

About the Carers Camera Club

- the club is run by carers for carers, with oversight from Carers in Hertfordshire (CiH);
- we provide a safe, friendly and supportive environment for members to meet and chat;
- we are keen to keep within CiH guidelines and aim to help them meet their goals in any way we can;
- the Club has existed since 2011 and today we are about 30 strong, around a third of us regularly active within the club;
- we have held three public exhibitions, in 2015 (Hertford), 2018 (Stevenage) and 2022/3 (Radlett);
- we work with CiH very closely and are asked to take images at events which are used in CiH publications, publicity and information (such as Carewaves or their website);
- in 2022 we provided images for a CiH collaborative project with other carers who were “creative writers” to demonstrate the creativity of carers to key external supporters of CiH and was very well received;
- we have also provided images for Christmas card for Carers in Hertfordshire.

Communication

- we communicate by email - individually and as a group;
- we share email addresses within the group, and strictly NOT outside the group with the exception of some relevant CiH liaison staff;
- we don't use any “social media” (for the group);
- for “online” activities we use a free and easy to use video conferencing package (Jitsi Meet);
- we have a private image gallery (hosted by one of our members);
- members can post images, receive feedback and comment on other people's images;
- and of course, we meet face to face when appropriate.

What do we do?

We acknowledge that we all have a caring role so not everyone can always join in, and that is absolutely fine.

- we meet once a month face to face, - in central Hertfordshire, for about 2 hours;
- members are free to come along for all or part of the time;
- monthly meetings usually include a video link, if technology allows, to provide remote access;
- each meeting incorporates a “Photo Challenge” (it's not a competition), and commenting session;
- we arrange occasional outings, to local “attractions”, we like to incorporate tea & cake and perhaps lunch depending on location, and we like to share images via the gallery;
- occasional tutorials and workshops
- occasional “talks” by external photographers
- an online monthly Quiz Night (General Knowledge based) on the last Saturday evening of each month.

Carers in Hertfordshire Carers Camera Club - General Information Sheet

Ron Baber / Sandy Robertson July2023 Ver 1.2

Taking part in any activity is completely voluntary, and will, hopefully, help you develop your skills and knowledge, but the old adage “the more you put in, the more you get out” is certainly true!

A “typical” Camera Club member?

Quite simply, there isn’t a “typical” member profile just like there isn’t a typical carer. We have members who are new to photography and also members who have been taking photos for many years; we have people interested in Nature, and people interested in Astronomy, and people interested in “places”; some people like to take images straight out of camera and others are into compositing and digital art. We have people using mobile phone cameras, and those using SLR/DSLR cameras and, of course we have those in between.

We all have two things in common-

- we are all carers so we understand you might not be able to make every meeting which is why we use email to share information between us;
- and we all enjoy photography and want to develop our skills and improve our techniques, our knowledge and our images.

We hope the above information is helpful and gives you a feel for what goes on in the Camera Club, but the best way to find out is to join in!

If you are interested in joining please contact Carers in Hertfordshire

by phone on 01992 58 69 69;

or email to contact@carersinherts.org.uk

and ask them to pass on your details to us.

Carers in Hertfordshire <https://www.carersinherts.org.uk/>

Carers Camera Club webpage:

<https://www.carersinherts.org.uk/how-we-help-carers/meet-other-carers/carers-camera-club/>