black & White Merit Competition

### Trophies Associated with the Exhibition Competition

The President's Trophy

Comer Cup

Taylor Cup

Shaw Cup

Walsall P S Shield

Best in General Prints Class

Best in Natural History Prints Class

Best in Beginners Class

Best in General Digital Projected Image

Best in Beginners Digital Projected Image

### Other Trophies

Stirling Cup

Club Member of the Year

Awarded on the recommendation of the Past Presidents.

## PLEASE NOTE:

### Re-submission of images

The standard rules for re-submitting images to merit competitions apply regardless of whether the competition is themed or not.