



www.ballynahinchcameraclub.co.uk

Ballynahinch Camera Club

September 2023

Ballynahinch Camera Club

Welcome



I wish everyone reading this a very warm welcome whether you are an existing member or are interested to come along and meet with us over the coming season to enjoy the friendship from a group of enthusiastic photographers. If you have something to offer as an experienced photographer or are interested to learn new skills and techniques, please come along to join us.

Last year we regenerated the club following the long gap from physical meetings because of Covid, and to build back again by attracting new members. I must say we succeeded beyond what I anticipated, largely thanks to the excellent contributions from an enthusiastic group of people.

The club prides itself on encouraging individuals, particularly new members, to share in the large body

of knowledge accumulated over the years by more seasoned photographers. This is supported by a club WhatsApp page where members offer a wide range of information on a broad range of techniques and events offering different photographic opportunities. Feedback clearly shows that everyone has experienced a sense of enjoyment by just taking pictures for either competition or to improve family and holiday images.

We are one of more than twenty-four clubs affiliated to the Northern Ireland Photographic Association (NIPA) who represents our interests at the Photographic Alliance of GB. For those members who are interested, NIPA organises inter club competitions and facilitates NI members to compete at national level. I am pleased to report that the club gained overall fourth place, and second place in the novice PDI competitions last year.

The club normally offers a programme of events from September to April. We use guest speakers to cover every aspect of photography including landscape, portraiture, travel, wildlife, photojournalism, astrophotography, speciality techniques and audio-visual shows. There are also interactive evenings where members can come along and learn about cameras, digital processing, photographic composition, and lighting techniques, or take part in our Christmas quiz.

The club has, in the past, organised weekend workshops with established photographers from throughout the British Isles and we plan to offer this again from next spring.

So come along and enjoy this year's programme of events which the committee has compiled for you. There will be something for everyone, covering a wide range of ideas and topics.

We very much look forward to your company.

Alan Chowney - Chair

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♦ ... enjoy the friendship that this great hobby offers.

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General information

Meeting times

Unless otherwise announced, the club meets each Thursday evening at 7.45pm in The Loft, in Edengrove Presbyterian Church Hall, Dromore Road, Ballynahinch, BT24 8HP.

Contact information

Email is the club's preferred method of communication with members. It is therefore vital we have a correct email address for you. It will also be used to give members access to the occasional Zoom meeting. Email also enables our Secretary to send out information on events and articles of interest to keep you informed.

Data protection

The Club Secretary holds a list of members' names and email addresses. These are used for the sole purpose of communicating club information and any other information deemed to be of use by the committee.

The Club Treasurer holds a list of members' names, their membership numbers and the fee they have paid.

None of this data is shared with any outside agency except NIPA when images produced by members have been selected to go forward to represent the Club.

Competitions

As our Club is a member of Northern Ireland Photographic Association, we take part in the annual competition to find the top club in the league (more details inside). We also have an Internal League linked with this competition. We believe that a spirit of healthy competition helps members to take camera and computer skills to the next level.

Members can be as active as they choose to be in our activities - the ultimate aim of the club is for its members to get enjoyment from a shared interest in photography.



Committee members

President -	Terry Hanna	hannaterry@gmail.com
Chairperson -	Alan Chowney	a.chowney@btinternet.com
Vice Chairperson-	Keith Wilson	- kdawilson@gmail.com
Secretary -	Frances Price	- francesprice61@gmail.com
Programme Secretary -	Keith Wilson	- kdawilson@gmail.com
Competition Secretary -	John Knipe	- jaknipe@btinternet.com
Treasurer -	Angela McCullagh	- angelamccullagh@hotmail.com
NIPA Rep. -	Alan Chowney	- a.chowney@btinternet.com
Press Officer -	John Knipe	- jaknipe@btinternet.com
Webmaster	Leah Gaines	leahgaines@gmail.com
Committee members:	John McCullough, Terry Hanna and Mark Magee	
Club email address -	bhccphotos@gmail.com	



Tel: 077 5939 6140

Tel: 077 6338 0255



Joining Ballynahinch Camera Club

Membership of Ballynahinch Camera Club is open to anyone with an interest in photography. What do I need, or not need, to join?

- Principally, you DO need an interest in photography.
- You do NOT need lots of expensive equipment (winning images have been taken with a phone camera).
- You do NOT need to spend lots of money on printing and framing photographs.
- You do NOT need lots of expertise or experience. You will learn much as you go along. Others will share their expertise with you.
- You DO need enthusiasm.
- You DO need a sense of fun.
- You DO need to be willing to learn new things.
- You DO need a spare couple of hours on a Thursday evening between the months of September and April.
- You DO need to be aware that as a club we support and adhere to the NIPA Policy for Safeguarding Children and Adults at Risk.

- You DO need to pay our membership fee, which depends on your age and circumstances:-
 - * Under 18*/Student £25
 - * Adult £45
 - * Concessionary £40
- (* Under 18's should be accompanied by an adult)

Covid 19

Whilst it is great news that we can meet up again, we would ask all members to be Covid-aware and:-

- Use the hand sanitisers provided.
- Do not come to meetings if you have any Covid symptoms.

Why not contact the Club secretary for details of how to join our club? Sit for a few nights to sample our activities without any obligation to join.

Fees must be paid in full before competition entries can be accepted. On payment, a membership number(*) will be issued and this must be used for naming image files. Payment can be made by cheque, PayPal or bank transfer.

NIPA Competitions and Internal League

As previously said, we strongly encourage all members to submit images for each round of the NIPA competitions. It is a great way to receive feedback and advice on your images as well as becoming competitive.

There are five rounds during the year. Rounds 1, 3 and 5 are Open while Rounds 2 and 4 are themed (see table on next page for theme/genre).

Images are submitted first to the club for our own internal judging which usually takes place the week or so after the submission date. The top four images in each section (of which at least one must be from a Novice) are then sent on to NIPA for further judging. Points are then awarded to each club

accordingly in order to find the top club for the year.

There are three categories for each round of the competition and each member can submit a maximum of three images for each - Monochrome Prints, Colour Prints and Digital Projected Images. (You must NOT submit identical images in more than one section within a particular round.)

If an image is selected to represent the Club in a NIPA Round, it cannot be used again for another NIPA Round.

Internal League

All images submitted for NIPA competitions will be awarded a score by the judge. The top score for each member

in each section, in each round, will be entered into the Internal League.

The League is divided into two sections - Novices and Advanced. A Novice is defined as anyone who has not yet had two images starred in a NIPA competition.



NIPA Competitions - summary of dates 2023/24

Round	BHCC Submission Deadline	BHCC Images judged and results announced internally	NIPA Showing of results
1 Open	Thursday 21 September	Thursday 28 September	Thursday 19 October, Shorts CC
2 Still Life	Thursday 26 October	Thursday 2 November	Wednesday 22 November, Focus PC
3 Open	Thursday 30 November	Thursday 7 December	Wednesday 24 January, Antrim CC
4 Entertainment/Arts	Thursday 18 January	Thursday 25 January	Wednesday 21 February, Catchlight CC
5 Open	Thursday 15 February	Thursday 29 February	Wednesday 27 March, TBC

Preparing and Submitting Images For Competition

Prints

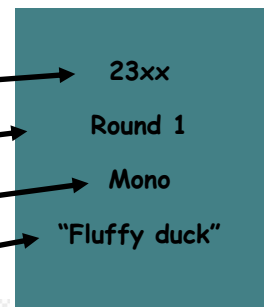
Mount sizes for prints

If at all possible, please mount your photos when submitting them for NIPA Rounds - not only does it look better, it also supports the print and gives some protection. For all rounds the maximum mount size is 30 x 40 cm. The actual photograph can be any size up to that maximum but for a 30 x 40 mount it is usual to have a photograph of around 20 x 30 cm.

Print Identification

You must submit your prints with the following information only, clearly printed on the back of the mount.

- Your membership number
- Which NIPA Round you are entering.
- Which section (mono or colour)
- Your own title for the print.



Digital Projected Images

♦ Sizing

Ensure that the width of images is no more than **1600 pixels** and the height is no more than **1200 pixels**, irrespective of orientation, whether landscape, portrait or square., All at a maximum of 72dpi (96 if using a Mac)



♦ Naming

There are two components to the file name:-

Image name Fluffy duck
Underscore _ (Shift and hyphen)

Membership number (*) 23xx

E.g.

Fluffy duck_23xx

N.B. It is vital that everyone uses the same format for 'File name'. This will help to make the competition run more smoothly.

♦ Submitting

Submitting images for most competitions and club occasions has become even easier than in previous years.

In advance of each competition round, members will receive an email containing a link to a Google Form which is self-explanatory and allows images to be uploaded easily.

It is more important than ever that each image file is named properly and includes the author's membership number.

