

# Bollington Photographic Group



## Minutes Meeting 1 February 5th 2026 Turners Arms 7pm



**Present:** Simon Nottage, Terry Heathcote, John Howarth, Pat Hirst, David Hirst, Janet Beech, Kevin Welton, Andrew Huggett, Pam Lob, Julia Latham, Geoff Latham, Carole Loynd, Stewart Garnett.

**Apologies:** Denise Skiffington, Alan Hodgson, Andrew Gregory.

### **Treasurer's Report**

Feb 5th 2026

At the beginning of 2026 the Group's annual income and costs for the year were **estimated**:

- Our 2026 income is estimated at £887 which is derived from members subscriptions and exhibition print payments
- Our 2026 costs are estimated at £653 of which £427 are to support the website and £226 for non-website costs which consist of costs for exhibition print materials and third-party liability insurance

As of February 1st, we have £2028 in the account of which £250 is required for our Bollington Festival project resulting in available monies of £1778.

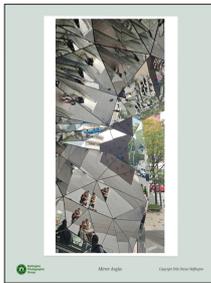
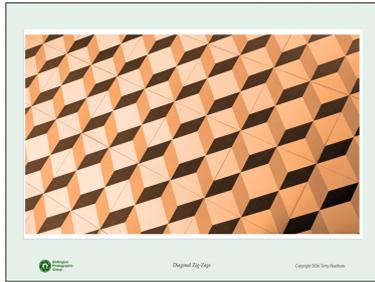
### **Membership - February 2026 (In red are the members not on the WhatsApp)**

Alan Hodgson	John Howarth
Andrew Gregory	Julia Latham
Andrew Huggett	Kevin Pritchard
Carole Loynd	Kevin Welton
Clarice Gill	Neil O'Hara
David Hirst	Pam Hirst
Denise Skiffington	Pam Lob
Don Dymer	Robert Warhurst
Geoff Latham	Simon Nottage
Ian Walker	Steven Gilligan
Jackie Timms	Terry Heathcote
Janet Beech	Tony Hopwood

**3 months free trial - Stewart Garnett**

# Turners Wall

## February - Zigzags and Angles



### April Architecture

1st - 14th March Submit images.

15th -29th March Voting.

Confirm and Print the 9 chosen images

1st- April Chosen images announced and displayed afterwards.

### June Opposites

1st - 14th May Submit images.

15th - 25th Voting.

Confirm and Print the 9 chosen images

1st June-Chosen images announced and displayed afterwards.

### August Glass

1st - 14th July Submit images.

15th - 27th Voting.

Confirm and Print the 9 chosen images

1st August -Chosen images announced and displayed afterwards.

### New ones chose are:-

October - Contrasts

December - Dancers

February - Small Furry Animals.

John had the images taken from the wall for people to claim them.

And these new themes might have something added from the Festival. To be decided!

## Website

- Simon has now organised the website so that he can give nudged notifications to everyone about the timings of the Turners Wall, when someone has voted for one of your images, reminders for voting etc., etc. These come automatically.
- Some of the members got slightly misleading messages suggesting about their own voting. Simon thinks that can be sorted.
- It would help if we made sure that our images we submit are correctly labelled with the title of the image.

## Open Meetings

- February 5th - Members meeting
- February 19th - 6 in 10
- March 5th - "Beyond the monitor. From Pixels to Prints."
- March 19th - Vikki Wray from the Bollington Print Shop.
- April 2nd - A.I.
- April 16th - 6 in 10

## Photo Walks

- February 12th - Meal out.
- February 26th - Around the Canal and Middlewood Way. Poynton. Start at the Coppice Car Park.
- March 12th - Julie Taylor Newton has invited us to her Shepherds Hut!
- March 26th - Opposites?
- NOT THURSDAY April 9th - April 6th INSTEAD Steam Day at the Anson Museum.
- April 23rd - Bakestonedale. Start at the Coffee Tavern

## Possible Ideas for the Future

- John O'Dell told us about a really good spot for bird photography that is very close by.
- Andrew Greenwood, the astronomer and an excellent photographer is willing to talk to us in an open meeting and, if the weather allows, on a photo walk.
- Autumn in the Alderney Woods.
- Bluebells at Shrigley hopefully.
- A walk to the Waterfall with Julie Taylor Newton hopefully. (She owns it.)
- Beer tour at Lee Wainwright's new premises in Macclesfield.
- More technical talks.
- 6 in 10 meetings are important in the development of our photography but they might have to evolve with so many members. This could be linked to post processing advice.
- Masking and Layering.
- A Portrait meeting with Richard Buck in the future when his health improves.
- Photo Walks where we go to interesting places in Bollington which were not on the beaten track. We like exploring.
- The Nifty 50. Starting at the Kerridge Dry Dock needs to be rescheduled.
- Slow photography.
- Poynton Pool.

## Our Meal Out

We are going to the Lime Tree. Janet has booked us in for 6.45pm on Thursday. Emails to follow with more details, including a menu. We need to choose our meal before we go.

## **A.O.B.**

- David Hirst has written this article about us to be included in the next Bollington Live. This should be out for delivery at the end of the month. The next issue should be out at the end of June and we must be sure that we have events planned to be included in it. Also there should be a disclosure about meetings that might have to be cancelled. The website will be the key to this.

## **Bollington Photographic Group: Reflections on a Year of Inspiration Discovering the Joy of Photography**

You'd be amazed by some of the photos you get to see at the Bollington Photographic Group's meetings. Having only been a member for a little over a year, I'm rarely among the providers of such gems, but I certainly am beginning to appreciate more than the obvious first impressions – the lighting, the angles, the contrasts, when black and white makes the best ones, when sepia is introduced – and that's on top of the subject matter, whether the beautiful views around Bollington, of holidays from all over the world, or architecture or still life. I find I am infected by the members' enthusiasm and inspired to take different photographs of different things.

### **Reflecting on 2025: A Year of Varied Activities**

Looking back on the meetings and events we have enjoyed during 2025, I realise just how many different activities and varied agendas there have been. A regular feature is the 6-in-10 evening. Members (and visitors) are invited to put 6 of their most interesting photos on a memory stick and present their thoughts as to what they like about them, one at a time. Viewers then admire and constructively comment how the photograph might be improved by changes, perhaps to lighting or cropping, or benefit from some post processing. Often, experts in the group perform some of these improvements there and then, and sometimes it provokes a discussion that leads to a subsequent evening of instruction. All very democratic and no airs and graces!

### **Memorable Visits and Creative Learning**

We recently enjoyed a visit to the Old Brickworks in Pott Shrigley, led by the current owner, Colin Hammond, as the latest in five generations of his family that have worked there. The tour was highly informative and inspired some great photos. One example featured a stack of yellowish bricks with a brightened image of one of the buildings superimposed to highlight its detail and provide texture. The process was demonstrated to us at the subsequent meeting.

### **Local Exploration and New Perspectives**

We've lived in the area for nearly 25 years, but we've found new walks and roads we didn't know existed. One such was in Kerridge, which introduced us to some wonderful heritage properties, and great views over the Cheshire plain. The walk was at a gentle pace facilitating conversations on all sorts of subjects as well as allowing plenty of time to take advantage of new things to photograph.

### **Photo-Walks and Seasonal Challenges**

Other photo-walks in the summer have seen us explore the many ginnels of Bollington, be challenged by high contrasts of sunlight and shade and moving water, and in winter produce light trails from slow shutter speeds, enjoy the reflections in the brass instruments by White Nancy on Christmas Day and observe festive decorations in a new light.

### **Friendly Competition and Camaraderie**

There's a regular competition on a variety of chosen topics – some challenging one's creativity. The winners are chosen by the members allocating weighted votes to the entries. The standard is high – at least for me!

### **Building Friendships and Enjoying the Journey**

And to top it all, whilst the photo-walks and visits are out and about, the Thursday evening meetings are in the Turners Arms with a pint in hand, amongst a group of lovely people that are now friends. What more could one ask?

## December Newsletter Survey Results.

Pam has emailed the complete survey results to me but, for simplicity, I have taken these screenshots of part of it.

**How often do you click on the links to go to the main BPG website**

Click and read all of them

Only click the ones that interest me **8**

Never click on the links

**How often would you like to see the BPG Newsletter?**

Monthly **3**

Every other month **4**

Quarterly **1**

**How would you prefer to read the bulk of the newsletter?**

On the website - blog style **2**

13/01/2026, 11:16 Edit Survey

Email with more content and less links **1**

Email with less content but links to sections on the website **4**

**Are you happy with the newsletters contents?**

Yes **8**  No

**What would you like to see more of?**

Event info  
Members contributions  
Members Projects

Events local to Bollington  
Members interests and what they need help with

**What would you like to see less of or only occasionally?**

Survey every 6 months

## BOLLINGTON FESTIVAL

Rebeca Roth-Biester from the Festival Committee met with us. We learned that

- The dates for the Festival are 15th - 25th May.
- The first 6 days will be at the Arts Centre.
- Then at the Recreation ground there will be 4 days and nights with a mixture of free and ticketed events.
- Their website is due to come on line any time now.
- There will be a Beer Tent, a Tea Tent, the Yarn Bombers, the Well Dressers, the W.I., Canalside Radio etc.

We discussed our first ideas.

- We want to use our involvement with the Festival as a publicity for our group.
- We are going to use lanyards to identify us as official photographers for the Festival.
- We raised concerns about photography particularly of children. We have asked Rebecca if there could be notification on their publicity that there will be photographers working.
- There should be a disclaimer from us about our use of photographs taken.
- Janet has booked Belfield's window for a display starting on May 1st for the whole of the month.
- Geoff Atkin has been approached for permission to use the television at the Reception area. He says we should liaise with Lee Wainwright about this.
- Janet has also asked if we are allowed to put up a gazebo on the Rec for the last 4 days. There is no problem about this.

Sometimes too many people involved in planning this sort of event might be counter productive. we need to discuss this further and decide how to progress.