

EXMOUTH PHOTO GROUP

A GUIDE FOR PROSPECTIVE MEMBERS

1. History and Details of the Group

In 1969 a number of the active members of the long-established Exmouth Camera Club formed a new Club with the principal rule that it would be for active photographers only. It was named the Exmouth Photo Group. Some of the founder members are still active today. The Group has a large amount of equipment and has always preferred to support its active members rather than its bank manager.

2. Committee

The Group is organised by a committee, elected at the Annual General Meeting in March or April. This is made up of a Chairman, Vice Chairman, Honorary Secretary, Treasurer, Programme Secretary, Two Competition Secretaries and one Committee Member. The names of these officers are included on our website. We also have a President.

3. Archives

The Group has an Archivist who keeps the full history of the Group. Any members wishing to see the archives, or contribute anything to them, should approach the person responsible.

4. Meetings

The Group normally meets at the Salvation Army Hall, Sheppard's Row, Exmouth, EX8 1PW on Wednesday evenings from September to May. The meetings start promptly at 7.30 p.m. and finish no later than 9.45 p.m. These meetings are detailed in the programme, which can be obtained from the Programme Secretary or they are published on the website.

During the summer months there are various outings on Wednesday evenings, usually followed by a pub meal if desired, and some daytime outings on Sundays. A separate summer programme is produced and is published on the website. Occasionally Sunday walks are held during the winter months. Members often share lifts by pre-arrangement, particularly for those which are further afield.

5. The Programme

This includes club competitions, lectures on techniques, projects by members, Inter-Club League matches, visits from other Clubs in the area and distinguished outside speakers showing their work. Any suggestions for lecturers or activities for the Group are welcomed by the Programme Secretary. Organisers for Summer outings are also welcome.

6. Membership

There are two classes of membership of the Photo Group - Full or Junior. The Constitution and Current rules for members can be obtained from the Secretary but they are also published on the website. There is also a Data Protection Policy on the website, on the Membership Join Us page.

7. Fees

Fees are due September of each year and are determined by the membership at the AGM of the previous year. Members joining part way through the year pay a proportion of

the fee. The Treasurer will give details of fees payable but they are also published on the website.

8. *Joining the Photo Group*

Prospective members are welcome to come along to a few meetings to see whether they would enjoy the activities. There is a Membership Secretary who will endeavour to introduce you to members and to make sure your stay is a pleasant one. You will be given the names of a member to whom you can turn for any advice or help on the Group's activities. If you know someone who is already a member, almost certainly he/she will be there as a supporter. An Application Form to join the Group can be obtained from the Secretary or downloaded from the website.

9. *Advice*

Most members are more than willing to give help and advice on any aspect of photography should you need it. We have members within the group who have knowledge on, studio work and anything digital and we would encourage you to ask for any help or advice you want.

10. *Projects*

Members are encouraged to undertake a project/show their work on a subject of interest to them and at the same time broaden their photographic experience. This only needs to be for part of an evening. Some members do this every other year and derive a great benefit from it, as do the rest of the Group members. In fact, members' Project Evenings often give some of the most satisfying evenings in the whole programme. The project should take the form of a series of prints, slides, AV (audio/visual), or digitally projected images with some kind of commentary and should not be less than 10 minutes, though if you wish to have the whole evening that can be arranged. It may suit a small group of members to work together to produce a joint project on a subject of mutual interest.

11. *Exhibitions*

Once a year, the Group tries to stage an exhibition in Exmouth at a venue to be decided wherein all members are invited to show examples of their work. These exhibitions are arranged primarily to present our work to Exmouth visitors and residents, to give some pleasure and also publicise our Group. Members can also exhibit in the Western Counties Photographic Federation (WCPF) Members' Exhibition, which is held each May. The WCPF is an association of the majority of the clubs in the South West.

12. *Club Competitions*

Please refer to the separate sheet describing club competitions.

13. *South Devon League/Inter Club League*

Please refer to the separate sheet describing club competitions.

14. *Specialist groups within the Photo Group*

The Photo Group now has extra evenings during the season which will be on the Programme.

Digital Discussion: The idea of each evening is to centre on images you have taken based on 2 set subjects given in advance and each member must bring along up to 4

images. These images to be discussed/criticised on difficulty/ease, composition, exposure, quality to encourage more members to become involved.

Audio Visual Group. This has been formed to encourage members to make AVs and demonstrate techniques.

15. WCPF: The Western Counties Photographic Federation is an association of the majority of the clubs in the South West, from St. Ives to Swindon to Sherborne. The WCPF arranges an annual exhibition and folios, which all clubs may enter. The folios of both print and slide work are seen by us at the Clubroom during the season, and the Exhibition is also open for members to view at whichever Club is staging the Exhibition that year. The WCPF also organise weekends away somewhere in the South West each year. These are most stimulating and enjoyable.

16. Website

The club has a website (<http://www.exmouthphotogroup.com/>) which is our “window to the world”. Amongst other things, a newsletter about recent or future club activities appears here from time to time, and competition winners are displayed.

17. Other Matters

If there is anything else you wish to know about the Photo Group not already covered by these lengthy notes, please ask any member for that information. We should also like to know of anything that you don't like, so that it can be discussed.