

U3a DIGITAL PHOTOGRAPHY GROUP

Notes of the Meeting held on 12th February 2025 at 2pm in Louise House

1. Attendance

The Group welcomed Carole Croxford who joined us for a taster session.

Apologies were received from Phillip Aldred.

2. Review of Annual Plan for 2025

A plan had been drafted by a sub-group prior to the meeting. This was reviewed and accepted - recognising that circumstances may require it to be adapted during the year

It has been developed with the aim of providing greater focus on 'getting the best photo out-of-camera' - and the skills and techniques needed to support this.

It makes provision to practice the skills by exploiting local photo opportunities. Full day field trips are retained but reduced in number from 3-4 per year down to 2. Themed subjects are still included but on a two-monthly cycle.

A copy is attached.

3. March Meeting Arrangements

Provided the weather allows, the meeting will be held at Carding Mill Valley. NT have allowed us to use their training room for an hour from 2:30pm.

There will be a technical presentation by Dic on taking photos of 'Flowing Water'. This will be followed by an outside practice session.

We agreed to meet at the café at 12:30pm for lunch.

We will need to give Louise House advance notice so that we avoid paying for the room on that day.

ACTION – MG

In the event of inclement weather, the fall-back will be Shrewsbury Abbey. We will need to ask permission to photograph inside as a matter of courtesy.

ACTION – DSF

4. Macro Photography Learning Session

The Macro Photography presentation given by Mike and Dic will be circulated with the Minutes and will also be uploaded to the website.

ACTION - DSF

5. Membership

Group numbers have been falling. We need to find ways of raising our profile and attracting new members. It is proposed that we produce an inspirational 'Flyer' for the U3a Newsletter that grabs people's attention. The attached draft serves as a starting point for your comments and ideas. Our aim should be to have this ready before the next meeting, so please get back to David before the end of Feb

ACTION – ALL

The experience level of the current membership can be described as 'mature'. This makes integrating new members something of a challenge and we need to find a solution. We should discuss, with Carole, the best approach to tackling this – once she has been on the Jessops course

ACTION – DSF

6. AOB

- a. WhatsApp Group – there was no support for a WhatsApp group – they tend to descend into trivia
- b. Contacts List – the ability to contact each other can be useful / desirable (e.g. if going on a field trip and circumstances change at short notice). Everyone agreed that a contacts list with mobile numbers and email addresses should be pulled together

ACTION – PF

- c. Document Storage – copies of MoM, presentations, policy documents etc will be uploaded to the Digital Photography Documents area of the website where they can be viewed and downloaded by Group members. Photographs will not be uploaded to the Gallery area, as yet, because the feature that limits viewing only to Group members is not operational – anyone in U3a can browse them
- d. World Wildlife Photographer of the Year Expo – is on display in the Birmingham Museum and Art Gallery. The category winners and highly commended can be viewed via <https://www.nhm.ac.uk/wpy/gallery>

Best Wishes, David