



SHAPING OUR FUTURE

Review of Questionnaire Responses - February 2025

Introduction

During the past year Bollington Photographic Group (BPG) has welcomed several enthusiastic new members which has, in turn, created an opportunity for all our members to shape its future and longevity. It was agreed that to help achieve these objectives, a comprehensive, wide-ranging questionnaire would be developed which would ask members for their views on a wide range of topics (e.g. their photographic interests, equipment usage, photo walks, presentations, interaction with the website etc).

The questionnaire was developed and sent to all members, who wished to complete it. Responses were requested by an agreed deadline to allow the information to be analysed and a report prepared within an acceptable time frame. These responses will play a vital role assisting relevant subgroups to shape the future of BPG by determining future programmed events & presentations as well as agreed website modifications etc. thus benefitting BPG as a whole.

This document entitled 'Bollington Photographic Group – SHAPING OUR FUTURE' is the definitive report and has been compiled and prepared for archive by Simon Nottage and Terry Heathcote. February 2025

No. of Questionnaires originally sent = 26 Members cancelled subs = 5 New member(s) = 1
Total 'live' Newsletter recipients = 22 Members requesting non-involvement = 3

No. of Questionnaires finally sent to subscribers = 19 (86% of membership)

No of responses = 13 (59% of membership)

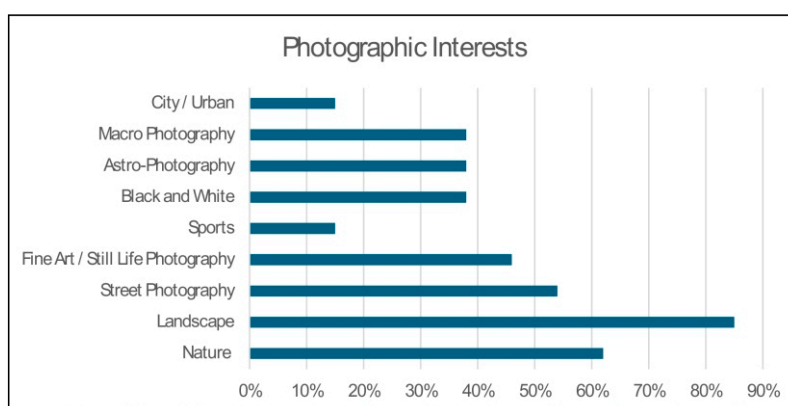
1. Your Photographic Interests

ABOUT YOUR PHOTOGRAPHY: In order to understand what you might want from our group, and to become more relevant to your photography, please tick any boxes that apply.

Subject	% of respondents	No of Responses
Nature	62%	8
Landscape	85%	11
Street Photography	54%	7
Fine Art / Still Life Photography	46%	6
Sports	15%	2
Black and White	38%	5
Astro-Photography	38%	5
Macro Photography	38%	5
City / Urban	15%	2

Additional Subject Suggestions

Subject	% of respondents	No of Responses
Travel	8%	1
Portraiture	8%	1
Coastal	8%	1
Golden/blue hour	8%	1
Filters/ long exposure	8%	1



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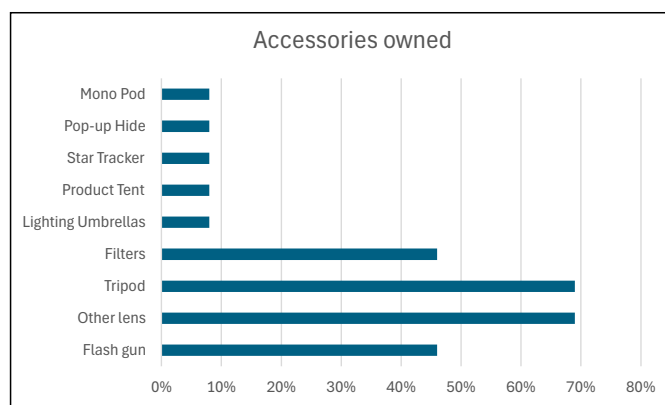
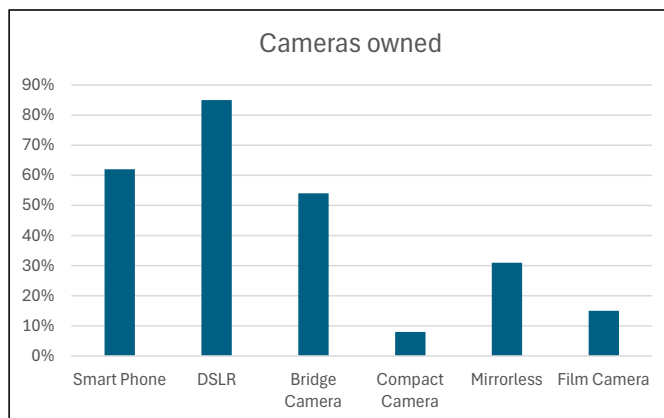
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2. Your Equipment

ABOUT YOUR PHOTOGRAPHY: So that we can make sure we understand our members requirements, please let us know how you prefer to take your photographs.

What camera(s) do you use? - please tick

Camera Type	% of respondents	No of Responses
Smart Phone	62%	8
DSLR	85%	11
Bridge Camera	54%	7
Compact Camera	8%	1
Mirrorless	31%	4
Film Camera	15%	3

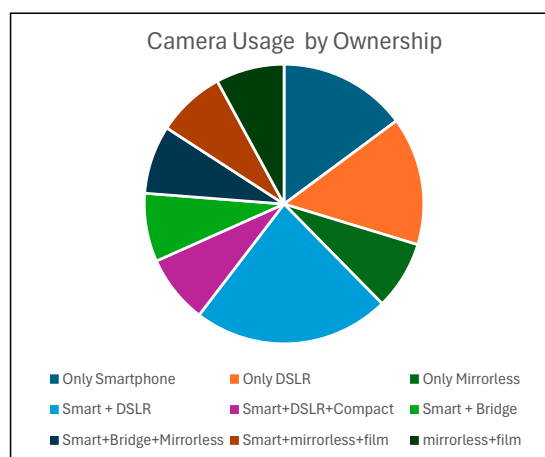


What photographic accessories do you own? - please tick

Equipment Type	% of respondents	No of Responses
Flash gun	46%	6
Other lens	69%	9
Tripod	69%	9
Filters	46%	6
Lighting Umbrellas	8%	1
Product Tent	8%	1
Star Tracker	8%	1
Pop-up Hide	8%	1
Mono Pod	8%	1

What camera(s) do you use? - please tick

Camera Type	% of respondents	No of Responses
Only Smartphone	15%	2
Only DSLR	15%	2
Only Mirrorless	8%	1
Smart + DSLR	23%	3
Smart+DSLR+Compact	8%	1
Smart + Bridge	8%	1
Smart+Bridge+Mirrorless	8%	1
Smart+mirrorless+film	8%	1
mirrorless+film	8%	1



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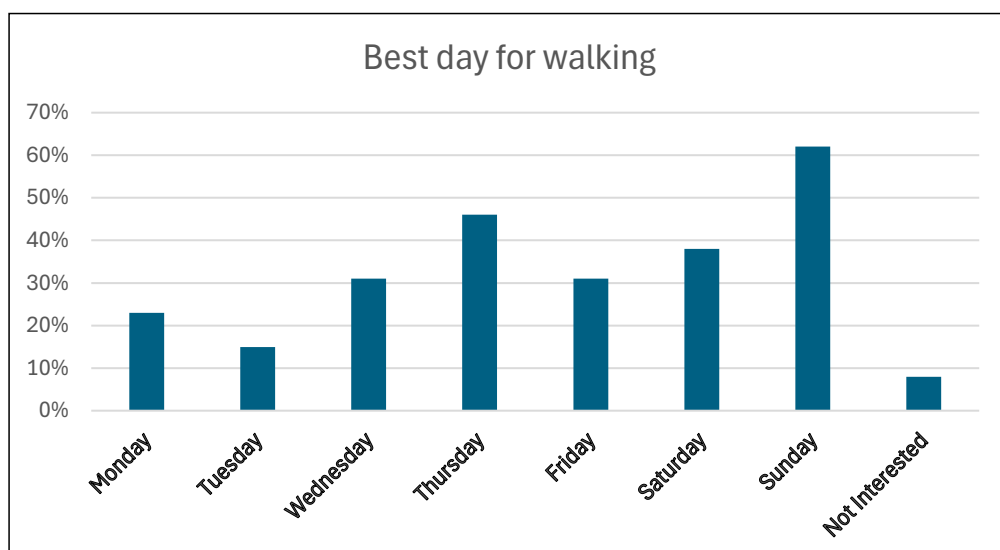
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3. Photowalks and Activities

ABOUT YOUR PHOTOGRAPHY: Are you interested in attending our Photo-walks? If so, please indicate your preferred day(s). Please note - timings of walks will vary depending on time of year and location / subject.

Best Day	% of respondents	No of Responses
Monday	23%	3
Tuesday	15%	2
Wednesday	31%	4
Thursday	46%	6
Friday	31%	4
Saturday	38%	5
Sunday	62%	8
Not Interested	8%	1

Specific Walk Requests
Coastal Trip
Urban Decay
Urban - Manchester - Castlefield
Wildlife / Zoos
Martin Mere
Lyme Park
Teggs Nose
A/E Woods
Macc Forest
Boat trip on Canal
Bollington



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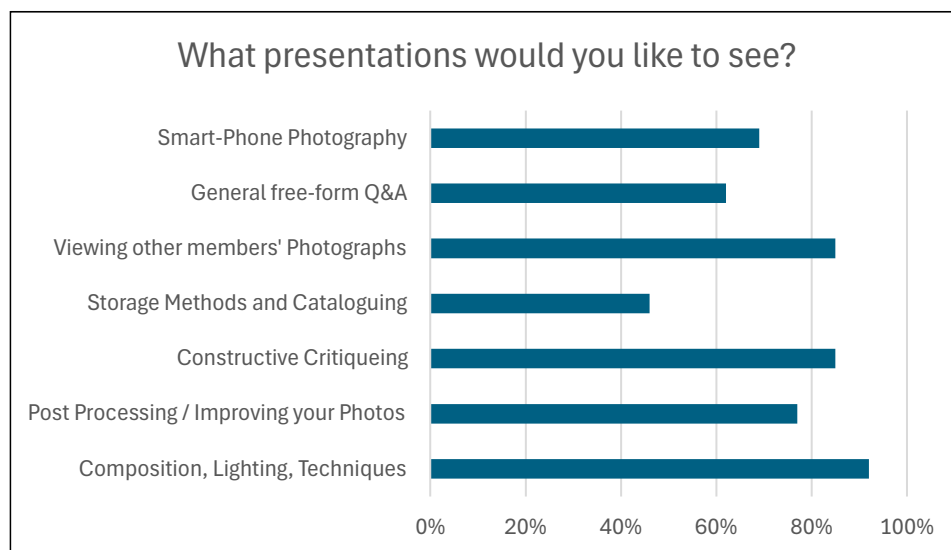
4. Improving your Photographic Knowledge, hints and tips etc

We are here for you! We give presentations during our monthly meetings on a variety of subjects. Which are most likely to be of interest to you? Please tick as many as are applicable

Presentations	% of respondents	No of Responses
Composition, Lighting, Techniques	92%	12
Post Processing / Improving your Photos	77%	10
Constructive Critiqueing	85%	11
Storage Methods and Cataloguing	46%	6
Viewing other members' Photographs	85%	11
General free-form Q&A	62%	8
Smart-Phone Photography	69%	9

Additional Subjects
Better Printing
Personal Experience - hints and tips

Hands-on Assistance:
Advanced Lighting Techniques
Macro
Still Life
Back button Focussing Techniques
Advanced Layering and Compositing
Photographic composition
Photo Editing
Manual Settings / Controls
Focus Stacking
Flash Photography
Studio Lighting
Auto ISO
Calibrating Monitors
I-phone help



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5: Website - useage

Our website is the one place to go to and find out what's happening in the group. Here you interact with your other members, post your photos, book your place on our events and meetings, enter our contests, and of course learn about all things photographic. Only by regularly visiting our website, can you be fully reaping the benefits of your membership and keeping abreast of your fellow members' activities.

5.1: How do you view our site?

Viewing the website	% of respondents	No of Responses
Desktop / Laptop	62%	8
Tablet	23%	3
Smart Phone	54%	7
Desk/laptop + Tablet + Smartphone	8%	1
Desktop / Laptop + Smartphone	23%	3
Desktop / Laptop + Tablet	8%	1
Smartphone Only	15%	2
Desktop / Laptop Only	38%	5
Tablet + Smartphone	8%	1

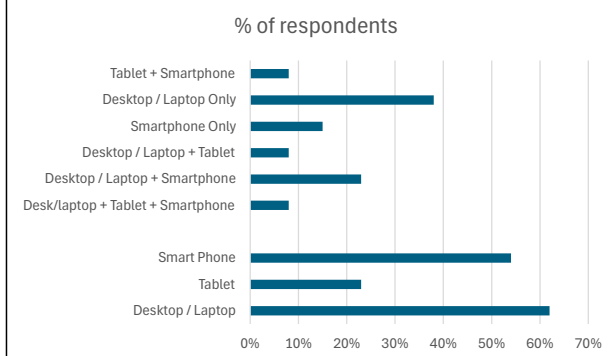
5.2: General Alerts: Email or Website

Set Preferences	% of respondents	No of Responses
Yes	54%	7
No / Don't Know How	38%	5

5.3: Interaction

Visit how often		
Couple of times a week	15%	2
Weekly	23%	3
Monthly	31%	4
Occasionally	23%	3
Never	8%	1

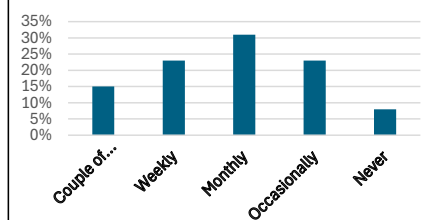
Viewing Habits and individual ownership



Comments / Main reason for not visiting often

Thought Facebook was the only info available
Thought phone images were not acceptable
Working
Rarely Browse Internet
Busy / Other Commitments
Only for Dates of walks and competition
Photo guides and info V. useful
Only visit for Payments and Occasional photo post
Not interested in other peoples photos unless of Bollington

Site Visits



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5: Website - benefits

Our website is the one place to go to and find out what's happening in the group. Here you interact with your other members, post your photos, book your place on our events and meetings, enter our contests, and of course learn about all things photographic. Only by regularly visiting our website, can you be fully reaping the benefits of your membership and keeping abreast of your fellow members' activities.

The website is intended to bring you benefits - are you aware of how to get the best out of it?

% of respondents



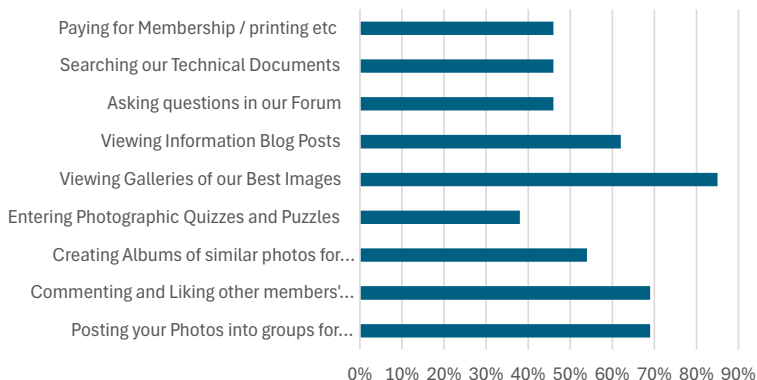
Are you aware of the benefits of visiting our site?

Aware of the members benefits	% of respondents	No of Responses
Viewing Members' News	62%	8
Whats On Calendar	92%	12
Booking Events/Walks etc	77%	10
Adding events to smart calendar	23%	3
Entering photo-wall Contest	85%	11
Viewing own Membership details	69%	9
Connecting to specific Members	62%	8
Viewing other members Activity/ Photos etc	54%	7
Instant Messaging other Members	31%	4
Being informed when images are posted or commented on.	38%	5
Being able to send out invitations to join our group	23%	3

Are you aware of our sites' photographic benefits?

Aware of the photographic benefits	% of respondents	No of Responses
Posting your Photos into groups for members to see	69%	9
Commenting and Liking other members' Photographs	69%	9
Creating Albums of similar photos for events etc	54%	7
Entering Photographic Quizzes and Puzzles	38%	5
Viewing Galleries of our Best Images	85%	11
Viewing Information Blog Posts	62%	8
Asking questions in our Forum	46%	6
Searching our Technical Documents	46%	6
Paying for Membership / printing etc	46%	6

% of respondents



We realise that not everyone's interests might be catered for. What additional information or features would you find useful in the website? eg: Regular photographic posts, snippets of relevant information, hints and tips, posted directly to your in-box.

Website Missing Anything? Comments? Issues?

Needs Hints and Tips
Weekly snippets of Information to get you thinking
Ability to Comment and Liking other members' images
Nearly all of it is not interesting or useful
Great to use
Seems OK
Simplify Front Page
Up/down scrolling unusual
Too many ways to navigate
Couldn't use the Calendar

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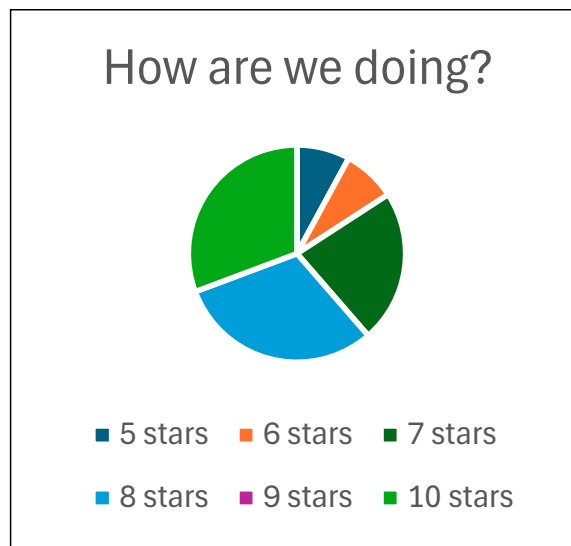
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6. About our group

How do you feel we are fulfilling your expectations for a friendly, non-judgemental photographic group?

As a group, how do you find us? Are we an enjoyable group to belong to? How can we do better?

Overall Rating	% of respondents	No of Responses
1 star		
2 stars		
3 stars		
4 stars		
5 stars	8%	1
6 stars	8%	1
7 stars	23%	3
8 stars	31%	4
9 stars		
10 stars	31%	4



General Comments / improvements /suggestions:	
Group feels lethargic at times	
Much talking but little firm action	
Frustrated with lack of progress	
Zoom meetings for those who are unable to attend	
Map of photo-walk routes for others to follow.	
More weekend activities	
Better variety of interests and subjects	
Improve involvement from wider group	
Competitions too frequent - not enough notice to allow research of subject	
Wonderful Members - good company	
Hope the group doesn't grow too much	
Too many non relevant whatsapp messages	

Reasons for score	
Thanks to Simon & Janet and the rest of the group who are pushing to make things better including the new website	
Feeling welcome everyone approachable	
Friendly and supportive	
Friendly sociable and helpful	
Friendly and welcoming	
Not enough emphasis on photography	
Needs more advertising	
Admin should be left to a tight core of selected members not an open members meeting	
More variety needed in photo competitions	
Friendly and welcoming - commitment to making the group better for everyone	

An enormous thank you to all our members who have taken the trouble to take part in this important survey.
Your valuable contribution has helped to ensure that we can strive to make our fantastic group even better for you in the future.

Simon Nottage & Terry Heathcote
12/02/2025