



Members' Showcase

A Contemporary Group North Activity

Issue 21

DATE March 2025

Members' Showcase

provides a platform for contributors to our monthly meetings to display the work they have shared.

Contributors have curated their own images and provided the accompanying text making this a collaborative group venture.

15th March 2025 — Meeting in person at Clements Hall, York

Chaired by Patricia Ruddle

Contributors:

- 1) Peter Bartlett
- 2) Howard Fisher
- 3) Jackie Fisher
- 4) Harry Silcock
- 5) Morris Gregory
- 6) Martyn Pearson
- 7) Andrew Hersom
- 8) Ian Sayce
- 9) David Leighton



Peter Bartlett ARPSTraces

The origins of this project date back to 2003 or 2004 when I first travelled along the A62 between Marsden and central Huddersfield. I often thought that there may be a photographic series to be created, but didn't take the idea any further apart from the occasional aimless wander along short stretches of Manchester Road itself or around the adjacent villages of Slaithwaite and Marsden.

It wasn't until the summer of 2021 that I decided to develop a structured project. I am an intuitive photographer who reacts to what I see and I set myself the task of photographing whatever caught my eye, interested or amused me as I explored this seven-mile stretch of road and its adjacent communities.

Whenever I went out to shoot I had no specific plan beyond the geographic area I wanted to cover. As a street photographer I expected that a significant proportion of the images would be of people (either candid or informal portraits). But it didn't turn out that way! Of over 350 images only a handful included people. Instead, I photographed the banalities of the urban landscape and the multiple traces that we humans leave in our surroundings.

Initially the working title for the series was geographical, *From Prospect Street to Peel Street*, but as the subject matter of the images evolved the new title, *Traces*, more accurately reflects the content of the photographs.



The following link will take you to an electronic copy of the book which can be viewed in its entirety: <https://www.blurb.co.uk/b/12333252-traces>

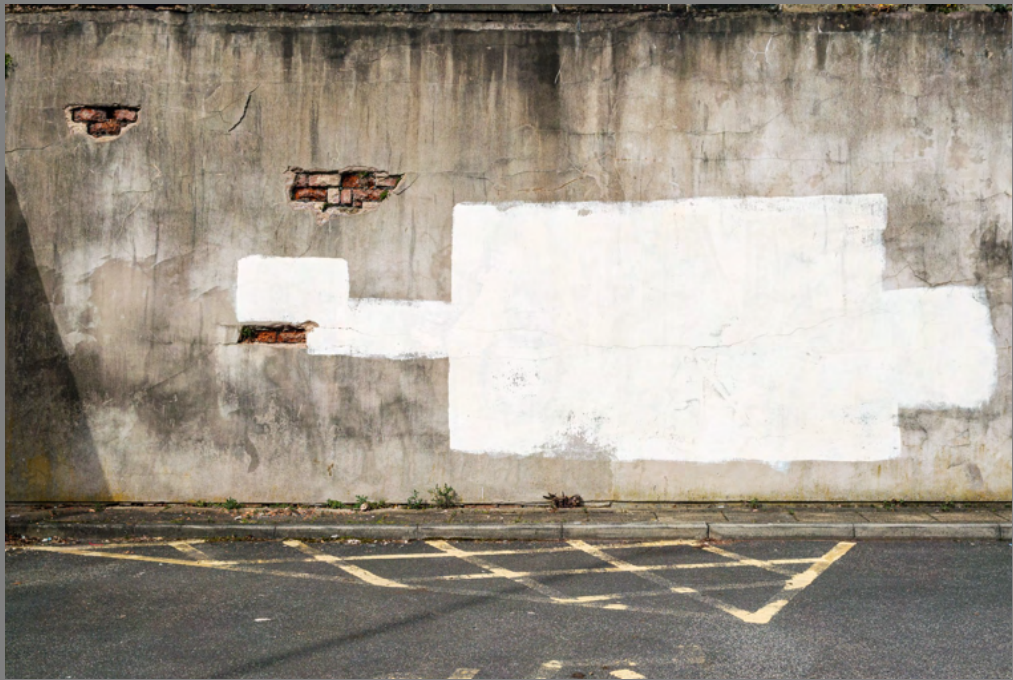














Jackie FisherSneinton Market

Sneinton Market is an area of central Nottingham that was once a traditional mixed market area but has now become disused and run down. A large section suffered a disastrous fire and the elements affected became a dumping area which receive a lot of graffiti as well as providing roosting places for pigeons. My images show this burned down area.

The tunnel (below) shows a view down the current sections. This site is now a vibrant arts, crafts, cafes and small business area and also holds festivals and community events.













Howard FisherMorgan Car Factory

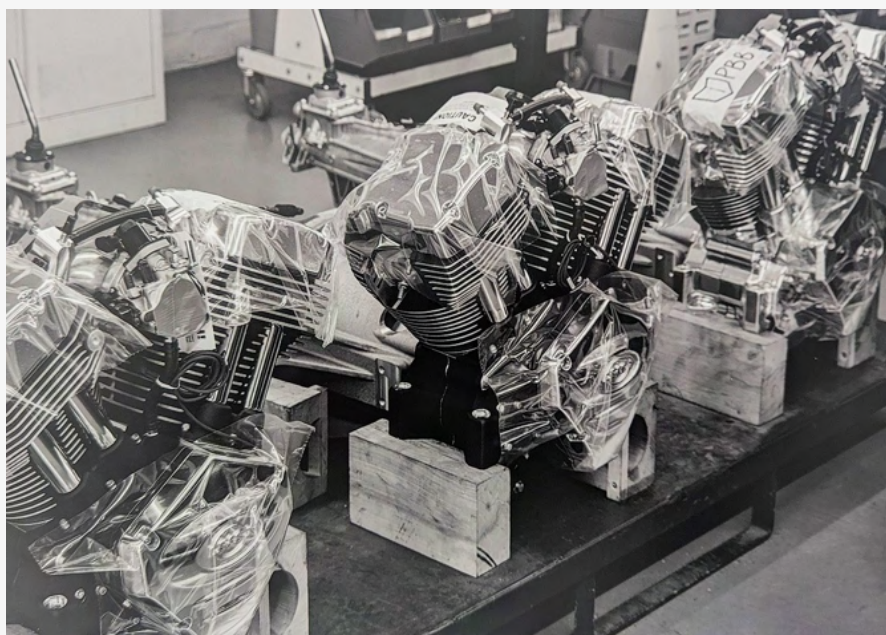
My images are from two visits and tours of the Morgan car factory in Malvern. The sepia one is a copy of a photograph in the factory museum of the founder of the company Henry Morgan who died in 1959.

All the cars are hand built in a traditional manner using ash wood for the frames. Over the years engines from various manufacturers have been used but current are BMW engines. Those for the three-wheeler are sourced from the USA and built by S and S who build engines for the Harley-Davidson motor bikes although one model uses a Ford engine.

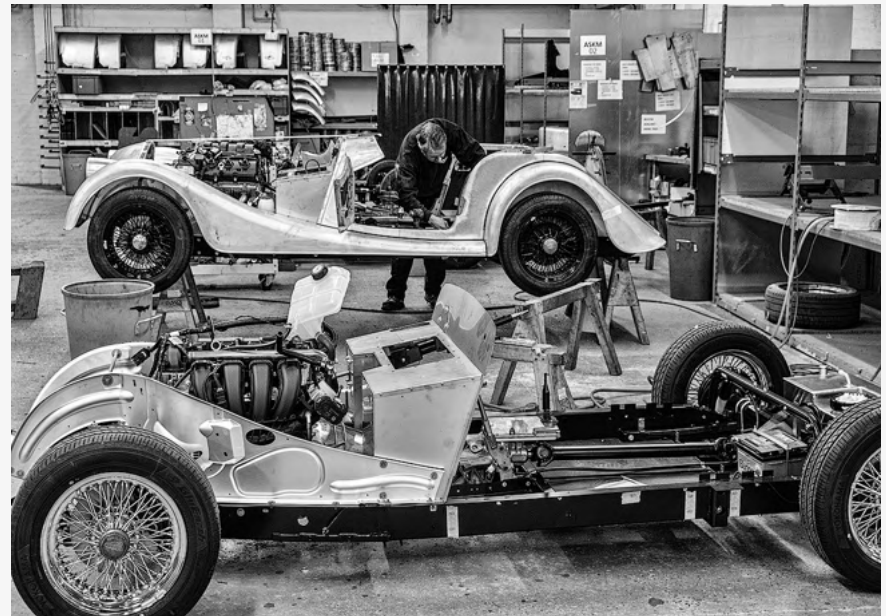
The factory tours follow the assembly pattern of the cars. Photography is freely allowed and the workers are happy to explain what they are doing.

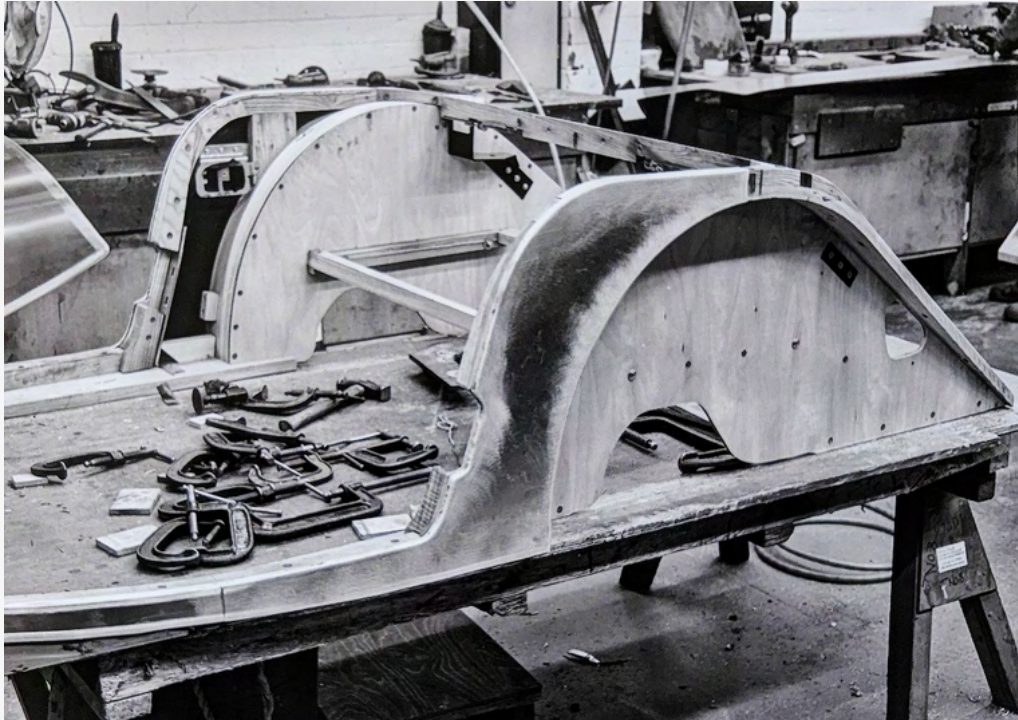
The cars are expensive but provide a unique driving experience in the modern age.









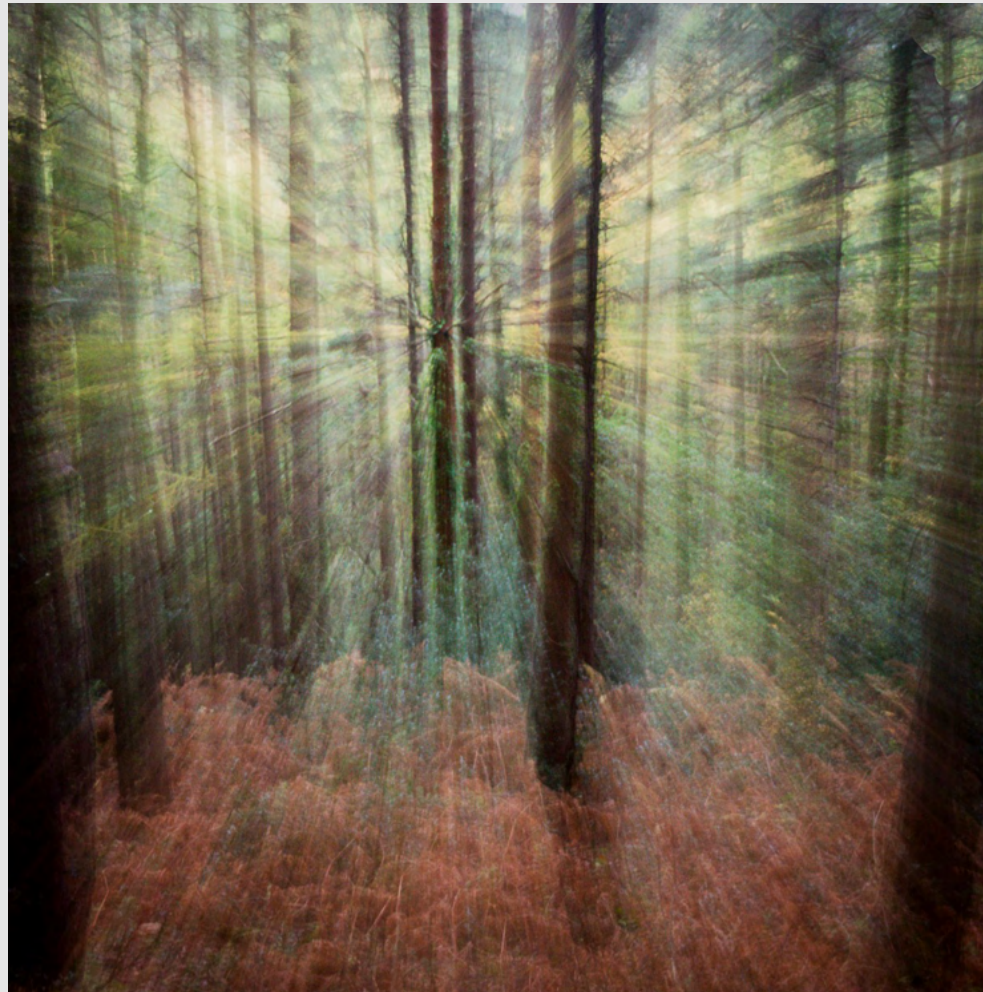




Harry SilcockWoodlands

My intention was to look at the difference between a photograph as a straightforward record of a subject and an artistic interpretation as seen by the creator of the image.

I explained some of the techniques I used, which vary between intentional camera movement and the use of a home made diffusion filter (made from the anti newton glass from a medium format slide holder).









Morris Gregory Japan in Winter

My trip to Japan was primarily a wildlife photography holiday but I did hope I would be able to find some compositions that would fit into a contemporary theme. The opportunities to do so were few and far between as time constraints meant I couldn't ask our coach driver to stop every time I spotted an interesting, for me, minimalist landscape.



Red Crowned Cranes—semi abstract

The main wildlife to be photographed were red crowned cranes, eagles and snow monkeys so I have included these in my selection. A large number of the cranes were in a snowy field which provided a great backdrop. Apart from photos of them displaying I also tried some high key images to provide a semi abstract composition.



White tailed sea eagle

For the eagles (white-tailed and Steller's) I mostly used a high shutter speed but also tried a few motion blur ones, only a couple of which were successful.



Steller's sea eagles fighting



Red foxes mating

While we were on the Notsuke peninsula I did manage to get some more contemporary shots, including impressionistic landscapes, ice hole fishermen and environmental photos of red foxes in the icy landscape.



Ice fishermen in snowstorm



Snow monkeys





Snowy landscape

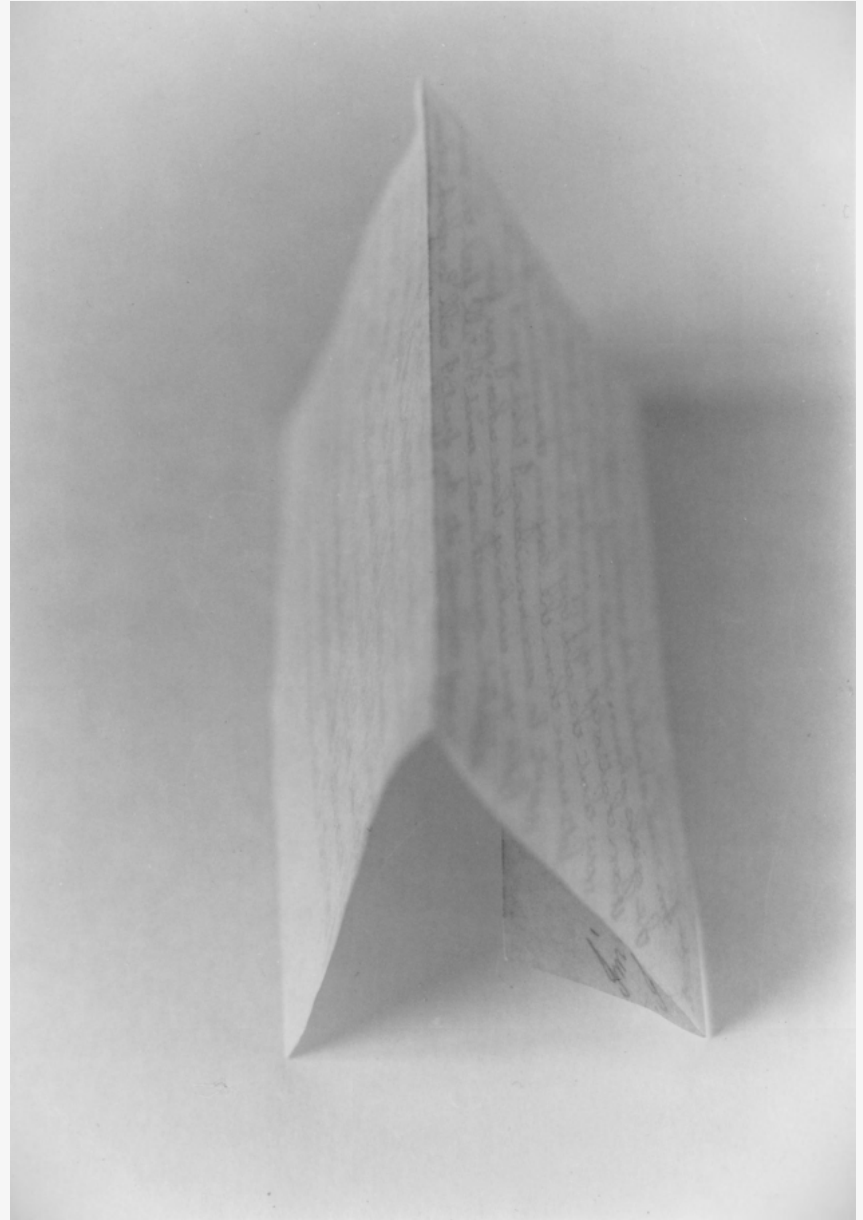
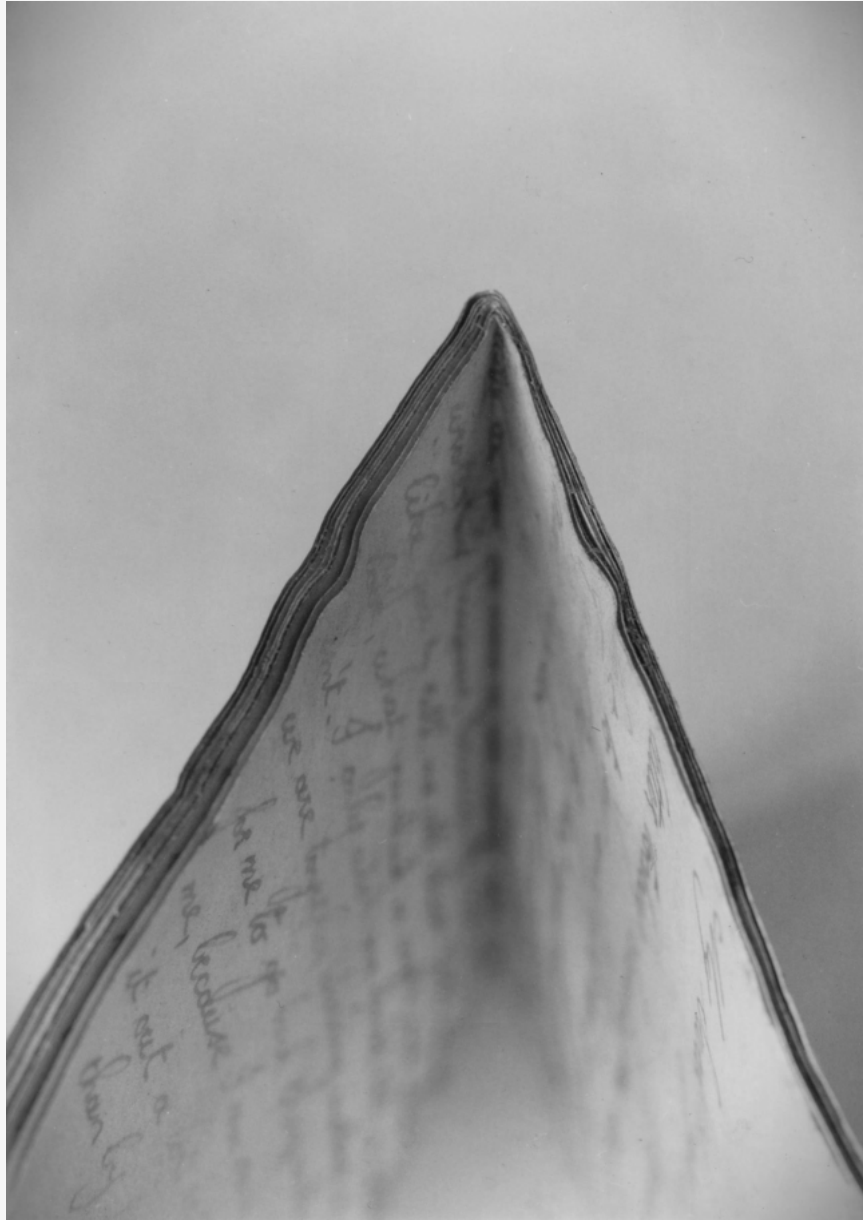


Flowing water

Martyn Pearsonfrom the series Love Letters

Between 1952 and 1954, and while doing his military National Service, my father and the girl who he later married exchanged romantic letters almost every day. I now photograph these letters even though they have been damaged by damp, partially eaten by mice and are turning to dust. My parents are now in their 90s, their health is failing and perhaps the fading letters serve as a metaphor for the inevitability of human mortality.





...for sent him w
which I believe
...came here from w
...to bed. She's stu
...house he's working.
...you better top 20.

Tranquely.

2 Where is Your Head. D.

3 I Believe.

4 I believe. D.



Andrew Hersom

These images are from my ongoing project of shop window/display mannikins. They were taken at the Bowes Museum, Co Durham from the recent Vivian Westwood fashion exhibition.









Ian SayceVenice Carnivale





















David LeightonScanning Negatives

Over the Christmas and New Year holidays, I was looking for something worth watching on television and I discovered a channel on Sky TV, which was showing old situation comedies, one of which was “Whatever happened to the Likely Lads”. Part of the signature tune words struck a chord with me especially as I have a birthday which people class as a memorable one coming up this year. The words of the music were:-

TOMORROW’S ALMOST OVER, TODAY WENT BY SO FAST

IT’S THE ONLY THING TO LOOK FORWARD TO, THE PAST

This reminded me that I had lots of negative in my archives which I have never used. I had previously attempted scanning negatives but with little success as far as I was concerned. I decided to have another try and I selected some 120-film negatives taken on a Bronica ETRS medium format camera. For these scans, I also looked at adjusting the scan size of the final image along with adjustments to brightness and contrast at the scanning stage which all produced a better final result. Having found some of the answers to producing better images, I found that my images from 35mm film could produce a better result with further processing. The only problem was the initial scans took longer to obtain.



Original



First Edit



Final Edit



Original



First Edit



Final Edit



I have included these two portraits. They are both originals with no need to process further. In both cases the lighting set up should not have worked but actually did produce just the results I wanted so it just goes to show that it's worth experimenting.

