

# PHOTO - REFLECTIONS

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 photos, when sepia is introduced – and that's on top of the subject matter, whether it be the beautiful views around Bollington, of holidays from all over the world, architecture or still life. I find I'm infected by the members' enthusiasm and inspired to take different photographs of different things.

Looking back on the meetings and events we've 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 six 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 on how the photograph might be improved by changes, perhaps to lighting or cropping, or benefit from some post-processing. Often, experts in the group make 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!

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.

We've lived in the area for nearly twenty-five 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 taken 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.

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 around White Nancy on Christmas Day



Photo: The Old Brickworks taken by Simon Nottage



**Bollington Photographic Group**



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

and observe festive decorations in a new light.

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!

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, among a group of lovely people that are now friends. What more could one ask?

*David Hirst*

## ***Bollington Photographic group***

### **Spring 2026 events**

#### **March 5th**

'Beyond the monitor - from Pixels to Prints.'  
Turners Arms 7pm

#### **March 12th**

Julie Taylor Newton has invited us to her  
Shepherds Hut!

#### **March 19th**

Bollington Printshop presentation  
Turners Arms 7pm

#### **March 26th**

Photo Walk: We look for 'Opposites'!

#### **April 2nd**

A.I. Turners Arms 7pm

#### **April 6th**

Steam Day at the Anson Museum

#### **April 16th**

Share 6 photos in 10 minutes. Turners Arms  
7pm

#### **April 23rd**

Photo Walk: Bakestonedale. Start at the Coffee  
Tavern