

CONSTITUTION

1. Name

1.1 The Society shall be known as "The Shropshire Photographic Society".

2. Objects of the Society

2.1 The object of the Society is to promote photography in all its forms.

3. Powers

3.1 In furtherance of the Objects of the Society, the Society has the following powers:

- To raise funds
- To acquire or hire property of any kind
- To set aside funds for special purposes or as reserves against future expenditure
- To deposit or invest funds in any lawful manner
- To delegate the management of investments to a Committee Member or Members or Sub Committee set up by the Committee, but only on terms that:
 - The Investment policy is recorded in writing
 - Every transaction is reported promptly to the Committee
 - The performance of the investments is regularly reviewed by the Committee
 - The Committee are entitled to cancel the delegation arrangement at any time
 - The Investment policy and the delegation arrangement are reviewed at least once a year
- To insure the Society's property against any reasonable foreseeable risk, and take out other Insurance policies to protect the Society where required
- To do anything else within the law which promotes or helps to promote the Object of the Society

4. Membership

4.1 Membership shall be open to anyone interested in photography.

4.2 The Committee must keep a register of Members.

4.3 The Committee may refuse or terminate an individual's membership.

4.4 Membership of the Society is not transferable.

4.5 Member's guests will be allowed to accompany members to the weekly meetings (with the exception of the AGM or any EGM) without any obligation to join the Society.

4.6 Members may only enter Society Competitions if they possess a current year's Subscription receipt.

4.7 The Committee may recommend to the AGM the conferment on individuals of special classes of Membership as follows:

- Honorary Membership - This can be conferred on such persons who have rendered service to the Society. Such Members may attend meetings, but will not have the right to vote or enter the Society's competitions, without a current Subscription receipt.
- Honorary Life Membership - This can be conferred on such persons who have rendered service to the Society over a period of years. Such Members are able to take part in all of the Society's activities and competitions, but would be exempt from paying further subscriptions.
- Associate Membership - This can be conferred on such persons who may have given services to photography generally. Such members may attend meetings, but may not vote or enter competitions. Such membership will be offered for one year, and may be renewed annually.

5. Subscriptions

5.1 Annual Subscriptions and Weekly Entrance Fees shall be agreed by a majority decision at the Annual General Meeting of the Society.

5.2 Subscriptions will be due on the first Meeting of the season, except that a Member joining after 1st January shall pay half of the appropriate subscription for the remainder of the

season. A Member first joining at the AGM or after shall pay the full subscription agreed at the AGM, for both the remainder of the season and for the following season.

6. General Meetings of the Society

- 6.1 The Society shall meet at 7.30pm on Mondays and on other evenings as decided.
- 6.2 The Annual General Meeting of the Society shall be held in April of each year, or at such time as the Committee shall decide. An AGM shall however be held within 15 months of the Society's last AGM.
- 6.3 All Members are entitled to attend the AGM.
- 6.4 At each AGM, the Members:
 - Receive the Statement of Accounts for the Society, and all other activities controlled by the Society, for the previous year ending 31st March, duly audited by two independent individuals
 - Receive the Report of the Committee on the activities of the Society and its progress since the previous AGM
 - Elect from the members of the Society the President of the Society for the following year. At the end of each year, the President shall resign from the office of President, but if he or she wishes, may offer him/herself up for re-election.
 - Elect Committee members to replace those retiring from office. These officers, which are honorary, shall comprise -
 - Vice President
 - Secretary and Assistant Secretary
 - Treasurer
 - Programme Secretary and Assistant Programme Secretary*
 - Annual Awards Secretary*
 - Merit Awards Secretary*
 - Assistant Treasurer
 - Social Secretary & Record Section Secretary*
 - May confer on any individual, following the Committee's recommendation, Honorary Membership, Honorary Life Membership or Associate Membership of the Society.
 - Discuss and determine any issues of policy or deal with any other business put before them.
- 6.5 Resolutions to be considered at Annual General Meetings must be sent to the Society's Secretary in writing not less than 14 days before the date of the Meeting.
- 6.6 The President or (if the President is unable to do so) the Vice President or (if the Vice President is unable to do so) some other Member of the Committee elected by those present presides at a General Meeting.
- 6.7 Except as otherwise provided in this Constitution, every issue at a General Meeting is decided by a simple majority of votes cast by the members present in person.
- 6.8 Except for the Chair of the meeting, who has a second or casting vote, every member present in person is entitled to one vote on every issue.
- 6.9 A Special General Meeting of the Society can be convened by the Committee, giving 14 (fourteen) clear days notice before the date specified for the Meeting.
- 6.10 A Special General Meeting of the Society can also be called following a request signed by at least 8 (eight) Members, stating the object of the Meeting and sent in writing to the Secretary, so as to be received not later than 14 (fourteen) clear days before the date specified for the Meeting.
- 6.11 There is a quorum at a General Meeting if the number of Members present is at least 12, or 25% of the Members, if greater.

7. The Executive Committee

- 7.1 The affairs of the Society shall be managed by an Executive Committee, consisting of the following -
 - President
 - Vice-President
 - Treasurer
 - Retiring President
 - Secretary
 - 4 (four) or more Members elected at the Society's last AGM. Note that these 4 Committee members may also hold the Offices suffixed with an asterisk in Section 6 above.

- 7.2 The Committee has control of the Society, and all its Property and funds, in whatever forms these may exist.
- 7.3 A Committee member automatically ceases to be a member of the Committee if he or she:
- Ceases to be a member of the Society
 - Resigns by written notice to the Committee
 - Is removed by a resolution passed by all the other members of the Committee

8. Committee meetings

- 8.1 The Committee must hold at least 4 meetings each year.
- 8.2 At Committee meetings, four Members will form a quorum.
- 8.3 The President or (if the President is unable to do so) the Vice President or (if the Vice President is unable to do so) some other Member of the Committee elected by those present presides at each Committee Meeting.
- 8.4 Every issue at a Committee Meeting is decided by a simple majority of votes cast at the Committee Meeting.
- 8.5 Except for the Chair of the meeting, who has a second or casting vote, every Committee Member present is entitled to one vote on every issue.

9. Powers of the Committee

- 9.1 The Committee has the following powers in the administration of the Society:
- To make regulations consistent with this Constitution about the running of the Society (including the operation of all Bank and Building Society accounts held in the name of the Society and the Shrewsbury Open Colour Slide Exhibition) and the commitment of all funds
 - To delegate any of their functions to sub-committees consisting of two or more persons appointed by them. At least one member of every sub-committee must be a Committee member, and all proceedings of sub-committees must be reported promptly to the Committee.
 - To make Rules consistent with this Constitution to govern proceedings at general meetings, Committee meetings and sub-committees
 - To exercise any powers of the Society which are not reserved to a General Meeting

10. Property and Funds

- 10.1 The property and funds of the Society must only be used to promote the Objects, and do not belong to the Members of the Society, or the Committee.
- 10.2 No Committee member may receive any payment of money or other material benefit from the Society except for reimbursement of reasonable out of pocket expenses actually incurred in the administration of the Society.
- 10.3 Funds which are not required for immediate use must be placed on deposit or invested in accordance with Rule 3.
- 10.4 Investments and other property of the Society may be held:
- In the names of one or more of the Committee Members for the time being, or a financial expert acting on the Committee's instructions
 - In the name of the Society

11. Records and Accounts

- 11.1 The Committee must keep adequate financial records of all dealings within the Society, including those of the Shrewsbury Open Colour Slide Exhibition, and must ensure an appropriate audit or independent examination of accounts, and the preparation of an Annual Statement of Account.
- 11.2 The Committee must keep proper records of:
- All proceedings at General Meetings
 - All proceedings at Committee meetings
 - All reports of Sub-Committees

12. Dissolution

- 12.1 If at any time the Members at a General Meeting decide to dissolve the Society, the Members of the Committee will remain in office and will be responsible for the orderly winding up of the Society's affairs.
- 12.2 After making provisions for all outstanding liabilities, current and future, of the Society, the Committee must apply all the remaining property and funds in the manner set out in Section 12.3.
- 12.3 The remaining property and funds will be distributed to current paid up members of the society, including Honorary Members and Honorary Life Members but excluding Associate members ("Qualifying Members"). A group, independent from the Qualifying Members of the Society, and selected by the Committee, will calculate the number of full years membership for each Qualifying Member, as defined in the previous sentence, over the previous five years, to be called Qualifying Membership Years ("QMY"). The independent group will calculate the total number of QMYs of all Qualifying Members, and will calculate the resultant level of net distributable funds per QMY (the "Annual Amount"). Each Qualifying Member will receive an amount consisting of the Annual Amount multiplied by his/her own QMY.
- 12.4 The Committee's decision will be final in any disputes regarding the above procedure.

13. Amendment of Rules and Constitution

No alteration or addition to these rules shall be made except at the Annual General Meeting or at a Special General Meeting called in accordance with Item 6.9 or 6.10 above.

GENERAL RULES FOR ALL COMPETITIONS

- 1 Annual Awards and Competitions are open to ALL MEMBERS of the Society.
- 2 Prints may be Monochrome or Colour. Mounts must not exceed 20" x 16" (508 x 406 mm). Slide mounts must be 5 x 5 cm or 6 x 6 cm. Digital entries may be submitted on CD or via e-mail and must be sized to 1024 x 768 pixels (including any fill in colour) to match the screen resolution for digital projection.
- 3 All images entered must be entirely the work of the author (except for straight trade print/negative or slide processing see below) and bear the title, the member's current receipt number, and the section for which they are entered. Slides must be spotted in the bottom left-hand corner as viewed. Slides and negatives may be either trade or home processed. Prints may be produced by the entrant themselves in the darkroom or by using a computer; trade machine prints are permitted, but they must be a straight reproduction of the negative, slide or digital file (i.e. there must be no human enhancement by persons other than the entrant to the aesthetic or technical qualities of the final image). Any mount with more than one print attached will be deemed to be one print.
- 4 In accordance with the objects of the Society, members are expected to show only work which reflects current abilities.
- 5 An image may ONLY be entered in one format, i.e. if, for example, an image was originally entered as a print, it may not be converted to a slide or digitally projected image and entered again to different competition.
- 6 An image may be entered in ONE Merit Competition, and ONE other Annual Award in whichever order the entrant may choose, and may also be entered in the Set Subject competition provided that this is the first competition entered with that image. The entry may be used over two consecutive seasons.
- 7 Entries must be handed to the appropriate secretary at least ONE week in advance of the competition date, (unless the Competition Secretary requests otherwise, e.g. entries to be sent away for judging). Late entries may be accepted at the Competition Secretary's discretion, but only by prior arrangement, and only up to the day BEFORE the competition.
- 8 The Merit Competitions Secretary and the Annual Awards Secretary are empowered to reject any entry which, in their opinion, does not comply with the Society's Aims and the Competition Rules.
- 9 Judges for all Annual Awards, major Society Trophies and competitive photographic prizes are to be selected from the lists of approved PAGB/MCPF judges wherever possible.
- 10 Judges may award Commendations at their discretion, up to a maximum of one per 7 entries.
- 11 Entries for competitions which have not been reclaimed 4 months after the event will be regarded as

abandoned and the Committee will have the power to dispose of them. Although every possible care will be taken with entries into Society or external competitions, the Society cannot accept liability for loss or damage, therefore all prints and slides are entered at members' own risk.

SPECIFIC RULES FOR ANNUAL COMPETITIONS

(Trophies held for ONE YEAR only - see also page 6 for explanatory notes and guidelines)

12 Up to four prints and four projected images may be entered for an Annual Award unless otherwise stated.

13 PRESIDENTS CUP

FOUR related prints, separately mounted, to be judged as a panel, one entry per member.

14 R G LEWIS CUP

Awarded for the BEST PICTORIAL PRINT

15 HAROLD GRIFFITHS NATURAL HISTORY CUP

Awarded for the BEST OVERALL NATURAL HISTORY PRINT or PROJECTED IMAGE

JIM STOWE MEMORIAL NATURAL HISTORY PLAQUE

Awarded for the BEST NATURAL HISTORY PROJECTED IMAGE if the above cup is won by a print, or vice-versa.

All entries to bear title of subject and BRIEF relevant details. The award will be given to the print or slide which is considered to be the best record of a natural history subject and NOT for pictorial merit, see *competition explanatory notes and guidelines*

16 JOHN K BROMLEY CUP & BILL HADDOCK MEMORIAL SHIELD FOR PORTRAITURE

Awarded for the BEST PORTRAIT PRINT & BEST PORTRAIT PROJECTED IMAGE respectively
Portraits must be of one or more PEOPLE.

17 WACE CUP

Awarded for the BEST PICTORIAL PROJECTED IMAGE

18 RICHARD PALGRAVE RECORD TROPHIES

Awarded for:-

BEST GROUP OF 4 RELATED RECORD PRINTS and 4 RELATED PROJECTED IMAGES

All subjects, except those eligible for a Natural History Award, or medical or allied sciences, are eligible, see *competition explanatory notes and guidelines*. Prints and Projected images should bear brief relevant information. The entries are NOT intended to be judged as an aesthetic panel.

19 THE SET SUBJECT COMPETITION

For the best entry of SIX digital images, the categories to be drawn at intervals specified on the programme, see *competition explanatory notes and guidelines*:-

The best INDIVIDUAL image will receive the MISSES JONES SALVER and

The best OVERALL entry of 6 images will receive the ELDRED Trophy

20 CAROL JONES SALVER

Awarded to the NOVICE member gaining most points (See Rule 21) in the projected image and print Merit Competitions, during their first FULL merit season.

21 COMPETITIONS CUP and ALAN R YATES COLOUR SLIDE CUP

Awarded to the member gaining the most points in the three Merit PRINT Competitions and to the member gaining the most points in the three Merit PROJECTED IMAGE Competitions respectively, regardless of section. Points are calculated as follows:-

1 point for entry	2 points for Commended	3 points for Highly Commended
4 points for Third	5 points for Second	6 points for First

22 PHOTOGRAPHER OF THE YEAR AWARD

Awarded to the member gaining most points in the ANNUAL TROPHY Competitions.

Points are calculated as in Rule 21 above.

In the Presidents Cup, Record and Set Subject Competitions a point shall be awarded for each slide or print entered rather than awarding a single point for the whole entry.

SPECIFIC RULES FOR MERIT COMPETITIONS

(see also explanatory notes and guidelines)

23 The Merit Competitions are open with regard to subject. The competitions are split into 2 sections, one for beginners/intermediates, and one for advanced workers. New members may present a selection of their work to the Committee for assessment to decide which section they may compete in.

24 Entry of Prints

Up to three MOUNTED Prints (monochrome or colour) may be entered by each member for each competition in both Intermediate and Advanced sections.

25 Entry of Slides or Digitally Projected images

Up to THREE images, either mounted slides or digitally projected images, may be entered by each member for each competition. A mixture of formats (i.e. slide or digital file) is permitted.

26 Members will be promoted from Intermediate to Advanced in either the print or projected image sections on obtaining a total of 10 placings or commendations for that section.

27 Places will be awarded in each section as follows:-

1-2 entrants	1st place only
3 entrants	1st & 2nd places only
4 entrants	1st, 2nd and 3rd places
5 entrants and over	1st, 2nd and 3rd places plus commendations as per rule 10.

SUPPLEMENTARY EXPLANATORY NOTES AND GUIDELINES

The following guidelines are intended to explain what might be expected from the entrant and what the judge might be looking for in each competition. Judges will, however, have their own preferences about a particular type of photography so although these guidelines are fairly relaxed the judge may not necessarily agree, after all he does need a reason to select the winners over the losers! Please ensure you also refer to the foregoing Society Rules for more specific instructions about what and how you can enter. A copy of both these documents will be given to all judges prior to a competition evening.

Set Subject Competition

The idea behind this competition is to encourage members to take new pictures throughout the year specifically for each of 6 themes, which are drawn at intervals specified on the programme. Images will be projected digitally and judged on the interpretation of the theme as well as technical photographic skill.

At the first meeting of the season, and subsequently throughout the season, all those present will be asked to write down a theme, with their name. Guidelines on choosing the subject are below. At the end of the evening, one theme will be drawn out and members will have between four and six weeks to hand the image in (dates specified in programme), when the next theme will be drawn. Themes will also be posted on the website.

At the end of the season all the images will be judged. Each theme will be judged separately with a final selection of the six winning pictures to produce one overall winning image. Points will be awarded for each theme as follows,

1st = 10 2nd = 8 3rd = 6 4th = 4 all others get 2 points.

Two trophies will be awarded, one for the person with the most points, and one for the overall winning image.

THEME GUIDELINES

- Try to choose a theme that requires some imagination to capture, i.e. try not to choose traditional themes such as 'Landscape', to stretch ourselves a bit more.
- Do not choose a subject that requires special equipment to get, such as macro or super telephoto lenses.
- The themes or subject matter must be available within the set timescale of the competition, i.e. do not suggest "winter" in the first draw of the season in September, as the pictures must be submitted by early October!
- The themes or subject matter must be accessible to all members, e.g. no South American tree frogs.
- It is up to each photographer as to how much expense they incur to capture their image, but the themes or subjects must not require any additional expense other than the normal cost of capturing the image, i.e. nothing that requires entry fees to zoos or museums etc.

RULES

- Only one image per person per theme will be accepted.
- Images must be new and *must* be taken between the time of the theme being announced and the closing day for that theme.
- Images entered must not have been seen in any Club competition or show prior to the final judging, and may only be entered in other competitions subsequent to the Set Subject.
- If possible images should be supplied on electronic media or via e-mail.
- Images can be taken in any format, but will be shown digitally. Images supplied as slides or prints will be scanned, but no guarantee can be made for colour fidelity etc. Therefore it is in the entrant's best interests to oversee the digitising of their image so that they are happy with the final result.
- Digital files should be in Jpeg format with a size of 1024 x 768 pixels (the max width is 1024 and the max height is 768, so vertical images can only be 768 high. If images are received larger than this, they will be resized to fit.
- If a theme is drawn that closely resembles a previous theme, or one that might be considered out of reach to some members, a simple vote will be taken as to whether another theme should be drawn.
- Entrants may enter as many or as few of the subjects as they like.
- Late entries will only be accepted in digital format with the digital file showing an original create date and final modification date that both fall inside the required time limits for that theme.

Natural History Trophies, (Prints & Slides)

Members can enter up to 4 prints and/or 4 projected images, which are each judged individually.

Photos can include the entire organism or a specific part, although it is usually advisable to include the whole.

Our particular competition is restricted to the use of the photographic process to depict observations from all branches of natural history from the animal and plant world (except as below) in such a fashion that a well informed person will be able to identify the subject material and to certify to its honest presentation.

Subjects must be living free and unrestricted in their natural (or adopted) habitats. Human elements should not be present except on the rare occasion where human elements enhance the nature story, the presence of scientific bands on wild animals is acceptable, or when an animal such as a barn owl or a fox has adapted to an environment modified by humans.

Titles for nature pictures should be the correct common name and/or the Latin name of the organism, with perhaps a description of what it is doing e.g. "Golden Eagle devouring prey"; "cute" titles are not appropriate.

Any digital or other manipulation to the original image should be restricted to minor retouching of blemishes and must not alter the content of the original scene.

Excluded subjects (but see Record Competition) - anthropology, archaeology, geology (e.g. rock formations), and astronomy, domestic, zoo and farm animals, animals in captivity. Cultivated plants and vegetables, artificially produced hybrid plants or animals, mounted specimens, or obviously set arrangements.

In satisfying the above requirements, the accurate record of the subject is the prime requirement. Artistic skill in the photograph is important only if it does not adversely affect the accurate recording of the object in question.

Record Trophies (Prints & Projected Images)

The entrant is required to enter 4 prints and/or 4 projected images (do not mix slides and digital for this competition) which are related but are each judged individually and are not required to be “hung together” as a cohesive panel (see President’s Cup). The entrant can, if he wishes, decide on a specific order in which they are shown, for example if there is a story telling element to the pictures, but there is no specific requirement for them to be mounted similarly.

The subject(s) can be any object or event (but see exclusions below) photographed in such a way as to illustrate the subject in as informative a manner as possible in that the accurate record of the subject is the prime requirement. The emphasis is on the technical ability of the photographer, sharpness and correct exposure with detail in both shadows and highlights are paramount, whilst artistic skill or interpretation is important only if it does not adversely affect the accurate recording of the object in question.

Picture titles should be descriptive and factual but not “cute”.

Excluded - natural history subjects, as defined above.

Included here therefore, are subjects excluded from Natural History (see above).

Any digital or other manipulation to the original image is restricted to minor retouching of blemishes and must not alter the content of the original scene.

Portrait Trophies (Prints and Projected Images)

Members can enter up to 4 prints and/or 4 projected images, which are judged individually.

Subjects must be human, and there can be one or more people.

The aim is to reveal something of the nature, character and expression of the subject. Subjects can be posed or un-posed (candid), the eyes (or eye if a profile) of at least one person must be visible, but they do not necessarily need to be looking at the camera, nor do they need to be open. Shots can be taken either in a studio, on the street or in the environment with which the person is associated. The subject or subjects must be the main focal point in the frame and can be full length or head and shoulders.

Best Pictorial Print (R G Lewis Cup) and Projected Image (Wace Cup)

Members can enter up to 4 prints (RG Lewis Cup) and 4 projected images (Wace Cup) on any subject, which are judged individually.

The emphasis is on photographs where the artistic ideas and creativity take precedence. Pictures may be impressionistic, using light or back light, for form, modelling, atmosphere, mood etc. The aim is more to convey ideas or feelings about the subject, its mood or atmosphere, than the mere recording of the subject. Special techniques or effects, digital, darkroom, or in camera (e.g. use of special lenses/filters) can be helpful in creating a picture.

President’s Cup

Members are required to enter a Panel of 4 prints on any subject.

The idea is that the pictures are shown (hung) together on the wall/lightbox so that they suggest a complete unit and have balance, harmony and symmetry. To achieve this they could be arranged in 4 vertical, 4 horizontal, or two of each, and it is suggested they are all mounted similarly and are the same size. Density, background, and colours should balance each other.