



www.ballynahinchcameraclub.co.uk

Ballynahinch Camera Club

September 2025

Ballynahinch Camera Club

Welcome from Club Chairman



Keith in action

Dear members

As I begin my second year as chairman, I want to start by expressing my heartfelt thanks. Last season was nothing short of outstanding. Thanks to your hard work, creativity, and passion, we proudly finished 2nd place in the Principal NIPA Competition - an extraordinary achievement for our little club.

To our new members: welcome! You've joined what is now officially one of the best camera clubs in the country - fact! We're thrilled to have you with us and can't wait to

see you develop your photography skills in our club. I know our members will make you feel very welcome.

Our committee has been working hard over the summer to put together an exciting programme for the coming season. We've aimed to strike the right balance between hands-on practical evenings, inspiring speakers and dedicated teaching sessions. The full programme is now available on our website for your reference.

This year, we'll be competing in two themed rounds: Macro and ICM (Intentional Camera Movement). These themes offer an opportunity to step outside your comfort zone and explore unfamiliar genres. Do not be intimidated.

The rate of advancement in AI editing software is stag-

gering. We have limitations as to how much we can use AI in competition entries, but I will not ignore other ways in which it may be a benefit. AI can automate repetitive tasks like cropping, colour correction, and noise reduction etc. The benefit of being in a club environment is the transfer of knowledge, something that would be harder to do on your own.

Whether you are a member who wants to participate in inter-club competitions or someone who just enjoys some chat and banter with likeminded people, I look forward to another season of growing friendships, providing an outlet in the local community and developing our profile in NIPA.

Keith



Studio night

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Dougal chases bubbles—studio night fun



"... Last season was nothing short of outstanding..."

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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 and WhatsApp are the preferred methods of communication with members. They will be used to give members access to the occasional Zoom meeting and to enable our Chair/Secretary to send out information on events and articles of interest to keep members informed.

It is therefore essential that

the Club Secretary has an up-to-date email address and mobile phone number for each member.

Data protection

The Club Secretary holds a list of members' email addresses and phone numbers. 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 also 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
Chairperson -	Keith Wilson
Vice Chairperson-	Jim Hunter
Secretary -	Frances Price
Programme Secretary -	Ciara Fullam
Competition Secretary -	John Knipe
Treasurer -	Angela McCullagh
NIPA Rep. -	Alan Chowney
Press Officer -	John Knipe
Webmaster	Leah Gaines
Social media -	Aaron Noade
Committee members:	John McCullough, Terry Hanna , Jonathan Jones



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 member-

ship fee, which depends on your age and circumstances:-

* Under 18*/Student	£30
* Adult	£50
* Concessionary	£45

(* Under 18's should be accompanied by an adult)

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.



Dublin Zoo

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 or-

der 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 en-

tered 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.



Eagle Festival—Mongolia

NIPA Competitions - summary of dates 2025/26

Round	BHCC Submission Deadline	BHCC Images judged and results announced internally	NIPA Showing of results
1 Open	Thursday 18 September	Thursday 25 September	23 October, BPIC
2 Macro	Thursday 23 October	Thursday 30 October	21 November, Bangor and North Down CC
3 Open	Thursday 4 December	Thursday 11 December	21 January, Antrim CC
4 ICM	Thursday 22 January	Thursday 29 January	19 February, Christian Brothers CC
5 Open	Thursday 19 February	Thursday 26 February	21 March, Strabane CC

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.

25xx

Round 1

Mono

"Fluffy duck"

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 (*) 25xx

E.g.

Fluffy duck_25xx

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 digital 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 member-

