

Roy Hodgkiss Natural History Trophy 2019



1st
Common Kingfisher
Graham Orgill



2nd
Black Winged Stilts in Flight
Margaret Beardsmore



3rd
Adult Bee Eater Feeding Young
Margaret Beardsmore



Highly Commended
Injured Grey Seal
Rob Ings



Commended
Zitting Cisticola [*Cisticola Juncidis*]
Graham Orgill

Roy Hodgkiss Natural History Award 2019

Adam Belcher CPAGB

Another year of excellent entries in the Roy Hodgkiss Natural History Award. The award was inaugurated and sponsored by myself starting back in 2012. Roy has always been a great friend to me. He has over many years inspired not only myself but so many others, in this great hobby that we all share. The rules of thirds, the perils of blowing out the highlights and retaining detail in those shadows! All pounded into my head by Roy during countless and intense image reviews. Roy's first photographic passion is natural history and this award seeks to honour that and Roy.

The Natural History competition is bound by a strict set of rules, and at times can seem a little harsh and unswerving. Though this in itself makes it all so exciting and challenging. When reviewing the image's, I am always mindful of the effort that goes into creating them, and the quality of the work yet again this year was so very high. Selecting an outright winner from the final three was so very hard.

The winner this year is "Common Kingfisher" by Graham Orgill. The image is technically excellent. The lighting, tone and detail are of a very high standard. It is refreshing to see a shot of a Kingfisher that favours the rear angle of view. The kingfisher has a beautiful electric blue stripe down its back, and the author has not only showed us this, but captured the decisive moment where its head is turned giving us a good view of the bird. In second place was "Black Winged Stilts by Margaret Beardsmore. A lovely shot of 26 birds flying across their habitat. Margaret did very well also taking 3rd place with "Adult Bee Eater Feeding Young".

I would very much like to thank all of you that put your work forward. The Roy Hodgkiss Award is very special, and I always look forward to opening the print box, and seeing the range of work produced by the members. I look forward to seeing your amazing images again next year. Have a great summer when the rain finally stops!

Kindest regards,
Adam



Winner of the Roy Hodgkiss Natural History Competition Graham Orgill receiving the trophy from Roy Hodgkiss and judge Adam Belcher

Thank you

Graham was the well deserved winner of the Roy Hodgkiss Trophy, but the real winner was St Giles Hospice. Entries from the competition plus money taken on the evening raised an excellent £160. Thank you everyone.

... and it's goodbye from me....

Well that's another season done & dusted. This will be the last newsletter until September. However if anyone has news of events or the like please let me know and I'll send it out. Have a good holiday and see you all soon.