



Oscailt

IPF Newsletter - February 2016

A cháirde,

Beannachtaí an earraigh oraibh go léir!

Over the past week or two as I've been writing this month's introduction, I had looked out the window to see snow, sleet, rain, hail, gales and as I finish off today, sunshine! With the naming of Atlantic Storms this year, it seems we have set a challenge to Mother Nature to try to complete a cycle through the alphabet as quickly as possible. Has there been a higher number of storms this winter? Or are they just more noticeable because we are naming them?



One other thing I am noticing as I've been peering out the window, is that the days are now noticeably longer! We are making the climb out of winter it seems, and the light is gorgeous! This afternoon I'm gazing out at a spectacular view across the Lee Valley to the north, and across into Kerry to the North west, with the Paps bathed in warm low light which has spilled across the foreground painting long shadows across the land. I need to get my work done quickly and get out with my camera.

Springtime has a rejuvenating effect on our photography it seems, just like it has on the natural world. We photographers don't quite hibernate for the winter, but some of us do slow down and become less active. Especially in our

personal work. The professionals among us still have to deliver and be prolific over the dark winter lull, but inner hobbyist definitely becomes more alert as the light returns. Especially the outdoor oriented of us. There is more time to create after we finish with work or other obligations due to the stretch in the late afternoon. Opportunities abound, and yes - Photography is more alive.

As we feel the awakening of our internal creative animals, we also become hungry for inspiration! Absolutely ravenous for it! And inspiration is something that we have in huge supply at this time of year! We are now rounding the last bend of the Club year and heading into the final straight, with the finish line for most clubs well in sight. And what a final straight it is! We recently saw the exceptional work on display from all over the world at The Tallaght Salon Exhibition, and coming up this month we have the Cork Salon Exhibition. A little bird told me that there is a massive event planned. Check out the flyer below!

Between now and May the club year reaches a climax of astronomical proportions between the Photographer of The Year Competitions and The National Club Championships! This month we see the zenith of individual photographic competition as the IPF Photographer of The Year and the Nature Photographer of The Year competitions come to a conclusion over the same weekend in Kilkenny! This is a great weekend every year, and this year promises to be even better! World class photography will be the order of the weekend, along with the opportunity to stay in an amazing city and catch up with the rest of the IPF fraternity. The atmosphere at this event is always electric! Throw into the mix the opportunity to chat with the world-class judges, and to discuss photography with the cream of Irish Photography and you have a veritable H-Bomb of inspirational energy! You will find inspiration when you seek it! Get out and soak it up! To be a great photographer one needs to be motivated and inspired. Motivation and inspiration go hand in hand. The inspiration is there for you if you seek it, as I said, but if you keep looking in the same familiar places then you won't stay motivated! I for one always come away from the IPF competition weekends buzzing with creative energy! These events are not to be missed!

Until I see you at the Photographer of The Year weekend, I will leave you with a quote that sums it up nicely for me. In the words of the outstanding Artist & Photographer Morgan O'Neill:

"My ambition as a photographer is never to get fed up!!!"

Michael O'Sullivan FIPF FRPS, IPF President

Calendar of Events

Event	Date	Venue
IPF Photographer of the Year Final	Sat, Feb 20th 2016	Newpark Hotel, Kilkenny
IPF Nature Photographer of the Year Final	Sun, Feb 21st 2016	Newpark Hotel, Kilkenny
IPF Distinctions Sitting	Sat, March 5th 2016	Dunamaise Arts Centre, Portlaoise
IPF National Club Championships	Weekend, May 14-15th 2016	County Buildings, Mullingar
IPF Distinctions Sitting	Sat, May 14th 2016	Mullingar Arts Centre

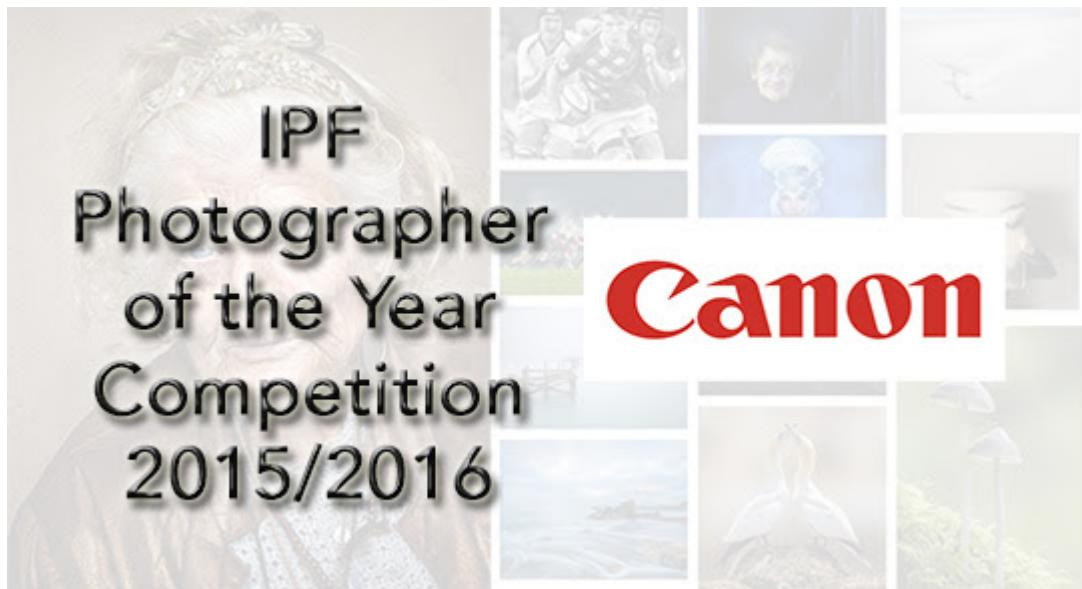
Who Will Claim the IPF Individual Titles This Year?!

The number one weekend in individual competitions for our photographers this year is rapidly approaching with the national finals of our Photographer of the Year and Nature Photographer of the Year competitions taking place over the weekend of February 20th/21st.

Who will be going home with the silverware this year?!

We're full details below and hope to see many make a weekend of it and join us for dinner on Saturday night.

Join your photography friends for a first-class dinner at the renowned Newpark Hotel, one of Kilkenny's finest and avail of the opportunity to chat to four judges who are among the most highly regarded internationally. Not to be missed!



IPF Photographer of the Year National Finals 2015/2016

With all the regional rounds completed, we now look forward to the national finals of the 2015/2016 IPF Photographer of the Year Competition in association with Canon.

The finals take place on Saturday February 20th at the Newpark Hotel in Kilkenny. The finals of the IPF Nature Photographer of the Year Competition in association with Mahers Photographic take place the following day, so why not make a weekend of it, join us for dinner and spend some time in a great city.

The selection on the right shows just some of the awards winners from last year's competition - click through on the image to see more!

[Full details, dinner booking and schedule](#)
[are all available over on our website.](#)





IPF Nature Photographer of the Year National Finals 2015/2016

We also now look forward to the national finals of the 2015/2016 IPF Nature Photographer of the Year Competition in association with Mahers Photographic which take place on Sunday February 21st at the Newpark Hotel in Kilkenny.

The finals of the IPF Photographer of the Year Competition in association with Canon take place the previous day, will you be joining us for both and catching up with old friends?



The images on the left are among the award winners last year. Click through on the image to see all last years images and get ready to enjoy even more this year!

[Full details, dinner booking and schedule are all available over on our website.](#)

IPF Distinctions Service Update

[Images of Distinction - Volume Three](#)

Once again, 2016 will see the IPF produce the latest version of its now well-established DVD, "Images of Distinction". Heading into Volume 3, we are proud to look back at the wonderful images that made up Volumes 1 and 2. These images have showcased the quality and variety of photography throughout the IPF.

To be included in the DVD, you must be a currently paid up distinction holder. You can now renew online via our website each year.

We look forward to welcoming images from last years record numbers of new distinction holders and to welcome new images from existing distinction holders.

The IPF web page for DVD images will be available shortly. Please send us one of your very best images for inclusion on the new disc. Images should be in jpg format, quality 10 and sized to 2400 pixels on the longest edge.

Volume 3 will be launched on May 14th at the Mullingar Distinctions Session and we look forward to presenting all participants in the project & paid up distinction holders with a complimentary copy of the DVD at the Launch, or shortly after.

Deadline for submission to this project is March 25th 2016.

Don't miss out! If you need to update your contact details - please get in touch via our website!

Availability

Our March and May sittings are both fully booked for Licentiatehip and Associateship applications.

We are still accepting applications for Fellowships for the May sitting only. The March sitting caters for Licentiatehip and Associateship levels only and is an additional session for 2016 to cater for growing demand.

The September session will be held in Dublin at a venue yet to be confirmed. Places at this session will go on sale once the March session has been completed.

In November, we return to the Institute of Technology in Thurles and their great hospitality. Bookings for this session will go on sale after the conclusion of the May session.

Annual Fees

Please note that annual fees for distinction holders are due from January 1st each year. These may be paid now [over on our website](#). Lifetime distinction fee option will also be available from January 1st at the fantastic rate of only €400.

Focusing on: Raheny Camera Club



Q: When was Raheny Camera Club founded?

A: Raheny Camera Club was founded in July 2015. Edel, Stacey, Cheryl and myself are Scout Leaders and the three girls suggested we should start a Camera Club to me while standing on Dollymount beach on our last Beaver Outing. I asked Kieran to join us for a meeting as he was in Malahide Camera Club. We put the word out on our Facebook pages and had our first meeting in the Raheny United Football Club on Monday, 15th of September. About 25 people turned up.

Q: How many members do you have?

A: Our membership this year (2015-2016) is currently at 44.

Q: When and where do you meet?

A: We meet every Monday night (30 nights a year) in the Raheny United Football Club at 8 o'clock.

Q: Any notable events? (exhibitions / workshops etc)

A: For most of us including myself this is the first time in a camera club. Half way through the year we decided to join the IPF.

Back in November we entered our first Shield competition and thought it a fabulous event and was amazed at the quality of the photography. I think all those who entered and attended got a lot from it.

We have had two outings to the Grand Canal Basin which have proved to be popular and produced beautiful photographs.

Q: You are only in your second year, what was your first year like?

A: It was and still is a learning curve. We "copied" what we could from our members experience of other clubs. It has been fun, we had quite a few

speakers from Vincent O'Byrne, Barry McColl, Tom Lawlor, Gerry Kerr, Mark Sedgwick, Peter Gordon, Steve Crozier, Alan Betson, Eimhaer Collins and Michelle La Grue.

Q: Any member have any significant achievements or milestones recently?

A: We have had a few successes in our first year. Liz Stowe was featured winner in [Flora & Fauna Photography Show](#) which was exhibited at Photoville in New York.

Liz Stowe won the “Huawei Snappys 2015 Instagram Awards: Family Category”.

We got a first and second place in the “Michael Edwards Photography Inter Club, Photograph of the Year”. Billy White got first and seventh place and Jane McCabe Hughes got second place.

Ronnie Norton is a long time member of camera clubs and past President of the IPPA.

Q: What do you attribute your success to?

A: Our membership has a good mix of men and women from 30 year old plus. There is a great cross pollination of people who know one another because of the Scouts, the school yard, from the area or other clubs.

Q: What was the best outing/talk/club night in last 12 months?

A : It is hard to call, we had two newspaper photographers, a fashion photographer, a landscape photographer, travel photography, butterflies and droplets. This gave us a very wide range in our first year.

Q: If another camera club came to Raheny where are the best kept secrets that they should photograph?

A: St. Anne's Park which includes The Rose Garden and Dollymount Beach.

Q: What is the aspect of your group that makes it so special?

A. We are a local club, most people know each other from school, the kids school run, the Scouts a golf club. A lot of novices to start, so their photography is growing together which you can see at each judging.

Q: If you could ask the IPF to improve on one thing, what would that be?

A: A list of Speakers and Judges. A template of a year timetable, making classes for the Novice Photographer.

FIAP Update

Closing Date

As previously announced, the closing date for Irish applications for FIAP distinctions has moved to February 28th this year as increasing demand for this service requires a longer timeframe for

processing applications. Anyone considering applying for a distinction should contact FIAP Liaison Officer Paul Stanley via the IPF site to confirm their intentions and receive instructions. All intending applicants should also register their application and pay the associated fee over on [IPF website](#).

MFIAP Applications

The closing date for 2016 MFIAP applications has now passed. For anyone considering a 2017 MFIAP application, please get in touch with Paul for guidance.

- Paul Stanley, IPF FIAP Liaison Officer



Club Affiliation Fees for 2016

Our Treasurer Brian reminds you that annual club affiliation fees were due as and from January 1st 2016. We've put in place a shiny new form with integrated payment facility over on our website on the [club affiliation page](#). Please note every club MUST fill out this form every year to help us keep our club contacts up to date!

Clubs who have not renewed by the end of January will not be eligible to compete or have their members compete and will also not be eligible for 50% preferential rate for distinction applications for their members.

For SACC clubs, please note that the same process and same form applies, but payment & information is collected via the SACC website. Note that SACC clubs pay both the IPF Affiliation Fee and the Region Fee as a single payment.

- Brian Deering, IPF Treasurer

Cork Salon - Exhibition & Awards!



3rd Cork International Salon of Photography Exhibition Event 2016

Saturday February 27th
at Rochestown Park Hotel, Cork

Featuring Guest Speakers, Workshops
Trade Stands, Exhibition, Awards & Gala Dinner!

FREE entry to exhibition and trade show!

www.corkcameragroup.net

Cork Camera Group have released details for the exhibition event of the 3rd Cork International Salon of Photography and it looks great!

With no fewer than five guest speakers covering a range of genres including astrophotography, music, iphoneography and others to be confirmed plus workshops and a trade show, it looks like a great day out.

And that's not even taking into account the exhibition itself featuring stunning photography around the world, plus the awards ceremony and a fantastic gala dinner planned.

So.. see you in Cork on February 27th 2016!!

More information can be found at <http://www.corkcameragroup.net>

Follow Cork Salon on their [Facebook page](#) to keep up to date.

In the Spotlight: Paul Reidy

Q: When did you take up photography?

A: The exact time I'm not sure! But I have always been interested in

photography.

Q: What persuaded you to take up photography?

A: I was always interested in sports, especially hurling/football/athletics. So when I stopped playing I took up photography. I started by buying photography magazines like Amateur Photographer & Practical Photographer, eventually gaining confidence to submit to these magazines!



Q: Which club are you a member of?

A: Chairman of Blarney Photography Club

Q: Do you have any IPF / FIAP / RPS etc distinctions?

A: Yes! I have gained my AFIAP and LIPF, right now I'm at the early stages of planning my AIPF.



Q: Can you tell us about your relationship with photography - when did it start?-

A: Relationship with photography? What does that mean! All I know is I have always believed that I had an eye for a good image. After reading many

magazines and trying different styles, I began my sports photography journey by turning up at local GAA and Soccer games and started a small freelance business by supplying images to local papers and free sheets. During that time I was a member of the Naval Reserve and we were given the chance to be in *Braveheart* the movie which was partially filmed in the Curragh. The money I saved from that I brought better camera gear and started to take things a little more serious by supplying images of sports to local and regional papers. Eventually I got a full time job with a local newspaper in East Cork. This was a great experience and it opened opportunities for me.

In 2004 I won the McNamee Award for GAA photography, beating more established groups like INFO and Sportsfile. This was my first big award, as only 1 each year was presented for photography. After that I freelanced for a while but eventually gave up full time photography because of burn out. I'm back just over 3 years now and enjoying taking photographs again.

Q: First camera? First DSLR?

A: My first film based cameras were based around what I could afford at the time, I used the old Canon 600 and 620 bodies that were way ahead of their time, 5fps was perfect for sports. I also had an old Praticka camera with an auto winder that would wake up the dead, and upset actor Liam Neeson

during the press call for Michael Collins after I snuck in pretending to be a staff photographer! My first DSLR which I still use is a Canon 7D.

Q: Are there photographers you are influenced by?

A: I have always admired war photography, the likes Larry Burrows etc. This was influenced by my dad who loved history. My grandfather was on Spike Island doing guard duty when the DeValera drove past during the handing over of the Forth, so it was a chip off the old solider (LOL) I think.

When the Gulf war broke out I applied to Associate Press to volunteer as a press photographer! My family thought I was nuts and had a death wish!



Q: What was the background to your most successful image?

A: I'm lucky to have a few images that have picked up awards both here and in international salons. But if I have to be honest the image called 'OLD WAL' has done very well for me, winning RPS and FIAP Gold medals, along with SACC Best Image award.

Q: Your own favourite image?

A: I have tons! Lots of 'wish I had taken those shots'. I would have loved to be in New York during 9/11, and that striking image of the priest being taken out from one of the damaged buildings stands out as an image that tells a story. Others like the D-Day landings were amazing considering what the photographer had to go through to get the shots. On the home front images from our press photographers that tell u that story in one picture. We have some of the very best press photographers in the world. Then on a personal level images that capture a moment with my children and family that you can't get again but bring back great memories from a special time. I have always said that it's so important to document family life through photographs, because you might not get the chance again. I suppose you can relate this also to general photography. Capture the moment before it's lost.

Q: What genre of photography best describes your photography or are you a general interest photographer?

A: Right now I'm going through a phase of creative portraits, composites, fine art nudes etc



Q: Canon or Nikon or Fuji or Sony ?

A: If I'm honest I have always loved Canon cameras. During the press days I worked with some excellent Nikon cameras and lens, but it always comes back to Canon!

Q: Would you recommend joining a camera club? Why? What have you got out of it?

A: Yes I would hugely recommend joining. When I joined Blarney it gave me back the mojo I missed when I gave up photography. I remember what Fergal O'Callaghan told me on my first club night in Blarney equipped with just a camera phone, "we'll get you back taking good photographs again" I have always remembered and appreciated that, hence why I rate Blarney as one of the best in the country. They look after everyone and all levels.

Q: What does photography mean to you?

A: Great question! I find photography very therapeutic, a great way to get lost in your own Narnia when creating composites or coming up with ideas. You can let your imagination run riot, also I love competitions, and I am fiercely competitive, no matter what competition I am in. I'm very lucky to have a hugely supportive family at home (Debs, Ben & Aimee) that help me with ideas or drag me a peg or two back when I sulk over a result going wrong! I am lucky to have met some great people, not the Liam Neasons, or Mary McAleese's of this world but the likes of Wally O'Hara (OLD WAL) 80 plus years old and still has a sparkle in his eye, the people I'm lucky to meet at the club each Thursday night or the laughs we have at competitions. I believe we're one of the few clubs that actually laugh at competitions lol. Also I get great satisfaction in helping someone with their photography.



Q: What is your photographic dream?

A: I have a dream!! Sorry Martin! I always had one, but now I have 2 or 3ish!

1 ... to be given the best Canon gear and be let loose in a game like the World Cup final or the Olympics and see what I could produce against the best there is. Croke Park is the closest I have got so far!

2 ... to become a competitions judge.

3 ... to be given an assignment to travel and document different cultures.

Failing all this maybe an IPF medal would be nice!!

Thank you for this opportunity, I really appreciate the thought. We have some fantastic club photographers in Ireland. And what you're doing at IPF level and regional level is of huge support. Keep up the great work even though it might not always be said.

Top Tips for Photographing Abandoned Houses - Morgan O'Neill FIPF EFIAP/s

We're back with Morgan O'Neill this month to complete his top tips and share some more spooky stories about photography in old houses! Morgan holds a

fellowship with the IPF for a panel of images on this subject and we can't wait to read the conclusion to his article this month!

Following from my last piece, this month I will give my thoughts on health and safety, camera settings, focusing and other little bits and pieces.

Entering an old derelict house does give you that uncertainty, the wonder of what's ahead, the excitement and the adrenaline starts to flow. It's so funny, even though the house would be half tumbled down, my good friend Anthony Byrne and myself would shout "Hello ... how's it going ?" We would then invite ourselves in. We never really thought of what we would have done if someone replied to us "not to bad.. how's yourselves?"

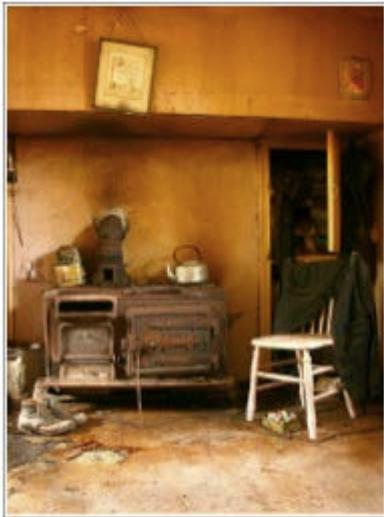
Inside the House

When you first enter these houses you will usually find they are a total mess, it may all look confusing, you may even think that it would be impossible to get any shots at all. First thing to consider is health and safety. My profession at the time as Carpenter/builder, gave me a vast knowledge of the construction of a house and specialising in renovations gave me plenty of experience about the dangers of run down houses. Always be cautious where you put your foot, walk carefully around the house testing flooring, making sure there is no spring or movement, if you feel unsure, don't take a chance! And most of all, take extra care walking up a stairs for fear they may be rotten. Last three important things, make sure you explore with a fellow photographer, carry a flash light and carry Sanitiser as a disinfecter for your hands. And of course if you do happen to see a ghost, don't run!!! Walk.. It's a lot safer!!!



Find and Compose your Image

As I said earlier, when you enter the house things look a right mess. My approach to this was to look at the smaller picture rather than the big picture. Look for a section that you feel tells a story about the people that lived there, have patience, it often took me hours to find just two decent shots. Move an item if it makes the composition stronger, keeping the rule of thirds in mind at all times. Personally I liked to try and keep things as I feel they were left, because my challenge was to document our heritage, so in



years to come when these houses are well gone, people may have some idea of the way our ancestors lived.

Camera Settings

When I first began taking shots of the houses I used flash, after a short while I realised the finished image didn't have the atmosphere I was looking for. I stopped using flash and using my tripod started experimenting with long exposures. The results were getting better. I set the camera at Aperture priority, usually F16, the lowest iso, which gave me anything from 10 to 30 seconds. But I was still coming across problems. Stray light from a small window, a crack in the wall, a crack in a door, often spoilt a good image because of the over exposure it caused. So my trial and error thought me to go taking these images on cloudy days, not giving the sun rays a chance to ruin your shot. In Ireland this will only give you 362 days to choose from!!!!!! To balance the light out more I decided to block up the windows with newspapers using blu tack and masking tape. This softened the light and really worked at balancing the exposure of my images.



As I was blocking out most of the light I had to use longer exposures, so my new settings changed to the Bulb mode. One thing I noticed was the darker the house the more atmosphere and colour in the image. Shooting images in a dark room gave another problem, autofocus. I solved this simply by shining a flashlight at a point until I heard the bleep of the focus and then press the back button focus button. I would start with about 60 seconds, turn off the remote switch, check the image. If it was too dark I would start over again and try a longer exposure and so on until I felt I was happy with the image on the back of the camera. Another style of photography that's interesting in these derelict houses is macro, finding those close up images. My very good friend Anthony Byrne and myself photographed these interiors over a spell of

five years. Anthony went for the more close up images and got some great results and some fabulous detail, coming to the point that you don't have to stick to the big image.



Funny Noises

There is always that sense of spookiness, I went into the house, on the left, by myself. This was one of only two shots I got, I had the third shot set up for a 30 second exposure and before that 30 seconds was up, there was the coldest weirdest shiver ran up my

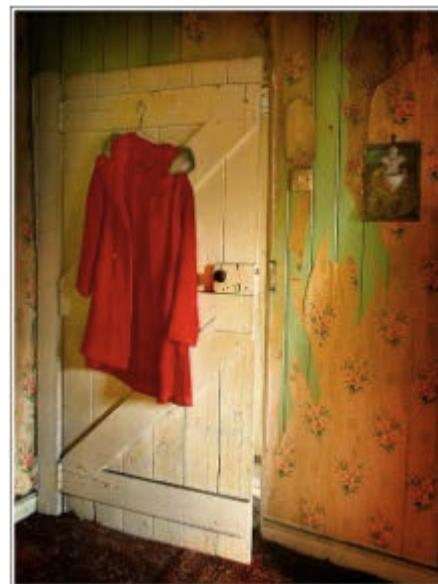
back, the hairs stood on the back of my neck, I caught the leg of the tripod and ran out that door as if something was chasing me, I have shivers at this moment thinking of it, and never even felt the pain of the tripod jamming my fingers with the fright!!!! I don't know if it was in my mind or what, but I will never forget that moment.

Another occasion, I was in a house with Anthony. I spotted this shot, a white door with a red coat hanging on the back of it. Anthony was down stairs taking his images. I set up my camera and tripod, blocking the window with paper making it a bit darker. We had a bit of a code if we were doing a long exposure saying to the other in a slightly raised voice "I'm cooking" so we wouldn't walk in and spoil the shot. I set up my shot and pressed the remote and I heard Anthony walking outside the door, so of course I lightly called out "Cooking Ant". When I finished my shot I called to Anthony telling him he could come in ... there was no reply. I opened the door, not finding him outside, I shouted down to him, asking him what he wanted. He looked at me very confused, explaining that he wasn't upstairs outside the door at all. I did hear walking outside that door!!!!!!

I am so honoured to be giving the opportunity to write about my derelict houses, can I just say this was my approach towards getting the images, I am not saying it is the correct way, I understand that someone will have different settings, different attitudes towards it. All I can say is that I had the most enjoyable, fabulous few years of photographing these houses and that I learned so much about light and exposures.

Thanks for reading my article and I hope you got something from it, even if it was just a little smile.

My ambition as a photographer is never to get fed up!!!



Who's Who on IPF Council

This month, we say hello to Darragh Sherwin. Darragh is our current National Co-Ordinator for the IPF Club Championships and has held many roles on Council over the years!



"My earliest memories of photography are of my father; he was always tinkering with a Rolleiflex when we went to the seaside. I would gaze through the viewfinder and focus in on just one part of the world, and be completely mesmerised.

Forward on a few decades, my partner Paula became interested in photography and dragging me for lengthy walks to carry her handbag! I quickly replaced the handbag with my own camera(!), a Canon 350D. Within a year or two I joined my local camera club and submitted my LIPF..

In 2009, together with a few like-minded photographers from south Dublin, I founded OffShoot Photographic Society which has been hugely successful.

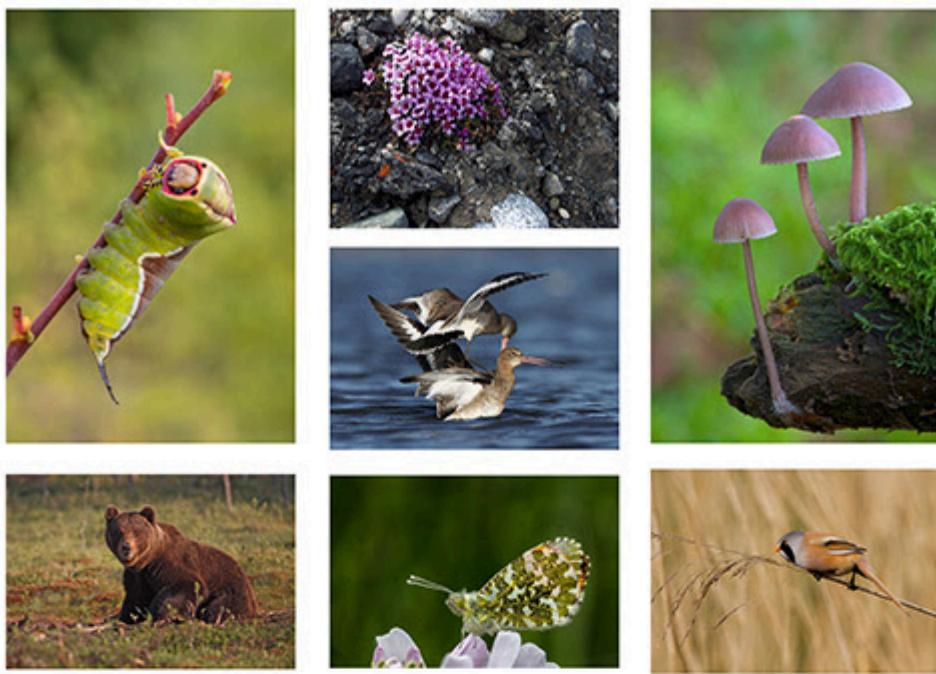
During the growth of OffShoot, I managed to get cajoled into the Dublin IPF regional committee and once there, my name had come up on Sean Casey's radar. Sean took a while to convince me to join the IPF council but it didn't take too long to persuade me.

Following a year working abroad, I wanted to join a more competitive club and Tallaght looked like it would fit the bill. It's a great club, with a lot of really friendly and creative people.

I'm a bit of a jack-of-all-trades (master of none!) on the Council, I have had the jobs of National Shield Coordinator, Webmaster and Public Relations Officer before finally settling with Club Championship Coordinator for the last few years - which has been absolutely amazing. I get to see outstanding work from all over the country, talk to wonderfully talented judges about photography and hopefully learned a few things along the way.

Last year, I helped out with the running of the Tallaght Salon behind the scenes and got to see so much incredible work from all over the world. John Byrne has been doing trojan work running the salon for many years. He decided to step back and put the word out looking for a new chairperson. So I got bitten by the committee bug again and decided to chair the Salon this year. It is a monstrous challenge and one I am both fearing and looking forward to. The committee is a great bunch, hardworking and good craic too, so it will make it an enjoyable challenge. I hope you will show your support by entering the salon this year!"

IPF Nature Group - Midlands Workshop



**Irish Photographic Federation
Nature Group Present**



Nature Photography Workshop

Saturday February 6th 2016
Radisson Blu Hotel, Athlone, Co. Westmeath

Topics include Flora, Fauna, Fungi, Bird and Insect
Photography with experienced speakers:

Bill Power FIPF AFIAP
Jack Malins ARPS
John Fox
Malcolm Mc Camley AIPF

Entry fee is €20 for IPF Nature Group members
€35 for non-members

Full details on www.irishphoto.ie

The IPF Nature Group are delighted to announce its latest nature photography workshop is scheduled for Saturday, 6th February, 2016 in the Radisson Blu Hotel, Northgate Street, Athlone from 10.00 until 16.00. There will be four

experienced presenters, Jack Malins ARPS, Bill Power FIPF AFIAP, John Fox and Malcolm McCamley AIPF, and the topics covered will include all aspects of Bird, Flora, Fungi, Insect and Mammal photography. The workshop will be suitable for all levels of experience.

This workshop is now fully booked. It is the Nature Group's intention to arrange similar workshops in other regions in the near future.

IPF Nature Group members are advised that annual membership can be paid now [on this page](#).

Images of Starlight Exhibition



"The Elephant's Trunk Deep Sky" by Brendan Kinch

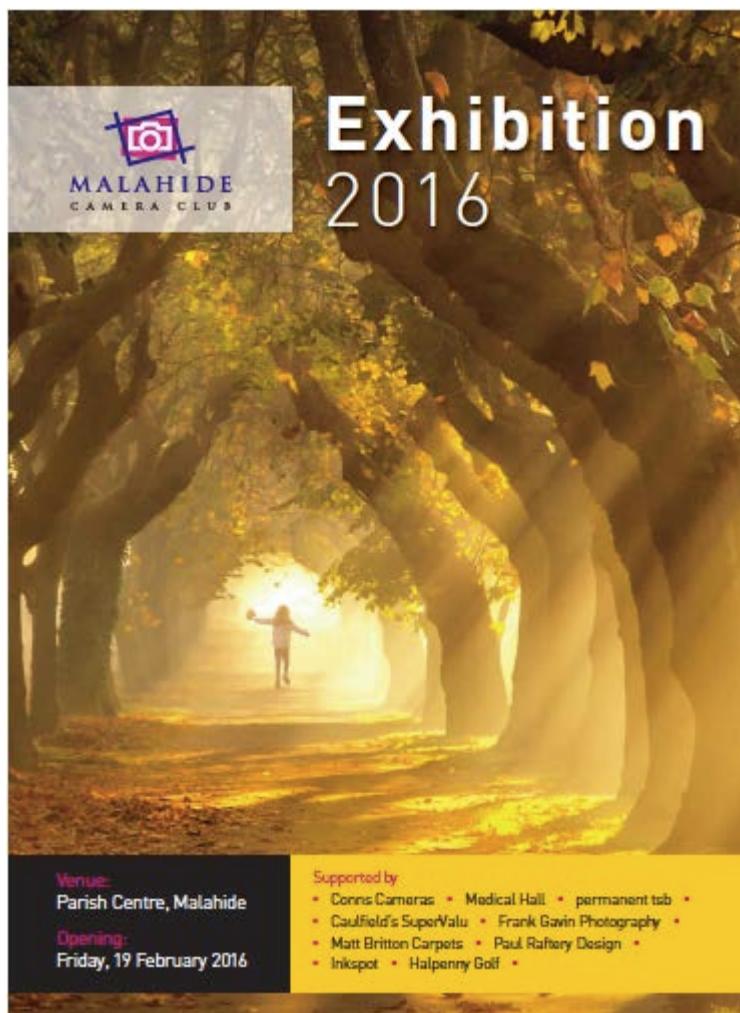
Stunning views of the universe will be unveiled by Leo Enright, space commentator and broadcaster, at an upcoming exhibition by Irish amateur astronomers and photographers. They will showcase their images of scenic starlit landscapes, stars, nebulas and other deep-sky objects. Most are photographed from their own back gardens. The unusual exhibition "Images of Starlight" is a celebration of the wonders and beauty of nature and its running from February 2nd to 21st, 2016 at the National Botanic Gardens, Glasnevin, Dublin. It's an opportunity to see many intriguing photographs of the solar system, our galaxy the Milky Way and other galaxies. The light from many of the objects photographed has taken millions of years to get here and visitors can see up close these strange objects that cross over their back gardens at night.

The images will include what is believed to be the highest resolution mosaic image of a constellation ever taken and will also feature Irish winners of the International Astronomy Photographer of the Year competition. The exhibition will also display the equipment used for viewing and imaging the night sky, including binoculars, telescopes and cameras. Guides on imaging the night sky with standard DSLR cameras will be available together with information on your local astronomy club. In Ireland there is a very active community of amateur astronomers. This free event is organised by the Dublin-based Irish Astronomical Society (IAS) and the Irish Federation of Astronomical Societies (IFAS) and they wish to acknowledge the help and assistance given by Canon Ireland, the OPW and the Botanic Gardens.

[Irish Astronomical Society Website](#)

[The Irish Federation of Astronomical Societies](#)

Malahide Camera Club Annual Exhibition



Malahide Camera Club holds its annual exhibition at Parish Pastoral Centre, Main St., Malahide, commencing on Friday, 19th February.

Councillor Anthony Lavin, on behalf of the Mayor of Fingal, will officially open the exhibition on Friday 19th February, at 8pm.

A total of 141 images will be exhibited, displaying a variety of genres of photography. The exhibition will run for two weeks, from 19th February to 4th March.

Robert Thompson Tour Report from SACC Region

The SACC was delighted to host a series of talks by renowned nature photographer Robert Thompson earlier this month with Cork, Kilkenny and Shannon camera clubs hosting the lectures.

Robert's knowledge, professionalism, and attention to details were a revelation. He generously shared his knowledge and experience of nature photography and left members with much to think about and to practice in their photography.

Sincere thanks from the organising committee at the SACC to Robert for this fantastic series of talks. Full article over on [SACC website](#).

To have a look at Robert's work, please visit his website:
www.robertthompsonphotography.com

IPF AV Group Update

The Northern Ireland Photographic Association's Audio Visual Championships 2016 will be held Friday, 19th & Saturday, 20th February at the Courtyard Theatre, Ballyearl, Newtownabbey and the judge will be Howard Bagshaw, ARPS. This year entries are invited from members of IPF clubs/societies to enter the All Ireland section. This year the winning entry in the IPF AV Championships, 2015, "A Journey of the Soul" by Rita Nolan, LIPF, from Celbridge Camera Club will go into "battle" at the end of the championships with the winner of NIPF AV2016. We wish Rita Nolan all the best in the "friendly" battle and she will have supporters from Celbridge Camera Club and others cheering her on.

On a sad note, one of the judges at IPF AV2015, Maggie Imhoff passed away on 5th January. Our thoughts and prayers are with her husband, Malcolm, who also judged IPF AV2015. Her funeral takes place on 5th February in England. Also known to the AV community, Howard Gregory died on 14th January and his advice on anything to do with sound, would have been appreciated by us here. Our condolences to Howard's family and friends.

AV workshops continue at the Salesian College, Maynooth Road, Celbridge on 2nd Saturday of every month and at present attendees come from areas from the North of Ireland to Enniscorthy and all places in between. Shannon Camera Club will be starting another round of workshops shortly. Finally, all AV workers need to have a licence in order to show their sequences for non profit making purposes - the IPF having a group licence with MCPS (Ireland) Ltd. And of course, if you have distinctions in AV - you also need to pay your distinctions fees

- Lilian Webb

AV Success for Celbridge Camera Club



Pictured above are Celbridge Camera Club members who were involved in competing and winning of the many trophies on display here from the IPF AV National Championships, 2015.

L-R: Pat Collins, Liam O'Reilly, Cliff Hutchinson, Lilian Webb, Bridie Maughan, Rita Nolan, Brendan O'Sullivan and Dallas Camier. The trophies are for best club, best humour (Lilian Webb), and best sound production and best overall (Rita Nolan).

Congratulations all!

Paul Keene Lecture Tour Details

The Irish Photographic Federation Proudly Present



Paul Keene
FRPS MPAGB EFIAP/p MFIAP

"From Here to Eternity"

An Audio Visual presentation featuring Paul's stunning photography across a wide range of subject matter



Feb 22nd: Kilkenny

Feb 23rd: Cork

Feb 24th: Drogheda

For full details, please see IPF website

www.irishphoto.ie

The IPF are delighted to announce that Paul Keene FRPS, MPAGB, EFIAP/p, MFIAP who is visiting Ireland in February as part of the judging panel for IPF Photographer of the Year and IPF Nature Photographer of the Year Competitions will be conducting a lecture tour following the competitions.

Paul will be visiting Kilkenny Photographic Society, Cork Camera Group and Drogheda Photographic Club to present his AV show entitled "From Here to Eternity". The show covers a wide range of photography set to popular music. It starts with a few relatively simple AVs of a familiar subjects before moving to more remote locations like Australia and Tibet, and ending with a creative AV that is literally out of this World covering "Life, the Universe, and Everything".

Certainly there will be something for everyone to enjoy and we highly recommend that you make the effort to attend one of these presentations.

- Monday February 22nd: 8pm @ The Pembroke Hotel, Kilkenny in association with [Kilkenny Photographic Society](#)
- Tuesday February 23rd: 7.30pm @ 36 St. Patrick's Quay, Cork City in association with [Cork Camera Group](#)
- Wednesday February 24th: 8.15pm @ [Drogheda Photographic Club](#), Millmount Square, Drogheda, Co.Louth

Non members are welcome at all venues. There may be a cover charge so please check with each club for details and to let them know if members of your club will be joining them so they can accommodate extra seating.

For further information, please [refer to website](#).

Got News?

Have news for us?! Great! Send it in!
Suggestions for future editions also most welcome!

Get in touch via Contact Page on our [website](#) and select "Newsletter" to send your message!

In Our Next Issue..

Next month, we'll be reporting back on what we hope will be another great weekend in Irish photography as the national finals of both our competitions for individual photographers take place.

Share the News

Please feel free to share this newsletter with anyone you feel may be interested and encourage your club members to subscribe via [this link](#).

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Irish Photographic Federation

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