

**Whitley Bay  
Photographic  
Society**

[www.wbphoto.org](http://www.wbphoto.org)

# **WBPS NEWS**

**Whitley Bay Photographic Society Newsletter**



**March 2026**

# Welcome to WBPS News

## IN THIS MONTH'S EDITION

- 1**    *What's been going on*
- 4**    *February's Club Trip*
- 5**    *4 way interclub competition results*
- 6**    *NCPF Club Championship 2026*
- 7**    *PDI round 3 Results*
- 12**   *2025/6 PDI Championship Results*
- 13**   *Keith's Top Tips*
- 14**   *Pictures to Music software advice*
- 15**   *End of Season Competitions explained*
- 17**   *What's on in March 2026*
- 19**   *Club Trips March to August 2026*
- 20**   *Local(ish) Events to photograph in March*
- 21**   *WBPS Social Media Links*

*Cover image- Marden Quarry,  
Whitley Bay*

# What's been going on

## New Member

*A very warm welcome to our new member,*

**Geoff May**

*I hope you enjoy your season with us.*

## Pictures to Music

On Tuesday 3rd February, we held our annual Pictures to Music evening, where nine members shared their images set to music.

Keith Ritson kicked things off with a beautiful collection of butterfly shots.

Andrew followed with a journey from the coast to the Lake District, showing off some crisp winter scenes.

Gary J warmed things up with a sunthemed sequence, reminding us what it actually looks after not seeing it for so long.

Les then took us on a wander through Newcastle city centre, capturing the character of the place perfectly.

Alan Watson brought a change of pace with his fashion photography, featuring a few well-known faces. We finally managed to see Janey's AV after three previous attempts, treating us to a lively look at the Whitley Bay Jazz Festival.

Peter reminded us how much charm lies beyond the M25 with his tour of Holy Island.

Richard followed with Shadows of Whitley Bay, inspired by a club trip to the seafront. The weather didn't deliver any shadows, but instead we got a fascinating view into the Rendezvous Café and the little details around the area.

Alan Clark closed the evening with a moving and very poignant set of pandemic memoirs, reflecting on the final days of the Covid era.

It was a thoroughly enjoyable night.

Thanks to everyone who took part and shared their work.

# **An Evening with Chris Hales & Gillian Williams**

**Chris and Gillian showed their images on Tuesday 10 February.**

**Chris opened with an introduction to his background and his journey into photography, followed by several of his AVs.**

**The first focused on sailing and included a tribute to a late friend. We then visited the Briardene to explore the wildlife found there. Church architecture came next, before we were reminded of the days of Covid through indoor cut- flower images.**

**Chris ended with sunny scenes from Devon and Cornwall.**

**Gillian was unwell and unable to attend, so Chris stepped in to present her images.**

**Gillian has a flair for arts and crafts, and her photographic projects always reflect that creativity.**

**She began with images made from everyday objects found on the street, turning the ordinary into something intriguing.**

**From there, we travelled to Whitby to explore the town — and, of course, the goths.**

**“Around the World in 80 Photographs” took us on a tour of street art and architecture from all over,**

**followed by “Read My Mind”,**

**a set of people and street- photography images all captured in the same location.**

**We finished in Glasgow with 20 striking photographs of the Emirates Arena.**

**It was a thoroughly enjoyable evening, full of variety and imagination.**

**Thank you, Chris and Gillian.**

# **An Evening with Andrew Nicoll, Pat & Alan Porret**

**On Tuesday 24 March, it was Andrew, Pat and Alan's turn to entertain us.**

**The evening opened with Alan and Pat, who introduced us to the Landmark Trust through a beautifully crafted documentary AV showcasing some of their remarkable buildings.**

**We then enjoyed the formal gardens of Cragside, followed by a serene set of early morning images from around the world.**

**Another documentary AV took us to Mount Grace Priory for a fascinating look at this historic site.**

**In true perfectionist style, Pat and Alan even made a special trip to Yorkshire to capture the final four images needed to complete the AV.**

**From there, we shifted gears completely with colourful scenes and masked costumes from the Venice Carnival, before ending their section with striking incamera creative images of autumnal impressions in Canada.**

**Andrew then took us to his beloved Lake District, sharing its fells, lakes, mountains and waterfalls.**

**Scotland followed, with more breathtaking landscapes.**

**And of course, no presentation from Andrew would be complete without waves:  
first at Whitley Bay seafront,  
then at one of his favourite locations, the North Pier at Tynemouth,  
where the waves collided dramatically with the pier.**

**It was a superb evening of photography.**

**Thank you, Alan, Pat and Andrew, for such an enjoyable night.**

# February's Club Trip

Whitley Bay  
Photographic  
Society

*Out & About*

## Seaton Delaval Hall & Seaton Sluice

On Saturday 28<sup>th</sup> February, our monthly club trip took at to Seaton Delaval Hall and Seaton Sluice Harbour. Click on the link to view images from the day.

<https://photos.app.goo.gl/sSSEUqc3WNCDDJep9>

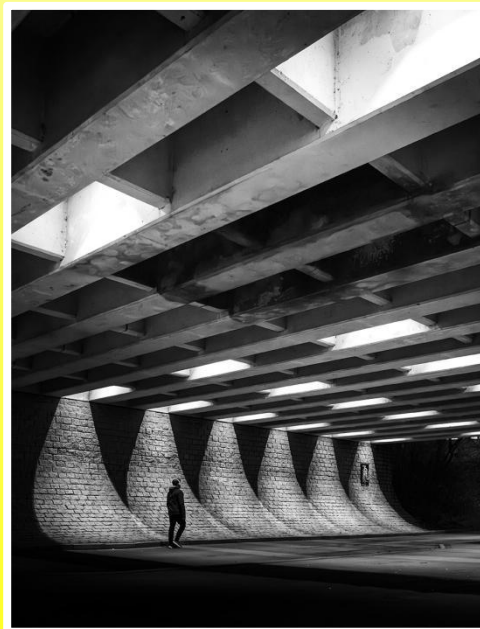
# 4 Way Interclub Competition

11 February 2026

at

## Cambois Camera Club

|                 |   |            |
|-----------------|---|------------|
| 1 <sup>st</sup> | <b>Cambois Camera Club</b>              | <b>272</b> |
| 2 <sup>nd</sup> | <b>Blyth Photographic Society</b>       | <b>263</b> |
| 3 <sup>rd</sup> | <b>Whitley Bay Photographic Society</b> | <b>262</b> |
| 4 <sup>th</sup> | <b>Cramlington Camera Club</b>          | <b>248</b> |



Our top scoring image 30 points - Underpass by Shauna Hogg

There were 3 other images in the competition that got 30 points.

The scores awarded to our entries are shown below.

|                                    |                    |              |
|------------------------------------|--------------------|--------------|
| The Stare                          | Michael Homer      | 22pts        |
| Musician becomes the Invisible Man | Les Smith          | 25pts        |
| <b>The Under Pass</b>              | <b>Shauna Hogg</b> | <b>30pts</b> |
| Briaded                            | Richard Narcross   | 29pts        |
| Light on Manesty Park              | Andrew Nicoll      | 29pts        |
| The Water Horse                    | Michael Hudson     | 24pts        |
| Tight Corner                       | Richard Narcross   | 26pts        |
| Swan Light                         | Michael Hudson     | 27pts        |
| Blue Bell Wood                     | Gary Moffat        | 28pts        |
| The Boat House                     | Yvonne Petitjean   | 22pts        |

# NCPF Club Championship

Clara Vale, Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> February 2026

## PDI Results

### Club Results

1st Keswick PS

2nd Gosforth PS

3rd Richmond PS

Well done to Michael Homer.  
His PDI, "The Stare"  
scored a maximum 15 points.

## Print Results

### Club Results

1st Keswick PS

2nd Saltburn PS

3rd Tynemouth PS

None of our entries  
scored 15 points  
but, 3 prints scored 14 points;

Breaking Waves - Andrew Nicoll  
The Pink Prelude - Gary Moffatt  
Spit and Polish - Gary Jenkins

| 2026 Club Championships PDI |                                    |            |
|-----------------------------|------------------------------------|------------|
| Photographer                | Title                              | Score      |
| Andrew Nicoll               | Light On Manesty Park              | 13         |
| Andrew Nicoll               | Sunshine On The Langdale Pikes     | 12         |
| Chris Hales                 | Feeding Time                       | 11         |
| Chris Hales                 | Floral Dream                       | 12         |
| Richard Narcross            | Tight Corner                       | 13         |
| Richard Narcross            | Pass The Trading Post              | 12         |
| Richard Narcross            | Quiet Journey                      | 11         |
| Richard Narcross            | Heading Home                       | 12         |
| Gary Moffatt                | The Bluebell Wood                  | 12         |
| Shauna Hogg                 | Last To Leave                      | 13         |
| Shauna Hogg                 | Last Train To London               | 13         |
| Shauna Hogg                 | Lensbaby Macro                     | 12         |
| Shauna Hogg                 | The Underpass                      | 11         |
| Les Smith                   | Musician Becomes The Invisible Man | 10         |
| Michael Hudson              | The Water Horse                    | 12         |
| Alan Clark                  | My Feet Are Killing Me             | 13         |
| Yvonne Petitjean            | The Boat House                     | 12         |
| Janey Brownlee              | Sunny Side Up                      | 11         |
| Michael Homer               | The Stare                          | 15         |
| Robert Gibson               | Day Dreaming                       | 11         |
|                             | <b>TOTAL</b>                       | <b>241</b> |
|                             | <b>WBPS came 17th out of 30</b>    |            |

| 2026 Club Championship Prints |                                 |            |
|-------------------------------|---------------------------------|------------|
| Photographer                  | Title                           | Score      |
| Alan Porrett                  | Rain At The Station             | 12         |
| Andrew Nicoll                 | Battle At Cullercoats           | 12         |
| Andrew Nicoll                 | Trouble Coming                  | 11         |
| Andrew Nicoll                 | Breaking Wave                   | 14         |
| Richard Narcross              | Braided                         | 11         |
| Richard Narcross              | Disabled Bike                   | 13         |
| Gary Moffatt                  | Mistbound Grace                 | 10         |
| Gary Moffatt                  | The Pink Prelude                | 14         |
| Shauna Hogg                   | Brazilia Of The North           | 12         |
| Shauna Hogg                   | Montmartre In Hollywood Dyad    | 12         |
| Shauna Hogg                   | Two Tickets To Twilight         | 12         |
| Alan Clark                    | Sweet Dreams                    | 12         |
| Alan Clark                    | Prayer Time                     | 10         |
| Alan Clark                    | Towards Dystopia                | 11         |
| Janey Brownlee                | Morning Stroll                  | 11         |
| Janey Brownlee                | Key Change                      | 11         |
| Janey Brownlee                | Little Boat In Dunbar           | 12         |
| Janey Brownlee                | Zip It                          | 10         |
| Nigel Rickaby                 | Canal Boat Lunch                | 13         |
| Gary Jenkins                  | Spit And Polish                 | 14         |
|                               | <b>Total</b>                    | <b>237</b> |
|                               | <b>WBPS came 11th out of 22</b> |            |



# PDI Competition

## Round 3

Round 3 of this season's PDI competition was judged, on 17 March, by Bill Broadley, Blyth Photographic Society. He had 72 images to assess, and the standard was tight across the board.

### Results

In the Club Section, Yvonne Petitjean took first place. In the Advanced Section, Les Smith came out on top. Congratulations to them and to everyone who was placed.

### PDI Championship

Round 3 was the deciding round in this season's championship.

In the Club Section, Graham Errington won overall.

In the Advanced Section, Shauna Hogg claimed the top spot.

Well done to both.

Thank you to everyone who entered the PDI rounds throughout the season.

Click on the link to view our YouTube video of all the winning entries

<https://youtu.be/mbpwndf4XJkl>

# WBPS Competitions 2025/6



# Club Section Results

|           |                         |  |
|-----------|-------------------------|--|
| <b>1</b>  | <b>Yvonne Petitjean</b> | <b>One Man &amp; his Dog at Dawn</b>   |
| <b>2</b>  | <b>Janey Brownlee</b>   | <b>Space to Fish</b>                   |
| <b>3</b>  | <b>Graham Errington</b> | <b>Look into my Eyes</b>               |
| <b>4</b>  | <b>Graham Errington</b> | <b>Going Around the Bend</b>           |
| <b>5</b>  | <b>Joanne Kerry</b>     | <b>Amazing Arvia in Alicante</b>       |
| <b>HC</b> | <b>Amy Laverick</b>     | <b>View Over Cwm Idwal</b>             |
| <b>HC</b> | <b>John Donaldson</b>   | <b>The Water Rail</b>                  |
| <b>HC</b> | <b>Janey Brownlee</b>   | <b>Scream if You Want to Go Faster</b> |

**WBPS Competitions 2025/6**



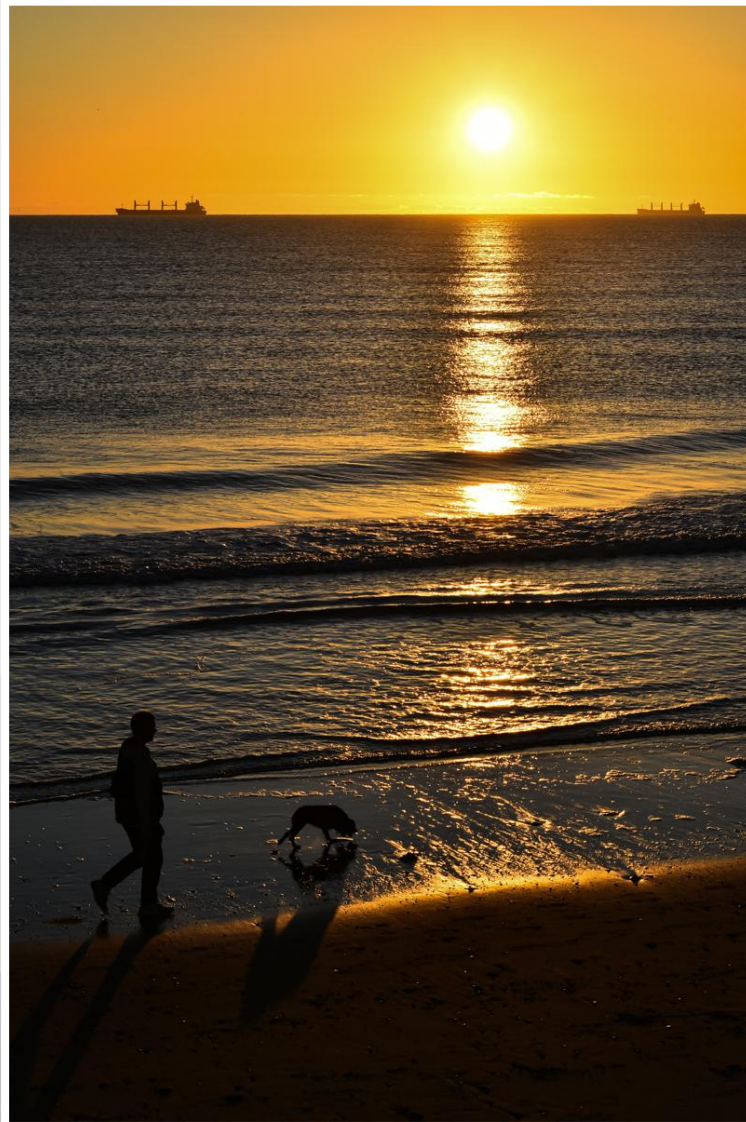
# Advanced Section results

|    |                  |                                |
|----|------------------|--------------------------------|
| 1  | Les Smith        | Put to Bed for the Night       |
| 2  | Gary Moffat      | Black Swan                     |
| 3  | Gary Moffat      | Dawn at St Mary's              |
| 4  | Shauna Hogg      | The Boots are Made for Walking |
| 5  | Alan Porrett     | Glen Etive                     |
| HC | Alan Watson      | Desaturated Coffee             |
| HC | Richard Narcross | Frost                          |
| HC | Alan Clark       | The Potter's Concentration     |
| HC | Richard Narcross | Disabled Bike                  |

**WBPS Competitions 2025/6**



# Winner Club Section



**One Man & his Dog at Dawn**  
**By**  
**Yvonne Petitjean**

**WBPS Competitions 2025/6**

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# Winner

# Advanced Section



**Put to Bed for the Night**  
**By**  
**Les Smith**

**WBPS Competitions 2025/6**



**2025/6**

# **PDI Championship Winners**

## **Club Section**

|          |                         |              |
|----------|-------------------------|--------------|
| <b>1</b> | <b>Graham Errington</b> | <b>23pts</b> |
| <b>2</b> | <b>John Donaldson</b>   | <b>22pts</b> |
| <b>3</b> | <b>Yvonne Petitjean</b> | <b>18pts</b> |

## **Advanced Section**

|          |                    |              |
|----------|--------------------|--------------|
| <b>1</b> | <b>Shauna Hogg</b> | <b>23pts</b> |
| <b>2</b> | <b>Les Smith</b>   | <b>20pts</b> |
| <b>3</b> | <b>Gary Moffat</b> | <b>19pts</b> |

**WBPS Competitions 2025/6**

# Keith's Top Tips

By Keith Smith-Gillespie

*Interesting photography related articles, tips,  
recommendations and tutorials from the internet*

**10 Best Telephoto Lenses for Wildlife and Sports Photography - Band Optics**

<https://share.google/nbV9b0U8bWrMgwje6>

**Photoshop alternatives: 8 best free photo editors in 2025**

<https://share.google/4oT1H55KQk8FIPQxa>

**How to Break Up With Adobe in 2026: The Subscription-Free Creative Suite**

<https://share.google/pIN4DNj9uBk7ZBwCg>

**Imagor is a self-hosted image gallery and editor, running entirely in your browser**

<https://share.google/CbDVEVpwR5O7O85SE>

**Sigma 14mm DG DN review — the lens for astrophotography**

<https://share.google/t5pSm6iAHxScRd5ot>

**After seven years of intense travel as a photographer, this is what I pack and why it works better than all that influencer nonsense | Digital Camera World**

<https://share.google/9nbEqzI1F3zYDxqXd>

**Want to take up photography in 2026? These are the 5 beginner cameras I recommend | Tom's Guide**

<https://share.google/JMM3MLYHzL0qzP7v9>

**How to Get the XPan Panoramic Look on Any Digital Camera | Fstoppers**

<https://share.google/JTfo6vGJRJ7DXLP6z>

**Photography Is Not a Competition | Fstoppers**

<https://share.google/3EAFqANWM7oQMr8XJ>

**I finally understand why people keep paying for Photoshop**

<https://share.google/Sp9Qx26hjIGO6Rhc6>

# **Pictures to Music**

By Richard Narcross

*Recently, we held our annual Picture to Music evening. Several members asked how to create an Audio Visual show and what software was available to achieve this.*

The most popular software is PTE AV Studio formerly know as pictures to EXE because it would allow you to create an EXE an executable file that would run on windows.

<https://www.wnsoft.com/en/>

Its not a subscription model like a number software packages around today.

It costs \$75 (£63 at current exchange rates) for the standard version and \$149 (£129) for the pro version The difference are shown on the website.

It was available for Windows for many years and became available for Mac user a few years ago but only in the Pro Version.

Its a one of payment but every couple of years or so they bring out a new version with new features plus some free updates the current version.

The older version keep working so you don't have to upgrade.

If you purchase the current version 11 you will get a free upgrade to Version 12 due out in the next month or so.

You can get a 30 day free trial of the software to try before you buy.

<https://www.youtube.com/@BarryBeckhamVideos>

Barry Beckham has many tutorials for PTE AV Studio and other photography software.

# End of Season Competitions

During March we hit the submission deadlines for the final three competitions of the season. These are a slightly different to the other competitions of the season.

## **The Allan Potts Trophy (Due 10<sup>th</sup> March)**

a set of three related nature images.

## **The President's Trophy (Due 10<sup>th</sup> March)**

a set of three related images, but on a theme — this year it's *song titles*.

### ***Submitting a set for competition.***

*The set should have an overall Title to describe the theme of the set.*

*Each image should, as usual, be preceded by your competition number, followed by an underscore and then the title of that image. In addition, each image should have a label, such as a, b, and c or 1, 2 and 3 between your competition number and the title. This is to make sure that the images appear in the order you wish.*

*Thus your entry might be as follows:*

*Set title Gannets*

*Images arranged thus:*

*30\_1\_On the nest*

*30\_2\_Flying*

*30\_3\_Diving*

*or:*

*30a\_On the nest*

*30b\_Flying*

*30c\_Diving*

*The links below are for previous year's winning entries;*

### Allan Potts Nature Trophy

2022/3 winners [https://youtu.be/oa4K\\_wiYUNk](https://youtu.be/oa4K_wiYUNk)

2023/4 winners <https://youtu.be/6oh0nI9QyqY>

2024/5 winners <https://youtu.be/-DverDJV3To>

### Presidents Trophy

2022/3 winners [https://youtu.be/HyfgD\\_l8wZw](https://youtu.be/HyfgD_l8wZw)

2023/4 winners <https://youtu.be/wism-Y2oIrc>

2024/5 winners [https://youtu.be/E3Acct\\_MSDo](https://youtu.be/E3Acct_MSDo)

*Please visit [www.wbphoto.org](http://www.wbphoto.org) for more information and examples of sets.*

## The Anne Swearman Trophy (Due 24<sup>th</sup> March)



*Sunny Side Up by Janey Brownlee*

This competition is all about creative photography.  
Members can enter up to 3 images.

Anything goes as long as it creative.  
In previous competitions, images have ranged from  
surreal composite images to the abstract.  
Intentional camera movement  
to arty compositions.

This competition is an opportunity to let your imagination run riot.  
Why not give it a go.

For inspiration, previous winning entries can be seen by clicking on the links;

2022/3 season winners <https://youtu.be/7IMiZaE3Sks>

2023/4 season winners [https://youtu.be/Tpf\\_MKKGdxQ](https://youtu.be/Tpf_MKKGdxQ)

2024/5 season winners <https://youtu.be/nc8V8RAz6Oc>

# What's happening in March 2026

|                        |   |   |
|------------------------|---|---|
| <b>3<sup>rd</sup></b>  | <b>Club Exchange with<br/>Gosforth</b>              | <i>At Earsdon</i>                       |
| <b>10<sup>th</sup></b> | <b>Print Competition<br/>Round 3</b>                | <i>With Lynda Golightly</i>             |
| <b>17<sup>th</sup></b> | <b>Guest Speaker<br/>Larry Bedigan</b>              | <i>“Astrophotography<br/>and stuff”</i> |
| <b>24<sup>th</sup></b> | <b>52 Frames</b>                                    | <i>Photographic<br/>Challenge</i>       |
| <b>31<sup>st</sup></b> | <b>NCPF North Tyne<br/>Area<br/>PDI Competition</b> | <i>At North Shields</i>                 |

## **competition entries due this month**

- 10<sup>th</sup> March Allan Potts Nature Trophy**
- 10<sup>th</sup> March President's Trophy (Song Titles)**
- 24<sup>th</sup> March Anne Swearman Trophy  
(creative)**

# Club Trip

## Bolam Lake & Shaftoe Crags

Saturday 28<sup>th</sup> March



**We're heading to Bolam Lake, a large woodland-lined lake which is a haven for wildlife. After that, we'll make our way over to the nearby Shaftoe Crags for some landscape photography.**

# Club Trips

March to August 2026

Saturday 28th March

*Bolam Lake and Shafto Crags.*

Saturday 25th to Tuesday 28th April

*A Palace on a Hill, our trip to London*

Saturday 23rd May

*A day out in York by rail*

Saturday 27th June

*Tantallon Castle and North Berwick.*

Saturday 25th July

*Yorkshire Dales.*

Sunday 30th August - 3rd September

*Our international trip to Prague.*

# Local(ish) Events

## March 2026

|  |  |  |
|--|--|--|
| <b>5<sup>th</sup>- 8<sup>th</sup></b>    | <b>Blyth Festival of Energy</b>                              | Blyth Town Centre                        |
| <b>7<sup>th</sup> -8<sup>th</sup></b>    | <b>Dark Skies Run</b>  | Kielder Reservoir                        |
| <b>11<sup>th</sup></b>                   | <b>Hauxley Reserve Walk</b><br><i>Behind the scenes walk</i> | Hauxley Wildlife<br>Discovery Centre     |
| <b>18<sup>th</sup></b>                   | <b>Deer Park Safari</b>                                      | Raby Castle,<br>County Durham            |
| <b>27<sup>th</sup> - 29<sup>th</sup></b> | <b>Hawick Reivers Festival</b>                               | Hawick                                   |
| <b>29<sup>th</sup></b>                   | <b>Newbiggin RNLI Easter Fete</b>                            | Newbiggin by the Sea<br>Lifeboat Station |

# How to follow us on Social Media



Facebook  
(public group)

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/whitleybayphotographicsociety/>

Facebook  
(members only group)

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/1337624903048865/>

Instagram

<https://www.instagram.com/whitleybayphotographicsociety/#>

Website

[www.wbphoto.org](http://www.wbphoto.org)

YouTube

[Whitley Bay Photographic Society - YouTube](#)

Whatsapp  
(members only)

Contact Gary, Anne or Alan W

Newsletter

Posted on the club website and  
emailed to all members / potential members

Contributions and suggestions from members are always very welcome.