

Forest of Galtres Camera Club

13th January

The Streets of York with Christine Shepherd

Christine is a York based photographer who loves photographing everything from landscapes to plants and sport to animals. She has travelled widely from Alaska to South America, from Masai Mara to Iceland and not forgetting the east Yorkshire coast and Scotland. She has worked for many charitable causes including Cheshire Homes. She loves capturing the impact of light on our beautiful world.

Christine came on Monday to share many of the photographs she had taken for a major York based project which led to an exhibition held in St William's College in York called The Streets of York: Four Centuries of Change and the publication of a beautiful book. She was one of six authors. All proceeds from the sale of books and the exhibition itself went to three charities: York Against Cancer, the York Minster Fund and York Civic Trust.

Paintings and drawings of York street scenes were accessed from a variety of sources including private collections. One of the oldest drawings dated back to 1740. Occasionally there were old photographs from the end of the nineteenth and early twentieth centuries too. Christine was able to show us a location in the form of a drawing or painting and the same location today through the lens of her camera and sometimes as it was photographed a hundred years ago or more. The evening proved an interesting way to find out how streets have changed over the years and in many cases, that some original features are still there.

The included images show Jubbergate painted by John England Jefferson in 1885 compared with Christine's photograph showing how the foreground building is the same structure and that many of the surrounding buildings have been removed including the medieval church in King's Square. The front cover of the book itself shows Bootham after 1835. It was in 1835 itself that the Barbican at Bootham Bar was removed.

Many thanks to Christine for sharing the past and present views of the streets of York with us. We look forward to a return visit from Christine in the future when she will hopefully be sharing with us another dimension to her photography.

Next week, 20th January, will be the results of the Online Digital Competition in which everyone is a judge.