



# DAVENTRY

## PHOTOGRAPHIC SOCIETY



Graham Brown © Michael fuller

## Graham Brown

I was totally shocked and gutted to hear of the untimely death of Graham. I wanted to record my feelings in some small way so here goes.

During my time as Chairman of the Society he was Vice Chairman and I could not have asked for a better and more supportive person in that role. He not only performed the role of Vice Chairman but contributed to the Society in so many ways and in particular running the competition evenings, recording and distributing the results, and maintaining the overall annual scores.

He was always first at the Society on a Tuesday evening, getting the equipment out and setting it up, and then putting it away at the end. He played a part in most sessions by manning the 'laptop' and co-hosting the evenings activities.



Graham Brown © John Lewis

On so many occasions when I was unable to attend the Society, he stood in for me hosting the evening for which I will always be very grateful. One of his greatest contributions was his wise counsel at our Management Committee Meetings which was a source of great common sense, expertise and sound judgement.

He was friendly, totally dependable, a brilliant photographer and will be terribly missed.

John Lewis  
Chairman, Daventry Photographic Society, 2007 - 2017



Graham Brown © John Lewis





Brown Bear © Graham Brown

I concur fully with John's personal tribute and I would also add that Graham was always so dedicated to the Daventry Photographic Society. He would always freely give his time and share his excellent knowledge of photography to any and every member who needed his help.

That not only was he an excellent Vice Chairman and Competition Secretary I would regularly seek his advice on photographic queries, but also on how we should run our Society particularly in these first two years of my being Chairman. I consider it to have been a real privilege to have known him, not only for his immense contribution to the Society, but for me the greatest loss and sadness is losing him as a true and very good friend over the many years I have known him. Graham was one of the nicest, kindest and helpful men that I have had the pleasure to call a friend and I will really miss him. A real gentle man.

Regards Roland

Roland Puleston Jones  
Chairman - Daventry Photographic Society

## **Graham Brown Tribute - Chris Baldwin**

Every member of the Daventry Photographic Society knew Graham. He was the vice chairman and the competitions secretary.

We all knew him because he was the one who arrived early every week to set up the club computer and projector. He was the one there at the club when we arrived and was often the last one to go because he knew how to put everything away.

He was the one we sent our competition photos and print names to. He was the one who then always promptly sent out the results.

He was the one that often alerted us to, or organised our club outings.

He was the one that deputised for the chairman and welcomed judges and speakers or thanked members for their contributions when the chairman was absent.

Yes, we all knew Graham because he was such an important and dedicated member of the club, however, did we know him well?

One member that did know Graham very well was Chris Baldwin. They became firm friends when Chris's wife Dawn, who worked at Cummins, introduced Graham to Chris. Graham had noticed some photos Chris had taken on Dawn's reception desk and asked about them. That was how they got to know each other and a close friendship developed based initially on the shared interest and love of photography.

As their friendship grew they attended courses together enjoying each other's company especially on any journeys to and from the course venues. Afterwards they would compare observations, lessons learnt and images. They were always courteous to each other and would discuss what photos they would use in a club competition if they thought they both might use a similar image. Graham was doing well in the league this year and it is poignant that he should have won the last competition he entered. He was, though, able to enjoy that achievement as evidenced by his congratulating himself when he circulated the results email.

Graham's love of wildlife was well known especially his fondness for bears. He had been on two recent photographic trips in this regard. Chris mentioned that on a recent trip to his sister, who lives in Canada, Graham had tried to persuade his nephew to hold his wedding at an important time of year on the bear calendar. Graham was going to be the photographer at his nephew's wedding but he was hoping it would coincide with a trip to see the bears feeding on salmon in Alaska.

Graham diligently compiled a book of the best images he had taken each year. These books are a testament to the talent that Graham had as a photographer. He was also a well-respected metallurgist at Cummins. He achieved his degree at Aston University and joined Cummins around 2002 and was a senior manager in the metallurgy department. His knowledge was often called upon as a trouble-shooter and asked to attend meetings in Chicago and Germany.

Graham was also a talented cook and Chris mentioned he would often turn up on his doorstep bearing muffins or fruitcakes. Not surprisingly he liked eating good food too and was a fan of Dawn's cooking. He became a regular visitor to the house to share an evening meal with Chris and Dawn. I said I remembered having to 'fight' Graham for the club fig biscuits - another favourite of his. Chris said he was also very keen on mince pies which



Photo © Rob Dawson

Dawn makes, one year using her own homemade mincemeat that included a very healthy quantity of Glayva, a type of Scot's whiskey. That year Chris had told Graham to limit his

consumption to only two mince pies at a time otherwise he would be over the drink drive limit!

In addition to cooking Graham enjoyed reading, his favourite being fantasy books. A few years ago Graham was a keen hockey player but he had given that up and so he and Chris had developed a routine of going to the cinema on Thursdays. Their arrangement being whoever drove also bought the ice-creams. Chris thinks the portion size they ordered had increased over the years. Another favourite of theirs was fish & chips at the White Horse in Norton which they would eat in the pub – I wondered how they were making time for photography.

However, Graham not only made time for photography as evidenced by his images but he also made time for people.

As one club member said to me he always had a smile for you. He was well known for helping those that asked for advice with their cameras and the like. In addition he frequently took photographs of events for Daventry Town Council. Until his mother recently passed away Graham also spent his weekends staying with her and looking after her needs.

We all know what a diligent member of the club we have lost but Chris knows better than most of us that we have also lost a very kind man. © Christine Prickett

## **Graham's funeral**

I can now confirm Graham's funeral will be held on Wednesday the 30th January

- At 13:30, at the Peterborough Crematorium, Mowbray Road, PE6 7JE
- And afterwards at The Fitzwilliam Arms in Marholm, PE6 7HX, which is just up the road from the Crematorium.
- The Funeral Directors dealing with Graham's arrangements are:
  - Crowsons Funeral Directors, 48 Barnwell, Nr Oundle, Peterborough, PE8 5PS.
  - The Family have requested Family flowers only, but donations can be made via them, which will then be sent onto The Myton Hospices.
- Please email Roland as soon as possible, but definitely by Saturday 26<sup>th</sup> January, if you plan to attend so that we can liaise with the family re the post funeral event at The Fitzwilliam Arms to help the family make catering arrangements.
- Linda has bought a condolences card for members to sign and if you wish to give a donation in Graham's memory Please can you give that money to either Colin, Linda or Roland by no later than Tuesday 29<sup>th</sup> Meeting so we can give the undertakers a cheque as a Joint Donation from Members of Daventry Photographic Society.
- As Peterborough is approximately 60 miles away I suggest that we share cars as much as possible to avoid parking issues and minimise environmental damage. Roland will take Geoffrey and that will leave 2 more space in my car if people want a lift. Please let Roland Know if you can offer a lift to other members or if you want or need a lift to the funeral.

Kind Regards Roland

Roland Puleston Jones

Chairman - Daventry Photographic Society - 07818 252498