



## **Brian Noël and the Photography Club**

Elaine So Brian could you tell us the aims and objectives of the photography club

Brian Right well the first thing is obviously as I said before we are short on numbers, so what I'd like to do is have a really good mix of, first of all, possibly retired professional photographers who could really help in the tutorial, the other side is to increase the numbers up to a maximum of 35. The main thing is to make people comfortable so when they bring their own camera along they actually understand exactly how it works. That's really the main aim because although we, we can have competitions, the idea is not to embarrass people into thinking they do or don't know more than the other person as regards the technical side of photography. The idea of the club is to make people enjoy photography so that they can actually see what they're taking and be able to improve their own photography by knowing how the camera works.

Elaine I understand some recent developments, lets say, have taken place that the club now is sort of opened up to a lot more.

Brian The first thing that was very important was to really move with the times and to get an internet connection. So we moved to the AIKB main offices of photography but actually worldwide international professionals actually show the different types of photography which are available.

Elaine Now back in the day, say back in my day, a camera was used largely to capture a moment in time of a person or a place but is this in danger this particular fin.... finite moment of getting lost amongst all the technology that is actually used.

Brian The actual technology side of things, I think if you, if you're talking about the processing after you've taken the photograph then we're really talking about the situation, there was a comment made recently that Adobe Light Room is really the modern version of the Dark Room in the old days which is, I think is very true. What's unique about our club is the fact that we have an area whereupon one of our members actually gives tutorials on using digital photography to create your own photographs and on the other side of it you've got pure photography instruction of how to take photographs out there. So we've got a level balance of both. The most difficult thing about the club is the fact that all different levels of people are coming into photography. So it's basically, the problem we do have is a lot of people say well I would really like to get into photography but I think I might be a little bit embarrassed or frightened if I go along to the camera club and sort of sit there thinking I don't really know what they're talking about. The whole idea is for them to come and say I don't know what you're talking about, in that way we can actually help them progress.

Elaine So one of the ideas obviously of any club be it a dance club or a music club is a, the social aspect.

Brian Correct.

Elaine Because people want to go and do something they enjoy but also to meet other people. Do you have any social events set up?

Brian Yes, I mean, that is a very good point and I think that when I took over as President at the start of the year we did in actual fact go too much towards a tutorial level of photography and that the social aspect probably suffered with this. We're now moving a lot more into looking at photographs, discussing them, talking to the members as regards what they like as opposed to choosing a subject and giving a tutorial. On the social side of things, what we're doing in the summer months, we're doing, like the recent trip we did which was the seven islands in Perros Guirec and we spent... we met for lunch and then went on the boat for two and a half hours which was a really good day, and obviously we're also looking at events such as the moon photographed and also digital. We're looking at night photography later on in, in the year and of course the social side is our Christmas lunch on the December 6<sup>th</sup>.

Elaine That sounds a very good idea. Any good lunch is a good idea.

Brian I'm not sure if we'll take photographs afterward though.

Elaine Well they could be quite interesting.

Brian They could be very interesting.

Elaine Could make you some money.

Brian. I know.

Elaine I understand you are also looking for new members. What experience of photography is needed for anybody thinking of joining?

Brian I don't think there.... I don't think there is actually a level. I would prefer, at the moment, obviously to get more experienced photographers that are out there. I know this is not real. To be honest with you any level is welcome to come to the club. Because it's the usual thing, you know, you think you're, you're not that good a photographer, but when you arrive you realise you're better than you thought. So the thing is to come and give it a go. Come and see us, and just see how you get on. If you enjoy it, obviously, and become a member, on that basis you will judge for yourself if you want to join in with the club or not.

Elaine Of course we can talk a lot more about it

Brian A lot more

Elaine But we've run out of time. Thank you very much.

Brian Thanks very much.

