

# Phoenix Photographic Group

## Newsletter from meeting of 08-May-2017

### Introduction

As you are all aware John Simons has sadly passed away. At the time of writing the funeral arrangements are not finalised. When these become known, a separate announcement will be forwarded to members via email.

There was a unanimous request from the floor that a 'With Sympathies' card should be sent to Jean from the PPG – in addition to that already sent on behalf of Phoenix.

There were 14 Members present. Ian opened the meeting with a short explanation of the afternoon's events. Members' pics, and a much awaited new group photo.

### News Items

Announced at the meeting we needed a volunteer to organise the PPG Christmas Lunch. Sue Tagg took up the challenge. Thanks Sue.

At a previous meeting Rob Cross thought we might be missing photo opportunities with our current system of "Topics". Having thought about his point we did agree and both Joe and myself came to the idea of having a category which changes with the seasons of the year. We chose to call this new "Topic" "Out & About. The current category being Out & About: Spring.

A new topic, "Roads" was announced.

### Activities

We started to look at the submitted members pictures. Following the topics which we had running currently, along with the topics which had recently finished. Over 100 images in total with the majority on Architecture. Wildlife gave us some stunning pics of birds, deer and insects.

All present then left the hall led by Paul Davies (Group Photographer) to the grassy bank behind the car park. (See fantastic result below in Members Pics). Incidentally the resolution of this image on our website ain't great ... but that's down to the website settings, not down to Joe's ineptitude!

## **Current Topics**

### **Out & About - Spring inc Holiday Snaps**

**Roads**

**Wildlife**

**Architecture**

## **Next Meeting**

15 May 2017 Village Hall

We are planning to continue with the photo repair techniques which we started recently.

So bring along any pictures you wish digitise and a computer to record your work. If you are in a position of not having a laptop, then bring a memory stick to save the images.

## **RAW – a future topic**

Photography is little different to other pursuits. Bits of it get complicated and the professionals work out how to embrace and exploit those. But in the process they develop a vocabulary of their own – mere mortals don't understand it and a mystique starts to build up around the subject.

RAW is just such a topic. I guess most of us can easily take RAW images ... maybe do sometimes. But why? Do we know? And how best to make the most of whatever additional picture information we get within those files?

As a group, one of our core aims is to learn from one another. The brief discussion we had on Monday shows that some of you really do understand some of this RAW stuff, whilst others of us are still on the starting blocks.

So, Ian and I have a cunning plan. We have two RAW images that are not, frankly, good photos. They need work to turn them into compelling images. We want to give copies of those to anyone who fancies having a crack at improving them with Corel, ACDSsee etc etc. You each have a go – do your very best.

Then we'll organise one of our afternoon sessions to compare the efforts, to have our members who do know something about this to contribute their knowledge in a practical way ... i.e. we'll stick the RAW up on the screen and manipulate it with guidance from our experts. Bring a USB stick. Ian or Joe to copy the files to it.

With any luck we'll all emerge from this with a much improved understanding.

**Members Pics**



**Bob Southall**

**Wildlife**



**Tim Harborow      Wildlife**



**Geoff    Alsop                      Holiday Snaps**



**Roy Alexander**

**Holiday Snaps**



**John Ford**

**Facial Expressions**



**Bob Southall**

**Lichfield Cathedral**

**Architecture**



**Paul Davies**

**Lost Causes!**



**Ann Mayo**

**Forth Bridge**

**Architecture**