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## Dave Martin wins DPS Photographer of the Year & Damien O'Malley wins Advanced Photographer of the Year.

There was great excitement at DPS "Photographer of the Year" competition on Thursday night last. The Society were forced to leave their home in Conradh Na Gaeilge in Seatown due to the recent fire next door and would like to thank Dundalk Sub Aqua Club who quickly came to the rescue by offering the use of their premises and top class facilities in their Quay Street headquarters. The society's chairman, Paul Twibill, acknowledged their support, and indeed made reference to both groups working together in the past.

The Photographer of the Year competition is the culmination of the monthly competitions within the club and its only after have several rounds that members can qualify for the final. Clubmembers who competed in the final in the senior section were Gabriel O'Shaughnessy, David Martin, Ciaran DeBhal, Charlie Flynn and Tony McDonnell. And in the advanced section clubmembers competing were Evalds Gaspazins, Damien O'Malley, Alex Coroliu, Michael Mackin and Pat McHenry.

All of the competitors presented 12 of their favourite images, drawn from the earlier rounds, to the judging panel. The three man judging panel was made up of Mark Sedgwick FIPF (Celbridge Camera Club), Paul Stanley AIPF (Dublin Camera Club) and Gerry Kelleher FIPF (Dublin Camera Club). All three judges remarked on the outstanding quality of the images on display, and commended the society on their consistent performance on the National and international stage. With a total of 120 of the society's top images on display the judging panel were hard pressed to make their decisions. Indeed on several occasions the judges found themselves awarding top marks, such was the standard of work.

Tony McDonnell's beautiful images and Charlie Flynn's environmental portraits were highly scored. Some amazingly creative images by Ciaran deBhal achieved top marks, while Gabriel O'Shaughnessy's assortment of brilliantly crafted portraits were a big favourite on the night and helped him go on and win the senior colour print section. However it was David Martin's magnificent selection of land/sea scape's coupled together with beautifully lit and softly printed portraits that earned him the Monochrome section and ultimately the 2013 DPS Photographer of the Year title.



In the Advanced section Alex Coroliu produced a stunning set of images including some cracking motor-sport and dirt bike shots, which deservedly earned him the colour print title. Evalds Gaspazins also featured well in this section, and Michael Mackin achieved excellent scores. In the Monochrome section Damien O'Malley had a commanding win with his beautifully printed images demonstrating a great eye for detail, which didn't go unnoticed to the judges. Newry man Pat McHenry scored well in both colour and monochrome sections with a very consistent portfolio of work which harnessed him enough points to see him earn a very well deserved second place overall but the honours in the advanced section went to Damien O'Malley. This is a great achievement considering the relative short number of years that Damien has been a member of the club.

The Non-Advanced competition finished a month earlier with Clodagh Tumilty taking the honours. Clodagh won in the colour section and also tied joint first with Tony Moriarty in the monochrome section. It is a terrific achievement for Clodagh who submitted a collection of really outstanding images all year.

Well done to all club members who took part in the competitions this year. Once again it has been a great year with some terrific images on show. Keep up the good work 😊

**CONGRATULATIONS TO  
DAVE, DAMIEN & CLODAGH  
– 2013 POTY's!**