

# Heswall Photographic Society

## New Members Information

This leaflet contains some basic survival information for new members and helps provide some information about the society and how it is run.

AFFILIATED TO:- The Photographic Alliance of Great Britain (PAGB) through The Lancashire and Cheshire Photographic Union.

### Aims and objectives of the Society

We have within the Society many different interests, these include:

- Monochrome Prints
- Colour Prints
- Slides
- Audio Visual
- Digital or traditional processing

The objectives of the Society are to:

- advance the art and science of photography
- provide an outlet for personal images
- get new ideas
- learn new techniques
- enjoy photography
- provide access to other people who want to create images

### History

The Society was founded in 1963 by Clive Owens and Peter Harris. Originally started with 9 members, by 1970 the club was fully established with lectures, competitions, instructional evenings and photographic outings. It was at that time that the Annual Exhibition was started which today attracts about 400 visitors and has led to a second exhibition held in the autumn – now only shown on our web site.

An increasing membership over the years led to various changes in meeting place until the Society settled in the Friends Meeting House in 1974. The Society moved to St. Peter's Centre in 2008.

Since the Society started, there have been many changes and developments in cameras, film and processing techniques together plus the introduction of 'digital' processing. Heswall has embraced all these changes over the past 45 years and is ready for the next 45.

### Membership

You will have received a copy of the 'rules and constitution' – essential for all clubs and societies where members' funds are involved.

Payment of the full annual subscription (decided at the Annual General Meeting).entitles you to:

- all the benefits of the Society.
- you are able to enter all Society competitions
- you may participate in all other club activities such as instructional workshops, which may be available.

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Additional charges:

- for each meeting attended to cover the cost of tea, coffee and biscuits at the interval.
- for the additional summer meetings, members are asked to pay a nominal sum to cover the cost of the room.
- for any workshop held in addition to our normal programme. This is to cover the cost of the room and the instructor. You will be advised of the cost when the workshop is announced.

Payment of the reduced Associate subscription entitles you to all the above except you cannot:

- enter the competitions
- vote at the AGM.

## Contact details

Should you need to contact a member of the committee, you will find telephone numbers in the syllabus.

If you wish to contact any other member, please contact the Secretary or Treasurer.

## Meetings

Meetings are:

- usually held at St. Peter's Centre, Lower Heswall on a Friday evening starting promptly at 8pm
- there is a small entry fee of £1 to cover the cost of the tea, coffee and biscuits.
- they run from early September to mid-May
- are held fortnightly during June/July only, on an informal basis at St. Peter's Centre.
- are timed to finish at 10pm or very soon after
- detailed in the syllabus (or web-site) issued before the start of each new season in September. You will normally be reminded at the end of each meeting of the details for the following week
- sometimes are held jointly with other clubs, maybe at other premises – see syllabus, website or the Newsletter for details or announcements at the society meeting. Details of competitions held between clubs will be announced at Society meetings.

The meetings feature a:

- weekly raffle. Any profit goes to general society funds.
- tea/coffee break at about 9pm for 15/20 minutes.

## Parking

Please park your car in Village Road, Station Road, or School Hill. Disabled parking is available in the grounds of the Rectory (next door to the Centre).

## Competitions

Competitions are an important part of society life. Not only can you show what you have been doing, but by listening to judges critiquing your work, talking to other members and seeing other images, you can learn to improve the standard of your entries, understand different techniques etc.

It is important to read magazines, go to exhibitions and browse the internet. The internet is probably the richest possible source of images known to man and Heswall PS.

The Society also has an internet presence on Yahoo Flickr, where members can display their images and receive criticism and advice from fellow members.

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## Society Competitions guide

There are some things you need to know.

- pick up an entry slip (usually available two weeks before hand in night) for each monthly competition or download from the web.
- separate slips should be completed for each section, prints or slides.
- the competition sections are split into prints, digital images and slides as shown in the Competition Rules section of the syllabus.
- new members should note the instruction in Rule 3.
- prints must be mounted, on board, with a maximum board size of 500\*400mm; transparencies must be mounted in glass and correctly spotted and digital images have their own rules – see the web site for details.
- the first 'League' Competition is usually ANY SUBJECT, i.e. choose your best prints that you will not want to enter in any of the other League competitions which have a set subject or theme.
- if you are unable to hand in on the advertised night or have any other problems regarding the competition, consult one of the Competition Secretaries but please note, late entries cannot be accepted.
- you can collect your entries on competition night as it may avoid damage to your print if it has to be stored.
- the competition rules are in the back of the syllabus and on the web.

### A final word on competitions if you are new to them

Listen to what the judges have to say about the work of others as well as your own and store what you feel is of value to the advancement of your photography. The judges views are opinion not fact use the information or ignore it.

What matters is the stuff between your ears not the latest camera. Creative pictures derive from an observant photographer and imagination not the latest camera or lens.

### Information for those new to photography

Some terminology may not mean much. Look in your camera's instruction book as it will usually cover basic photographic terms as well as those which apply to your camera and its operation.

For further study there are many good books.

You will also be able to pick up other expressions from judges and lecturers. However, there are a few which apply to club 'organisations'

AV (Audio Visual)  
L&CPU (Lancashire and Cheshire Photographic Union) to which HPS is affiliated.  
PAGB (and distinctions)  
RPS (and distinctions) see extract from Newsletter 1/98  
FIAP (and distinctions)  
BPE (and stars)  
WPA

### Other useful information

Our web-site contains many useful and interesting articles on photography and also contains an up to date copy of the syllabus plus many examples of members work.

The web-site address is [www.heswallphotosoc.co.uk](http://www.heswallphotosoc.co.uk) - ask the Webmaster or any committee member for any further information.