

Walsall Photographic Society

The Home Of Friendly Photographers

(Also known as the Walsall Camera Club)

Founded 1892



Members' Handbook

2018-2019

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 126 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 Photoshop and Lightroom. 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 Three Merit Competitions, The Tony Woodvine Trophy and the annual Exhibition competition scheduled for the 2018/19 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. Tony Woodvine Trophy. 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 10th with an informal get together for an open evening with an exhibition 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.

Mike Taylor
President
Walsall Photographic Society
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The People Involved in Running the Society



Mike Taylor
President



Mike Page
Vice President



Dave Newell
*Treasurer / Data
Protection Officer*



John Beech
Secretary



Jacquie Noyce
Programme Secretary



Dave Cope
*Competition/Exhibition
Secretary*



Dan Moore
*Competition/Exhibition
Secretary*



Les Atkins
*External Competition
Secretary*



Linda Cross
Publicity Officer



Phil Hodgkinson Snr.
MCPF Officer



Tony Cox
Council Member



Jo Yarnall
Council member



Stephen Tyler,
*Webmaster
Immediate Past
President*



Martin Hill
Council Member



Teresa Tunnell
Council member

Buddie

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.

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 five 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. I took early retirement in order to be able to devote more time to photography and have 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 when taking landscapes using a Pentax 645 medium format camera.

Dave Cope

For many years I only ever used a camera as a point and shoot device to take family pictures and the odd picture while out and about. About 6 years ago I was given a fairly old and limited DSLR camera, which again I only ever used in full auto as a point and shoot as my knowledge of photography was very limited. One day, while out in the countryside I was taking what I thought to be some nice pictures when the camera malfunctioned, losing all my pictures. After losing my pictures, which was disappointing, I bought a new DSLR camera, which piqued my interest in photography even more. A friend then introduced me to Walsall Photographic Society where I have been a member ever since. I have no particular subject interest, but just enjoy getting out and about with my camera. Some of my outings include airports, military bases for aircraft photography. I also enjoy taking both city and landscape photographs. More recently, I have started a journey into areal photography using drones. I am by no means an expert photographer, but am always willing to help when and where I can as well as share knowledge and experience with others.

Mike Taylor

My photographic work started in 2009 when I got my first camera and started to take photos of different areas like landscape, portraiture, still life, also macro. For some time in taking photos I found that portraiture & water sports worked out well for me this as only taken me five years to find my two main areas of photography that I mainly enjoy all the time. The reason I joined Walsall photographic society was to meet new friends also to learn more, and how to make the most of my camera. Going ahead and joining the camera society was one of the best things I have done & I have not looked back. So come down, meet the team and start to learn more about photography and your 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 2018/19 season are listed below:

Visitors £3.00 on the door

Members £2.00 on the door

Member subscription is £20.00 for the year

Family Membership £30.00

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

www.walsallphotographicsociety.org.uk

Our Annual Competitions

Merit Competitions

There are Three Merit Competitions spread throughout the year. Entries for these competitions, with the exception of the Black and White competition, can be colour or monochrome. With the exception of the Nature themed competition any subject can be submitted for entry. For the Black & White 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.

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 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.

Addendum

Re-submission of images

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