

## **Ballymoney Amateur Photographic Club**

### **Water in Causeway Coast & Glens**

The subject for the panel was chosen because, since most of the club members live in close proximity to the ocean, it was one that we thought would be accessible to everyone. About a third of club members submitted work that was considered for inclusion in the panel, but in the end the work of seven members was chosen: David Wright (2), Jennifer James (2), Grainne Dixon (2), Leonard Ferguson (1), Mary Hill (1), Brendan Gillan (1) and Anne Doherty (1).

In assembling the panel, consideration was given to ensuring that a range of interpretations of the topic were included but with the proviso that the panel had to conform to a balanced layout that had harmony in colour, composition or subject matter. Several excellent images were considered but were not included as they were either too similar to others, or disturbed the harmony of the panel as a whole – for example by being extremely colourful and therefore drawing attention away from other images.

The panel is arranged with the central image featuring the Causeway stones, to represent the region from which we drew our images. It also illustrates that in the presence of water, life will establish itself almost anywhere. The photographs at the left- and right-hand ends of the top row of the panel show coastal views that demonstrate the shaping of the coastline that has resulted from the relentless impact of ocean waves on it. The wonderful sunsets (and sunrises) that can be seen over the water are also a major draw for visitors to the area. The middle image at the top reminds us that the water is also the habitat for a variety of fauna. The presence of two birds, looking in opposite directions, was felt to give a balanced feel to the top row.

The images on either side in the middle row were chosen to illustrate that the impact of moving water can either be instantaneous, when huge waves strike coastal features, or more gradual, as is the case with stones that have been smoothed and rounded over the millennia.

The bottom row of images was included to show some of the ways in which water in our region is the source of recreation and pleasure for both visitors and local residents. The movement of the surfer riding the wave (on the left), and the gaze of the young child (on the right) exploring a rock pool with a net, direct the viewer to the inner two photographs. The exuberance and obvious joy of the group of sea swimmers show another pastime that is popular in the water around the Causeway Coast & Glens region.