

CLUB CONNECTIONS

There are so many acronyms associated with photography in the UK and around the world, this short guide might help explain a few you might come across when joining a camera club for the first time.

PAGB - Photographic Alliance of Great Britain.

The PAGB Co-ordinates Clubs Nationally, through 15 Regional Federations (Ours is WCPF – Western Counties Photographic Federation - see below), maintains lists of Judges and runs lifetime Awards (Distinctions for Photographic Merit) to individual club members.

CPAGB - Credit - awarded for 10 pictures – “Good Club Photography”

DPAGB - Distinction - 15 pictures of “Open Exhibition Standard”

MPAGB - Master – “Highest Standard of UK Amateur Photography”

APAGB - Award – given for Services to PAGB

WCPF - Western Counties Photographic Federation

The WCPF maintains lists of neighbouring Judges and Lecturers as part of the PAGB. It runs annual member exhibitions and DPIC (Digitally Projected Images Competition) each February, in Exeter, where each Club enters 18 images which are assessed by three Judges. Points awarded are totalled. The highest scoring Clubs go forward to a National Competition.

INDIVIDUAL CONNECTIONS

RPS – Royal Photographic Society

The RPS was formed in the 1850's and is an internationally recognised organisation offering a monthly magazine (The Journal), runs training courses and awards distinctions. The RPS also has several specialist groups (eg digital Imaging and nature) which issue their own publications and run practical and training events nationally.

LRPS - Licenciatehip - awarded for 10 pictures presented as a “panel” and meeting specified criteria to demonstrate a command of photography.

ARPS - Associateship - awarded for 15 pictures in one genre presented as a panel.

FRPS - Fellowship - the highest award and requires 20 pictures presented as a Panel.

NB – to maintain the an RPS distinction, continued membership of the RPS is required.

PSA – Photographic Society of America

FIAP – International Federation for Amateur Photographers

BPE – British Photography Exhibitions

These three organisations offer grades of award for success in approved exhibitions such as the Cheltenham Salon (CISP)

CISP – Cheltenham International Salon of Photography. This is an annual event for individual projected images run by our neighbouring Club. It's a good way to see, at modest cost, how your best pictures compare with others in an International arena.

John Hankin, Jan 2020