



# DPS bestow Lifetime Honorary Membership to Denis Whelehan

In the thirty five year history of Dundalk Photographic Society Honorary Membership has never been bestowed to any member by the Committee and membership. However in 2013 there is one member who after twenty seven years as a member and having served in every position in the Society and some of the positions were held for multiple years and given the influence the efforts of this person has had and continues to have on the direction and successes of Dundalk Photographic Society these efforts could no longer go unrecognised.

It was during fundraiser held by the society that Chairman of Dundalk Photographic Society Ciaran deBhal announced that Denis Whelehan was about to be presented with lifetime Honorary Membership of Dundalk Photographic Society . Chairman Ciaran deBhal said on the night of Denis Whelehan, "Denis Whelehan has gone above and beyond his call of duty to ensure the smooth running of the club. He has donated more time to the club than any other member that I am aware of. He has simultaneously held a seat on club committee, regional committee, national committee and international committee. He is available as a sounding board morning, noon and night and is the first port of call if something needs to be done. He is probably the most thorough and diligent person I have personally known and his energy and enthusiasm for all things photographic is endless. He has earned distinctions from our National Body, the IPF, the International Federation, FIAP and had been awarded a distinction from the Photographic Society of America for his work in its promotion throughout Ireland and the UK.

As I said, never before in the 35 year history of the club has this ever been done. The committee have decided to honour this member for the huge input he has made to the club over the years and we would like to offer lifetime honorary membership of Dundalk Photographic Society to Denis Whelehan AIPF EFIAP APSA".

President of the Irish Photographic Federation Mr John Cuddihy from Kilkenny, who attended the event spoke of the contribution that Denis has made and continues to make for Irish Photography on the national and international scene. President John Cuddihy spoke of Denis's work as International competitions Selection Coordinator and took with him trophies Ireland has won while Denis was at the helm. President John Cuddihy presented Denis with a medal on behalf of the Irish Photographic Federation for his efforts. President John Cuddihy then gave Denis a trophy won by Ireland in previous competition in which Denis Whelehan played a huge part.



It would be nigh impossible to describe outside of a book the contribution Denis Whelehan has played In Dundalk Photographic Society, but there is one fact that remains Denis Whelehans work for Dundalk Photographic Society could never be said to be self fulfilling it can be seen by anyone who has worked alongside Denis or has spent much time in the Society that Denis puts the Society first. Denis was accompanied on the night by his wife Joan and his daughters Anne Marie, Clare and Siobhan.

