



NORTH WALES PHOTOGRAPHIC ASSOCIATION

CYMDEITHAS FFOTOGRAFFIG GOGLEDD CYMRU

Member of the Photographic Alliance of Great Britain

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NEWSLETTER

2020 - 7 JULY

The Role of Clubs Socio-economically

Concerns have been expressed regarding the effects of Coronavirus COVID-19 and its implications for the photographic club world.

The lack of information from local and central government regarding the future of clubs and societies when conditions improve is frustrating, recognising that although these activities do not have the same level of importance as the economic and employment issues that will result from lockdown, they do have an effect on the mental well-being for individuals and assist in strengthening the social structure of communities.

Crucially, we must not forget that central to what is happening at the moment is the need to resist the spread of the virus; that is of overriding importance, and it may be that individuals will take the matters into their own hands and simply decide not to meet any groups of people except for their family and loved ones. If that is the case, nothing we can do will change that.

In terms of what contingencies the NWPA and PAGB can provide it must be recognised that much of what will be done when lockdown eases is what the clubs decide to do for themselves, dependent on their venue, their members, and so on. (See the accompanying article by Peter Young, Welsh Photographic Federation).

Both the NWPA and the PAGB are looking into remote judging and lecturing and advice has been published already via eNews and more will follow. Locally we are sounding out who on our lists of judges and lecturers would be willing to provide their services in this new manner.

In terms of venues, different meeting places may have different conditions applied to them on release from lockdown. Out of member clubs in North Wales around 8 meet in Churches or Church Halls, a similar number in Community Centres, 4 in Social or Sport Clubs and 1 in a Supermarket's training room. These are all quite different and have differing types of landlord. Plus most of them don't serve alcohol. All these points may have a bearing on when and how meetings can take place again, as well as the question of size versus club membership when the pertaining social distance is taken into account.

The rolling programme of announcements of changes every 3 weeks has taken a hit and now seem to be taking place randomly and asynchronously (in terms of the four governments involved) and have more than a hint of political expediency about them - consequently no-one has a clue as to the programme for easing of restrictions and that is the answer when you ask the questions: what, when, how?

As members of the PAGB we will take our lead from the PAGB themselves as they are our National representatives. They also have the benefit of Counsel on their Executive to inform their advice to the 15 Federations.

Andy Polakowski

Bottoms Up!

I was in a Zoom meeting with my club, discussing our future programme. "When will the WPF let us meet in person again?" asked one member. "Peter will tell us," said another, "he's the WPF President." I had to tell them that's not the way it works. A club must listen primarily to government advice and to the requirements of its landlord. This passage did make me realise that members may have the wrong impression of their place within the club / Federation / PAGB system.

Clubs, Federations and the PAGB use "bottom up" processes. The PAGB does not and must not tell the 15 Federations (its only members) how they should operate. None of the Federations may tell the clubs that are their members (just over 1000 of them throughout the UK) what to do. Even the clubs must not tell their members what to do. Of course, they all do ... but only through a democratic process.

A club member helps to elect a committee to run the club. If he/she doesn't like the way the committee works and the democratic process does not operate favourably for that member, there are three options: elect another committee; walk away, whether to join another club or to leave club photography; or find other like-minded individuals and form another club. So, in one way or another, the members run the club and decide what to do.

Clubs become members of a Federation and a similar system operates with the clubs' electing an executive committee, probably via a club delegate system. The Federation gives service to the clubs by doing all sorts of things, like organising events and competitions, that the clubs could not arrange for themselves as they don't have the contacts, the time, the energy etc. If the clubs don't want something or want something new, they tell the Federation and authorise it to make the change they want. At no point must the Federation impose something on the clubs if the majority of the clubs do not want it.

In turn, the Federations are members of the PAGB. The same principles govern the way that the PAGB serves the Federations (its members) and the clubs (their members).

Everything is done democratically.

Of course, democracy is informed by (un?) social media, these days. However, social media has not changed the democratic process; it has just made protests easier. Sometimes, however, the number of people making a point is insufficient democratically to sway the committee of their own camera club, let alone a Federation or the PAGB. Just because a point is made vociferously does not make it valid. That does not mean that the PAGB or a Federation will not listen to the reasoned complaints or positive suggestions expressed on social media. They do and will act if it is considered appropriate. However, a club member should still try to persuade the committee, the club should try to persuade the Federation and the Federation should try to persuade the PAGB. Technology has not broken that mould. To paraphrase John F Kennedy's inaugural address, "Ask not what the Alliance or Federation can do for you — ask what you can do for the Alliance or Federation."

Peter A Young LRPS CPAGB AFIAP APAGB PAGB
Treasurer and WPF President

The NWPA Exhibition has now been selected and you will find a list of all the awards on the next pages:

BEATA BROOKES TROPHY, Highest Overall Score:
Linda Bell EFIAP DPAGB BPE5* AWPf

OK PHOTOGRAPHY TROPHY, Best Monochrome Print:
"A Close Shave" by Ian O'Neill ARPS FIPF DPAGB AWPf

M.J.M. PHOTOGRAPHY TROPHY, Colour Print Trophy:
"British Supersport" by John Bell BPE5* DPAGB EFIAP AWPf

ERYRI GROUP TROPHY, Best Monochrome PDI:
"Mechanic Jaipur" by Ian O'Neill ARPS FIPF DPAGB AWPf

MARGARET HARDING TROPHY Best Landscape Print:
"Aiguille Du Plan" by Matt Morrow CPAGB BPE4*

KEN WORTHY TROPHY, Best Landscape PDI:
"Mara Zum Zchnee" by Ray Humphreys

CREATIVE TROPHY, Best Creative Image:
"Rain Walker" by Dewi Williams

M.J.M. PHOTOGRAPHY TROPHY, Best Colour PDI:
"Tower Bridge" by Richard Hainsworth LRPS EFIAP/b DPAGB BPE3*

CONWY CAMERA CLUB TROPHY, Best Nature Image:
"Grasshopper" by Linda Bell EFIAP DPAGB BPE5* AWPf

BEST PHOTOJOURNALISM PDI:
"It's All Over" by Rolf Kraehenbuehl AFIAP

HM Mono Print: "Rose RIP" by Ken Lester CPAGB BPE3

HM Mono Print: "Two Friends" by Ian O'Neill ARPS FIPF DPAGB AWPf

HM Colour Print: "Lucy" by Sian Davies EFIAP BPE2* ARPS PPSA

HM Colour Print "In Step with Mum" by Linda Bell EFIAP DPAGB BPE5* AWPf

HM Mono PDI: "Five Five" by John Hallard LRPS

HM Mono PDI: "Alone Together" by Andy Polakowski AWPf BPE5* DPAGB EFIAP/g

HM Colour PDI: "Mighty Morag" by Tanya Liepins

HM Colour PDI: "Sunset at the Pier" by Tanya Liepins

HM Nature: "Merlin with Prey" by Peter Jepson DPAGB BPE1*

HM Nature: "Owl Among Bluebells" by Richard Hainsworth LRPS EFIAP/b DPAGB
BPE3*

HM Photojournalism: "Safely Negotiated" by Peter Jepson DPAGB BPE1*

HM Photojournalism: "Misery in the Shelter" by John Clark LRPS CPAGB AWPf

Selectors' Choices Print

Terry Donnelly: "Shark Feeding on Bait Ball" by Linda Bell EFIAP DPAGB BPE5*
AWPF

Dave Butler: "Close Shave" by Ian O'Neill ARPS FIPF DPAGB AWPf

Tillman Kleinhans: "Diner" by Sue Clark LRPS CPAGB

Selectors' Choices PDI

Terry Donnelly: "Safely Negotiated" by Peter Jepson DPAGB BPE1*

Dave Butler: "Lonely Boat" by Linda Webbern

Tillman Kleinhans: "Colour Run" by Matt Morrow CPAGB BPE4*

Our thanks go to everybody who entered, and we would like to congratulate all those who were successful in gaining acceptances and awards.

We hope to have all the accepted images showing on the NwPA website soon and remain hopeful that we will have an exhibition of the images too.

With best regards and trusting you all stay safe in the coming months

NwPA Exhibition Committee

The link below will take you to all the images on the website

http://nwpa.co.uk/exhibition_2020_gallery.html

I notice that some clubs have been using Zoom (& perhaps other platforms) to have lectures from photographers they could not otherwise afford.

It would be good if you would share with us your experiences and recommendations.

From: Christine Langford

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