

THE RPS ROYAL PHOTOGRAPHIC SOCIETY

CONTEMPORARY GROUP

Members' Showcase
A Contemporary Group North Activity

Issue 35
October 2026

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.

Compiled and designed by Lyn Newton

Cover image by Wendy North

17th October 2026 —Meeting via Zoom
Chaired by Patricia Ruddle

Contributors:

Wendy North

Nigel Tooby

Carol Olerud

Sean Goodhart

Michel Claverie

John Elvin

Peter Bartlett



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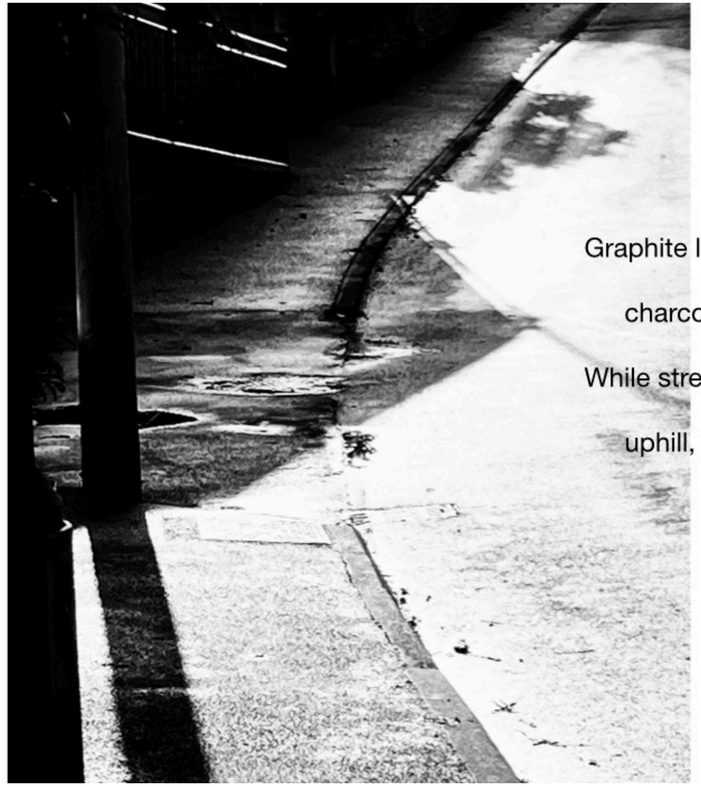
My village



Take the road through

Wendy North
2025





Graphite lines and

charcoal smudges create the shadows

While streaks of light, mark my way

uphill, past the chapel.







I follow the gritstone
wall

which casts its
shadow along the

pavement.

Black on black

Black on the pavement where
I walk
and black where my walking
stick
stands tall



Through the
brightness that
dazzles and blinds
me

I reach the shade of
the trees that
hide the children’s
playground





Walking on

Back into the shade and further up the hill. I reach the club…



where the anonymity of the building provides a blank canvas onto which I can project my ideas.

Nigel Tooby FRPS

This work concerns farming centred on rural Cumbria. It is a developing project being undertaken with the kind assistance of H&H Auction Mart in Carlisle.

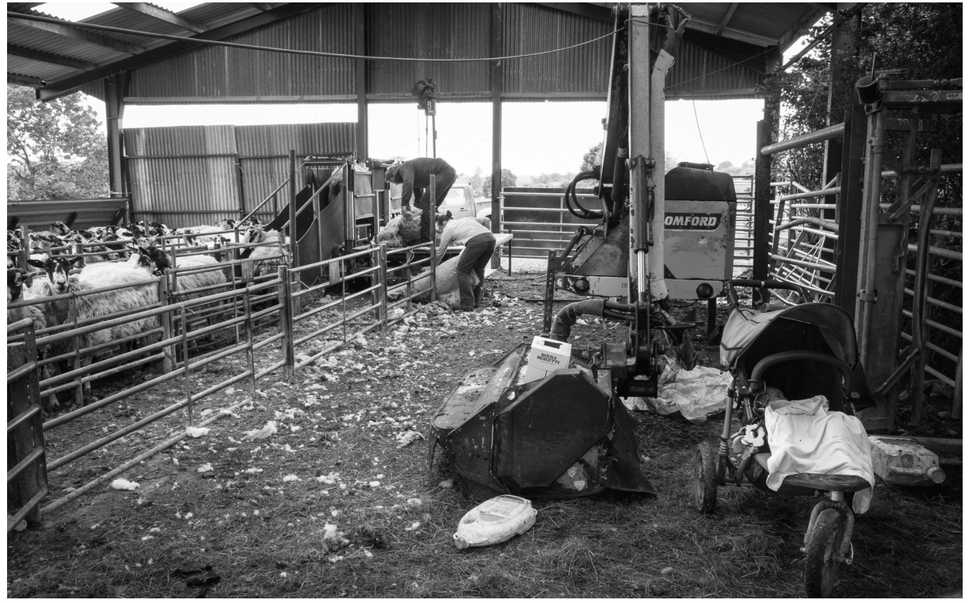
These are some of the early images shared with Contemporary North at this month's meeting.

I have deliberately avoided portraits and concentrated on the work, challenges and, sometimes, isolation of the farming community.

Many of the farms are family affairs with generational history and they and their lands are, at present, under substantial stress from market forces, re-wilding, Government rural policy and the drive to net zero, where tree planting and huge solar arrays deprive the land of its ability to provide food security for the nation.

Often the local farms in the area are small family-run enterprises rather than huge industrial operations. Although asset-rich on paper, they are often cash-poor, with some struggling to survive and the work is hard. Cash-strapped farmers have to tackle a wide variety of tasks to maintain a farm, from animal husbandry, sales and acquisitions to construction. The work continues all day, every day and through the night when cows are calving or the six week lambing season is in full flow.

It is hoped that the project will result in a photobook and exhibition and any and all proceeds will be donated in full to the *Field Nurse* charity working to prevent suicides among the farming community, where the rate is traditionally very high.




The
Beef Game







Carol Olerud FRPS

I was lucky enough to be invited to a wedding in Mexico earlier this year. It was held in Puruándiro, in Michoacán, just northwest of Mexico City. My son's in-laws live here, and it was the wedding of his wife's sister. Puruándiro is not a typical tourist town. It is off the beaten path, so for us it really was an authentic experience. At 36c it was hot, noisy, busy and chaotic. A real experience on this, our second visit here.



While walking around in the small town centre I saw many people riding their scooters. Entire families, with or without helmets, fastened and unfastened. Luckily, they don't go very fast.








Farmacia El Pastillero
A Precio por tu Salud
Farmacia El Pastillero






Regina Zapatería
PLATERIA "LUCERO"
del CENTRO


Farmacia Guadalajara


DEMORE ZAPATERIAS
COMO SIEMPRE PENSANDO EN TI...
Regina Zapatería




ABARROTES "GÓMEZ"
SUPER
CLINICA LILI CUZMAN

Sean Goodhart ARPS

I went to Seville for a city break in late April/early May 2025, with the intention of shooting a photo project taking in all the cultural stuff going on (religious and otherwise), plus of course indulging my passion for architecture. We saw the tail end of processions of Nazarenes and the beginning of the April fair (which is in May because Easter was late).
The bullfight at Real Maestranza de Caballería de Sevilla coincides with La Feria de Abril so we took the opportunity to investigate this aspect of Spanish culture. My viewpoint was from quite a distance across the Maestranza de Sevilla, but that does not lessen the impact.

There was glitz, glamour and death in the afternoon…



Suerte de Capote

The four stages of action:



Tercio de Varos



Tercio de Banderillas



Tercio de Muerte



Ovación

Michel Claverie ….. Monga Khan meets the new AUSSIE street

The AUSSIE series of posters created in 2016 by the artist Peter Drew are a well-known feature of the streets of Adelaide and of several other Australian cities. The posters are a comment on Australian immigration, and particularly the now defunct Immigration Restriction Act 1901, better known as the White Australia policy. Among the photographs submitted by prospective immigrants with their applications for a Certificate of Exemption from the Dictation Test, the photograph of Monga Khan, together with his story, has become widely known.



Peter Drew's AUSSIE posters decay with time, weathered by rain, wind and sun and tagged by other society commentators. I like to record the transformation of the posters, often returning to a location to keep track of their fate.

A particular Monga Khan AUSSIE poster, stuck on the fence of a construction site at the intersection of two busy streets in Adelaide city centre, offered an unexpected interaction between the imagination of the artist and the daily street activity. While it remained visible over a period of seven months, Monga Khan met the new Aussie street.

I present the pictures in chronological order, from February to August 2026




LANE
7AM - 7PM
MON - FRI
PROP MUSIC NOT BOMBS


FRI 18 - SUN 20 SEPTEMBER
SOCIALISM
2026
CONFERENCE ADELAIDE
AUSSIE


LANE
7AM - 7PM
MON - FRI


LANE
7AM - 7PM
MON - FRI
OPENING
Return this
bag with quality
donations


AUSSIE



John Elvin ….. Serendipity?

A few weeks ago whilst on holiday on the Isle of Mull I took these three images. The first is a very ordinary holiday snap taken with my Sony A7R set on aperture priority.

Within minutes, I took the two panoramic shots, only altering the camera settings to panoramic, and the results were very different (but not unattractive).

When looking at the meta data it was noticed that for some reason the two panoramic images were 1.7 stops under, but I can't think that this is enough to explain the difference. This Sony camera's light balance has always been somewhat unreliable, but never as far out as this. Any explanations or suggestions will be helpful.







Peter Bartlett ARPS ….. A Grand Day Out

Throughout the summers of 2023 and 2024 I visited and photographed agricultural shows with a radius of less that ninety minutes' drive from my home in semi-rural West Yorkshire. My aim was to capture the atmosphere of these events which attract both the farming community and people from nearby urban areas.



From the several hundred images I have produced a self-published book, *A Grand Day Out*. This is a small selection and the whole book can be viewed by following this link:

https://www.blurb.co.uk/b/13008514-a-grand-day-out








Splat the Rat!










FORD

Contemporary Group North Activity Group Meetings

Saturday 21/11/26 12.00 GMT - Clements Hall, York

Saturday 12/12/26 13.00 GMT - Online - Street Photography