

Dunfermline Photographic Association 1926 – 2026

By Ian Monk

On Friday 28th May 1926 an informal meeting of nine camera enthusiasts was held in the Yorkshire Insurance Company office to consider the formation of a photographic club in Dunfermline. Those present were:-

J Simpson, W Brown, A Lauder, G Morgan, J C Rae, R E Forrester, D E Horne, D Ednie and R Steedman

A basic constitution was agreed at the meeting of 28 May 1926, the main points being the title of the Club which was to be "The Dunfermline Photographic Association". The composition of the Council was agreed and new members had to be proposed by two members and approved by the Council. There was to be an entry fee of 2/6d (12 ½ pence) and an annual subscription of 5/- (25p). A public meeting to be held in St Margaret's Hall was to be advertised in the local press.

1926



At the first annual general meeting held on 27 September 1927, it was reported that there were forty-eight members, including the four honorary members. Mr Andrew Allan, Hon Vice-President presented a Member's Trophy, "The Allan Trophy", which was won by William Brown and Mr George Douglas presented a trophy for the Beginner's Section which was won by Andrew Sharp. This of course became known as the "Douglas Trophy".

A portfolio of seven prints were chosen from the sixty-eight entries in the Annual Exhibition for the SPF Portfolio and gained sixth place out of sixteen clubs competing. In the following year the Association achieved first place in the SPF Portfolio.



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The last AGM of the Dunfermline Photographic Association before it celebrates one hundred years since it was founded was held in the Dell Farquharson centre chaired by the current president Gillian Temple. Membership costs have risen since 1926, when fees were just 2/6d, and AGMs now take place in April, with twenty members attending this year to discuss refinements to the club's key competitions

2026



The club continues to compete in the various SPF competitions with some notable performances. This season David Scott won the Best Overall Mono Print in the Portfolio, the club came third equal in the Digital and Gillian Temple won the Best Nature Print in the Print Championship.



Mr Andrew Allan would be pleased to know that the cup he presented as 'a Member's Trophy' is still in use today and is awarded to the winner of the Annual Competition best mono print.

While the DPA Centenary Event is set to be a great celebration it will be tinged with a note of sadness following the unexpected loss of the world famous and Dunfermline born photographer and videographer Doug Allan who was to be the key speaker.

Looking ahead to its second century, the club aims to foster creativity, expression, and community while welcoming new members and bringing together Dunfermline's photographic voices to grow stronger and compete with confidence in SPF and Inter-Fife competitions.

