

THE IRIS



Magazine of the Nature Group of the RPS

Issue No. 107
Summer 2010



2010 Exhibition Gold Medal Projected Image - Dancing Sandhill Crane by John Chamberlin FRPS

Bronze Medal Prints

Shaggy Inkcap
Gianpiro Ferrari ARPS



Brown Bear cubs
Bryan Knox ARPS



Publication information

'The Iris' is published by the Nature Group of the RPS three times a year. Copy and publication dates are as follows:

Spring Copy deadline 20th December
Published late March.

Winter Copy deadline 30th April
Published early July.

Winter Copy deadline 31st August
Published early November.

All contributions should be submitted to the Editor. Items covering any aspect of nature photography and/or natural history are welcomed, including reviews on equipment and relevant books.

Copy should be sent as .txt or .doc files by email or on CD, or printed using double line spacing on one side of the paper only - please do not send hand written copy.

Digitally captured photographic images are preferred but scanned transparencies are also acceptable. Images should be supplied on CD (no DVDs please) as RGB Tiff files, 6" x 4" at 300 ppi (1800 x 1200 pixels, file size approx 6.17MB). Original transparencies may be submitted, however, the Editor cannot specify how long they may be away from the author.

No payment will be made for material used and whilst every care will be taken, neither the Editor, the Nature Group or the Printers can accept liability for any damage that may occur to photographic material submitted.

The views expressed within The Iris are solely those of the contributor and do not necessarily reflect the views of the Nature Group Committee or the Editor.

Distribution:

'The Iris' is forwarded to members using address labels produced by the RPS Membership Dept in Bath. Any member not receiving their copy should contact that department so that their name appears on a label in the future. However the Secretary will be pleased to post single copies to members who have failed to receive them.

Copyright:

© All rights reserved. No part of this publication may be reproduced, stored in a retrieval system, or transmitted in any form or by any means without prior permission of the copyright holder.

© Photographs and articles - individual contributors. All other material the Nature Group of the Royal Photographic Society.

Printed by

Stanley L Hunt (Printers) Limited
Midland Road, Rushden.

Design & layout

by Dawn Osborn FRPS

ISSN 1757-2991

Contents

- 2 **Editorial**
- 3 **From the Chair**
- 4 **AGM Report**
- 5 **Galapagos**
by Ken Rassmussen ARPS
- 9 **The Nature Group Annual Exhibition 2010**
- 27 **It Snows in Majorca**
by Russell Edwards ARPS
- 32 **Field Meeting Programme Autumn 2010**

The Iris needs you!

Interesting articles illustrated with quality imagery are urgently required for future issues of The Iris. Articles can be about any topic - travel, species, photo-technique, or reviews on new kit, books, etc.

**Please email the editor:
iris_editor@btinternet.com
with your idea and a landline phone number so that I can contact you.**

Committee

Officers

Chairman: Peter Jones ARPS

Bilthorpe, Notts, NG22 8TB
Tel: 01623 411215 E-mail: pwjonesarps@btinternet.com

Secretary: Margaret Johnson LRPS

53 Mapperley Orchard, Arnold, Nottingham, NG5 8AH
Tel: 01159 265893 E-mail: m.jos@btinternet.com

Treasurer: Margery Maskell ARPS

Bishop's Stortford, Hertfordshire CM23 5DW
Email: kevin.margery@tesco.net

Vice Chairman: John Bebbington FRPS

Quantock View, Newtown, Langport, Somerset, TA10 9SE
Tel: 01458 253027 Email: john.bebbingtonfrps@ukonline.co.uk

Immediate Past Chairman: Geoff Trinder ARPS

The Croft, Carrhouse Road, Belton, Doncaster, DN9 1PG
Tel: 01427 872051

Committee Members

Editor of The Iris: Dawn Osborn FRPS

Foxley, Dereham, Norfolk, NR20 4ST
E-mail: iris_editor@btinternet.com

Exhibition Secretary: Sue McGarrigle LRPS

Little Thelsford, Charlecote, Warwickshire, CV35 9EL
E-mail: sue@suemcgarrigle.co.uk

NG Rep to Advisory Panel: John Bebbington FRPS

Langport, Somerset, TA10 9SE
Tel: 01458 253027 Email: john.bebbingtonfrps@ukonline.co.uk

Programme Co-ordinator: Colin Smith FRPS

Chorley, Lancs, PR7 3NU
Tel: 01257 271981 E-mail: cssmith3@blueyonder.co.uk

John Jones ARPS

Kegworth, Derby, DE74 2FW
Tel: 01509 672125

Robert Hawkesworth FRPS

Wollaton, Nottingham, NG8 2SL
Tel: 01159 281050 Email: r.hawkesworth@btinternet.com

Tony Bond FRPS

Leigh, Lancs WN7 3LJ
Tel: 01942 674773

Ex officio Committee members

President of the Society;
Vice-President of the Society;
Director General of the Society;
Hon. Treasurer of the Society;
Chairman of the Nature A & F Distinctions Panel

Nature Group Exhibitions

Copies of Nature Group Exhibitions dating back to 2000, are available to book for camera clubs/photographic societies. 2000 to 2007 are available in slide format. Since 2008 a CD of the Exhibition has been produced and is available for purchase. For more information please contact the Exhibition Secretary, details above or go to our website: www.rpsnaturegroup.com

Editorial

I write this on the longest day of the year - it seems incredible that half of the year has gone already. Holiday plans that were made at the end of last year have probably already come to fruition and hopefully will have provided you with some memorable images. Why not share some of them with your fellow Nature Group members? Articles are urgently required for the next and future issues. So, get your keyboard out and upload your experiences and memories to CD. Email me and I will forward you my full address.

The Iris of Spring 2006 contained an article by Tony Bond FRPS entitled 'Non-conformist Nun and Red-necked Footman in Uncertain Cameo under Dark Arches' - it was of course an article about photographing moths. Inspired by Tony, another friend and fellow committee member Robert Hawkesworth and the work of Gianpiero Ferrari, I requested that for my birthday earlier this year, the family should get together and buy me a moth trap. To my surprise they did. For a variety of reasons, I was not able to get around to using it until towards the end of May but now put it out regularly. In his article, Tony commented that "photographing moths can be highly addictive" and he was right. I now find myself getting out of bed at first light to see what is in my trap (as well as putting something over the trap to prevent the resident Robins and Great Tits from getting inside and stealing my moths). Once awake of course, you cannot go back to sleep if there is something worthwhile to photograph. I am a total novice when it comes to photographing moths but I do enjoy a challenge and I am having a lot of fun doing it.

At the end of April I travelled up to the West Midlands to attend the combined Nature Group Spring Meeting, AGM and Annual Exhibition. There were some lovely images on display. A list of acceptances is included in this issue along with reproductions of the award winning images. The Exhibition CD is almost finalised - copies can be purchased by contacting Sue McGarrigle, the Exhibition Secretary. The award winning images will of course be posted on the website in due course.



From the chair

Our Chairman, Peter Jones, is unwell and has asked me to pen this page in his stead. I'm sure that you will all join me in wishing him a speedy return to good health and enjoyable photography.

The Spring meeting was very well attended. The proceedings commenced with an interesting and wide-ranging presentation by Hemant Mehta, 'In Tune with Nature', showing us the results of his travels in search of wildlife. After lunch the AGM was enjoyably brief and was followed by the highlight of the day, the showing of the selected images for the Annual Exhibition. Selected prints were on display all day, and were being discussed both before the meeting started and again at lunchtime.

Successful submissions were of a very high standard and exhibitors are to be congratulated on their contributions to yet another excellent exhibition, which will be enjoyed by club members nationwide during the coming year.

The Group field weekend at the Field Studies Council's Blencathra Centre near Keswick was very well attended and all places were filled for the first time for several years. Despite unhelpful weather on the Saturday (grey and cold in the morning, wet and windy in the afternoon – the sort of day when no-one would have gone out on their own but which provided some decent images in the end!) and a fair amount of wind on the Sunday and Monday everyone enjoyed the weekend and went home with some good images.

I'm very grateful to Brian & Gill Fuller – friends who live locally – and to John & Sheila Weir – for advice about sites. I'm currently negotiating with RPS HQ to set up a web page where everyone who attended the weekend can display some images.

Talking of web sites, the Nature Group has decided to maintain its own independent site, but I would encourage you also to visit the main RPS site which was dramatically revamped last year. It's now much more user friendly.

How many of you have portfolios on the main RPS website? As far as I can see very few Group members have made the effort! You must have some good images which you would like to put on show! All you need to do is to contact Tony Mant at RPS HQ (email address tony@rps.org) and he will allocate you a username and password. You can then upload your images and they will be displayed in the main portfolio and in the Group and your region's sections. Cost – nothing but a bit of effort! Benefits – it has definitely brought me bookings for my courses.

John Bebbington
Vice-chairman

John

Field Meetings Autumn 2010 and Spring 2011

Scheduled Field Meetings for this Autumn are given on page 32. However, more are needed, in all areas of the country. If you would like to organise one for the Autumn 2010, or early Spring 2011, please contact us. Autumn Field Meetings are posted at our website www.rpsnaturegroup.com and the main RPS website, but more can be added. Spring Meetings will appear in the next Iris and also be posted on the website.

If you have held a Field Meeting, please send a report and some images for publication in The Iris. Reports do not have to be written by the leader and the photos may be taken by anyone who attended, provided of course that they have given their permission for them to be published.

Please contact Colin Smith Tel: 01257 271981 E-mail: cssmith3@blueyonder.co.uk
or the Editor: iris_editor@btinternet.com

RPS Nature Group 2010 AGM

Apologies

These were received from Barbara Hawkesworth, Trevor Hyman, Kevin Maskell, Andrew Parsons, Richard Revels, Stan Saunders and Geoff Trinder.

Minutes of the 2009 AGM

The minutes of the 2009 AGM printed in issue 104 of 'The Iris' were accepted as a true and correct record of what then took place and signed by Peter Jones.

Matters Arising

There were no matters arising.

Chairman's Report

Regrettably I have to start on rather a sad note. This year we have lost two long standing members of the Nature Group; Kath Bull who had served the group for many years and the othering being Dawn's mother, Joyce Osborn. Both will be sadly missed.

Staying with Dawn, I would like to thank her for all the hard work she has done producing The Iris and the NG website, which I think you will all agree are our flagships. If any member has something they can contribute to either, please contact Dawn.

I did ask Rosemary Wilman if she could attend this meeting as it would have been good to have the President of the RPS attending but unfortunately our meeting clashes with the Travel Group and they asked her first. We have already booked our AGM date for 2011 and the Travel Group have been informed so that we shouldn't clash again! I feel that Rosemary is an asset to the NG - she is a long standing member and we should try to get her involved as much as possible. She has suggested that we try to ensure that all our activities and programme go onto the main RPS website. This is being done by our Vice Chairman - John Bebbington - and this will hopefully help to increase our membership.

At the beginning of my term as Chairman we had a changeover of Exhibition Secretary from myself to Sue McGarrigle. Sue has coped well with the administration of this year's exhibition - it is an enormous task - and she has brought in her own

ideas which will help to improve our exhibition.

I think you will agree that we have had some stunning images and prints on display. I would like to thank all members who have entered this year's exhibition. Don't forget that you can purchase a CD of the exhibition from Sue McGarrigle or Margaret Johnson for yourself or your club. Please try to promote this.

As I have previously mentioned in The Iris, I was saddened to hear that some photographers had been harrassing some Dippers in Derbyshire which resulted in the birds deserting their nest. As Nature Group members we should report such activities and make sure that all members of the NG have a copy of the Code of Practice to hand. Copies can be obtained from me or Margaret Johnson. But all members, please be careful not to cause any disturbance to our wildlife especially at this time of year.

We have also enjoyed some excellent field meetings. I have been able to attend a few. Colin Smith has been doing an excellent job of co-ordinating them but he can't do it without members volunteering to run them. Please do so if you can. You don't have to be an expert but just have some knowledge of the area. Please check The Iris for future field trips.

Chairman's Day was a great success with many members attending. We had three excellent speakers; first being Martin Dyer speaking about the wildlife of Scotland followed by a good friend of mine, Gianpiero Ferrari ARPS, who illustrated his talk with superb pictures of butterflies, moths and birds. This was followed by another friend, Dr Heather Angel Hon FRPS whose programme was 'Wildlife in Kew Gardens' and 'The Wildlife of China'. What can I say about such a fantastic presentation. Heather was also a founder member and Chairman of the NG.

Finally, I'm pleased to be able to report that membership of the group has increased over the past twelve months.

Don't forget The Photographers' Conference 29th to 31st October 2010. see The Iris for details.

Continued on page 30

Galapagos

by Ken Rassmussen ARPS

"Where do you most want to go on holiday", I asked my wife several years ago. Her answer was immediate: "The Galapagos", she said. I would have given the same answer had she asked me so we decided there and then to visit the Galapagos as our 'retirement holiday'. I had already retired and it was to be several years before my wife retired but a week into her retirement, we made our way to a nearby airport to start our Galapagos holiday.

The Galapagos islands straddle the equator in the Pacific ocean. They have been formed by volcanic action. Scientists believe there is a 'hotspot' beneath the islands which occasionally melts the crust causing an eruption. Because of continental drift, the hotspot appears to be moving westwards meaning the older islands lie in the east of the archipelago with the newer islands lying in the west. The area is still volcanically active with recent eruptions in 2009 and before that in 2005.

Fortunately, the lava is fairly fluid so the eruptions are not explosive and so are less dangerous for nearby life than, say Mt St Helens in the USA.

For the photographer one of the main attractions of the islands is that the wildlife is supposed to be unafraid of humans and therefore fairly approachable. In my experience this was often, but not always, true. For example, we once came across a Blue-footed Booby and its chick on our path. (Boobies are members of the same Sulidae family as gannets). Since the path was less than two feet wide we had to pass quite close but the bird did not flinch, even when we stopped to take photographs.

On the other hand, the aptly named ghost crabs were much less approachable. These crabs feed on the shoreline and live in burrows made in the sand. They can move remarkably quickly and seemed to sense the vibration of our footsteps so would vanish into their burrows in a second or two. I found the





best approach was to wait near a burrow for a crab to emerge but, although our naturalist guide was very tolerant, the need to stay with our group meant time was limited.

National park rules also dictate that you stick to the paths and stay close to your guide. This means it is sometimes impossible to get the best angle on a subject, to get as close as you may like or to spend as much time as desired with it, even though the animal is unafraid. The rules, of course, are there to protect the environment and its wildlife. They reflect one of our golden rules as nature photographers – that the wildlife takes priority over the photograph.

Even when animals are unafraid and fairly easy to get near to, photography can be difficult. Small birds, in particular would ignore us but that meant they just got on with life as usual, moving rapidly from place to place in search of food or, having found a juicy morsel, twisting and turning to get at a better part of its food. The constant movement made getting images that are sharp from head to tail challenging.

The little birds include the finches which were reputedly the inspiration for Charles Darwin's Theory of Evolution. There are thirteen different species of finch on the islands and we saw several

of them, though even with photos of them I struggle to tell the differences. We were told that Darwin did not believe they were finches when he was on the islands and, although he collected specimens, he did not label the island from which they came. On his return he had to rely on specimens collected by others, to carry out a proper scientific analysis.

The most approachable animals, though, were the Galapagos sea lions. Galapagos Sea Lions, which are related to those of California, are widespread throughout the islands. They regularly greeted us, lying on the jetties when we landed on an island and even occupying the seats at the harbour where we first boarded our boat. They are also inquisitive. If we ignored them they would often come to investigate what we were doing especially when we were in the water swimming or snorkelling. They were often playful, gliding around and about us as if trying to teach us how to swim properly.

The approachability of the animals means that very long lenses are not often required. I had read that a 70-200mm zoom would be sufficient though the author recommended a 100-400mm (or similar) to improve the backgrounds. I compromised, I suppose. I used a 70-200mm zoom, fitted most of

the time with a 1.4x converter giving a range of approximately 100-300mm. Inevitably, there were occasions when a longer lens would have been useful but also times when I had to resort to a standard zoom.

My camera was left on continuous shooting all the time. I find it easier that way. Generally, I used a slow rate (3 frames/sec.) but for some subjects, mainly birds in flight, I would use the higher frame rate. This caused my wife some amusement when she heard the shutter firing repeatedly as I photographed a slow moving giant tortoise. Mutterings about action shots of giant tortoises were clearly heard!

I had also read that exposure could be difficult on the islands because we would often be photographing against dark lava backgrounds which can fool meters. In practice, I did not find this too much of a problem. For most subjects the slight under exposure that I normally use (to avoid burning out whites) worked well. Only occasionally, did I need to change the exposure compensation. With dark Frigate Birds against a dark sea, for example I would increase the exposure slightly and for the white Nazca Boobies I would give even less exposure.





Yellow Warbler



Lava Cactus



Ghost Crab

The islands are quite different from each other. On the older (central and eastern) islands wildlife is well established. It was on these islands that we saw and photographed the most wildlife. The newer, volcanically active islands in the west of the archipelago, however, are quite barren and we found ourselves walking across black twisted lava formations with just the occasional early colonising plant such as Lava Cactus. These islands are a geologist's delight but have very little wildlife as yet. Occasionally, however, we would come across a small inland lake surrounded by greenery and populated by water birds such as Great Blue Heron, White-cheeked Pintail duck and Moorhen. The shoreline was often populated with Marine Iguana and in small lagoons we found small White-tipped Reef Shark, Lava Heron and occasionally Galapagos Green Turtle swimming among the mangroves.

Tourism is strictly controlled to help preserve the islands. It is essential that you have a guide (who is usually a trained naturalist) on most parts of the islands. Our guide was very enthusiastic and was regularly taking photos for himself. On one occasion a young Galapagos Sea Lion came to investigate when he was standing in the sea trying to photograph a Wandering Tattler (a type of wading bird) that was perched on rocks. He was oblivious as the sea lion swam around his feet but we were all amused. It was a lovely moment on a wonderful holiday. It gave added meaning to the concluding comment of one his occasional talks: "When I die", he said, "I want to come back as a Galapagos Sea Lion". We understood why.



Nazca Booby chick begging for food

The Nature Group Annual Exhibition 2010



Projected Image Bronze Medal Winners



Projected Image Selectors' Awards



1. Moorhens Fighting - Dave McKay ARPS
2. Damselfly roost - Monique Vanstone LRPS
3. Devil's Fingers - John Jones ARPS
4. Giant Polypore - Mike Middleton ARPS
5. Scarlet Elf Cups in Moss - Kay Reeve FRPS



Projected Image Awards

Highly Commended



1

1. **Broad-bodied Chaser**
John Bulpitt FRPS
2. **Barn Owl hunting**
Thomas Hanahoe FRPS
3. **Gannet Pair with Nest Material**
Joe Curtis ARPS
4. **Bittern on Ice**
Reg Mellis ARPS
5. **Bison**
Bob Pearson FRPS



2



3



4



5

Projected Image Awards

Highly Commended



1. Whooper Swans
Bob Pearson FRPS
2. Sempervivum arachnoideum
John Simpson
3. Rough Meadow Grass flowering
John Bebbington FRPS
4. Macaques
Bob Pearson FRPS



RPS Nature Group Exhibition 2010

Digital Awards and Acceptances

Gold Medal
Bronze Medal
Bronze Medal

Dancing Sandhill Crane
Arctotis species S Africa
Griffon Vultures fighting

John Chamberlin FRPS
Ann Miles FRPS
John Chamberlin FRPS

Selectors' Awards

Tony Bond FRPS
Tony Wharton FRPS
Tony Wharton FRPS
Barbara Lawton FRPS
Barbara Lawton FRPS

Devils Fingers, *Clathrus archeri*
Damselfly roost
Giant Polypore
Moorhens fighting
Scarlet Elf-Cups in Moss

John Jones ARPS
Monique Vanstone LRPS
Mike Middleton ARPS
Dave McKay ARPS
Kay Reeve FRPS

Highly Commended

Rough Meadow Grass flowering
Broad-bodied Chaser
Gannet Pair with Nest Material
Barn Owl hunting
Bittern on Ice
Macaques
Whooper Swans
Bison
Sempervivum arachnoideum

John Bebbington FRPS
John Bulpitt FRPS
Joe Curtis ARPS
Thomas Hanahoe FRPS
Reg Mellis ARPS
Bob Pearson FRPS
Bob Pearson FRPS
Bob Pearson FRPS
John Simpson

Commended

Oryx fighting
Common Puffballs
Cladonia diversa
Pika
Predatory Shieldbug *Picromerus bidens*
Wood Ants taking prey to nest
Wood Pigeon

John Chamberlin FRPS
Sandy Cleland FRPS
Elizabeth Cutter ARPS
Jane Greatorex ARPS
Ann Miles FRPS
Richard Revels FRPS
Colin Smith FRPS

Author

John Bebbington FRPS

Karen Berry ARPS

John Bulpitt FRPS

Gill Cardy ARPS

John Chamberlin FRPS

Title

Rough Meadow Grass flowering
Grass Bug female
Snipe flies paired
Olive Baboons
Rainbow Lorikeet
Red Squirrel
Broad-bodied Chaser
Dark Green Fritillaries
Rufous-naped Lark
Cheetah family with kill
Goshawk plucking prey
Dancing Sandhill Crane
Griffon Vultures fighting
Oryx fighting

Award

Highly Commended

Highly Commended

Gold Medal
Bronze Medal/Tony Bond Selectors Medal
Commended

John Chamberlin FRPS	Curlew at dawn Martial Eagle plucking guinea fowl Sandhill Crane in flight	
Matthew Clarke	Sanderling Diving Gannets	
Sandy Cleland FRPS	Common Puffballs Arctic Tern Red-legged Partridge in snow Von Der Decken's Hornbill, female Brown Hare grazing	Commended
John Cucksey ARPS	Elephants	
Joe Curtis ARPS	Gannet Pair with nest material Gannet Pair	Highly Commended
Joe Curtis ARPS	Great Black Backed Gull & chick Heron at takeoff	
Elizabeth Cutter ARPS	<i>Cladonia diversa</i> Leaping Salmon	Commended
Liz Cutting LRPS	Spotted Flycatcher with Damselflies Greenfinch Collecting Nesting Material	
Trevor Davenport ARPS	Disruptive colouration in V-Pug Moth Tri-coloured Heron fishing Sand Lizard, Sefton Coast Sallow Kitten Moth	
Dickie Duckett FRPS	White-tailed Eagle landing on snow Grey Heron with Grass Snake	
Brian Eacock ARPS	Little Owl Pair of Goldfinches	
Ron Evans ARPS	Falklands Flightless Steamer Ducks Dunlin Falkland Flightless Steamer Ducks	
Peter Farmer	Female Leopard Sacred Ibis	
Gianpiero Ferrari ARPS	Hungarian Gliders Singing Goldcrest Iron Prominent Moth camouflage Skylark on rainy day Fieldfare on Crab Apple Tree	
James Foad	Wasp Spider	
Jane Greateorex ARPS	Pika	Commended
Thomas Hanahoe FRPS	Barn Owl hunting Grey Heron with a twig Meadow Pipit with insects Warthogs mating, Botswana	Highly Commended
Margaret Hocking ARPS	Wild Dog, Okavango Delta Wattled and Crowned Cranes in flight, Zambia	
Geoff Hughes ARPS	Black Bellied Whistling Duck	
John Hunt ARPS	Bluethroat on Bullrush Osprey with catch	
John Jones ARPS	Devils Fingers, <i>Clathrus archeri</i> Scarlet Elf Cup Parasitic Bolete on Common Earthball <i>Xanthoria</i> Lichens intergrown	Tony Bond Selectors Medal

Peter Jones ARPS	Langur Monkey with Baby Gannets Pair Bonding European Wolf	
Sue Jones ARPS	Redshank	
Patrica Kearton	White Fronted Bee Eater	
Adrian Langdon ARPS	European Spoonbill Hen Harrier	
Jack Malins ARPS	Pine Grosbeak	
Jean Manson	Badger	
Maggie Manson ARPS	Calcite formations, Carlsbad Caverns	
Simon Marchini LRPS	Herring Gull <i>Larus argentatus</i>	
Mike Martin ARPS	Redshank Red Grouse Marbled White	
Kevin Maskell FRPS	Gentoo Penguin on Wind-swept Beach Laughing Gull in flight <i>Semibalanus balanoides</i> and <i>Elminius modestus</i> Barnacles	
Margery Maskell ARPS	Roseate Spoonbill in flight White-tailed Ptarmigan Bull Elk calling	
Dave McKay ARPS	Moorhens fighting Great Blue Heron	Barbara Lawton Selectors Medal
Barry Mead FRPS	Martial Eagle defending prey	
Reg Mellis ARPS	Bittern on Ice Black-tailed Godwit fighting Stoat with kill	Highly Commended
Mike Middleton ARPS	Giant Polypore Common Morel Song Thrush with beak full of worms Male Yellowhammer on Gorse Bush	Tony Wharton Selectors Medal
Ann Miles FRPS	Arctotis species S Africa Predatory Shieldbug <i>Picromerus bidens</i> Peregrine Lady's Slipper Orchid	Bronze Medal Commended
Kevin Murphy ARPS	Painted Lady Tachinid Fly	
Dawn Osborn FRPS	Black-browed Albatross courtship Incubating King Penguin stretching Dunlin running Laughing Gull pair King Penguin on parade	
Bob Pearson FRPS	Macaques Whooper Swans Bison Bald Eagle Jackals Steller's Sea Eagle	Highly Commended Highly Commended Highly Commended
Ron Perkins ARPS	Sandhill Crane Sandhill Crane on Ice	
Keith Polwin ARPS	Great Blue Heron nest Club-tailed Dragonfly	
Ian Pratt LRPS	Chalkhill Blue	

Steve Price LRPS	Golden Eagle	
	Red Squirrel	
Norman Prue FRPS	African Fish Eagle swooping	
	Gemsbok - Namibia	
Jane Rees LRPS	Ring-billed Gull	
Kay Reeve FRPS	Scarlet Elf-Cups in Moss	Barbara Lawton Selectors Medal
	Greater Butterfly Orchid	
Richard Revels FRPS	Wood Ants taking prey to nest	Commended
	Rockhopper Penguins squabbling	
	Puffin about to land	
	Common Wasp in flight	
Stephen Rogala-Kaluski ARPS	Wildebeest crossing	
Naomi Saul ARPS	Red Grouse	
	Courting Kings	
Bob Sharples LRPS	Oyster Catcher	
Ian Silvester ARPS	Knysna Lourie	
	Chacma Baboons	
John Simpson	<i>Sempervivum arachnoideum</i>	Highly Commended
	<i>Argiope bruennichi</i>	
Lesley Simpson ARPS	Backlit Cleopatra nectaring	
Rosemary Simpson ARPS	At the cleaning station	
	Goby in Sponge	
	Moray Eel	
	Tubeworm Colony	
Colin Smith FRPS	Wood Pigeon	Commended
	Courting Avocets	
	High Brown Fritillary	
	Roseate Spoonbill	
	Short Eared Owl hunting	
Mike Stew LRPS	Phantom Midge Larva	
Diana Tombs LRPS	Pair of Bald Eagles	
	Spotted Hyena	
Monique Vanstone LRPS	Damselfly roost	Tony Wharton Selectors Medal
	Black-veined white on Broomrape	
Mike Walker	Crested Caracara	
	Willet	
	Zebras Fighting	
Valerie Walker ARPS	Green Veined White	
	Large White on Buttercup	
	Large Skipper on Knapweed	
	Scarce Copper Male	
	Broad-bordered Bee Hawk Moth	
John Weir ARPS	Glacier Buttercup	
	Deadly Webcap	
	Rock Speedwell	
Sheila Weir ARPS	Brimstone	
	Rock Jasmine	
Harry Worthington ARPS	Small Skipper butterfly on Wild Mint Flower	
	Gatekeeper butterfly	
	Male Golden-ringed dragonfly	

RPS Nature Group Exhibition 2010

Print Awards and Acceptances

Gold Medal	Thirsty Tiger drinking	Stephen Rogala-Kaluski ARPS
Bronze Medal	Brown Bear Cubs, Finland	Bryan Knox ARPS
Bronze Medal	Shaggy Inkcap	Gianpiero Ferrari ARPS

Selectors' Awards

Tony Bond	Striated Birds Nest Fungus	John Jones ARPS
Tony Wharton	Barn Owl with prey	Martin Withers FRPS
Tony Wharton	Common Bonnet	Sheila Weir ARPS
Barbara Lawton	Verreaux's Sifaka, dancing	Martin Withers FRPS
Barbara Lawton	Angel's Wings	John Weir ARPS

Highly Commended

Sitting Woodpecker	Gianpiero Ferrari ARPS
Green Silver-lines Moth on Wild Geranium	Gianpiero Ferrari ARPS
Marsh Harrier with a stick	Thomas Hanahoe FRPS
Lady's Slipper Orchid	Thomas Hanahoe FRPS
Young Carpathian Lynx, Poland	Bryan Knox ARPS
Mating Hoverflies	Ann Mead
Broad-bordered Bee Hawk- moth visiting flower	Richard Revels FRPS

Commended

Herring Gull attacking Gannet	Dickie Duckett FRPS
Red-Crowned cranes displaying	Dickie Duckett FRPS
Flock of Avocet in flight	Thomas Hanahoe FRPS
Black-throated Diver territorial display, Finland	Bryan Knox ARPS
Whooper Swans	Adrian Langdon ARPS
Night flowering Water Lily, Okavango	Maggie Manson ARPS
Yellow-crowned Night Heron rotating crab	Kevin Maskell FRPS
Leopard	Dave McKay ARPS
<i>Meta segmentata</i> pairing	Ann Mead
Frosted Webcap	Sheila Weir ARPS

Acceptances:

Author	Title	Award
Mike Bews LRPS	Sally Lightfoot Crab	
Matthew Clarke	Male Kudu	
	Whooper Swan	
	Male Impala	
John Cucksey ARPS	Elephants arriving	
	Leopard	
Liz Cutting LRPS	Spotted Flycatcher with Hoverfly	
	Female Kingfisher swallowing catch	
	Jay on stump with acorn	
	Green Sandpiper	
	Dartford Warbler calling	
Roy Dorkins LRPS	Scorpion Fly	
	Harvest Mice	
	Boar Badger	
Roy Dorkins LRPS	British Wild Cat, Scottish Highlands	

Dickie Duckett FRPS	Herring Gull attacking Gannet Red-Crowned cranes displaying Steller's Sea Eagle in snow Whiskered Tern on Lily pad Red Fox walking on frozen lake Capercaillie on snow	Commended Commended
Peter Farmer	Female Leopard Verreaux's Sifaka	
Gianpiero Ferrari ARPS	Shaggy Inkcap Sitting Woodpecker Green Silver-lines Moth on Wild Geranium Tree Sparrow on barbed wire Jay collecting acorns Large Tortoiseshell feeding on bramble	Bronze Medal Highly Commended Highly Commended
Gordon Follows ARPS	Painted Stork feeding Juvenile Tawny Eagle eating afterbirth Soaptree Yuccas Glaucous Gull calling Juvenile Black-Shouldered Kite with prey Grey-Backed Fiscal	
Thomas Hanahoe FRPS	Marsh Harrier with a stick Lady's Slipper Orchid Flock of Avocet in flight Gannets diving White-Tailed Sea Eagle with a fish	Highly Commended Highly Commended Commended
Roger Hance FRPS	Autumn Ladies' Tresses Earthball Fungi	
Bob Johnson ARPS	Montagu's Harrier Montagu's Harriers White Stork	
John Jones ARPS	Striated Birds Nest Fungus Golden Pholiota, New Forest Earthballs, <i>Scleroderma citrinum</i> Arion Slug on Sulphur Tuft Devil's Fingers Emerging from the Egg	Tony Bond Selectors Medal
Peter Jones ARPS	Polar Bear Humpback Whales bubble feeding Face in the Ice Steenbok	
Bryan Knox ARPS	Brown Bear Cubs, Finland Young Carpathian Lynx, Poland Black-throated Diver territorial display, Finland Ocellated Turkey, Belize Malachite Kingfisher, Botswana	Bronze Medal/Tony Bond Selectors Medal Highly Commended Commended
Adrian Langdon ARPS	Whooper Swans Great Crested Grebes Oystercatcher Avocet Kingfishers in copulation Kingfisher with Bullhead	Commended
Jean Manson	Roosting Starlings White Ermine Moth	
Maggie Manson ARPS	Night flowering Water Lily, Okavango Cheetah brothers	Commended
Margery Maskell ARPS	Golden-mantled Ground Squirrel feeding	

Kevin Maskell FRPS	Yellow-crowned Night Heron rotating crab Gentoo Penguins coming ashore Greylag Goose in flight Fox Cub Black-Browed Albatross gliding over the sea Male Anhinga flying with twig	Commended
Dave McKay ARPS	Leopard Green Heron	Commended
Ann Mead	Mating Hoverflies <i>Meta segmentata</i> pairing Bryce View Dead Slug and Greenbottles <i>Nephrotoma crocata</i>	Highly Commended Commended
Mark Monckton ARPS	Usnea Lichens on Oak Tree <i>Sparassis crispa</i>	
Dawn Osborn FRPS	Grey Jay Giant Polypore in habitat Great Blue Heron in flight with twig White-tailed Ptarmigan	
Kay Reeve FRPS	Small Pearl-bordered Fritillary Female Beautiful Demoiselle	
Richard Revels FRPS	Broad-bordered Bee Hawk- moth visiting flower Oystercatcher feeding in mud Common Seals Rockhopper Penguins courting	Highly Commended
David Robinson ARPS	Eurasian Hoopoe returning to nest <i>Upupa epops</i> Grass Snake <i>Natrix natrix</i> and the Fly European Bee Eaters <i>Merops apiaster</i> Atlantic Puffin <i>Fratercula arctica</i> Red Deer Cervus elaphus	
Stephen Rogala-Kaluski ARPS	Thirsty Tiger drinking Frigate Bird displaying Stag in Heather Scavenging Polar Bear Galapagos Mangrove Finch feeding	Gold Medal
Stan Saunders ARPS	Great Crested Grebe Greek Star-of-Bethlehem Wasp Spider	
Celia Todd Greater John Weir ARPS	Spotted Woodpecker Angel's Wings Alpenrose Alpine Aquilegia Wood Cauliflower Upright Coral Fungus	Barbara Lawton Selectors Medal
Sheila Weir ARPS	Common Bonnet Frosted Webcap Wood Stork Laughing Gulls Royal Terns	Tony Wharton Selectors Medal Commended
Martin Withers FRPS	Barn Owl with prey	Tony Wharton Selectors Medal
Martin Withers FRPS	Verreaux's Sifaka, dancing	Barbara Lawton Selectors Medal
Martin Withers FRPS	Plains Zebras	
Martin Withers FRPS	Elephant in dust	
Martin Withers FRPS	Elephant Herd approaching water	
Martin Withers FRPS	Marsh Tit	

Now Available - Version 3.0 - revised and rebuilt CD ROM

'An Interactive Guide to Obtaining your Nature Associateship'



Over three hundred copies of this interactive CD have been sold since its conception. Now thoroughly revised. The whole interface has been rebuilt to incorporate:

- Covers every aspect that needs to be considered, before preparing your application!
- A new section with advice on problems seen in many digital applications, print and projected images.
- The core features of earlier versions including successful applications and interactivity.
- Information panels are now static, taking less time to load.
- The screen resolution size is increased to 1280 x 1024, with automatic monitor adjustment.
- The 'Guide' is best run by copying the file from the CD to your hard drive.

The CD-ROM (PC only) costs £10 incl p&p. Cheques payable to 'RPS Nature Group' should be sent to: Trevor Hyman LRPS, 3 Northcourt Lane, Abingdon, Oxfordshire. OX14 1QA



IMAGES & SAFARIS

Photographic Safaris and Tours

www.c4images-safaris.co.za

www.c4safaris.co.uk

Email: shem@c4images-safaris.co.za

Tel: +27 12 993 0335

+27 82 063 9146

Based in South Africa, we are a specialist photographic safari company run by international award winning wildlife photographers.

Using our excellent local knowledge of the continent, we offer a selection of photo-tours to stunning wildlife locations in southern and east Africa.

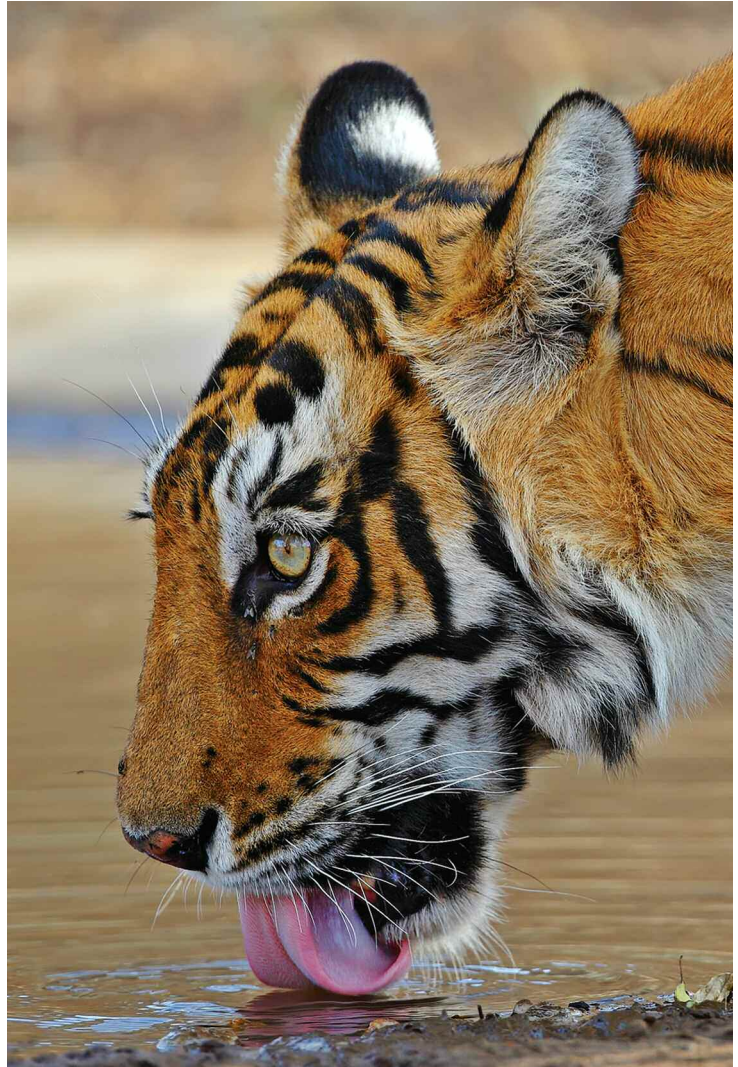
Join us to excellent venues including Namibia, Botswana, Zambia, Kenya, Tanzania and South Africa



The Nature Group Annual Exhibition 2010 Print Awards

Gold Medal

Thirsty Tiger drinking
Stephen Rogala-Kaluski



Selectors' Awards

1. Verreaux's Sifaka, dancing
Martin Withers FRPS
2. Barn Owl with Prey
Martin Withers FRPS

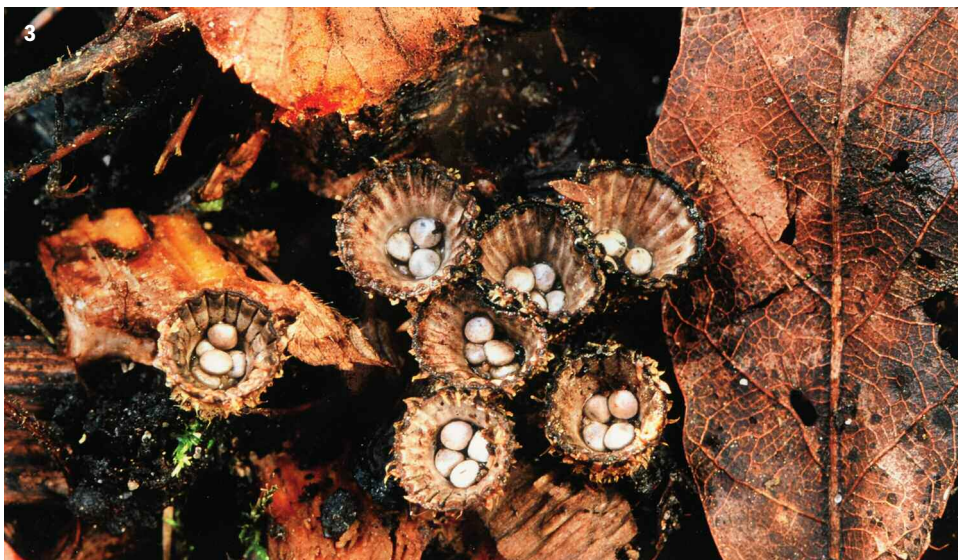
Bronze Medal prints shown on
inside front cover.



Selectors' Awards



1. **Common Bonnet**
Sheila Weir ARPS
2. **Angel's Wings**
John Weir ARPS
3. **Striated Birds Nest Fungus**
John Jones ARPS



Highly Commended Prints



1

1. **Green Silver-lines Moth on Wild Geranium**
Gianpiero Ferrari ARPS
2. **Lady's Slipper Orchid**
Thomas Hanahoe FRPS
3. **Sitting Woodpecker -**
Gianpiero Ferrari ARPS
4. **Broad-bordered Bee Hawk-moth visiting flower**
Richard Revels FRPS



2



3



4

Highly Commended Prints

continued

- 5. Marsh Harrier with a stick
Thomas Hanahoe FRPS
- 6. Young Carpathian Lynx, Poland
Bryan Knox ARPS
- 7. Mating Hoverflies
Ann Mead



Commended Prints

1. Night flowering Water Lily, Okavango
Maggie Manson ARPS
2. Herring Gull attacking Gannet
Dickie Duckett FRPS
3. Leopard
Dave McKay ARPS
4. Red-Crowned cranes displaying
Dickie Duckett FRPS

more commended prints on the inside back cover.



It Snows in Majorca.

Russell Edwards ARPS

Majorca, the beautiful Mediterranean island and mecca for thousands of bird enthusiasts who visit the North of the island at the time of the spring and autumn bird migrations. The Boquer valley at Puerto Pollensa is a favourite spot but the numbers of bird migrants seem to be less now than when I first went twenty years ago. This year our arrival was greeted with severe storms of wind and rain, which blew down mature trees along the shoreline. Then snow began to fall, settling in the villages and causing traffic chaos. However, the wind and driving rain blew migrating birds onto the shore at Puerto Pollensa and they were particularly prominent round the hotels searching for food. Black caps arriving from North Africa with feathers fluffed out against the cold competed for food with the local sparrows. Large numbers of Black Redstart combed the seaweed and debris along the beach searching for food but most spectacular was a group of Blue Rock Thrush which regularly visited a palm fruit tree outside our hotel window, to feed off the palm fruits. The only bird seemingly missing this year was the Scops Owl, regularly heard but seldom seen, which has regularly visited our hotel grounds over the years.

In spite of the weather Hoopoe regularly patrolled the shore and visited the hotel gardens for food, while Cormorant and Little Egret combed the shore and Sardinian Warbler and Stonechat were at large in the garden shrubbery.

After a week of storms the weather returned to its sunny Mediterranean normality enabling us to take the forty minute bus ride(1.5 eurus) to the Parc Natural at S'Albufera. This huge area of wetland is the largest and most important in the whole of the Balearic islands and is an internationally protected area for wild birds. It is home to over 200 species of which 66 species of bird breed within the park.

The bus dropped us off at the main entrance and having admired the colony of Egrets (Little, Great and Cattle), we walked the half mile to the centre along a road adjacent to the canal in which fish were seen continually jumping out of the water to catch flies. On the far bank of the canal Night Heron roost along its length, and Terrapin were observed bustling to and fro. Cetti's Warblers in the adjacent trees could be seen as well as heard as the trees and shrubs were not yet in full foliage.





Above: Blue Rock Thrush feeding on palm fruit
 Left: Black-winged Stilt at nest with eggs
 Below: Female Blackcap with feathers fluffed against cold
 Hoopoe foraging



Birds prominent from the hides were Black-winged Stilts, Red-crested Pochard, Snipe, Garganey on passage and Yellow Wagtail, which kept close to the grazing ponies.

The very rare Purple Gallinule which was once hunted to extinction, mainly for food, was successfully re-introduced to the park in August 1991 and more recently the Crested Coot (coot with two red knobs on its head). We were lucky to have come across both species and to photograph them during our latest visit.

For bird photography I have now replaced my film camera and 500mm f/4 lens (the £3000 job) with digiscoping equipment, which with its focal length range from 1000-3000 mm(35mm equivalent) reaches distant birds that conventional cameras cannot reach. Results are very good especially after a little help from Photoshop. But this equipment still requires a substantial tripod, which makes it all too heavy and bulky to take abroad. Instead I now carry a digital Nikon D80 camera with a 300mm image stabilised Nikon lens, which gives an effective field of view of 450mm focal length (35 mm equivalent). Add a 1.4X converter and the focal length becomes 630mm (35mm equivalent field of view).

Surprisingly the autofocus works with the Sigma converter in place although the aperture is now f/8 !

It was while I was in Majorca that I became aware of the “super zoom” or Bridge cameras. These are small, lightweight, compact cameras with a tremendous zoom range from a 28mm wide angle to a 700-800mm telephoto lens (35mm equivalent). On my return to England I took an SD card into my photographic shop and asked the assistant if he would put it into a Nikon P100 and take a few sample pictures for me, which he did. The maximum focal length of the P100 is 678mm (35mm equivalent) and it costs around £350. On feeding the results into the computer I was very impressed, although reviews of these cameras are not good. There is no doubt these cameras will improve in the future and perhaps the days of massive, interchangeable lenses are nearly over.

Just imagine a 700mm stabilised camera and lens about the size of a fist at a modest cost. This must be the camera of the future and I have no doubt, sun or snow I will be taking one back to Majorca soon.

PS. I recently purchased a Nikon P100 and found that it gave very satisfactory results. Below is one of my first pictures, that of a Reed Warbler, which was about 20 metres from the hide and hardly visible. At 400 ISO the exposure was 1/330th of a second @ f/8.



Nature Group AGM Report continued from page 4

Treasurer's Report

- **General Comments:** This year has not seen any major changes to the way our finances have to be recorded and so this report is fairly simple. It aims to expand and explain the Balance Sheet attached. As usual, the Balance Sheet is an overall summary of Receipts and Payments for the year. Because some items 'straddle' year ends, it cannot be a detailed Balance Sheet for each item.
- **Subscriptions:** The Subscription Income shown in the Balance Sheet is that credited monthly to our Cash Book Account during the current Financial year - (which is, of course, the Nature Group Subscriptions paid to the RPS at Bath for December 2008 through to November 2009). The Life Members' subscription reimbursements for 2008 are also included in the 2009 accounts, (as they were not paid into the Nature Group account until 23rd January 2009).
- **Lectures & Workshops:** The Chairman's Day event on the 8th November, organised by Peter Jones, was very successful and raised £176.55.
- **Interest:** This is very poor this year compared to previous years, due to the current economic situation, and only contributed £77.47 to our funds. Interest is likely to stay low in 2010 as well.
- **Sundry Income:** This includes VAT refunds and income of £390 from the sale of "An Interactive Guide to obtaining your Nature Associateship". 39 copies were sold during the year. My thanks to Trevor Hyman for continuing to distribute these CDs.
- **The Iris:** Three editions of The IRIS were published this year - (#103, #104 & #105). The cost of production and postage has risen as predicted, though subscriptions and adverts have helped to offset some of the costs.
- **Annual Exhibition:** The Exhibition was in profit this year to the tune of £144.46, due to the Travelling Exhibition bringing in £690. My thanks to Tremaine Cornish for his time and effort in producing the NG Exhibition CD and to Margaret Johnson for distributing them.
- **General Administration:** This includes all Nature Group running costs (general postage, telephone, stationery and travel to committee meetings, the cost of our web-site and VAT expenditure).
- **Overall Financial Situation:** The Balance Sheet shows an excess of Income over Expenditure of £619.53. This is mainly due to the Life Members' subscriptions of both 2008 (£719.59) and 2009

(£738.28) being included in this year's accounts. Even so, the Cash Book still shows a healthy credit balance at the end of 2009.

Secretary's Report

Our current membership according to Bath on the 7th April is 648 which is 7 more than at the last AGM. Members who do leave have issues with the RPS and not the Nature Group; the old, old story. We now have ten subscriptions to the Iris.

The lists that come through monthly from Bath are now more accurate and there are not so many queries to make. The lapsed members still cause the most concern as many do not realise they have lapsed until they receive a letter from me.

I am sure that you will all agree that the print exhibition looks extremely good. John, Sue and myself enjoyed hanging it but we did have problems with some mounts that were too thick and in one instance we could just not get the print to stay in place. Also the mounts were not all consistent in size. Please, please do read the rules carefully before next year's exhibition and stick to them!

The cost of administration for the new members' packs has increased by 5p and the cost of stamps for ordinary 2nd class letters has increased too which is making a huge difference.

Another busy and successful year has been completed and I hope next year is as good.

Any Other Business

John Bebbington said that we would have to change the date of our AGM from 2012 onwards. Because of the change in Charity Commission rules we would have to hold the AGM before 31st March. This will have a knock-on effect with The Iris publication dates and the Annual Exhibition. Robert Hawkesworth said that it may be worth considering separating the Exhibition and AGM. Perhaps Chairman's Day and the AGM could be on the same day. This would be discussed at the next committee meeting.

John Bebbington said that the RPS main website had improved enormously. Anyone who would like their images on this site should contact him. 20 images per photographer are allowed and they go on the main website and also the regional site.

His field weekend is full and he asked if there was anyone who would like to organise one for next year.

There was a request for more field meetings. John Jones said that he organised a field event in mid-Wales. It took him two days to complete a full risk assessment beforehand. The event was for orchids,


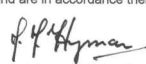
flowers and lichens. Only two people turned up. He felt that he didn't want to organise another one if that was the response that he got. Peter Jones said that people moan about the number of field meetings so why don't they attend the ones in their area. John Bebbington said that he hoped that more would come now that they were being put on the main RPS websites. Dawn Osborn stated that we had gained some new members after a NG meeting at Wicken Fen. Margaret Johnson said she had received a complaint from a member who said that no-one had offered him any help. Peter Jones replied that he had no doubt that if the leader of the meeting had been asked, they would have been delighted to help!

Colin Smith reported that there was a reasonable spread across the country but that we needed more members to volunteer to arrange a meeting. John Bebbington suggested that images and reports of field meetings could go on the website. Dawn Osborn added that she also needed reports for The Iris. If members see good pictures and a report it would encourage others to turn up in the future.

Date and Venue for the 35th AGM 2011

This would be Saturday 30th April 2011 at The Old Schoolhouse, Oldbury at 2.00pm.

The meeting was declared closed at 2.55pm.

THE NATURE GROUP OF THE ROYAL PHOTOGRAPHIC SOCIETY			
<u>Receipts and Payments Accounts for 1st. January 2009 to 31st December 2009</u>			
Nature Group 'Cash Book' at RPS Bath			
<u>Year 2008</u>			<u>Year 2009</u>
<u>Receipts</u>			
5,818.54	Subscriptions		6,303.67
697.45	Life Subs.		1,457.87
785.87	Lectures & Workshops		765.00
1,651.16	Annual Exhibition		1,655.70
510.37	Interest received (to Cash Book)		77.47
835.12	Sundry Income		566.20
127.44	IRIS Subs, Adverts, etc		495.03
500.00	Pentax sponsorship		0.00
10,925.95	sub totals		11,320.94
<u>Payments</u>			
6,940.97	The Iris incl. postage		6,284.95
464.73	Lectures & Workshops		489.00
1,130.09	Annual Exhibition		1,511.24
2,456.44	General Administration		2,416.22
10,992.23	sub totals		10,701.41
-66.28	Receipts minus Payments		619.53
<u>Balance Sheet at 31st December 2009</u>			
Nature Group Cash Book		£	
Balance brought forward from 2008		12,301.45	
Cleared Cheques from 2008		-3.44	
Uncleared Cheques from 2009		10.00	
Credit Card vouchers not cashed in 2009		-10.00	
Receipts minus Payments 2009		619.53	
Total		12,917.54	
Total Carried Forward To Financial Year 2010		12,917.54	
 20th January 2010 Margery J Maskell (Hon Treasurer)			
Independent Examiner's Report to Members			
The statements of account for the period ended 31st December 2009 set out above have been prepared from the books and records of the Nature Group of the Royal Photographic Society and are in accordance therewith.			
 19 Jan. 2010 J. T. Hyman (Independent Examiner)			

Field Meetings - 2010

Please check the website for Field Meetings which may be arranged after this issue has gone to press.

Location: Newtown Linford (Leicestershire)

Meeting Place: Park entrance (village centre)

Date & Time: 6am 9th or 10th October depending on weather (confirm by telephone a week in advance)

Leader: Gianpiero Ferrari

Car parking: As directed on the day

Main subjects of interest: Deer rutting

Other Information: Bring stout shoes, warm clothing, a waterproof and a packed lunch.

There is a pub and restaurants in the village.

Lenses of 400-500mm for deer are recommended and a shorter zoom for autumn colours

Tel: 01509 621489

Meeting Place: Jodrell Bank Arboretum

Date & Time: 10am Saturday 16th October

Location: Off A535 Holmes Chapel – Chelford road – 8 miles from J18 of M6 motorway

Grid Ref.: SJ 796714

Leader: Tony Bond FRPS

Car parking: £2.00 per head

Main subjects of interest: Fungi

Other Information: Bring Stout shoes and a packed lunch. There is also a café on site.

We may move to the nearby Quinta Arboretum at Swettenham after lunch.

Tel: 01942 674773. Please contact leader 2 or 3 days before the meeting

Location: Beacon Hill Woodlands, Charnwood Forest

Date & Time: 10.30am Wednesday 6th October

Meeting Place: Beacon Hill Car Park

Grid Ref: OS Sheet 129 522 148

Leader: Robert Hawkesworth FRPS

Directions: Leave M1 at J23 taking A512 towards Loughborough. Turn right at traffic lights. Follow the road through one more set of traffic lights. Keep on ahead for c. 2miles then turn right into the well signed Car Park.

Cost: Car Park Barrier, in 2009 it was £1.00. Coin in slot for entry. No info for 2010.

Main subjects of interest: Mainly Fungi.

Other Information: Waterproofs, stout shoes, boots or wellingtons. Packed Lunch

Tel: 0115 928 1050. Please ring for up to date information on Monday and Tuesday 4th and 5th October. Mobile number, (for use on the day only): 07960 177291

Wildlife Photo-tours 2010 & 2011

organised and led by Wildlife Photographer

David Osborn FRPS EFIAP

Small groups

Availability limited on all tours.

Bookings now being accepted for:

Fungi Workshop, Norfolk - October 2010

Birds of Florida - March 2011

Canadian Rockies - September 2011

Fungi Workshop, Norfolk - October 2011

For more information or a brochure contact David at

Tel: 01263 511221 Email: poppyland3@aol.com

Web: www.davidosbornphotography.co.uk



Commended Prints

1. **Black-throated Diver territorial display, Finland**
Bryan Knox ARPS
2. **Meta segmentata pairing**
Ann Mead
3. **Yellow-crowned Night Heron rotating crab**
Kevin Maskell FRPS
4. **Flock of Avocet in flight**
Thomas Hanahoe FRPS
5. **Frosted Webcap**
Sheila Weir ARPS
6. **Whooper Swans**
Adrian Langdon ARPS





Projected Images Commended

1. Oryx fighting - John Chamberlin FRPS
2. Common Puffballs - Sandy Cleland FRPS
3. Cladonia diversa - Elizabeth Cutter ARPS
4. Predatory Shieldbug *Picromerus bidens* - Ann Miles FRPS
5. Wood Ants taking prey to nest - Richard Revels FRPS
6. Pika - Jane Greatorex ARPS
7. Wood Pigeon - Colin Smith FRPS

