

## CHAIRMANS UPDATE – MARCH 2024

Having just come back from my daily walk it is clear that the seasons are finally changing, with signs of new life all around.

From vibrant coloured buds, daffodils, primroses and even a few early lambs there are opportunities all around to get your cameras out and to capture some great images.

Looking back at February, apart from the incessant rain, we were treated to some highlights in the club. Those who attended the talk by Millie Pilkington were treated to a fantastic evening, full of tips advice to help us improve our family portrait photographs.

Then last week at our Post-Production challenge I doubt anyone left the hall without having learnt something, as well as having been treated to some excellent images..

As we enter March I am pleased to report that we have a full programme for all to enjoy.

This all start on 12<sup>th</sup> March when our very own Matt Phillips will present to us. This evening will be an interactive talk entitled '**Shooting from the Hip**'. As a relatively new member of the club Mat is keen to stress that his talk is not simply a gallery of his favourite photographs, but a reflection on what he, and probably most of us, aim to achieve as enthusiastic amateurs - where our captured images are more likely to be reactive than planned. People, travel and nature will feature prominently, but the emphasis and underlying thread will be about how particular images make us feel, and why competition judges can miss the point! So please come along and support him for what I am sure will be a fantastic evening.

On the following Saturday, (16<sup>th</sup> March), Elizabeth Jubb has arranged a club photoshoot at RSPB Radipole. It is planned for us all to meet at 1030am in the Swannery Car park near to the visitor centre. From there you can explore the reserve to capture all manner of birds and other wildlife, and with spring approaching to observe nature preparing for the new season. So, for all members who enjoy nature photography this is an outing not to be missed.

On 26<sup>th</sup> March we will be holding our annual Macro and Close Up Competition. The judge this year is Alan Denison. Please note that the submission of digital images will be required no later than midnight on **8<sup>th</sup> March**. As usual images should be submitted using your Dropbox account. Prints should be brought along to the hall on the night of the competition, and will be judged in the usual way.

## CLUB NEWS

I was really sorry to receive an email from Chantal White informing me that due to personal reasons she would not be able to attend our meetings anymore. I know that she will be

missed by many of us, and I have written to her inviting her to re-join us again in the future should she feel that the time is right for her to do so.

On a brighter note, I am pleased to welcome Mat Phillips and Jon Riding to our committee. I am sure that both will be a great asset to the team, and will bring a wealth of knowledge and ideas with them.

## **LOOKING AHEAD**

On 9<sup>th</sup> April we will be welcoming Jeanette (Jet) Lendon <https://www.jetblacksquares.com> to our group. Jeanette is a successful commercial photographer who has moved away from taking images with her DSLR and now uses her mobile phone for all her photography needs.

As part of her business she is very keen to impart the knowledge she has gained about smart phone photography to others and while she is with us she will explain the settings and techniques that she uses and how to get the most out of your phone camera. This will be an interactive presentation which will be best enjoyed with your phone in front of you.

Smart phone photography is now by far the most popular form of photography amongst the public and so we will be working hard to invite as many non-members to the hall on this night as we can. I would encourage you all to invite a family member or friend along for the evening. There will be a nominal charge of £5 per non-members but as tea/coffee and biscuits are provided I'm sure you will agree this is very reasonable. All money raised on the night will go in club funds.

As space is limited could you please let our treasurer – [sbacc.treasurer@gmail.com](mailto:sbacc.treasurer@gmail.com) – know if you are bringing anyone with you as soon as possible so that he can ensure there is a seat for them.

Then on 10<sup>th</sup> April at 1030am Jeanette will be running a safari in and around Sherborne to put into practice the techniques she demonstrated the evening before. This will last for approximately 2 hours and I am pleased that we can offer this at a reduced rate of £25 per person.

There are still a few vacancies and therefore should you or any friends or family wish to come along for what will be an excellent opportunity to improve your smart phone photography skills please register your interest with [paul-meyer@talktalk.net](mailto:paul-meyer@talktalk.net)

## **BRADFORD ABBAS SHIELD**

Just a quick reminder that in October we will be hosting the Bradford Abbas Shield.

This years theme is **TREES – ONE OR MORE OR PARTS THEREOF**

Despite showing some excellent images last year we came 5<sup>th</sup>. So lets all start early and put extra effort into the competition this year and bring the trophy home for the first time in quite a while.

## **AND FINALLY**

With the poor weather and cold nights attendance has been fairly low at our meetings throughout January and February.

There really are some great evenings ahead for the rest of this season and throughout next season. So, with the weather hopefully improving it would be lovely to see many more of you at our meetings on the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday of each month.

*Steve Davenport*  
*Chairman*