

Message from the President

Everybody is well aware that the Coronavirus pandemic means we are now living through some very difficult and unprecedented times. Compared to the health and economic challenges facing most people in their daily lives, our photographic hobby is well down the scale of importance. However for those who are now stuck at home for much longer, it is also important to try and keep active and occupied in order to maintain our wellbeing.

You will know that in line with Government advice, we have cancelled all Society meetings and workshops for the foreseeable future. We hope to be able to reopen as normal as soon as the situation allows, but this may not be for a while. In the meantime your committee has been thinking how we can maintain your photographic interests during the coming months. One thing we hope to do is send out regular mini-newsletters, of which this is the first. We would like everybody to contribute, so if you are aware of any item, news clip, web link, or video of photographic interest please let me know and we can include in the next available edition. Don't forget that you can also upload images to our Facebook page. If you have any problems with this please get in touch with Rhys Jones.

Please keep safe and follow all official advice over the coming months. But also if you have more time on your hands, why don't you try and finish that photographic project you have had in your mind for some time.

Bob Breach - President

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Society activities

Due to the need for sudden cancellation of our meetings, we have three unfinished internal competitions that were planned to take place before the end of the season. We hope to at least run the annual DPI competition electronically, and we may also run the informal mobile device and annual print but this is less certain. Jim and Rhys are currently looking at simple ways that we can show presentations and/or competitions on line. We will let you know our plans as and when they have been finalised, and also the new handing in dates.

We are also thinking of running some kind of informal themed photo activities for members using our Facebook page or website. If you have any ideas for such activities let us know.

Our Society Rules say that we must hold an AGM before the end of May. We will clearly not be able to do this in the normal way, but we are looking at how we can hold some form of "virtual on-line" AGM. Again more details will be circulated over the coming weeks.

Photography interest - members contributions

In this newsletter we are using links to relevant web pages. These are highlighted in blue and underlined. To access the web page you will need to be connected to the internet. Depending on which device you are using, simply click on the link or if that does not work try holding down the alt key with your cursor over the link and it should change to a hand sign, then click. The webpage should open in a new tab on your browser

Yellowstone in winter

In January of this year, Janet and I had a trip to Yellowstone National Park. This is our favourite of all the wonderful US National Parks, but visiting in winter requires support from local experts and lots of good clothing. Yellowstone was the first US Park to be officially created in 1872. It is at an average elevation of 8000ft, and sits immediately above a super volcano which gives rise to the amazing geothermal features. It has a huge temperature variation with average summer daytime between 21 and 27 C but in winter between -5 to -20 C. There is an abundance of wildlife, and sometimes viewing is even better in the winter than at any other time of year. However in winter due to the conditions, access to the park is only allowed from the west and north entrances, and then only with four wheel drive vehicles and experienced drivers.



This link should give you access to a short 15 minute AV of the trip, which I would have shown at the cancelled member's evening last Tuesday. I hope you enjoy it.

Bob Breach

[Yellowstone winter](#)

Indoor photography projects

The link below takes you to a webpage which gives ideas on photography projects to do when confined indoors over the winter period. This might well equally apply to periods when you are stuck in the house to avoid the virus.

1. Cloning yourself (or anything!)



2. Bokeh Party
3. New profile photos — levitating camera
4. Smoke photography
5. Mirror Photography
6. Abstract — Oil and Water
7. Macro Photography
8. Light Painting.

Why not have a go and post the results on our Face Book page

[Indoor photography projects](#)

How small is a coronavirus?

For a typical full frame 30 MP camera each pixel is around 5300 nanometres (one billionth of a metre). A Coronavirus measures about 120 nanometres across. That's around 45 times smaller than a pixel. No wonder they are difficult to manage!

