



# e-news

from the Photographic Alliance of Great Britain

Issue 278 extra. Peter Cheetham

**Being President of the PAGB during these turbulent times of Covid has not been easy and at times made even more difficult when an issue of e-news is dedicated to the life of a friend and colleague held in great esteem by the photography world we are part of.**



**Peter Cheetham has played an unprecedented part in many aspects of the running of the North & East Midland Photographic Federation and the Photographic Alliance of Great Britain. Many of you will have known him as the man in charge of the Inter-Club PDI Championships, held at Warwick University each year. Those of you who also paid a visit to the PAGB Stand at the annual Photography Show will also be aware that Peter organised that stand and ran its workings with military precision.**

**I first met Peter when I joined the PAGB Executive in April 2004, almost 17 years ago now, and I well remember sitting with Peter and Carol in the restaurant for the evening meal in London. They were great company, the first of many such occasions.**

**Peter and Carol loved touring in their caravan and on several occasions**

**Megan and I met up with them on caravan sites when attending weekend photographic events organised throughout the UK. We will miss entertaining each other in our respective caravans, over a wee glass of nectar.**

**Gordon Jenkins, PAGB Immediate Past President, and I, attended Peter's funeral on a cold day in Burton Upon Trent along with 28 others, that were allowed on the day. Whilst our attendance may have been considered as representing the PAGB, there was more to our presence than that. We attended as friends of Peter and Carol. We are sure that Carol realised this, and we are sure that we will all be seeing Carol at many future events organised by the PAGB and N&EMPF. (Peter was most pedantic about using & in N&EMPF)**

**Covid-19 has unfortunately ensured that a get together to remember Peter will have to be organised at an indeterminate date in the future and the PAGB will be actively involved in ensuring such a get together will be a fitting honour to a great man.**

**Please enjoy the issue and try not to dwell on the passing of Peter but instead look upon it as a celebration of his life.**

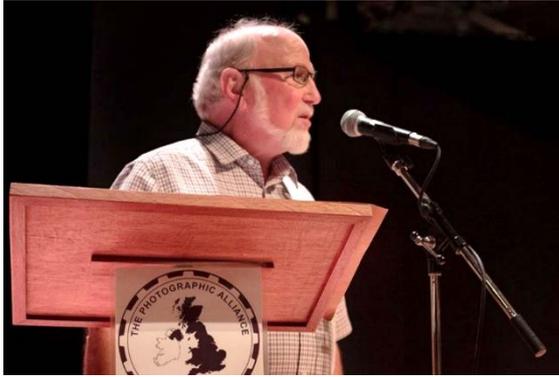
**Stay safe.**

***Howard G Tate MA ARPS AFIAP APAGB. PAGB President.***

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# PETER W CHEETHAM HonPAGB. 1946 - 2021

Peter was a member of Long Eaton Camera Club and celebrated 50 years as a member in 2019. He was a very active member who held many positions on the Club Committee over the years, including being their current Treasurer.



Peter was introduced to the North & East Midlands Photographic Federation Executive Committee in 1976 by a friend, the late Dennis Shipman, and then to judging, something he always loved. Later, he started lecturing with his monochrome prints and later with Carol, a mixture of his mono and Carol's colour prints.

He also held various positions on the N&EMPF Executive and was their current Awards Officer for Photographic Merit, Newsletter Editor and their Member of the Photographic Alliance of Great Britain Executive.

He was N&EMPF President on 2 occasions - 1984 to 1986 and again 2004 to 2006, the first person to serve as President twice. In 1992 he was awarded an APAGB, an Award for Meritorious Service granted by The Photographic Alliance of Great Britain, for service to the PAGB, its Federation and Clubs of which he was very proud.

He became the N&EMPF Member on the PAGB in 2003, following the untimely death of Tony Eycott. And in 2005 he took over the running of the PAGB Inter-Club Slide Championship, now the Projected Digital Image Championship, which he had been involved with since 1988 when it was first held at Warwick University. He absolutely loved the event, although a lot of work was involved in organising it until the last one held in 2019. He was also an excellent "front of house" manager for the PAGB Print Championship and helped out at many events, including organising of many excellent raffles with generous prizes, tirelessly sourced from PAGB Sponsors and others..

As title reader for many years, Peter became known as the **"Voice of Warwick"**

Peter was elected President of the PAGB for 2011-2013 and considered it to be the highest position and honour you could ever achieve in amateur photography. In 2016 he was awarded the highest Award for Service that the PAGB has, the J S Lancaster Medal, with the appellation Hon. PAGB, in recognition of Exceptional Service to the PAGB and photography of which he was exceptionally proud.

On the PAGB Executive he was also the Chairman of Awards Officer for Meritorious Service (APAGB) committee and also the link to the archive through the Archivist.

-ooOoo-

*David Gibbins.* My first recollection of Peter was in 1982 at the opening of the North & East Midlands Photographic Federation Exhibition at Mansfield. It was a very inclement day and the then President and Vice President were unable to attend, so Peter stood in complete with his Arran jumper and Wellington boots. He was in complete control of the situation and came over with authority. Looking back now, after 40 years, it so typified Peter, who always attended Federation events.

I joined the Federation Executive in 1985 and was persuaded to take on the role of Exhibition Secretary in 1987. In those days we used to run the Exhibition from the old Long Eaton Camera Club meeting room, which was above a Butcher's Shop. You arrived on the day of judging and Peter had set everything up.

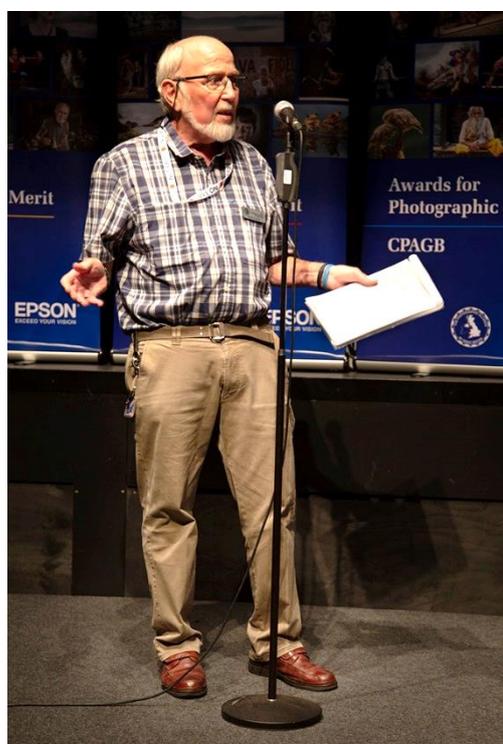


When I became Exhibition Secretary again 4 years ago the judging was in Long Eaton's current venue and Peter had once again set everything up in advance.

Peter owned a large vehicle for towing this caravan and he was able to get a significant amount of print boxes in the back. So for a great many years, right up to the 2020 Exhibition, Peter used to take all the prints home, where Carol did all the labelling and admin. Peter would take them to the venue for judging and, with me latterly, take them to the gallery for hanging. My back is not good for carrying heavy things and by February 2020, Peter was certainly not as strong as he was, but there we were at the Patchings Art Centre bringing the boxes of framed prints back to our storage depot at Derby ready for unframing.

A few years ago, it was obvious that the Federation needed storage facilities, for the archive and for the frames and other material. Peter researched and found a unit in Derby, just opposite Derby County Football Club and set about organising the unit, putting shelving in and ensuring everything was located logically. There was a Boardroom at the Unit which the Federation quickly made use of for framing and unframing the Exhibition prints and for 3 years Peter, Carol and I would also use the facilities to envelope all the catalogues to be sent to Clubs after the Exhibition.

When we used to hold Federation Photographic weekends, Peter was always working behind the scenes to ensure everything was organised and set up for the speakers. Regardless of his official role, he was always around to give help and support.



Peter could be forthright, as some of us have found out at Executive meetings over the years, but with his incredible memory for detail he kept us on the straight and narrow regarding Federation affairs. It is safe to say he could also be stubborn, perhaps more so in later years, struggling with his illness and medication but still insisting that he would do physical tasks.

He could also be persuasive; he had a way of getting things done and persuading people to do roles. When he became the Vice President of the Photographic Alliance of Great Britain, he persuaded me to become the Federations' representative on the Alliance and no sooner had I attended I was then persuaded to take on the role of Patronage Secretary. Whilst serving on the Executive I could experience first-hand the considerable amount of work he did behind the scenes on the Alliance as well.

Regardless of his official role, Peter was always around to help and support.

His proudest moment was becoming President of the PAGB, but his organisational skills were never better demonstrated than for the organisation of the annual Inter-Club Championships held at Warwick University. This is a hugely popular event, representing

the work from the best clubs in each of the Federations. These events would not be the success they were without the planning and organisation by Peter.

When I first knew Peter, he was a keen darkroom worker, who loved producing monochrome prints. When digital came along he didn't fully embrace it, preferring to produce darkroom prints for as long as he could. I was therefore surprised when I judged Long Eaton Camera Club in Oct 2020 that Peter won a creative award with his image of "The Cyclist".



These last twelve months have been very hard, especially for Carol. Peter had many downs and a few ups, and it was extremely frustrating that, as a result of Lockdown, I have not been able to visit Peter and Carol during this time. However, in the summer, we did get an opportunity to have a coffee and a cake at a Garden Centre. That was a happy morning and a lasting memory.

For over 40 years Peter has been an integral part of the Federation "he was always there". He was highly supportive, extremely enthusiastic and very passionate about the Federation and the Alliance and was exceptionally generous with his time. He leaves a huge void in his Photographic Family, but we are left with wonderful memories, and the legacy of what he has achieved for us. *David Gibbins*



Peter, with his team, at The Photography Show



Photographs from Peter's darkroom.

It has always been a pleasure to attend The Photography Show where the PAGB stand was managed by Peter and Carol. He worked tirelessly, collecting the 'props' from the PAGB lockup in Bury, transporting them to the NEC and organising the erection and furnishing of the stand. He organised the rota for personnel to 'man' the stand, and kept us all under-control, ensuring that all the NEC rules and health and safety protocol were observed. Peter and Carol, with a little help from others, received hundreds of visitors to the stand and made them all welcome. They kept a seemingly bottomless 'sweet tray' on hand, which appeared to be one of our greatest attractions.

*Gordon Jenkins*

Peter was a very hard working member of the PAGB Executive, especially in connection with the organisation of the Inter-Club PDI Championship which he ran for many years at Warwick University. He was forthright, loyal to his many friends and a lovely man. We shall miss him.

*Andy & Daphne Hanson*



Peter receiving his well-deserved J.S. Lancaster Medal from the 2016 President, Royston Thomas



Working in the EAF