

NIPA CONTACT SHEET

Issue 7 - May 2023

President's Welcome

I've really been enjoying the weather these last few weeks; I think we all have!

I held the Distinctions meeting on Monday 5th June via Zoom and we had a wonderful presentation by Rusty Adair. Rusty talked about his failed AIPF and showed the changes he made to ultimately get his successful and stunning AIPF panel. It was the one we showcased in last month's NIPA Contact Sheet.



There is way more learning when you fail a panel, than when you succeed. I know this from personal experience too. Whilst it's a real kick in the stomach, it's a great learning curve and in the end you're a better photographer for it.

Further in this newsletter you will see the successful panels from Lee Walker and Tony Mulvenna. Both failed their first attempt at CPAGB and DPAGB respectively. Each have written a lovely account of their journey to success. Catchlight Camera club won the Irish National Championships and Jennifer Willis shares the background to the event. Pauline McAleese and Vittorio Silvestri were presented with NIPA service awards. Read about their valuable contributions. We hosted the NIPA Top Print & PDI Competition and saw some wonderful photographs, demonstrating the skill of our members. Great commentary from Arthur on the images. All top images went to members from Dungannon and Cookstown Camera Club. Well done! Learn about the hosting club, Ballynahinch, in an article by Alan Chowney.

Currently we are planning for next year's Interclub Competition and I have listed potential dates later in this newsletter. It takes time to liaise with clubs and to settle dates at venues. At present, I have two rounds that I haven't been able to find a club to host. If this is something your club could host, please let me know as soon as possible.

July and August editions of the NIPA Contact Sheet will contain club programmes. Please can you send them to Chelle when you have them finalised.

Our NIPA Exhibition will be judged this weekend and in two weeks we will host our Judging Workshop. There's a lot of progress going on. Woo hoo!

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Anita".

Failure is just the start
of your next success

All previous editions of the NIPA Contact Sheet are here:

<https://www.niphoto.co.uk/links-and-downloads>

All correspondence through NIPA.secretary@gmail.com please

NIPA TOP PRINT & PDI COMPETITION 2023



Judge Arthur Carron FIPF assessing the images

Sincere thanks to Arthur for his eloquent commentary and final selection.



Congratulations to our Top Print & PDI Competition winners!

Congratulations



Rosemary Hughes
'The Death Stare'
Dungannon
Cookstown CC



Ged Lydon
'Flamingo'
Dungannon
Cookstown CC



Stephen Brennan
'Into the Mist'
Dungannon
Cookstown CC

NIPA TOP PRINT & PDI COMPETITION 2023

Top Placed Colour Prints

See the images properly and the photographers:

<https://www.nipphoto.co.uk/top-print-pdi-2023>



Top Placed Mono Prints



NIPA TOP PRINT & PDI COMPETITION 2023



Commenting on the images
- Arthur Carron FIPF

Arthur Carron - Judge,
Anita Kirkpatrick - NIPA President and
Keith Wilson - Vice Chair Ballynahinch



Top NIPA Club CPA

	Mono Print	Colour Print	PDI	Overall
Novice Competition	CPA	BPIC	BNDCC	CPA
Principal Competition	CPA	CPA	CPA	CPA



Trophies were presented to CPA for achieving overall Top Club in NIPA in 2022/2023 season as well as top in Novice Mono and Principal Colour, Mono and PDI.

Chelle McGaughey and Frank Dunleavy both from CPA
Anita Kirkpatrick
NIPA President



Helen Honeyman, Chelle McGaughey, Vittorio Silvestri, Frank Dunleavy - all CPA members with Anita Kirkpatrick - NIPA President

NIPA JUDGING WORKSHOP: CLUB LEVEL

We have had a tremendous interest in this workshop. 17 attendees will take part in the workshop to be held on 24th June 2023. These new judges will be available for club judging next season. We encourage clubs to support them on their journey by inviting them to judge their competitions, whether for NIPA or your own internal club competitions.

A further workshop will be held on 23rd September to take a selection of judges to Federation level judging and again we encourage clubs to support their development in judging. It's only by experience that skills develop.

Sincere thanks to Mark Allen, Judith Kimber and Ross McKelvey for their expertise and time running these workshops.

NIPA Virtual Coffee Morning

Every Friday at 11am

A quick chat, via Zoom, with your morning cuppa.

No more than 40 minutes as I'm just using the free Zoom, on purpose, to keep this short and sweet!



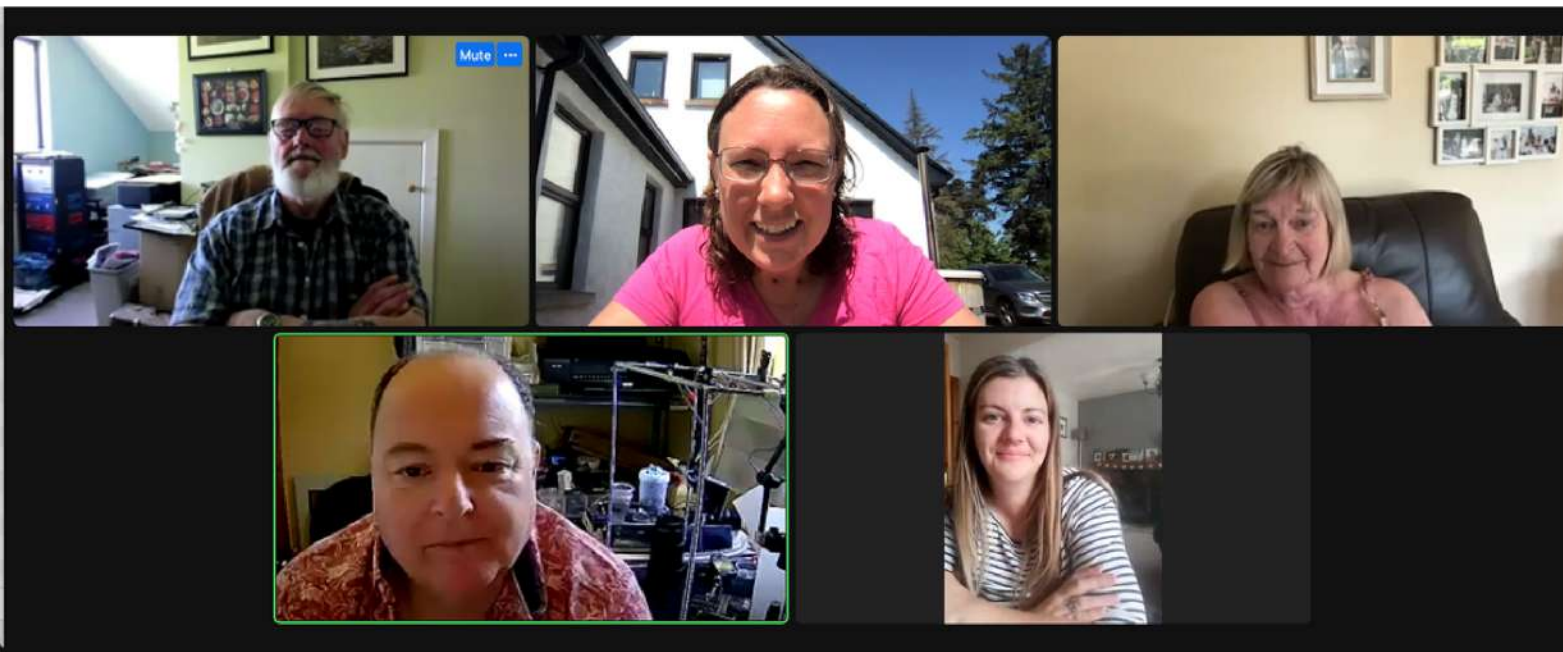
Friday 9th, 16th, 23rd and 30th June - Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us05web.zoom.us/j/83643949355?pwd=eHNuZU5sMEcveTVZUlpLL0ZpYzBTdz09>

Meeting ID: 836 4394 9355 Passcode: 0Ww6JM

Please rename to your NAME and CLUB

Check NIPA Facebook page in case of any last minute issues with Zoom etc., or for any time changes.



Congratulations

The Irish National Club Championships by Jennifer Willis FRPS, FIPF, MPAGB, BPE4*, EFIAP

Catchlight attended The Irish National Club Championships held in Mullingar the weekend of 21st-22nd May - the first in-person Irish Club Championship since before Covid. Not only is this a great event to view the best of club photography in Ireland but it is fantastic to meet up with and chat to familiar names and faces.

Day one is Mono, day two is Colour. Each club places their panel of 10 prints early morning. Whilst presented as a panel, success is based on total scores of each individual print. Prints are scored out of 20 by each of the three judges.

Results are announced on the Sunday afternoon for mono panels, colour panels, overall winning club and some individual awards. The standard of prints on display was remarkable and a real tribute to the high standard of club photography across Ireland. Competition was very stiff and whilst there is a lot of prediction, results were way too close to call!

In the end Catchlight were delighted to place first in Mono, second in Colour and yet again win Top Club in the Irish National Club Championships 2023 with Jennifer picking up a couple of Highly Commended awards for 'Locked and Loaded' and 'The Stories I can Tell'.

Ross McKelvey takes responsibility for selection of images after consulting with a few other members. Yet again he proved his nose! Key to success is having high quality images well-presented across the whole panel and every one of the 20 images scored between 51 and 58.

The IPF Club Championship trophy sits nicely alongside Top Club in the PAGB Club Championships. Quite some achievement. Congratulations Catchlight!



1 The Island - Roger Eager.jpg



2 UpAndOver_Tony Mulvenna.jpg



3 GREY BEARD - Kenny Gibson.jpg



4 Carvings And Curves - Tony Mulvenna.jpg



5 Roker Pier - Roger Eager.jpg



6 Locked and Loaded - Jennifer Willis.tif



7 Enraptured - Joe Vize.jpg



8 Mr Cool - Ross McKelvey.jpg



9 Summer - Ross McKelvey.jpg



10 Unstoppable_Jennifer Willis.jpg

**The Irish National Club Championships
2nd in Colour Print for Catchlight Camera Club with this panel.**



1 Frozen Jump - Ross McKelvey.jpg



2 Blonde Gelding - Laurie Campbell.jpg



3 Bee Eater Gift - Jill Crockett.jpg



4 fighting white tailed eagles - Pamela Wilson.jpg



5 The Stories I Can Tell - Jennifer Wilson.jpg



6 Pairing Off Laurie Campbell.jpg



7 Double Trouble - Jennifer Willis.jpg



8 Take a Bow - Leo McCourt.jpg



9 Alaskan Coastal Bear Cub - Pamela Wilson.jpg



10 White Tailed Sea Eagle - Ross McKelvey.jpg

LIPF AIPF FIFP LRPS ARPS FRPS CPAGB DPAGB MPAGB

Distinctions Summer Series

Over the Summer I am hoping to run a series of short talks by people with successful panels. These will replace the Coffee Mornings for July and August. I will update the schedule for our June Newsletter.

If you have any of the panels listed above and you would like to show off your images, then please email nipa.secretary@gmail.com.

I think it would be nice to have a 'Panels Day' to show off the prints. Watch this space!

LIPF AIPF FIFP LRPS ARPS FRPS CPAGB DPAGB MPAGB

JESSOPS
image is everything

A printing offer for prints A4 - A3
50% discount, just mention to
staff that you're a NIPA club
member and what club

Congratulations

A CPAGB panel: Lee Walker LIPF CPAGB

Sincere congratulations to Lee Walker on his successful CPAGB panel in the April 2023 Awards for Photographic Merit assessment. This is an absolutely stunning set of images. Lee is a member of Catchlight Camera Club and has, in the middle of his A Level exams, penned the lovely article below. Yes, he's only turned 18 at the start of April! Woo hoo!

Just back in April, I was delighted to have achieved my CPAGB accreditation from the PAGB. This was following me falling short of the quota in November in Antrim. The CPAGB award is an accreditation from the Photographic Alliance of Great Britain and involves the selection of ten images which are to be assessed, this is not a panel in many ways and is instead a “best-of” style event.

In Antrim, I received word that I, like others, fell short of the 200 quota for my ten images. I was of course devastated however after getting a chance to talk to members both within my club and outside I was soon consoled. Despite the immediate set-back, I set straight to work in assembling a new selection and with the help of friends I soon got images which were by far superior to my prior attempt. This was an incredibly “testing” process with many a night sat with my Dad and others assembling the images, alongside having to reject many an image.

It was incredibly relieving when in the middle of my revision for my A-level exams I received word that I had achieved my award, and passed with flying colours. It was of course disappointing not to have received the award whilst here in Antrim. However, the process of sending my prints was an unusual one, and as I am only starting out in my photographic journey, was an invaluable learning experience (despite being infuriating at the time...).

By far my greatest accomplishment was getting a 27 for ‘Don’t mess with me!’ (An image I didn’t put in during my first-time round!).

This was a wonderful experience that reminded me that whatever you put your mind to you can achieve.



Don't mess with me! - scored 27/30
One man, three vices 19/30





Panel by
Lee Walker
LIPF CPAGB



- Crouching Cat Hidden Thoughts 16
- Persephone 22
- Stand and deliver 24
- Nail Salon 20
- Metallica 24
- Stout and Solemn 21
- Hoover Done this 23
- Robin Hoot 22



PAGB Distinction Assessment April 23rd 2023
DPAGB Print Submission – An article by Tony Mulvenna
(LRPS, BPE4*, EFIAP, DPAGB)

I had entered the PAGB Distinction Assessment that took place in Antrim, hosted by NIPA in November 2022, entering the Print category for DPAGB. I submitted 15 prints and needed an overall score of 300 to attain the distinction (or averaging 20 out of 30 for each print).

In the lead up to the assessment day I had been working on my potential images, reviewing possibilities with Catchlight advanced members, attended a couple of Catchlight hosted information evenings and had been printing and reviewing paper selection.

The week before the assessment I printed at home my selected images on my Canon ImagePROGRAF Pro-1000 printer that is calibrated to my monitor and with custom ICC profiles for the various types of paper being used. I had the prints mounted by a Catchlight member who runs a framing business.

On the day I went along, prints in hand, nervous but happy with my entry. As the assessment started and my first print came up, “Stripes” scoring 25, I was off to a great start. That was to be my only upbeat feeling of the day. My prints were judged, and one after one the scores being awarded were for the most part in the teens. I couldn’t believe what was happening, my best laid plans were unravelling before my eyes. It was hard to sit through the entire judging session as I knew early in my 15 prints that I wasn’t making the required pass mark.

As the judging concluded I was deflated but tried to remain upbeat as there were other Catchlight members who had been successful, and many NIPA affiliated members were successful on the day. I wanted to make sure I was acknowledging and congratulating those who were successful.

Straight away Ross McKelvey, who had been judging, came over to me and asked what I was doing printing my Mono images on the type of paper I had selected. He explained that they were flat, “fifty shades of grey”, and lacking any true blacks & whites. He said it would be hard for the audience to understand my scores as the PDIs we were seeing were perfect, but the prints were very different. That was a tough day, and I went home very disappointed, not that I had been unsuccessful but that I had made a bad mistake in paper choice and also not getting that one final review after printing and before submission.

Nonetheless I had already decided even before I left Antrim that I was going to try again in April at the Distinction Assessment in Kent.

**continued: PAGB Distinction Assessment April 23rd 2023
DPAGB Print Submission – An article by Tony Mulvenna
(LRPS, BPE4*, EFIAP, DPAGB)**

I did go back to the drawing board and between the November 2022 and April 2023 assessments, I swapped out 7 and only retained 8 of the November images. The decision to do that was based on how they had scored in November (some were the paper choice, but others were on correct paper but just didn't score well). The new / replacement 7 images were drawn from a combination of tried and trusted BPE Award Winning images and some brand-new images that I really believed would score well.

The other big change for April was the paper choices, and this was selected with significant input from Ross McKelvey. I had often observed Ross's print presentations at Catchlight and quite often he would bring along the same image but printed on 2 different papers, an exercise to show members the difference paper choice can make to a printed image, it can either make it or break it. My first DPAGB assessment attempt was a stark reminder of how not to do it.

I travelled to Kent along with my wife for the April assessment and even though I had been unsuccessful in attempt one, I wasn't as nervous this time as I had been in November.

I again opened with "Stripes", this time scoring 28 out of 30 (what turned out to be the highest scoring print from any of the submissions on the day). It was a great start, and this was followed up with 8 prints scoring 20 or higher and I was well on my way. I was still nervous as we hit the break, halfway through the judging but upon resuming my prints continued to score well, except for my Scapes shots, with 2 of the 3 scoring mid-teens. As we neared the latter prints, I was able to relax as once my second to last print was scored, I was already over the successful mark requirement of 300. My last print, "The Thinker" scored 24 and I finished with a score of 325 and had achieved DPAGB accreditation.

I would like to acknowledge all of those who helped me on both attempts but especially Ross McKelvey, Jennifer Willis, and Darrin Walker. I need to give a special mention to my wife who had to help pick me up after the November assessment and who accompanied me for the April assessment day in Kent.



1. Stripes Score 28



2. YinYang Score 21



3. Eye Catching Score 20



4. BrooklynNights Score 22



5. Carvings And Curves
Score 26



6. Up And Over Score 23



7. Polar Bear March Score
20



8. Wings Of Iridescence
Score 21



9. Carla Score 23



10. Hamnoy Sunrise Score
17



11. After The Ballet Score
23



12. Repose Score 24



13. The Steps Score 18



14. Empty Sky Score 15



15. The Thinker Score 24

Congratulations

DPAGB panel:

Tony Mulvenna LRPS, DPAGB, BPE4*, EFIAP

Sincere congratulations to Tony Mulvenna on his successful DPAGB panel in the April 2023 Awards for Photographic Merit assessment. Another superb set of images. Tony is an active member of Catchlight Camera Club.

Club Snapshot: Ballynahinch Camera Club

by Chairman Alan Chowney

History

During the bitterly cold winter of 1979, a small group of photographers decided that there was interest within the Ballynahinch area to form a proper club. The first meeting of Ballynahinch Camera Club (BCC) was held in the public library and addressed by Stanley Matchett, a renowned press photographer. Three weeks later 35 members had signed up. From the onset the club has been affiliated to NIPA.

Past Year

In September 2022 it was with immense pleasure that the club welcomed back members in person at the weekly Thursday evening gatherings, following the restrictions of the previous two years due to Covid 19 when we met via Zoom. Like many other clubs Zoom provided an opportunity to attract guest speakers from further afield but it also restricted participation from those uncomfortable with the technology.

Running the club is a real team effort and the current committee works very effectively and efficiently for all members. The focus for the 2022/23 season was to regenerate the club after the long gap and to build back again by encouraging new and novice members. We have been successful beyond expectation with membership in April 2023 standing at 1 junior and 23 seniors, including 5 new individuals, some of which had limited experience of photography techniques.



Club Snapshot: Ballynahinch Camera Club continued

Activities

The club normally offers a programme of events from September to April. Guest speakers cover every aspect of photography including landscape, portraiture, travel, wildlife, photojournalism, astrophotography, speciality techniques and audio-visual shows. Last year this included Stephen Davidson on motorbike photography, Ross McKelvey covering the use of flash, Frances on her experiences with property photography and Mark for his excellent portfolio of work on birds and wildlife, including a printed book put together over lockdown. Kieran Metcalfe and John Miskelly gave their own unique perspectives and passion for landscape photography.

Some of the evenings during winter months used a hybrid approach of open meetings and online access via Zoom. A useful approach during poor weather conditions but it also resulted in small numbers attending in person.

There are also interactive evenings where members can come along to learn about cameras, digital processing, photographic composition, and lighting techniques, (or take part in our Christmas quiz). We encourage members to share their experiences in a structured way to extend technical ability by expanding the range of photo and processing techniques.



Club Snapshot: Ballynahinch Camera Club continued

The club has, in the past, organised weekend workshops with established photographers across GB and Ireland and photoshoots including an evening at Inch Abbey and commercial flower meadows near Seaforde. We have extended this work since the season's close in April with members identifying opportunities such as the Gentleman's Motorbike Ride for charity, classic car shows and similar events. These offer opportunities to demonstrate how to approach individuals confidently to take their photos. We have set up a WhatsApp group where members can exchange information, ask questions, and gain advice across a range of topics. This has proved very popular and generates interest over the summer.

Achievements

We also had a very successful year in the NIPA Interclub Competition finishing in fourth place overall, and a second place in the novice PDI category. It was also great to note the number of members attending the NIPA adjudications. We again went to battle with Christian Brothers and hosted this year's competition at Ballynahinch. There is always a lot of friendly banter but I know both clubs enjoy the competition and chance to meet up socially. The annual internal Charlie Rutledge mono competition, held in tribute to a founding member of BCC, attracted many entries and was judged by Darren Brown.

Outreach

John Knipe has developed an excellent relationship with the local papers through his regular articles and on-line blogs including previous week's activities. We worked with a local judo club, which provided an excellent opportunity to photograph in challenging lighting conditions while offering the organisation some PDIs to refresh their website. This has led to invitations from other local organisations for similar photoshoots.

Meetings

We meet at 7.30pm on Thursday evenings in The Loft, Edengrove Presbyterian Church, Ballynahinch.

Further Information can be found at:

www.ballynahinchcameraclub.co.uk

www.facebook.com/groups/BHCCcameraclub/

Alan Chowney
Club Chair





Club Snapshot: Ballynahinch Camera Club continued

Member Profile

At the AGM in April Terry Hanna was appointed President. Terry had an interest in photography for many years but admits that his technical ability improved significantly after joining the club in 2013 and using competition opportunities offered by NIPA and the Club. He focuses on wildlife, studio/portraiture, and sports genres and in the last decade his achievement has included many starred images in the NIPA rounds; prizes in the Roy Finlay competition; and producing the winning entry in the Belfast Zoo competition. Last November he achieved a PAGB Award for Photographic Merit.

PAGB ONLINE AUDIO VISUAL AWARDS ADJUDICATION - 5 AUGUST 2023

The Audio Visual Awards Adjudication takes place online on 5 August 2023, hosted by Ian Bateman.

The deadline date for submission of entries is set at 7th July 2023, but in the meantime further applications are still being accepted.

Get an application form by email from alastrjack@aol.com

Thanks, Alastair
(Federation Awards Officer)

NIPA Exhibition 2023

The 2023 NIPA Exhibition
will open at the
Island Arts Centre on
29th June 2023



Inter-Federation Competition Selection

The Inter-Federation is a competition organised by the PAGB
between all 15 federations affiliated with them.

Each entry consists of 30 large format (50x40cm) prints in three sections,
Mono, Colour and Nature.

Many thanks to our selectors for this year

Ross McKelvey

Robert Sergeant

Stephen Weatherall

See the wonderful selection: <https://www.nipphoto.co.uk/inter-fed-2023>



NIPA Club Award: Pauline McAleese



Pauline McAleese was recently presented with a NIPA Club Award for services to the Central Photographic Association.

Length of service:

2018 to present

Nature of service:

Club Secretary

Supporting statement:

Pauline has now served five years as Secretary of CPA Camera Club and has been voted in again for the 2023-24 season.

She is very organised and ensures that all NIPA communications are shared with the members in a timely manner. This is especially important now with the President's new initiatives, among them the weekly Coffee Morning and the Distinctions meetings, where communications are often time-sensitive.

Pauline organises the CPA entry to the annual Quadrangle Competition, where CPA represent Northern Ireland against one club each from England, Scotland and Wales - a competition that CPA have won for the past two years. On a more social note, Pauline also ensures our annual BBQ, which marks the end of our official club calendar in May, goes off without a hitch!

She is always inclusive and goes out of her way to welcome new members and especially novices to the club. The Central Photographic Association Committee take pleasure in nominating her for a Club Service Award.

Anita Kirkpatrick presenting Vittorio Silvestri with the NIPA Service Award



Anita Kirkpatrick presenting Pauline McAleese with the NIPA Club Award



NIPA Service Award: Vittorio Silvestri

Vittorio Silvestri was recently presented with a NIPA Service Award for services to NIPA over the past decade.

Length of service to NIPA:

2014 to present

Nature of service to NIPA:

Past President; External Competitions Officer; Committee Member for Competition Committee, Judges and Selectors Committee, Information and Communications Committee, Constitution Committee; Archivist and Chair of Archive Committee; Organiser of Exhibitions and Adjudications; Preparation of Award Certificates; NIPA Website Administrator; Representing NIPA at PAGB when the PAGB Executive Officer is unavailable; Liaison for IPF Nature Group for Inter-Regional Wildlife Competition.



Supporting statement:

For many camera club members, Vittorio Silvestri is the most well-known face of the Northern Ireland Photographic Association, representing NIPA at every judging and every competition adjudication event.

In his role as a member of the Judges and Selectors Committee he liaises with the judges for all competitions, including the selection of the images for feedback. He prepares the award certificates for presentation at the adjudication and arranges the engraving of medals where appropriate.

As a member of the Competition Committee, he attends the judging, displaying the projected images for judging, and stepping into any role required when other committee members are unavailable. At adjudication events, Vittorio transports the display screen, projector, laptop, and penguin stands, and is responsible for the display of the images for judges' feedback. He has also transported the image display boards when necessary and has provided storage for the boards at CPA.

As External Competitions Officer he liaises with the IPF Nature Group in organising the Inter-Regional Wildlife Competition and with local councils for gallery space to display the Annual Exhibition. He ensures the Exhibition prints are framed and transported between locations during its tour of the province. Vittorio also has responsibility for the PAGB Inter-Federation competitions and represents NIPA at PAGB Executive Meetings whenever the PAGB Executive Officer is unavailable.

When Alan McMorris chose to step back from his role as webmaster, Vittorio stepped in to learn the Wix platform and take over the day-to-day maintenance of the NIPA website and the competition image database.

Vittorio was Vice President (2014-2016), President (2016-2019), and Immediate Past President (2019-2021). He is the only President to have an extended term due to the unprecedented situation encountered in 2018 when the new President resigned after a short term in office. As a Past President he continues to give his time to offer advise when sought by the current incumbent.

Vittorio has clearly shown his dedication to NIPA over many years and is very deserving of a NIPA Service Award.

PAGB PDI Championship

The PAGB PDI Championship will take place at the Arts Centre at Warwick University, on Saturday 15th July 2023. Entries will open on the 10th June 2023 and will close on 2nd July 2023.

Participating clubs will be required to upload their bank of 40 images, plus their first round selections to the PAGB CES system in advance of the competition, by the entry system closing date.

Catchlight CC are pre-qualified as finalists in 2022, and BPIC have also accepted the challenge and volunteered to represent NIPA. We have space for one further club to compete.

If your club would be interested in representing NIPA at this event, in person, please let Chelle know no later than Monday 12th June 2023.

D A T E S for I N T E R C L U B 2023 / 2024

Round 1 - 16 - 20th October 2023 - [Need a hosting club -TBC](#)

Round 2 - Wednesday 22nd November 2023 - Focus Camera Club

Round 3 - Wednesday 24th January 2024 - Antrim Camera Club

Round 4 - Wednesday 21st February 2024 - Catchlight Camera Club

Round 5 - 18 - 22nd March 2024 - [Need a hosting club - TBC](#)

Top Print & PDI - Wednesday 1st May 2024 - CPA

Club Programme

Please send your club programme for the 2023/2024 season to
nipa.secretary@gmail.com.

It will be included in the July or August NIPA Contact Sheet.

Thank you 😊