

## CHAIRMANS UPDATE – JUNE 2024

Well another club season has ended and it draws to an end my first year as your Chairman.

Looking back over the year there have been some notable highlights. I felt that the talks given by Rob Nolan, Millie Pilkington and Jet Lendon were exceptional and from the many comments received it was clear that many of you enjoyed them as well. But for me the other evening I would like to single out was the presentation given by our very own Mat Phillips. This evening gave me an insight into Mats photography and confirmed my belief that our club is one that has a group of photographers of the highest quality.

The competitions have confirmed to me the quality that we have in our group, and I have hugely enjoyed seeing the many digital images and prints that have been submitted.

In my first year I have tried to offer a broad range of opportunities to all club members. We have run a workshop and now have monthly photoshoots which are available for all to enjoy. These seem to be well received, and although I am sure there are areas for improvement I would very much wish for these events to continue into next year and through the years ahead.

This update will be my last to you until September. With many of us heading off on holidays I am sure that we will all be too busy to spend time catching up on what has been going on with regards to our club and its membership.

That having been said if anything does come to my attention that I feel may be of interest to any of you I will of course share it.

### **CLUB NEWS**

May started out with our Open/Best of the Year Competition. The judge for the evening was Laura Pearce. Whilst Laura was relatively harsh in her judging, she was consistently critical throughout the evening and when it came to awarding the winning entries I did feel she got those right.

I would very much like to congratulate Mat Phillips for winning the Digital Image award with his image entitled Rain in the City, Pam Watts for winning the Mono print section with her image entitled Chapter House, Mark Taylor for winning the Colour print award with his image entitled Wiltshire Farmland.

*A full list of placed images along with their images can now be found on our website.*

Whilst I was not present I believe that the final meeting of the season was also very enjoyable. As requested by some members the evening was set aside to discussions around club business and activities. I understand that healthy debate took place and from the

feedback that I have received it is clear that many good ideas were put forward for consideration. The committee will be meeting on 2<sup>nd</sup> July to discuss these suggestions and where possible progress suggestions that are seen as positive and achievable.

## **LOOKING AHEAD**

Throughout the summer we will be meeting on a monthly basis to run our photoshoots.

On 11<sup>th</sup> June we will meet at Cerne Abbas

On 6<sup>th</sup> July we will meet at Dawes Twine works – West Coker

On 25<sup>th</sup> August we will meet at Portland Bill to witness the annual Cowes to Torquay Powerboat race.

Information on all will be published in plenty of time for anyone wishing to attend. These are great opportunities to socialise with other members and at the same time enjoy some photography. I have been asked if these events could be used to enhance some members photographic skills. The answer to this is very much YES. With this in mind should anyone wish to be offered some coaching at any of these days we will do all we can to put you with another club member who would be able to offer advice and support throughout the day.

With the club meeting next on 10<sup>th</sup> September can I just remind you that the first meeting will this year be our AGM and also the evening when we will view images for the Bradford Abbas Shield. To remind you again – the theme this year is “ Trees – One or more – or a part or parts thereof”. I know many of you have been working on suitable images throughout the year but please continue to bear this in mind throughout the summer so that we are in a position to put forward images of the very highest quality that truly show the quality of photographer that we have in our club.

I am sure you will be aware that this is a change from previous year, but we will now assign an entire evening on 24<sup>th</sup> September to view members images that they have taken through the summer recess.

## **AND FINALLY.....**

I have been made aware that some members have expressed concern at the amount of correspondence that is being circulated via email. Can I assure you that I do everything I can to keep this to a minimum but there are some issues and circulations that arise that I believe may be of interest to some in the club. These I feel I should and will continue to circulate.

I will do my utmost to identify in the title what the content will be about and so if the likely content does not interest you, can I suggest that you just pass it by. Remember that while the content may not be of interest to you, it may be of interest to others.

Have a lovely summer. Enjoy your holidays if you are going away or for those spending time at home, just have a restful time and enjoy the warm weather.

Thank you for all you support over the year and I look forward to seeing you all on 10<sup>th</sup> September.

Stephen Davenport  
Chairman