

Saltburn Photographic Society Welcome Pack

Welcome to Saltburn Photographic Society

The intention of this welcome pack is to speed up the integration of new members into the Society. It should provide you with most of the information that you will need to know to inform you about the key aspects of what we have to offer.

More detailed information can be found on our website

www.saltburnphotographicsociety.co.uk

If you have any questions please ask any of our existing members who will introduce you to the relevant committee member if they are unable to answer your query themselves.

Our overriding objective is to bring like minded people together to enjoy their photography and to learn from each other. You are very welcome and we hope that you will remain a member for many years.

If you have any suggestions about how this welcome pack can be improved, please contact Malcolm Blenkey.

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History of the club

The First Photographic Society in Saltburn-by-the-Sea was formed following a successful exhibition held in conjunction with a celebration week for "Victory in Europe" in 1945. After just four years it folded in 1949, it bore the title "Saltburn and District Photographic Society."

At a meeting organised by members of Saltburn Toc H on Monday 22nd February 1960 forty-five people attended attracted by wide publicity throughout the area, it was agreed to re-form the Saltburn and District Photographic Society with regular meetings being held twice monthly in the Toc H Hall at the rear of Albion Terrace. Officials were duly elected and meetings began in a rather austere venue which boasted a coal stove in the centre of the room.

In 1962 meetings began to be held weekly using the Queen Hotel for the alternative weeks. The Saltburn Youth Hostel in Victoria Road became the meeting venue in 1963 and in 1964 the title of the society was shortened to Saltburn Photographic Society with a new logo introduced. 1967 saw a move to a new venue, Saltburn Infants School in Upleatham Street we improved our facilities by installing a large permanent screen which was donated to the school on our departure. After 28 years at the school, a sudden and large increase in the rent made us seek a new venue, this was the Saltburn Community Centre on Windsor Road where we stayed for eleven years until again rising costs made a move necessary.

2004 saw our weekly meetings being held in our present location, the upstairs room at the Milton Street Methodist Hall.

Aims of the Society

The aims and the objectives of the Society are to encourage and advance the art of photography and to provide a facility for the residents of Saltburn and the surrounding area to achieve this aim.

Syllabus Overview

The syllabus content is something that has evolved and changed to meet the needs and preferences of the members over the fifty years that the club has existed. It is the syllabus Secretary's responsibility to try and develop a programme that is both entertaining and informative for our membership. This is how we have established the current mix of presentations from visiting speakers which regularly include practical tips on how to improve our photography and a variety of competitions to allow members to showcase their individual efforts and gain independent feed back from experienced external judges.

The North Yorks & South Durham Photographic Association and the Northern Counties Photographic Federation (both of which we are members) produce an annually revised handbook which provides a list of speakers and topics from each of the member clubs. This is used in conjunction with personal recommendations and members' requests to compile a fresh syllabus each season. This process begins early in each calendar year to ensure that the chosen speakers are booked in time for the following season. Consequently the Syllabus Secretary is planning up to fifteen months in advance and your input to this process is very welcome. A facility has been provided on the Society's website for members to record their views on what they would like to see in future programmes.

Meeting Place

We meet at the **Methodist Church Hall, Milton Street**, Saltburn on Wednesdays - 7.30 p.m. prompt during the season which runs from the middle of September until the end of March.

The room is accessed by the stairs from the main door on Milton Street. Wheelchair access is possible by the main door and a door steward will be on hand for those requiring assistance. There is also a lift available for anyone not able to use the stairs.

We have coffee and tea making facilities and members generally take the opportunity to socialise and gain photographic advice from our many experienced members following each

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week's activities. We ask members to respect that this is a **silent mobile phone** zone as interruptions by mobile phones can be very distracting for the members and visiting speakers/judges.

Assistance from the members in setting out/clearing away tables, chairs and the tea/coffee making facilities at the start and finish of each evening is very much appreciated.

Practical Nights

In addition to the Wednesday night programme we also provide a Practical Night programme on a monthly basis throughout the season. These sessions are normally held on the second Monday of the month between October and March i.e. six sessions per season. The topics covered are in the main designed to meet the members' needs. Members have the opportunity to make their requests known by various means e.g. verbal and written requests or via the website forum (see below). From these requests a programme is developed and advertised in advance so that members can choose to attend any that they think will be of value to them. Generally, these sessions are delivered by our experienced members who have the relevant expertise. This provides the opportunity for more detailed demonstration and interactive questions and answers than can be provided in the normal Wednesday night programme.

These sessions will generally be held in the one of the rooms in the Methodist Church starting at 7 pm prompt, lasting approximately two hours. The time, date and room used for these sessions can vary, so please keep an eye out for announcements/notification of any changes.

As this is additional to our normal activities, members who take part will be asked to donate £1.50 per session to cover the cost of renting the room

Summer Outings

Between the months of April and September various events are listed in advance so that members who wish to take part can still meet with the aim of taking photographs and gaining informal advice or tuition. These events take the form of:

1. Monthly outdoor photography walks held on the first Wednesday of the month between May and August, starting at 7pm and normally finishing about 9 pm.
2. Various nominated local events that will provide plenty of photographic opportunities. These events have no formal meeting time to allow members the flexibility to suit their own convenience.
3. An annual one day trip to venues such as the Lake District or National Railway Museum

All of the above are eligible for the Les Gould Trophy competition for images taken on Society outings.

In addition to this members meet informally at various venues suggested by the members that are listed on the website forum. Where again there is opportunity to simply socialise or gain advice from similarly minded members.

Competitions

To improve your photography nothing works better than showing your pictures alongside your peers and having them constructively commented on by experienced photographic judges. By listening to the advice provided regarding both your own and others' photographs it is possible to progress from and absolute beginner to an accomplished photographer over the period of a few seasons. We provide the opportunity for this in the form of monthly and annual internal club competitions allowing you to compete at your respective level be it; junior, intermediate or advanced.

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Advice on how to prepare entries for competitions both in the form of prints and digitally projected images is provided for members who are new to this element of photography.

See Appendix 1 for competition rules.

Mounting of Prints for Competitions

All prints must be mounted on suitable board before they are submitted for competitions (see the relevant size requirements in the general rules in Appendix 1). It is important that this is done correctly so that your own and other prints submitted for the competitions are not damaged. Particular care should be exercised when using materials (glue or tape) that could leave a sticky surface. When using tape we recommend that you use "Scotch Magic Tape" or similar, as normal masking tape tends to peel and loosen after being handled several times. The Competition Secretary can reject any print at his discretion which he believes may cause damage to other entries.

Prints may be printed by the author or by a processing house. The finished prints can then either be surface mounted on board using suitable products e.g. photographic spray mount, or window mounted. If you would like any advice on this process, please consult the Competition Secretary who will be pleased to show you examples and give any advice you may need.

After mounting the only information that should be added is a title on the back of the board. The competition title, your name and status should be added to the packaging used to submit your entry. In this way all entries remain anonymous to all but the Competition Secretary who will ensure that entries are submitted to the judge in the relevant class status.

Digitally Projected Images

This is the simplest way to start off in competitions as there is no need to go to the expense and trouble of printing and mounting your image. It is simply a matter of sizing your image to meet the competition and equipment requirements (see Appendix 1). The process for this is most easily carried out using either Photoshop or Elements software but just ask the Competition Secretary if you need any help. Our objective is to have as many of our members as possible, old and new, taking part in the competitions.

Images that are produced by any digital means are allowed, providing that no other person's work appears in that image, and if proof is required, then either the original file from the camera without any modification or manipulation, or the original negative/transparency must be made available.

Mentors

As a new member, possibly new to the world of club competitions, you may wish to take advantage of an informal mentoring facility provided by our experienced members. We have some very experienced members in all kinds of photography; action, portraiture, macro, landscape etc. who are willing to pass on their knowledge. This can be handled in what ever way you are comfortable with, for example getting the views of one or more of the experienced workers on your work can be a very useful way of gaining constructive feedback on how to improve your chances in the competitions or simply to improve your photography if you are not ready or perhaps interested in taking part in the competitions. Simply ask any of the committee members if you would like to take advantage of this and they will point you in the right direction to the relevant members who will be able to help you.

Website

Our website www.saltburnphotographicsociety.co.uk has been developed with the intention of keeping all of our members up to date with what is going on within the club and other photographic events that may be of interest. It can also be accessed by members of the public

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who may want to find out about what we have to offer. This has been a great innovation as members can now check such things as; the future programmes of normal weekly and monthly practical nights, competition rules, competition results, forthcoming events etc. Also, it provides a showcase of the members work in the form of galleries and links to members' websites. The website will provide many of the answers to any queries you may have about what is going on at Saltburn Photographic Society.

We want members to enjoy themselves and the more experienced members to share their wealth of information with us all.

Exhibitions

In recent years we have established ourselves as a significant provider of high quality photographic exhibitions in public spaces. We have held three major exhibitions in the Kirkleatham Museum Pavilion and we have held several exhibitions in various venues in Saltburn. These exhibitions have generated significant public interest and have been a major source of new members, in addition to providing an opportunity for our members new and old to have their work displayed to professional standards to a wide public audience.

Grants

Our work in the community in the form of, supporting local school activities, providing free photographic training opportunities for the local community and general community cohesion has allowed us to be successful in receiving three significant grants. One from Awards For All lottery funding, one from Tees Valley Community Foundation, one from Redcar and Cleveland Council and one from Saltburn and Marske Parish Council. This has provided us with funds that have allowed us to ensure that we have the latest equipment in line with the digital revolution in photography and also professional quality exhibition materials. This will ensure that we can offer our members a high quality product in all of our activities on an ongoing basis.

North Yorkshire & South Durham Photographic Association (NYSDPA)

This is an association of the thirteen photographic clubs in the local area. The objective of this association is to coordinate activities across the clubs so that they can improve their effectiveness in meeting the expectations of the members. Each year the association provides an updated list of lecturers and judges that are available for each club to draw from when compiling their syllabus for the following season. This provides a pool of local resources with many years of photographic experience that has served the association well for over fifty years.

An inter-club competition for all thirteen of the clubs who are members of the NYSDPA is held each year. There are several parts to the competition; inter-club prints, inter-club projected image, individual prints and individual digital projected images. The competition is hosted by each member club on a rotational basis, Saltburn PS last hosted it in the 2007/08 season.

Each club that takes part in the inter-club prints and projected image competitions needs to submit 6 images in each class, with no more than 2 entries from any one person in each class. All classes are completely open i.e. no themes.

All entries are marked out of 30 points by experienced judges from outside of the NYSDPA area. The points for each batch of the six of images for each club are totalled to establish the winning club of the print and projected image classes. And also the club that has the overall highest mark, therefore giving three trophies at club level.

In addition to trophies for the highest aggregate scores at club level, there are trophies for the highest individual scores for the best projected image, the best colour print and the best monochrome print.

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In addition to the inter-club competition there are separate print and projected digital image competitions with their own trophies, for as many individuals who want to take part. As both competitions are popular only one entry per person is allowed in each competition.

Each year we make a selection of our members' best images for these competitions. Following judging each club then shows the full set of images from all of the member clubs along with the judges recorded comments. This provides our members with the opportunity to see work which represents the highest standard of photography from our area. Saltburn PS has a long tradition of doing well in these competitions and it is our constant aim to assist our members in achieving high marks and possibly trophies in these highly prestigious competitions.

Northern Counties Photographic Federation

We are also members of The Northern Counties Photographic Federation (NCPF) which is one of fifteen such organisations that between them cover the whole of the United Kingdom. There are currently 46 clubs in the NCPF covering an area from North Yorkshire to the Scottish Borders.

Like the NYSDPA the NCPF provides a list of lecturers and judges that may be drawn on by member clubs for the development their annual programme.

The NCPF also provides inter-club competitions on a similar basis to NYSDPA which can result in members work progressing to national and international competitions.

Membership Fees

Our current annual membership fees are:

Ordinary member	£25
Junior member (under 18)	£6
Family membership	£38
Country member	£12.50 (residents over 20 miles from Saltburn)

Half year subscriptions are possible for members who join after 31st December in that season.

Committee

The Society is supported by a Committee consisting of eight Officers and up to six ordinary Committee members

The **Officers** of the Society are elected at the Annual General Meeting and comprise:

- The President, who remains in office until another member is nominated and elected President.
- The Chairman (male or female), Vice-Chairman and Immediate Past Chairman, each to be elected for a term of two years. The Vice-Chairman proceeds automatically to the office of Chairman.
- Secretary, Treasurer, Syllabus Secretary and Competition Secretary, who are elected for a term of two years and are subject to re-election at the end of their term of office.

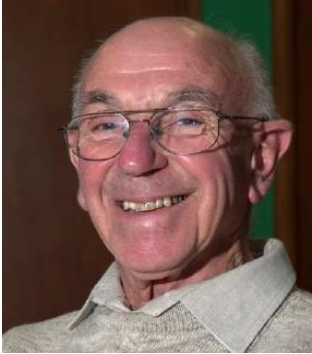
The ordinary members of the Committee serve for one year and are subject to re-election at the Annual General Meeting.

Any member proposed, seconded and elected by the members at the Annual General Meeting can fill any vacancies on the Committee, provided that notification is given in writing to the Secretary indicating their intention of being elected not less than fourteen days prior to the Annual General Meeting.

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The Committee may appoint sub-committees or other members to advise them or to carry out specific tasks. This provides the opportunity for members to have a direct influence in the Society's operations in matters that are of interest to them.

The current Committee is:



**President and Publicity
Tony Lynn (MBE)**



**Chairman
Phillip Dove**



**Vice Chairman
Alan Meek**



**Secretary
Richard Degg**



**Treasurer
Christine Parker**



**Syllabus Secretary &
NY & SD Representative
Malcolm Blenkey**



**Competition Secretary
Alan Parker**



David Sanderson



Mike Sidgwick



Tim Cossins



Marilyn Beacham



Olivia Costello

Competition Rules

Appendix 1

Entry dates

Entry dates are listed in the Society's programme. Late entries may be accepted at the discretion of the Competition Secretary. Any competition with fewer than 2 contestants will be declared void.

Entries

The two types of entry are prints and projected digital images (pdi). All entries must be produced from an original image taken by the competitor although the final production of a print may be delegated to a third party. Entry to competitions is restricted to members of the Society.

Repeated use of images

In each competition an image (or derivative thereof) may be used only once, no matter whether it is a print or a pdi. All monthly competitions are regarded as one in this respect.

Projected Digital Images

A **Projected digital image** (pdi) must be a JPEG with a maximum width of 1400 pixels and a maximum height of 1050 pixels. *This is to comply with the current rules of the Photographic Alliance of Great Britain (PAGB).*

A pdi must be named using three pieces of information as follows:

- The two-digit alphanumeric code for the competition into which it is being entered
- The photographer's name
- The title of the image

These pieces of information must be in this order and separated by underscores as shown in the following example:

M1_John Bull_British Bulldog which indicates that John Bull has entered a pdi entitled British Bulldog in the first monthly competition.

Provision of this information in this manner assists the Competition Secretary in cataloguing the images. Every pdi will have the competition code and photographer's name removed prior to being submitted to the judge. Ideally, pdis should be submitted as attachments to an email to the Competition Secretary, from whom further information can be obtained.

Prints

Unless the rules for a specific competition state otherwise, prints may be colour or monochrome.

A print must comply with the following criteria:

- The picture area must be at least 48 square inches. A picture of smaller area is permissible only if it is rectangular with a long side of at least 9 inches.
- A print must be surface mounted or window mounted on board or similar stiff but thin card of size 20 inches x 16 inches (or the slightly smaller metric near equivalent of 500mm x 400mm).

Please note that the PAGB and the Northern Counties Photographic Federation (NCPF) now stipulate that mounts must be 500mm x 400mm and not larger.

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- For the Jarvis and Lynn Trophies the size of the mounts may be reduced but must be at least A4 in size.
- The back of the mount must be labeled only with the title of the picture.
- A print must be accompanied by a pdi copy, (in accordance with the requirements for pdis) but with the word 'print' appended to the competition code as in the following example:

STprint_Phil McCann_Charity Worker which indicates that the pdi is a copy of a print entered by Phil McCann and entitled Charity Worker in the Studio Tristan competition.

Please note that there is no underscore between ST and print.

The pdi copies of prints are used for illustration to a large audience when results are presented and for possible publication (subject to the necessary permission from photographers) on the Society website. They are not supplied to judges and form no part of the judging process for prints.

Each mounted print and any packaging must be free from contamination, such as unsecured adhesive tape or surplus adhesive, which could damage another print placed in contact with it. Also, prints should be submitted in lightweight packaging which will fit easily into the print box.

Given that pdi copies of prints are required, there is no real need (though photographers may wish to continue the practice) to accompany prints with information detailing the title, photographer and competition.

MONTHLY COMPETITIONS

Currently there are four, each being a separate round of an overall seasonal championship. Points accrued in each round determine overall positions at the end of the season.

There are two categories (advanced and intermediate) of entrant and, within each category, separate entry streams for prints and projected digital images (pdis). Each competitor may make up to 2 entries in each of the entry streams appropriate to their category.

The first competition has an open theme, the next two have specific themes which are changed each season and the last one is themed on 'The Natural World' and combined with one of the annual competitions, the Michael Constable Memorial trophy. All rounds are judged by external judges.

In each separate entry stream/category the judge is required to decide 1st, 2nd, 3rd, and 4th places and may commend others. These places are awarded 6, 5, 4, 3, and 2 points respectively and every other entry is awarded 1 point. Of the two entries that a competitor may submit, only the higher scoring one will contribute to their overall seasonal total.

A trophy is awarded to the leading photographer in each of the categories of entrant in each entry stream. These are as follows:

R T McKenna Trophy - Advanced photographers for projected digital images
Bowers-Brittain Trophy - Intermediate photographers for projected digital images
Rosebowl - Advanced photographers for prints
Cooke Trophy - Intermediate photographers for prints

There is also a Junior Trophy (not contested recently) for Junior photographers for either prints or pdis.

Status

Solely for monthly competitions, entrants are classified either as advanced or intermediate (covering both print and pdi media) and compete only within their class.

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Advanced status may be gained in several ways:

- Automatically by winning either intermediate trophy in consecutive seasons or 3 times in total
- Automatically by being or having been an advanced worker in another photographic society
- Claiming advanced classification by winning either (print or pdi) intermediate trophy in the previous season
- Successfully applying for advanced status from submitting a selection of recent work to the Society for approval

Intermediate status is conferred on everyone that is not in the advanced classification. A member may revert from being advanced to intermediate in special circumstances.

Any member under 18 years of age on 1 September of the current season qualifies as a Junior member but that does not preclude them from being classified instead as either intermediate or advanced.

ANNUAL COMPETITIONS

Currently there are nine and, barring a few exceptions, there is generally no separation of prints and pdis, or advanced and intermediate entrants. One of these competitions is coincident with the final monthly round. Five of the annual competitions are judged externally and the others internally. In all cases only 1st and 2nd places are identified. The annual competitions comprise:

Michael Constable Memorial Trophy

Subject: The Natural World

Entry requirement: A maximum of 2 prints and 2 pdis per photographer

By virtue of being judged from all the entries (no matter whether print or pdi, advanced or intermediate) from the 4th (and final) monthly competition, each photographer may enter 2 prints in their appropriate print category (advanced or intermediate) and likewise 2 pdis.

Studio Tristan Trophy

Subject: People (or a person)

Entry requirement: Maximum of 2 entries (either pdi and/or print) per photographer

Les Gould Trophy

Subject: Open, but taken at an organised gathering (event) involving SPS members

Entry requirement: Maximum of 2 entries (either pdi and/or print) per photographer

The following provisos will apply to an 'event':

- 1 Attended by at least 4 current (at the time) members of the Society
- 2 Occurring within Yorkshire, Durham, Northumberland or Cumbria
- 3 Publicised as a 'Les Gould' event at least 2 weeks in advance on the SPS forum
- 4 Occurring in the 12 months ending on the official 'hand-in' date

Harry Brittain Salver

Subject: Open

Entry requirement: Maximum of 2 pdi entries per photographer

Advanced workers and past winners of any SPS Trophy (apart from the Harry Brittain Salver or the Moore Trophy) are ineligible. Entries must have been taken within 2 years of the competition date.

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Jarvis Trophy

Subject: Open

Entry requirement: One set of five monochrome prints on a stated theme of the photographer's choice. The usual rules for picture area apply but the mount size may be as small as A4.

Lynn Trophy

Subject: Open

Entry requirement: One set of five colour prints on a stated theme of the photographer's choice. The usual rules for picture area apply but the mount size may be as small as A4.

Ladies Trophy

Subject: Open

Entry requirement: 5 pdis, not on a theme, by a female photographer. Collectively, the 5 images, when mixed with those of the other contestants, should not be easily distinguishable by content, title or any embellishment.

The images no longer will be judged in groups of five but instead will be mixed randomly for presentation to the judge. Each image will be given a mark which will subsequently be assigned to the appropriate photographer and summed to determine the result.

Mixing of images is intended to prevent the judge from making a collective assessment of each photographer's images, which has happened in the past when images were presented in groups of five by photographer. Consequently, each contestant is requested to co-operate in this respect by choosing images that have no distinct collective association (theme) whether by content, title or any embellishment (such as large borders).

Frank Sanderson Trophy

Subject: Open

Entry requirement: A maximum of 2 pdis per photographer.

Moore Trophy

Subject: Open

Entry requirement: One presentation of no more than 10 minutes duration of pdis accompanied by live or recorded commentary and/or music. Contestants may work individually or in pairs.

Table of competition codes for Digital Images

Competition code	Competition
M1	First monthly competition
M2	Second monthly competition
M3	Third monthly competition
M4	Fourth monthly competition
HB	Harry Brittain salver
ST	Studio Tristan trophy
LG	Les Gould trophy
L1,L2,L3,L4,L5	Ladies trophy (numbers in show order)
FS	Frank Sanderson trophy