

NIPA CONTACT SHEET

www.nipphoto.co.uk

Issue 20 - 10 April 2024

President's Welcome

Greetings All,

On 8th April 2024 we held our Annual General Meeting. I am delighted to continue to my second year as NIPA President. In this newsletter, I am including my President's Address. Read for yourself the achievements of the last year. John Lambe stepped down as Vice President and we welcome Alan Chowney as the new Vice President. Thanks to Marlene as Secretary and Claire as Treasurer. We will work as a team to support the mission of NIPA. We are all volunteers and often the 'face' of NIPA, when in fact there are many more volunteers behind the scenes helping on various committees. We totally rely on the kindness and generosity of volunteers and that can never be underestimated. Thank you, one and all.

Anita



Anita Kirkpatrick
President



Alan Chowney
Vice President



Marlene Hazlehurst
Secretary



Claire Russell
Treasurer

AGM update

President - Anita Kirkpatrick
Vice-President - Alan Chowney
Secretary - Marlene Hazlehurst
Treasurer - Claire Russell

Thanks to all the
NIPA Volunteers
who help with the
running of the
Association!

57 years
of the Association!



2024 AGM Presidents Address by Dr Anita Kirkpatrick FPSNZ AIPF LRPS

First of all I would like to thank everyone for their valued support since November 2022, especially the support of the NIPA Officers. We are a team and whilst I may be the face of the team on frequent occasions, there is a network of people in the background. I am totally honoured to hold the role of President in an association running 58 years. A legacy that I and NIPA can be very proud of. I have really enjoyed my last year and I believe that NIPA is viewed in a more positive light from some of the initiatives during the 16 months. NIPA's core objective is the advancement of photography in all its forms'. We have made progress with education, workshops and speakers as well as building the connection between photographers across Clubs.

My motto is 'Positive Exposure', a play on the two photography words, but also an important message to keep all interactions and publicity within and outside of NIPA positive and this has been well respected by all.

I would like to sincerely thank the NIPA Council Officers, NIPA Committees and Council Members for their time, commitment and dedication to enable rewarding and polished events for members. Everyone plays a valuable role, forming a great team. The NIPA volunteers work hard in the background for the benefit of the Association. Our regular Inter Club adjudications are unique in the PAGB partly due to our geographical size but also due to the willingness of clubs to host and support our Inter Club competition.

NIPA is indebted to Vittorio for his steadfast contribution and knowledge of what needs to be done each calendar year for the Association. Vittorio's organisation, critical thinking and advanced preparation for events is a huge contribution to the smooth running of judging and all of the competitions. Vittorio is a tremendous supporter of Club photography and gives very freely of his time. All too often NIPA work can be very time consuming with unseen hours maintaining and adding to the website, printing certificates, liaising with judges for the InterClub, Roy Finlay, Inter regional, Novice, Top Print/PDI and NIPA Exhibition. Then there's the framing and set up/take down for the NIPA Exhibition, all the liaison with venues. Assisting on judging night, and for projection on Adjudication night. It's a lot of voluntary time.



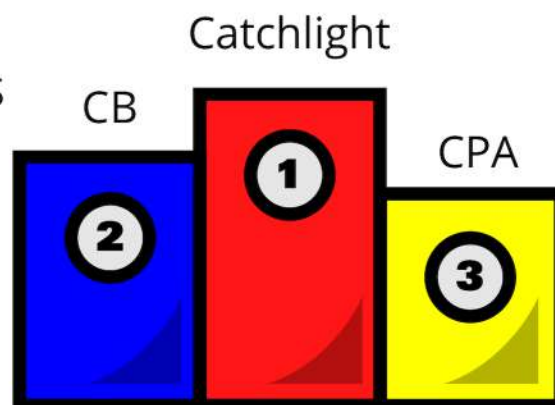
I am very grateful for the support of my first NIPA Secretary Chelle McGaughey. Chelle had been in the post for over 7 years and also has an outstanding knowledge of NIPA. Chelle contributed greatly to the day to day running of NIPA especially with communication with clubs and has a real skill for online forms and organisation. All done to well above the standard you would expect. When Chelle stepped down last year due to work commitments I knew that NIPA had lost significant support. I sincerely thank Chelle for all the time and talent she gave to NIPA and wish her well for her future employment (which she also excels at!).



I sincerely thank Marlene Hazlehurst for all her time, especially as she stepped up within a few months from taking on her Assistant Secretary to fill the role of Secretary and who in the absence of an assistant has now been filling both roles! It's a steep learning curve and Marlene has worked diligently to fulfil the role. In many ways, Marlene and I are learning together as we go along. We really do need the reinforcement of an assistant secretary to help support and reduce Marlene's role. Claire Russell has embraced the role of Treasurer and hasn't let even a few pennies over or underpaid go unnoticed. I really appreciate that level of detail and have total trust in her ability in the role. I sincerely thank Claire for her organisation on the financial side and her knowledge is very supportive to clubs.



The Inter Club competition has successfully completed another year with 6 clubs hosting evenings. I would like to sincerely congratulate Catchlight on their win in the Principle Competition, closely chased by second place CB camera club and CPA. In the Novice competition CB were the top club, followed by Bangor and North Down and then jointly in third Enniskillen PS and Focus Photography Club. Thank you to all clubs who entered and to all the judges who gave their time to judge and to critique and everyone was acknowledged in my Competition Committee report that was previously circulated.



Novice Competition

Principal Competition

At each adjudication night I ask people to say hello to 3 people around them and I feel that this is helping Club members to get to know more people and building a good social network. On one occasion when I didn't do it, it was missed and commented upon that 'I didn't do my usual'. It's a valuable interaction and one that's certainly helped me to get to know more Club members.

Thanks to Wex Photo Video who have continued with their generous sponsorship of £600 this year and we hope this will continue next season too. Angus has been very supportive of NIPA members and very amenable as a collection point for prints. Thanks to Ian Lyons, Kevin Vernon, Paul Lavery, John Lambe and Dave Beattie on the Competition committee and Peter Knott for sound.



John Lambe has been Vice President for the last year but is stepping down due to personal reasons. I'm saddened by this as we have worked well together over the last year, but I totally understand. It has been a pleasure to work alongside John and he has taken a keen interest and been a willing and keen participant in all the activities of NIPA. In addition, John has offered valuable advice along the way. I wish John well for the future and say a sincere thanks for all he has contributed thus far.



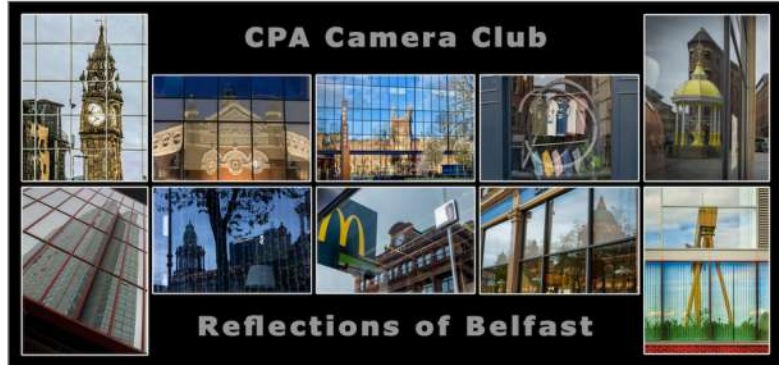
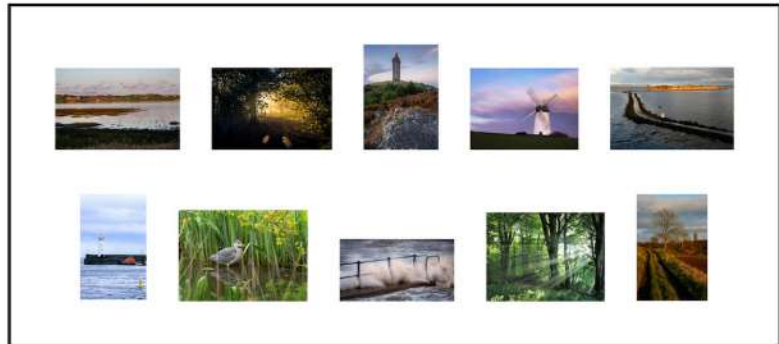
The regular coffee mornings worked out well, and they have morphed into Lunch and Learn sessions where I was hoping we would have a greater attendance. Numbers range from 6 to 20 depending on what's on offer. I have been in contact with a number of businesses and each has kindly spoken to us. This has included Angus Bicker from our sponsors Wex, Pascal Diamond from Camera Plus in Cookstown, Adam Hinchcliffe from the Imaging Warehouse with talks lined up for after Easter from CEWE and Permajet. Club members have also talked about their Distinctions panels so grateful thanks are extended to John Lambe for two sessions on Macro photography, Claire Russell on her BPAGB, Alan Chowney on his CPAGB, myself on going for an AIPF panel and a talk by Ann Cassidy on The Why in our Photography. These have been recorded and saved to our YouTube channel and links to videos and playlists are circulated to members on a regular basis so people can view them in their own time. I would like to continue these chats and bring back speakers to talk about specific topics. I am hoping to get a month of printing chats organised, with an in person workshop and have been in liaison with Tim Jones of Fotospeed. Watch this space.



Two judging workshops were held in the last year. The first one held at the end of June 2023, was about Judging at Club level with 17 Club members attending. The workshop was facilitated by Ross McKelvey, Judith Kimber and myself. I sincerely thank Ross and Judith for giving up their time and their excellent delivery and guidance on the day. Thanks to Ross for hosting at Catchlight Studios and organising lunch in the cafe. On reflection, there were a lot of people in that initial workshop and that was due to the time elapsed since the previous workshop was held. Still, members were well educated on the day, with some practice achieved and everyone was highly satisfied with the judging training given. Afterwards, some people felt ready to take on judging at Club level and join the Judging list, and some preferred to delay until they got more experience.



Following on from this we held a second judging workshop, this time to Federation level. Again this was kindly and exceedingly well facilitated by Ross and Judith with superb guidance based on Ross's extensive and invaluable judging experience. The day was more ad-lib and yet full of learning for everyone. The group size was capped at 8 people and it was held in Brownlow community centre. Again all participants were highly satisfied with their training and some have been judging at Federation level this season. Earlier on in the year I had suggested some changes to the judging system though I didn't push through with a lot of them. It's an area I would like to revisit this coming year.



The Panel Project, an initiative initially suggested by Danny McCaughan and now facilitated by the Project Initiatives committee ran for the second year in 2023. Fewer clubs participated however, the five clubs that followed through presented a lovely evening on the 4th December 2023 by zoom. All panels were presented and recorded and are available on our YouTube channel as well as the narratives and photos stored on the NIPA website. It was a different insight into areas from Fairhead to Titanic and Belfast to the Ards Peninsula to Fermanagh.

Movement / Water
Enniskillen PS



Fairhead
Photographic Club

Stones That Speak

Maria Brennan
Eileen Corbett
Jan Hamilton
Kathleen Killeen
Sue McKeown
Andrea Cameron-McKillop

Antrim Camera Club

Ards Camera Club

Ballymoney Amateur Photographic Club

Ballynahinch Camera Club

Banbridge Camera Club

Bangor & North Down Camera Club

Belfast Photo Imaging Club

CB Camera Club

Carrickfergus Camera Club

Catchlight Camera Club

Central Photographic Association

City of Belfast Photographic Society

Donaghadee Camera Club

Dungannon - Cookstown Camera Club

Enniskillen Photographic Society

Fairhead Photographic Club

Focus Photography Club

Larne Camera Club

Merville Newtownabbey Photographic Club

NI Electricity Photographic Society

Raw Camera Club

Shorts Camera Club

Strabane & District Camera Club

Westcourt Camera Club

One of my objectives was to strengthen the link between NIPA and affiliated Clubs. A second meeting was held with the Chairs of Clubs at the end of 2023, and was an open chat with good participation which acknowledged that a lot of clubs struggle with an aging demographic, declining membership, sometimes poor retention of new members and a lack of volunteers. On the positive side, Clubs have varied programmes and with regards to competitions are often working hard to get prints and mounts arranged for members to facilitate club entries to NIPA. There were many suggestions by Chairs on how each club tries to advertise and recruit new members from exhibitions involving the local communities, to newspaper articles and Facebook groups amongst many other brilliant ideas.

A summary note has been sent to all Chairs so that people who couldn't attend have this information to hand. It's very clear to me that Chairs, and their committees, are working incredibly hard to create fun and learning programmes to meet the needs of their members. I acknowledge all the time and effort to do so. Thank you for meeting with us and for all you do. It was agreed to meet twice each year and another meeting will be held before June.

Following on from the meeting with Chairs, a meeting with all Club Treasurers was initiated. This is also the first time that this has been convened and was a great opportunity to discuss any financial challenges clubs were facing as well as educating Treasurers on what payments NIPA needs and when and why as well as putting a face to NIPA Treasurer Claire Russell. Again, it was an open and informative chat with a few lightbulb moments as Treasurers shared information on their challenges with banking and payments, especially issues with changing signatories, dealing with banking fees and managing cheques. There were great suggestions for raising Club funds including raffles, auctions, charging for tea/coffee, quiz nights and grants. A summary note of what was discussed was sent out to all Treasurers.

The meeting was contributed to by everyone present and all agreed that one meeting a year was sufficient and that September would be the most optimal time for it when Treasurers were getting started in their roles. Future meetings are planned with Club Secretaries and Club Competition Secretaries and on the basis of the Treasurer's meeting I believe that again, September is the most optimal month.

NIPA Contact sheet is running over a year now and we are up to edition 19. After Chelle stepped down, I returned to creating them by myself. I have evolved the content to only feature one main event and that's working out better. This is easier to email and all newsletters are now stored on the NIPA website and published to our Facebook page. Readership, as shown by a show of hands at an adjudication night is still around 50% and to be honest at times I was disappointed with that given the hours taken to produce a newsletter, but it does appear that those who take the time to read it, find it useful.

I started a distinctions group whereby club members could join in a zoom meeting to hear about going for distinctions from RPS, PAGB and IPF and this has been attended by some keen Club members, some of whom have gone on to be successful in gaining distinctions. I had a vision to have a Distinctions Panels day and this came to fruition on 6th January 2024 with around 50 -60 people turning up to hear about and see members panels. There were panels covering every distinction which was outstanding. Feedback was very positive about the day and several people said they had a much better understanding now and would like to try for a distinction. I still plan to run the distinctions group roughly monthly when I can and potentially an annual Distinctions day.

Newsletter

Issue 18 - Mar 2024

NIPA CONTACT SHEET
Issue 18 - 28 March 2024

President's Welcome

George & Rosemary have always been a part of the NIPA family. George has been a member of the Club since 1980 and Rosemary has been a member since 1985. They have both been active in the Club and have both been successful in gaining distinctions. George has been a member of the Club since 1980 and Rosemary has been a member since 1985. They have both been active in the Club and have both been successful in gaining distinctions.

THIS ISSUE WE ARE INCLUDING:

- WEX** - A new member of the Club who has been successful in gaining a distinction.
- WEX** - A new member of the Club who has been successful in gaining a distinction.
- WEX** - A new member of the Club who has been successful in gaining a distinction.

CLOSING DATE FOR AGES

NIPA NOVICE
NIPA NOVICE
NIPA NOVICE

Open

Issue 17 - Mar 2024

NIPA CONTACT SHEET
Issue 17 - 20 March 2024

President's Welcome

George & Rosemary have always been a part of the NIPA family. George has been a member of the Club since 1980 and Rosemary has been a member since 1985. They have both been active in the Club and have both been successful in gaining distinctions. George has been a member of the Club since 1980 and Rosemary has been a member since 1985. They have both been active in the Club and have both been successful in gaining distinctions.

THIS ISSUE WE ARE INCLUDING:

- WEX** - A new member of the Club who has been successful in gaining a distinction.
- WEX** - A new member of the Club who has been successful in gaining a distinction.
- WEX** - A new member of the Club who has been successful in gaining a distinction.

CLOSING DATE FOR AGES

NIPA NOVICE
NIPA NOVICE
NIPA NOVICE

Open

Issue - 16 Feb 2024

NIPA CONTACT SHEET
Issue 16 - 15 February 2024

President's Welcome

George & Rosemary have always been a part of the NIPA family. George has been a member of the Club since 1980 and Rosemary has been a member since 1985. They have both been active in the Club and have both been successful in gaining distinctions. George has been a member of the Club since 1980 and Rosemary has been a member since 1985. They have both been active in the Club and have both been successful in gaining distinctions.

THIS ISSUE WE ARE INCLUDING:

- WEX** - A new member of the Club who has been successful in gaining a distinction.
- WEX** - A new member of the Club who has been successful in gaining a distinction.
- WEX** - A new member of the Club who has been successful in gaining a distinction.

Round 4 - Entertainment/Arts
NIPA CONTACT SHEET

Open

Issue 15 - Feb 2024

NIPA CONTACT SHEET
Issue 15 - 17 February 2024

President's Welcome

George & Rosemary have always been a part of the NIPA family. George has been a member of the Club since 1980 and Rosemary has been a member since 1985. They have both been active in the Club and have both been successful in gaining distinctions. George has been a member of the Club since 1980 and Rosemary has been a member since 1985. They have both been active in the Club and have both been successful in gaining distinctions.

THIS ISSUE WE ARE INCLUDING:

- WEX** - A new member of the Club who has been successful in gaining a distinction.
- WEX** - A new member of the Club who has been successful in gaining a distinction.
- WEX** - A new member of the Club who has been successful in gaining a distinction.

Open

Issue 14 - Jan 2024

NIPA CONTACT SHEET
Issue 14 - 14 January 2024

President's Welcome

George & Rosemary have always been a part of the NIPA family. George has been a member of the Club since 1980 and Rosemary has been a member since 1985. They have both been active in the Club and have both been successful in gaining distinctions. George has been a member of the Club since 1980 and Rosemary has been a member since 1985. They have both been active in the Club and have both been successful in gaining distinctions.

THIS ISSUE WE ARE INCLUDING:

- WEX** - A new member of the Club who has been successful in gaining a distinction.
- WEX** - A new member of the Club who has been successful in gaining a distinction.
- WEX** - A new member of the Club who has been successful in gaining a distinction.

Open

Issue 13 - Dec 2023

NIPA CONTACT SHEET
Issue 13 - 29th December 2023

President's Welcome

George & Rosemary have always been a part of the NIPA family. George has been a member of the Club since 1980 and Rosemary has been a member since 1985. They have both been active in the Club and have both been successful in gaining distinctions. George has been a member of the Club since 1980 and Rosemary has been a member since 1985. They have both been active in the Club and have both been successful in gaining distinctions.

THIS ISSUE WE ARE INCLUDING:

- WEX** - A new member of the Club who has been successful in gaining a distinction.
- WEX** - A new member of the Club who has been successful in gaining a distinction.
- WEX** - A new member of the Club who has been successful in gaining a distinction.

Open





The NIPA Facebook page is run by myself and Marlene. I have set up some yellow and blue 'brand' colours and have attempted to give the page a consistent and professional look. Where possible information from Clubs is shared, plus all the newsletters.



Log In

Home | About | Competitions | Exhibitions | Inter-Federation | Newsletter | Community | Dates

The other public face for information is the NIPA website www.niphoto.co.uk. This is looked after predominantly by Vittorio with background support from Alan McMorris for more technical issues. The website has evolved over the last year with a new page created for all the newsletters The NIPA Contact Sheet plus all the documents, panel project images, and all the information for all the competition and exhibitions. It takes time and effort to maintain it. Thanks Vittorio and Alan.



"Rainbow Warrior" by Alan Chowney, Ballynahinch Camera Club, (15 marks)
Ballynahinch Camera Club

1 < 4/19 >

Welcome to the Northern Ireland Photographic Association website

"The Northern Ireland Photographic Association, founded in 1967, is committed to the advancement of photography in all its forms for and on behalf of all its member societies, groups and associated bodies. Our mission is to provide a platform for the development of photographic skill and the enjoyment of the medium through a social enterprise of activities within the communities we serve. The council membership of the association, committees and volunteers are committed to a partnership that provides for the sharing of skill and social enterprise dedicated to the advancement of the medium of photography."

© Copyright 2024. All authors retain the copyright © of their images. All correspondence to nipa.secretary@gmail.com

Last year I had started to create documents on how to host adjudications from a Club and NIPA perspective. These have been sent out to most clubs in advance and have helped with the smooth running of events and a better understanding of what's involved with hosting.

The NIPA development plan was looking at 5 things this year. 1 was judging development and that has progressed. 2 was communication between members via website, Facebook and newsletters and this too has been progressed. 3. I am getting speakers and whilst some progression has been achieved I would like to engage more speakers especially on topics related to our themes and for printing. 4. NIPA representatives to be more active in communication is an area that I believe has improved and 5. Increasing membership for clubs. This is a much more difficult area to implement but the discussion with the Chairs will have contributed to this as well as the additional Facebook notices and adverts to the camera shops with all the information on Clubs. I'm pleased with the progress within the year.

All in all it's been a busy year. There's still lots of good work to do and I thank everyone for their support and contribution to date. NIPA is a voluntary organisation and everyone contributes their time, and that needs to be considered especially when we achieve so much. We really do rely on the goodwill and generosity of volunteers. I greatly appreciate it. Thank you. Here's to another year ahead. Woo hoo!

Anita

