

Edinburgh Photographic Society

Newsletter November 2020



Neil Scott: Red and White

In this issue:

	<u>Page</u>
<u>President's Welcome</u>	2
<u>Treasurer's report</u>	3
<u>FRPS success</u>	4
<u>CD Group</u>	5
<u>Phoenix Group</u>	7
<u>Nature Group</u>	8
<u>Studio Group</u>	10
<u>PDI Competition</u>	11
<u>Members Exhibition</u>	13
<u>Coming up at EPS.....</u>	17
<u>EPS information</u>	17

Stop Press: CD Group Inter club competition win!

The club came first equal with Kirkcaldy in the recent 4-way inter-club competition between ourselves, Stirling, Musselburgh and Kirkcaldy. This is our first win in four years

The Judge was Eddie Telford and he was excellent - good feedback and very fair scoring.

See [page 6](#) for more details

President's welcome

Isobel Lindsay



A warm welcome to all new members joining us this season and welcome back to all continuing members. The season has got off to an excellent start and although meeting on-line isn't the same as meeting in person it does have some positives and one of those is welcoming members from outside the UK – so hello to Spain, Ireland and Denmark!

Another positive has been the reduction in the subscriptions – so if you are looking for a Xmas or birthday present this is a good year to give membership as the recipients location doesn't matter and it's a real bargain at under £1 a week!

The talks so far this season have been interesting and varied. We have had talks from John Gravett, Colin McPherson, Jerry Webb and Gareth Easton on a wide variety of photography topics and also welcomed Ben Hall and Helen Mugridge to the Nature Group. We have lots more interesting talks to look forward to for the rest of the season and I look forward to seeing you at them.

The PDI competitions are also now well underway and entries are encouraged from members of all levels. It's also great news that we are going to hold print competitions after Christmas which I know will please a lot of you.

Sadly the COVID 19 rules still make it impossible for us to meet at EPS, but, I'm pleased to say that the studios are available to members to book for shoots. Click [here](#) or go to the EPS website for more information. We are also working on making the darkroom available.

The council continues to look to the future and how we can shape the Society to improve it for you the members – this could be facilities or activities. Please feel free to contact me with your thoughts of just one thing that you would like to see being done or changed that would improve the society!

Isobel

Don't forget to check out the [Website](#) regularly for news, competition results and galleries. We also have a presence on [facebook](#) and [instagram](#) with a 'closed group' on facebook for members to share images. Sign up to follow us on these platforms and you'll see some glorious images.

Treasurer's report

Martin Ashford



Hello fellow EPS members,

Those of you that were members last season may remember me introducing myself as Treasurer elect in the last EPS Bulletin. It seems like a long time ago now, but a few months down the line I'm fully settled into the role and the responsibilities it brings.

Basically, my role is all about the financial well-being of the society, making sure the bills get paid and maintaining accurate accounts. As a registered Charity, EPS has to submit annual accounts and reports to OSCR, who are the independent Regulator and registrar for Scottish charities.

I'm sure we'd all agree that 2020 has been an extremely challenging year for everyone. As a society that relies on income from membership and our annual international exhibition, you'd think, that like many businesses we would be struggling this year. Fortunately, we went into our new year (Sept. 2020) in a healthy financial position.

Notwithstanding everything that's gone on this year, our Society is performing well from a financial point of view. We have a committed and dedicated team of trustees and council members that look after the affairs and ensure that EPS is a great Society to be part of. I look forward to 2021 and the time we can all meet up again.

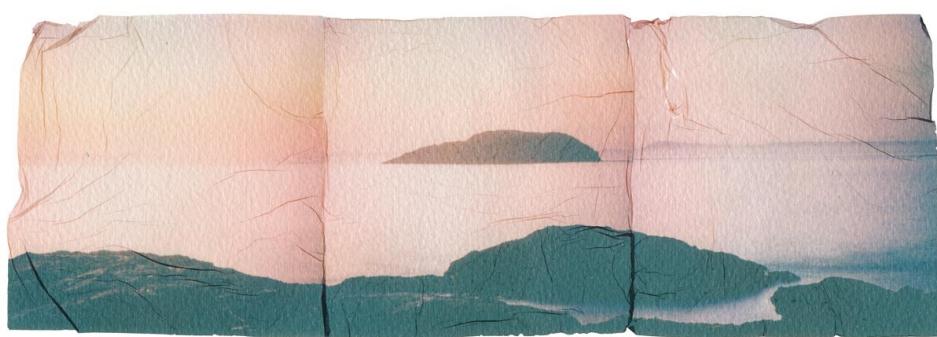
Highlights

- Our premises on Great King Street are wholly owned by the Society. We have no mortgage and just the usual fixed costs.
- The premises are in good repair and we don't envisage any significant works in the near future.
- The society's capital is split across everyday Bank accounts, savings accounts and an income generating specialist Investment account (M&G Charifund). This is simply to reduce our financial risk in uncertain markets.
- We carried over a healthy working capital in our new season, this being the surplus from last year's income versus expenditure.
- Even though our membership costs have halved this year, we've still generated a reasonable amount of income from over 160 membership renewals.
- It's also worth pointing out that some costs are significantly lower as a result of closing the premises – for example Speakers costs, Electricity and Cleaning.
- We also have a significant cash reserve left over from the sale of part of the garden some years ago. These funds are ring fenced for any significant building maintenance and long term projects which will benefit EPS.

In November 2020 Chris Osborne was awarded a Royal Photographic Society Fellowship for a portfolio of Polaroid emulsion lift prints called [Polaroid Waterscapes](#).



The places where water meets and shapes the land produce an inspiring variety of mood, atmosphere and form. And Scotland, my adopted home for over 20 years, has countless examples.



If you'd like to see more of Chris's work, then head over to his website <https://www.cjo.info>

We are a few weeks into the new season and we've been fully on-line. However, that hasn't stopped us from having some great evenings. Our first evening allowed us to see the results of the first Summer Safari and they show that COVID-19 isn't going to stop us creating! They were all AVs and as you can see very different, both in style and selection of music. The groups selected Bridge over Troubled Water, Summertime and Jollity Farm by the Bonzo Dog Doo-Dah band.



In the next half of the season we have more interesting speakers, workshops and the usual competitions. We particularly enjoy our on-line competitions which enable members to receive at least 3 comments on each image entered and every year it is interesting to see what comments people agreed on and what they didn't!

Looking back to last season we held our annual Digital Challenge and Cunningham Cup competitions and the winning images can be seen on the EPS website here [/digital-challenge-cup/](#) and here [/cunningham-cup-competition/](#)

We look forward to seeing you on a Monday night!

We've had an eclectic set of topics in the last few weeks – our first proper evening was a workshop where Eric Robinson and Neil McCoubrey taught us clever editing techniques. We also had a session with Doug Berndt talking about his photography journey and I think he got all of us thinking about distinctions. Most recently we've learnt about some photo myths – exposing to the right and when to ignore the camera telling you something is exposed correctly!

Sadly we haven't managed to have our annual studio or light art evenings, but, don't despair – they will be back next year! This is what last year included.



Edward



Adrian



Light Art

Inter Club night

Another fun evening is the annual interclub with Stirling, Musselburgh and Kirkcaldy Camera Club. This year it was held on Zoom on 24th November. We had 75 images from which we selected 15 to go to the competition – which was a major challenge! Six of the selected images are here and show the huge range of images and excellent standard.

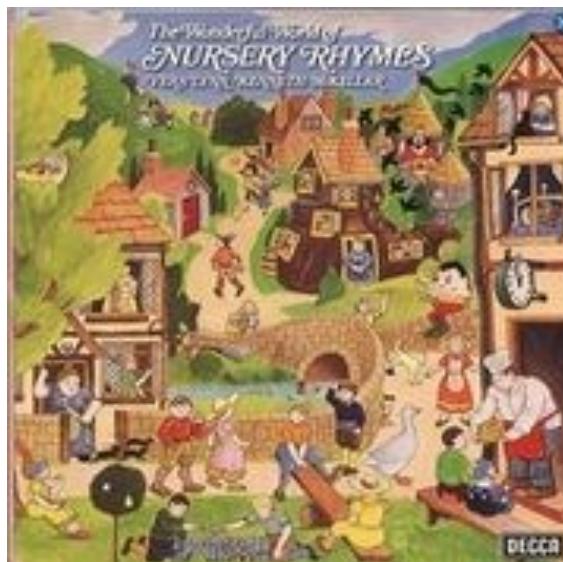
On the night we came first equal with Kirkcaldy—our first win for 4 years!

Final scores were:

Edinburgh and Kirkcaldy	267
Musselborough	264
Stirling	259



We are also starting work on our Photo Safari panels and this year the panels will all reflect a nursery rhyme. We invite everyone to come and see the completed panels on 7th December.



Last year Group 1 won with their images reflecting local life.



Phoenix Group

Eion Johnston

We have had the first Phoenix Group meeting using Zoom. It is quite a different experience in the sense that members are unable to look at prints and inspect their properties and quality. However, the group continues giving members the opportunity to display their work seeking comment on its suitability for a particular purpose.

At this first meeting we had images presented

- To be entered in the Scientific Photographer of the Year competition
- To be entered for a PAGB distinction
- To gauge their suitability as working together as a panel
- Showing progress towards an RPS submission and
- As a display of street photography.

It was an evening of variety, great images and thoughtful comments.

The Nature Group has had an excellent start to the season. We have had wonderful talks from both Ben Hall and Helen Mudridge and there was a request for more Nature group meetings so we have slotted in internal meetings between the external speakers. The idea behind the internal meetings is for more chat and short talks from our own members. The audience numbers are keeping up so hopefully you are enjoying the meetings. If there is anything else you would like to see in this group just let me know.

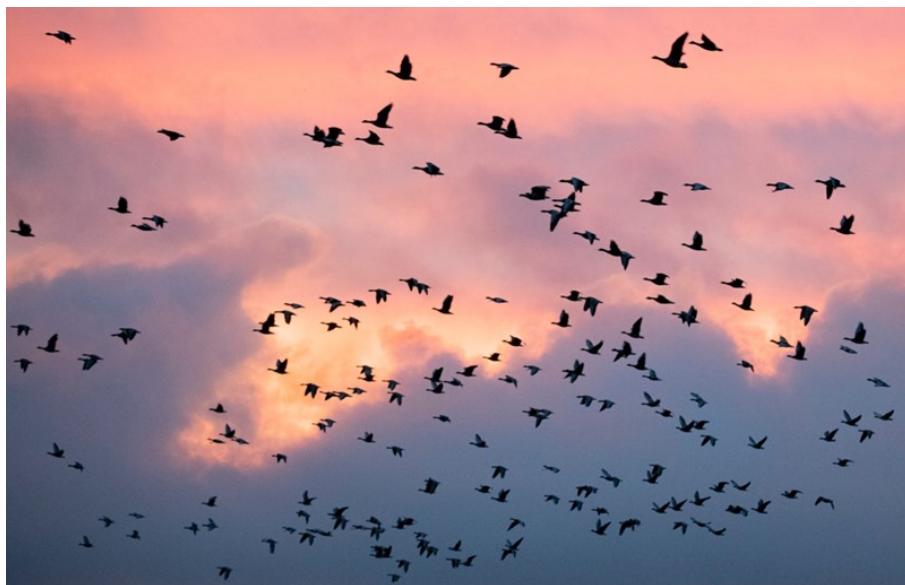
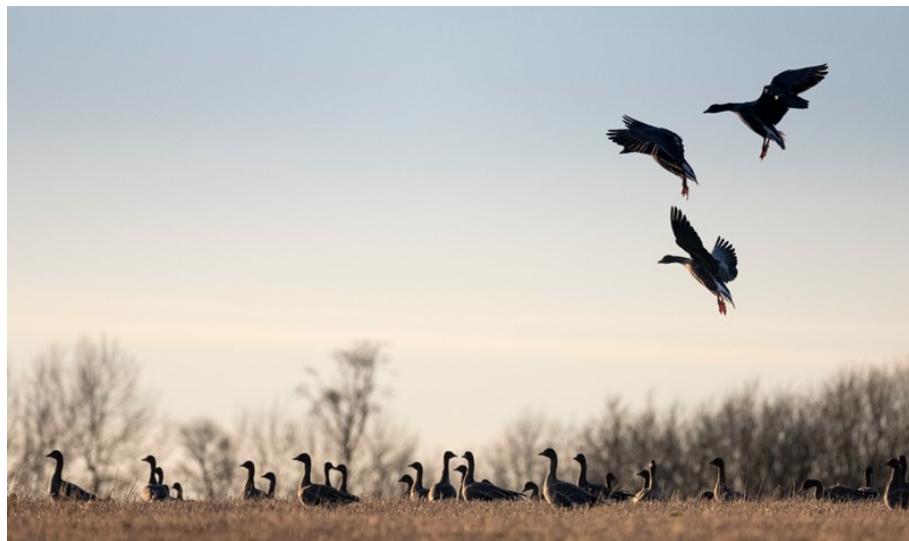
Since you probably all know what has been happening in EPS I thought I would break with tradition and let you know what is happening in my locality.

November has been a good month for weather and light and there is a lot happening just now in particular with migrations and new arrivals to our shores. The fieldfares have arrived in large flocks but the highlight here is the pink-footed geese. They fly overhead every morning in large skeins following regular routes making fantastic patterns in the sky. They are coming to feed in the fields around our village. The landing is not always elegant, the pink feet come out long before the landing and the wings act as parachutes. This is known as whiffling. The numbers are up to about three thousand just now and the noise is fantastic. They will hang around in the field all day if there is not too much disturbance and then take off at the end of the day heading back to Aberlady Bay where they are safe from predators overnight.

A few days ago they brought a real treat with them, two snow geese. The pink foots have come from Iceland but the snow geese are generally found in the high Arctic and are not often seen here. The longer we have to stay close to home the more I am learning about the local wildlife and finding some real treasures just 5 minutes from home but that is for the next edition. You can find more images of the pink foot migration on my website.

<https://www.jeanmanson.gallery>





As many of you will already be aware, the studio group is unable to meet this year. We would normally have met up once a month (from October onwards) with the beginners meeting on different dates to intermediate and advanced studio members. We would have picked a different topic to cover each month and also given everyone a chance to take some photos in the EPS studio. Over and above these workshops, we had also planned on setting up additional open days to provide instruction on using the new EPS Bowens Studio Strobes. I am hopeful that these are all activities that we can kick start again next October, along with the fun joint ventures with the Creative Digital Group.

It's not all doom and gloom as you don't need to be in a studio to try your hand at portrait photography. With no additional spend, you could try shooting with natural light - see the difference when shooting at different times of the day (Golden Hour etc). A cloudy day will produce vastly different results than a sunny day. Buying a reflector is a low budget way to help control the light and can be used to fill in shadows. Brands such as Godox sell relatively cheap speedlite flashes to work with camera manufacturers such as Canon, Nikon, Sony, Fuji etc. These speedlights can be attached directly onto the camera hotshoe, or can be used off-camera with the use of a separate wireless remote trigger. These portable solutions are great, but will consume AA batteries at an impressive rate, so I would recommend buying rechargeable batteries - Eneloop batteries come highly recommended.

YouTube is a great resource for learning all about speedlites. From setting the power - Manual or TTL, to changing the focal length of the flash, to changing between 1st curtain and 2nd curtain, direct vs bounce flash, sync speed, exposure compensation and also High Speed Sync. You can also spend hours watching videos about the different modifiers / attachments that you can get for speedlites.

Stay safe everyone, and get in touch if you have any questions about lighting or portraiture. Also do please get in touch if you would like to showcase any of your portrait images in future EPS bulletins.



Participation levels in this sessions PDI's has been excellent with 405 images from 79 members entered into the first three competitions. PDI's 1 & 2 have been judged with thirteen maximum scores of 20 awarded and average scores of 15.7 (league 2) & 16.2 (league 1). The high number of entries has presented challenges for the judges and made for long judging evenings so we must consider how we could improve those aspects whilst maintaining such encouraging levels of participation.

I am sure many of us miss the in-person judging nights, but it is a positive that we can still use zoom to enjoy the varied image submissions and

to get constructive feedback from experienced Judges.

A judging issue in PDI No.1 was disappointing but hopefully has not discouraged anybody from entering future PDI's. The issue was unforeseen and whilst we quite rightly have no control over the judging process early discussions with judges to identify similar issues should minimise the chances of recurrence.

A selection of high scoring images from PDI's 1 & 2 are shown below and on the next page



PDI competition images

12



Congratulations to our trophy winners from last season!

Trophy Name	Awarded for	Winning Title and Author
The EPC Memorial Shield	<i>Best overall print in the exhibition</i>	Limbering up by Eion Johnston
The John Robb IPF Medal	<i>Best landscape print not already winning an award</i>	Dysart Harbour Study 2 by Alan Givens
The Jim McDougal Trophy	<i>Best sports print</i>	Pegasus by Sandi McOrist
The Rosemary Davidson Salver	<i>Best natural history print</i>	Anemone Fish by Ken Gillies
The Phoenix Trophy	<i>Best monochrome print</i>	Secret Garden of the Dead XII by Chris Osborne
The Lord Caplan Trophy	<i>Print showing the most innovative use of colour in contemporary photography</i>	The Fingal by Derek Robertson
The Russell Trophy	<i>Best overall projected image in the exhibition</i>	Osprey with Catch by Jim Moir
The EPS AV Trophy	<i>AV which best engages its audience</i>	Edinburgh sunrise and sunset by Graeme Gainey



Limbering up by **Eion Johnston**



Dysart Harbour Study 2 by **Alan Givens**

Congratulations to our trophy winners from last season!



Pegasus by Sandi McOrist



Anemone Fish by Ken Gillies



Secret Garden of the Dead XII by Chris Osborne



The Fingal by Derek Robertson



Osprey with Catch by Jim Moir



Edinburgh sunrise and sunset by Graeme Gainey

League 1 winners

Trophy Name	Awarded for	Winning Title and Author
The Forbes Adam Cup	<i>The best print in League 1 not already winning an award</i>	New Home by Alistair Cowan
The Centenary Cup	<i>The best panel of prints in League 1</i>	Male Moods by Eoin Johnston
The Edinburgh Cameras Cup	<i>The League 1 print showing the greatest creativity</i>	Red & White #2 by Neil Scott
The Campbell Harper Trophy	<i>The best projected image in League 1 not already winning an award</i>	On the Prowl by Sandi McOrist
The St Vincent Trophy	<i>The best set of projected images in League 1</i>	Scottish Spiders by Karen Berry
The Spectrum Award	<i>The projected image showing the greatest creativity in League 1</i>	Iceland Waterfall by Peter Paterson



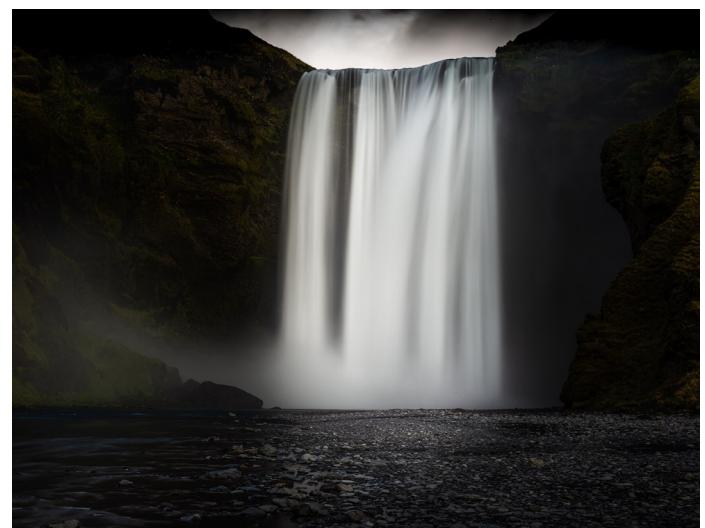
New Home

Alistair Cowan



Male Moods

Eoin Johnston

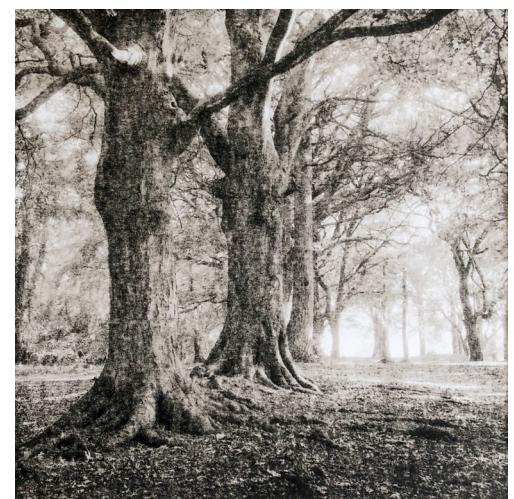
League 1 winners**Red & White #2** Neil Scott**On the Prowl** Sandi McOrist**Scottish Spiders** Karen Berry**Iceland Waterfall** Peter Paterson

League 2 winners

Trophy Name	Awarded for	Winning Title and Author
The Dunbar Trophy	<i>The best print in League 2 not already winning an award</i>	Ruth by Gary Wilson
The President's Trophy	<i>The best panel of prints in League 2</i>	Traditional Print Panel by Adrian Cullen
The Sean Casey Medal	<i>The League 2 print showing the greatest creativity</i>	Dark unto Themselves by Adrian Cullen
The Neil C. Scott Cup	<i>The best projected image in League 2 not already winning an award</i>	Svodufoss by Keith Walkingshaw
The Butler Cup	<i>The best set of projected images in League 2</i>	Miss Smilla's Feeling for Snow by Muriel Binnie
The TCM Bradley Award	<i>The projected image showing the greatest creativity in League 2</i>	Tree Three by Adrian Cullen



Traditional Print Panel Adrian Cullen



Dark unto Themselves Adrian Cullen

League 2 winners**Svodufoss**

Keith Walkingshaw

**Miss Smilla's Feeling for Snow**

Muriel Binnie

**Tree Three**

Adrian Cullen

COMING UP AT EPS

Members' Exhibition 2021

The annual Members' Exhibition is an opportunity for all members to show their work. It is entirely 'open' so it reflects members choices, rather than judges. Some contribute their best work, others show new developments or projects. With 4 prints, 4 projected images and an AV submission per member, there's lots of scope to celebrate the diverse work within the Society. Fingers crossed that a physical exhibition will be possible in 2021. The call for entries will start mid January with a closing date usually set for early March. Meantime see pages 10 and 11 of the syllabus for more details.



Edinburgh Photographic
Society

68 Great King Street
Edinburgh
EH3 6QU

Your Council for 2020 season

Office bearers

President	Isobel Lindsay
Immediate past president	Doug Berndt ARPS EFIAP
Senior Vice-President and Secretary	Jim Moir ARPS AFIAP
Junior Vice-President	David Greer
Treasurer	Martin Ashford
Property Committee Convenor	Vacant
Webmaster	Tom Gardner ARPS
International Exhibition Secretary	Edith Smith LRPS

Council members

International Exhibition Treasurer	Muriel Binnie
Graham Morrice	Terry Railley
Dennis Linn	Keith Walkingshaw
Ian Goodall	Vikki Macleod
Eamonn Cullen	

Website: <http://www.edinburghphotographicsociety.co.uk/wp/>
 Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/EdinburghPhotographicSociety/>
 Instagram: [@edinburghphotographicsociety](https://www.instagram.com/edinburghphotographicsociety)