

Chairman's Speech

Exmouth Photo Group 50th Anniversary Lunch Speech

A fiftieth anniversary is a momentous occasion, and it's great that so many of the current members of Exmouth Photo Group are here to celebrate with past-members who served the club in previous years.

The world was a different place back in 1969:

- **The Beatles** give their last public performance, on the roof of Apple Records.
- **The Boeing 747 Jumbo Jet**, the world's largest aeroplane, makes its first-ever commercial flight.
- A US aeroplane is shot down by **North Korea** – maybe that's not quite so different...
- **The Who** releases "**Tommy**", and are actually touring with it **this** year to celebrate its own 50th anniversary.
- The very last episode of '**Star Trek**' airs on TV – though again it's very much still with us in a new format.
- **Prince Charles** is invested with the title 'Prince of Wales' at Caernarfon.
- **Neil Armstrong** becomes the first man to walk on the Moon.
- **Woodstock** Music Festival opens with over 400,000 young people in attendance.
- "**Monty Python's Flying Circus**" airs on BBC One for the first time, and regular colour television broadcasts begin.
- And in **Exmouth**, a new **Photo Group** is formed by Tony Langmead, the first Chairman, John Stredwick, John Hinman, Leonard Wills, Peter Dawson, R Beattie and Nigel Batten.

There was a long-established camera club in Exmouth before this, but the new Photo Group was set up to encourage members to actively go out and take photos, a principle that has remained true over the fifty years of its existence.

I'm very pleased that Tony and his wife Lucy were able to join us today, as this forges a strong link with the past. Finally – a big 'thank you' to Maurice Chittock for organising today's meal, and to Stella French for baking the magnificent cake that you'll see in the sun lounge after the meal.

Ian Bateman FRPS MPAGBAPAG AV-AFIAP

Chairman

Exmouth Photo Group

30 August 2019