



## **SHERBORNE BRADFORD ABBAS CAMERA CLUB**

### **AGM Tuesday 10th September 2024** **Committee Report for the year 2023/2024**

At the end of my first year as Chairman, I can report that your committee has worked hard to provide a varied and interesting programme to members and to ensure the club remains on a sound financial footing. Whilst the membership has remained at around 40, sadly attendance at meetings has fallen away recently to a disappointing level. Equally, entries for competitions have dropped in number, and efforts are in hand to address these two issues. During the reporting period a programme of photoshoots has been introduced, embracing a wide range of both locations and timings in order to enable as many as possible to attend. They have proved to be enjoyable occasions and the committee is extremely grateful to those who have helped with the arrangements. A workshop with Tony Worobiec proved very popular with members that attended this day, and the committee is already working towards future such workshops over the coming year.

At the end of 2023 difficulties with the software provider of the website were proving impossible to surmount and the decision was taken to build a completely new website which was launched in April this year. The club is indebted to Jay Warnes for all the work he has done over several years to ensure that SBACC has a presence on the internet. Considerable thanks are due to Paul Meyer who sourced the software and put together the new website and to Sarah Simpson, who has had to learn and operate a different system so as to continue managing the website on a day to day basis. Still on IT, special thanks are due to Tony Hilton who, after several years, stepped down as an *ex officio* member operating the equipment necessary for competitions and we are grateful to Mark Taylor for taking his place.

During the year, Gill Newton stepped down as club secretary where her work for the committee was greatly appreciated. Elizabeth Jubb returned to the committee in April to replace Gill.

At this year's AGM Ally Morton will step down as Treasurer after five years' sterling service during which time he has ensured our finances remain resilient. We are extremely grateful for all his hard work and thank Mat Phillips who has agreed to take on this role. I know you will give him every support.

Thanks should also go to Chas Williams, who has continued to manage our catering needs, and to Elizabeth Jubb, Pam Watts and Sarah Simpson for the occasional cake nights.

The club programme has had many highlights including an excellent talk last October by Jane Tearle who spoke about and illustrated the wonders of Vietnam. In November, Rob Nolan presented a superb collection of his landscape images followed by some stunning Astro photography which certainly gave everyone pause for thought! In January, for the first time, we had a judge critique club images and it was a highly successful and enjoyable evening with Laura Pearce providing some invaluable feedback. In February, the Keith Lane Lecture was delivered by Millie Pilkington, an internationally recognised portrait photographer, regularly commissioned by the Royal Family, who gave us a highly entertaining and stimulating account of her work. This was followed in April by an equally outstanding talk from Jeanette Lenden who travelled down from London both to attend our meeting and lead a "safari" the following day on mobile phone photography. We welcomed a considerable number of guests to the occasion which is a policy we will focus on in the coming year. Sadly, the final speaker of the current season, Gary Holpin, had to cancel at the last minute owing to software issues but we were grateful to Paul and Mark who stepped in to explain developments with the website and also to instruct members on how to submit images using Dropbox.

At the end of season meeting in May, a change was made to the programme and instead of an outside shoot in Bradford Abbas, there was a series of discussions on three aspects of the club: workshops and photoshoots; presentations and competitions. It was an invaluable opportunity to learn more about the wishes of the membership and the outcomes will be taken into account when planning future programmes.

Your committee strives to deliver stimulating activities which cover a wide range of photographic genres and it will look to introduce new ideas where possible and appropriate. It particularly values the friendly reputation that the club enjoys and is determined this is maintained. However, in order to continue in its present form, the club must do all it can to retain its level of membership and if at all possible to increase it in order that income is maintained at a level which allows the club to engage quality speakers and judges. Sadly, since Covid, there has been a noticeable decrease in numbers attending meetings and numbers of members participating in events. The committee will strive to reverse this trend and hopes very much that you will help with this ongoing task.

We have, over the years, built up an enviable reputation for being a popular, friendly and exciting club. Let's keep it that way!

Steve Davenport  
Chairman  
September 2024

**Competition results** for the year under review were as follows:

<b>Bradford Abbas Shield</b> October 2023		First	Shaftesbury	169 marks
		Second	Wincanton	168 marks
		Third	S Petherton	167 marks
		Fourth	Yeovil	162 marks
		Fifth	SBACC	157 marks
<b>Iris Overton Cup</b> November 2023	<u>DPIs</u>	First	Sarah Simpson	Crocus
		Second	Chris Edgecombe	Portland Bill
		Third	Christ Edgecombe	Misty Morning Dog Walk
		HC	Pam Watts	The Cat's Coming Home on my Scooter
		HC	Terry Connolly	Mountaineers' Retreat
		HC	Steve Davenport	The Cygnets
	<u>Prints</u>	First	Pam Watts	The Eye of the Trunk
		Second	Chris Edgecombe	Horton Tower
		Third	Sarah Simpson	Acer
		HC	Pam Watts	Is this how I do it Grandpa?
	<b>Shoot a Theme (Motion Blur)</b> January 2024	Winner	Chrissie Dowding	Damsel Fly
	<b>Macro &amp; Close Up</b> March 2024	<u>DPIs</u>	First	Mark Tatchell
Second			Annette Beardsley	Black-Veined White Butterflies on Burnt Tip Orchid
Third			Steve Davenport	Four Spotted Chaser
HC			Chris Edgecombe	Spade Dweller
HC			Sarah Simpson	Parrot Tulip
<u>Prints</u>		First	Elizabeth Jubb	Blue Thistle
		Second	Sarah Simpson	Anenome
		Third	Pam Watts	Jewels in the Morning
		HC	Mark Taylor	Garden Spider
		HC	Mark Tatchell	High Brown Fritillary Takes Flight
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<b>Annual Open Competition</b> April 2024	<u>DPIs</u>	First	Mat Phillips	Rain in the City
		Second	Terry Connolly	St Just, Cornwall
		Third	Chris Edgecombe	Nun's Cross Farm
		HC	Christ Edgecombe	Hinkley Point
		HC	Sarah Simpson	Spring
	<u>Mono Prints</u>	First	Pam Watts	Chapter House
		Second	Sarah Simpson	Hollyhock
		Third	Mark Taylor	Making Planks
		HC	Elizabeth Jubb	Mottisfont
		HC	Ally Morton	Abbey Reflections
<u>Colour Prints</u>	First	Mark Taylor	Wiltshire Farmland	
	Second	Sarah Simpson	Marigold	
	Third	Ally Morton	Autumn Tunnel	
	HC	Pam Watts	Spring Woodland Tapestry	

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