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Rugeley & Armitage Camera Club Newsletter

18th May 2019

www.rugeleyandarmitagecameraclub.com

Last Week - 'Annual General Meeting'

Last week we held our Annual General Meeting for 2019. As usual it went very smoothly and best of all quite quickly. Just a couple of items were voted on and approved by the members:

Club Membership Fees and Weekly Subscriptions. As from our new season beginning Monday 9th September 2019:
Yearly Subscription: Individual £25.00 : Member & Partner £40.00 : Family £50.00 : Weekly fee £2.50 : Guests £3.00

A small change has also been made to the scoring system with regard to the monthly competitions.

As is currently the method of scoring, each member can enter one or two images into each competition. If the member enters two images then the highest scoring image counts towards the league table. This will remain.

As from the start of the new season each image entered will also score one additional point. This is to encourage members to enter two images into each competition. Therefore if a member enters one image he/she will receive the judges score plus one point for entering. If a member enters two images he/she will receive the judges score for their highest scoring image plus two additional points, one for each image entered.

This is being implemented to help increase the number of images entered into monthly competitions as over the last season or two there has been a steady decline, and also to 'reward' those who do enter two images into each competition.

The committee were re-elected en-bloc with the following changes:

Clive Pritchard resigned from committee. New Programme Secretaries: Geoff Setterfield & Steve Setterfield.

Brian Wheatley & Andrea Wheatley appointed onto the committee.

20th May - 6th Monthly Competition - PDI 'Creative'

Our 6th and last Monthly Competition of the season. Everything depends on this one. Some may be confident that barring miracles (and they do happen as the Villa are in the play-off final) the league title is theirs... but..... All it takes is the judge to give a good score to someone and a poor score for someone else and who knows who'll win. Imaginations have run riot. I've had it on good authority there are some excellent images in for this one. There could be some shocks on the cards....

Roy Hodgkiss Natural History Competition - 10th June - Last date for entry 3rd June

If you haven't already done so time to start thinking about your entries for the very prestigious Roy Hodgkiss Natural History Trophy. Definitely one for the mantelpiece. Entries are required to be in by 3rd June. This is a print competition. As always the judge for the competition is Adam Belcher. Please see [here](#) for what is or isn't allowed: [Rules & Definitions](#)

Presentation Evening 17th June

Tickets are now available for our annual Presentation Evening & Buffet. Always a good evening and well worth coming along for the food alone. Ticket cost is a very reasonable £5.50 for members and £7.50 for non members.

For each Members ticket sold the club will donate £2.00 to St Giles Hospice

Next Guest Speaker - 3rd June - Dr Michael Leach 'It's a Funny Way to Make a Living Part 2'

Cast your minds back twelve months to our first visit from Michael when he gave us a Funny Way to Make a Living Part 1. This is what I wrote: *"Not really sure if it's a funny way to make a living but it's certainly an interesting one. After so many good speakers over the years it's not easy to compare one against the other. But I would imagine that for all those present on Monday evening, Dr Michael Leach would probably be in the top one. Put simply he was brilliant."*

If my comments aren't enough to get you all to come and see Michael again, on page two of the newsletter I've added the comments from those who were there the first time. Makes wonderful reading. Come early to bagsy your seat...

A Big Thank you from Margaret Cross

Margaret & Rob Cross have asked me to pass on a huge thank you to all members who donated so generously at the AGM towards the Motor Neurone Disease Association. It is very, very much appreciated. Well done everyone.

Rob Cross - A Circuit of Annapurna

Many thanks to Rob for keeping us entertained after the AGM. In fairness Rob didn't really have a big act to follow but follow it he did. Rob showed us a simple and cheap film scanner. See two of them on Amazon: [here](#) & [here](#)



Birthday Wishes this week go to:

18th May Graham Orgill

19th May: Margaret Beardsmore

21st May: Graham Phillips

Hope you all have a great day

Birding with a Camera - by Tony Slater

Our very own (and Yoxall's) Tony Slater is presenting a talk at the National Memorial Arboretum on Saturday 25th May on combining Birdwatching and Photography.

Full details here: [Birding with a Camera](#)

Members Comments from our visit last year from Dr Michael Leach

Entertaining, informative and inspirational- a great insight into the world of the wildlife photographer! I would like to hear more.

When I got home I told my wife it was the best speaker we have ever had. I was totally gripped by his voice, experiences and photographs. Cannot wait to see him again with his gorilla talk.

The Best

He was a brilliant entertaining speaker. He wondered why we were all quiet. Well I for one was spellbound. His photos were fantastic too.

In the past I have paid premium prices to listen to the likes of Chris Packham, Andy Rouse, Bill Oddie and Martin Hughes Games etc. They were all very entertaining and true professionals in their field. Up until last night Simon King stood out as probably the best and most engaging speaker I had been privileged to see. Dr Michael Leach surpassed all of them, Humour, knowledge, inspirational and truthful. A wonderful evening I just wish it could have gone on for longer.

I thought Michael was really good as a speaker with a sense of humour thrown in. The talk was fascinating. Would have liked to see few more photos as they were so good.

I thought it was an unusual delivery but found it very interesting, particularly the perspective of the professional photographer and the lengths one has to go to get a shot that will sell.

What an enthralling speaker. Brilliant raconteur. I could have listened to him all night, Congratulations to you all for booking him We MUST have him back

A really enjoyable evening with a brilliant speaker giving us an insight into the life of a wild life photographer.

He had me enthralled from start to finish. Fascinating and funny all at the same time.

He had the exceptional speakers gift of being enthralling though personality alone. His knowledge was evident throughout the presentation of his specialist subject. I leant a lot, because he enticed me to listen.

A very good evening. It is the second time I have seen him. On both occasions he was outstanding. He kept the club interested all evening. Thanks to Kay and Graham for booking him.

Whole heartedly agree with your comments. We were so hyperactive that we could not go to sleep and having a cuppa at 03.00 hrs. Was the best speaker we have ever heard at the club and looking forward to the next meeting with him. Congratulations to who booked him.

Dr. Leach is the sort of speaker who could enthrall me for days! Hope he comes back to give a second instalment.

I thought that's Dr Leach gave an excellent talk, it was humorous and very informative into the world of nature programmes and the images he showed in the second half were first class.

It was a good night and very informative.

Brilliant!

Most entertaining speaker we have had at the Club. Did not want the evening to end. Very good talk and gave an interesting insight into life as a Natural History Photographer.

A fascinating insight into the lifestyle required to produce amazing wildlife footage. Spellbinding!

Our speaker on Monday night Dr Michael Leach was exceptional! I have never known our members to be as enthralled as they were. He's certainly a speaker that I would recommend to many other camera clubs.

What a great speaker on Monday night, Dr Michael Leach was. I hope he has been booked again for next year, I would love to hear another of his talks. An enthusiastic and truly inspirational speaker, his story telling contained so many bits of good advice for photographers of all standards, who want to try and take better nature pictures.