



www.ballynahinchcameraclub.co.uk

Ballynahinch Camera Club

September 2026

Ballynahinch Camera Club

Welcome from Club Chairman



Keith

We begin the 2026/27 season on the back of another excellent year in the NIPA Inter-Club Competition, achieving second place in the Principal Competition for the second consecutive year, behind Catchlight.

This was helped by an outstanding achievement from our President, Terry Hanna. The standard Terry has set should inspire us all and show what we can aspire to achieve.

Competition is important, it gives us structure and challenges us to try different genres, but it is

not the be-all and end-all of club photography. For me, the club is built around friendships and a shared passion for photography. That is what makes Ballynahinch Camera Club special.

We are fortunate to have a dedicated committee and many members who give their time behind the scenes, from our weekly *Mourne Observer* articles to our exhibition in Down Cathedral. Our Secretary, Treasurer, Webmaster, Competitions Secretary and Events and Social Media Officers all contribute to keeping the club moving forward. Unlike many clubs, the responsibility here is shared, and that collective effort is something we should be proud of.

As I begin another year as Chair, my hopes are that we maintain our strong position within NIPA, introduce a mentoring programme for newer members, and explore accreditation through organisations such as the PAGB, RPS and IPF.

I would also like to see more photography happening outside our Thursday meetings. We need to get out with our cameras, create opportunities and, most importantly, enjoy ourselves.

Here's to another successful year for Ballynahinch Camera Club.

Keith



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"... the club is built around friendships and a shared passion for photography. ..."

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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 -	Jonathan Jones
Webmaster	Leah Gaines
Social media -	Ciara Fullam
Committee members:	John McCullough, Isaac Busby, Mark Donnell, Noah Miller
Club email address -	info@ballynahinchcameraclub.co.uk



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 £55

(* Under 18's MUST 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.

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.



NIPA Competitions - summary of dates 2026/27

Round	BHCC Submission Deadline	BHCC Images judged and results announced internally	NIPA Showing of results
1 Open	Thursday 17 September	Thursday 24 September	19 October, CPA CC
2 Pets	Thursday 22 October	Thursday 29 October	19 November, Christian Brothers CC
3 Open	Thursday 3 December	Thursday 10 December	22 January, Carrickfergus CC
4 Minimalism	Thursday 21 January	Thursday 28 January	17 February, Ballynahinch CC
5 Open	Thursday 17 February	Thursday 25 February	20 March, Ballymoney PC

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.

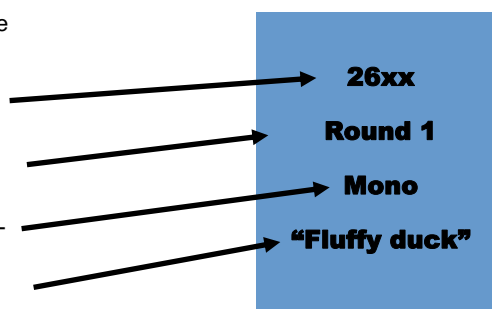
For all rounds the maximum mount size is 30 x 40 cm. (12" x 16")

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 (*) 26xx

E.g.

Fluffy duck_26xx

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 membership number.

