



BUXTON PHOTOGRAPHIC CLUB

NEWSLETTER

Our 5th newsletter – December 2020

A reminder about our next club meeting – via Zoom will be the AGM on the 21st December. Members please do your best to join the meeting when you will have the opportunity to vote for a new Chair and committee. Our Secretary will send out the agenda in due course.

If anyone wishes to be nominated for any of the club committee posts please contact Phil. He will be issuing guidelines for this.

On the 4th January we will hold our first DPI competition of the new year judged by David Jordan

On Tuesday the 19th January we are very lucky to have Ian Wilson (Cambridge Camera Club) give us a tutorial about conversion from colour to black and white. Ian will also use some of your images in the second part of the talk for conversion. We will ask you to send over some images that he will share and manipulate.

PHOTOGRAPHING FUNGI by Tony Howes

I have spent many hours over the last few weeks photographing fungi in my local woods at Thorpe St Andrew, the woods are literally just outside my front door, so are easy to access. Fungi are fascinating wonders of Nature, they come in so many sizes, shapes, and colours, some times found as single specimens, or in groups of a dozen or more, they are also found in open situations such as meadows, lawns, field margins etc;.

In past seasons I have used my Canon 7D with either a wide angle or a macro lens, using them on either a tripod or beanbag, they both give good results, but it entails getting down on the woodland floor to get to a suitable low level for your subject, on damp days this means carrying a plastic sheet around, all a bit of hassle. So this year I have been using my Canon Power-shot G12, the swivel screen makes life so much easier, it also has a 'Low light' setting, and a 'Macro' facility, I also have a mini tripod (6in tall) with flexible legs which screws into the base of the camera.

This setup has proved very successful, I tried using it with the built in flash to start with, but if the woodland floor is wet (Very often the case this Autumn) the flash reflects off every drop of moisture, so its just natural light used now with the help of a small reflector if needed. There is no getting down and up again (The later is the hard part) any more, just bend over, do a bit of 'Gardening', position the camera, and press the shutter. I sometimes put moss in the setting to give it a bit of colour.

You do find that damaged fungi are common, mice and voles will eat them, as will slugs and snails, its best to ignore these damaged specimens, trying to patch them up in photoshop can be done if its a rare species, but its a time consuming job.

As I write the fungi season is just about finished, (End of November) leaves cover the woodland floor now, and the couple of mild frosts we have experienced have turned those remaining to mush. But as the seasons change I always look forward to the Autumn fungi, with their myriad shapes, colours, and sizes they are one of Natures marvels.













