



# Towcester Camera Club



## 2009 Programme of Events Spring & Summer

All Jan	Towcester Library (3 <sup>rd</sup> to 31 <sup>st</sup> )	An Exhibition of our prints
Jan 7 <sup>th</sup>	Informal Participation	Towcester Town - You've been framed
Jan 21 <sup>st</sup>	Pete Norton	Still trying to get my best ever picture
Feb 4 <sup>th</sup>	Informal Participation & Critique?	Winter Wonderland
Feb 18 <sup>th</sup>	Beth Hartley, The Studio Towcester	Portraits & mobile studio practical
Mar 4 <sup>th</sup>	Danny Green	The Long Road North
Mar 18 <sup>th</sup>	TBA	
Apr 1 <sup>st</sup>	Andy Hooker	Mountain Scenes
Apr 15 <sup>th</sup>	Informal Participation	Versatility Challenge
Apr 29 <sup>th</sup>	Cathal Gantly	Just what I like
May 13 <sup>th</sup>	Annual General Meeting.....plus....	The 'Ayes' have it!
May 27 <sup>th</sup>	TBA	
Jun 10 <sup>th</sup>	Sharing our skills (Volunteers)	Techniques we have tried & results
Jun 24 <sup>th</sup>	Steve Gosling	The nature of creativity
Jul 8 <sup>th</sup>	Ray Vessey	Ethiopia
Jul 22 <sup>nd</sup>	Informal Participation	A Treasure Hunt in Greens Norton

Towcester Camera Club meets on alternate Wednesdays from 8 till 10pm in the Methodist Meeting Room, Bradden Road, Greens Norton, Northants. (Map on back)

Membership is open to anyone who has an interest in photography. Our members' skills range from some who don't even own a camera to some very experienced and accomplished photographers.

Meetings are very relaxed and friendly. Emphasis is on sharing and learning practical techniques, both from each other and from a selection of specialist lecturers, on a wide variety of topics.

Visitors are always made very welcome. There is no charge for an initial 'taster' meeting, so come along & find out some more about us.

Our programme includes lectures by experts in particular fields of photography and plenty of opportunities to show and discuss your own photographs at our informal participation evenings.



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January 7th	Informal Participation	Towcester Town – You've been framed (Daytime, Nightlife & Best Features)
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The Christmas holiday break might just allow you some time to go exploring locally with your camera.

To give your wanderings some clear purpose, think of this meeting.....What can you find in and around Towcester Town?

This is intended to be slightly competitive and to test your skills in using appropriate techniques for the different light conditions.

Remember – good composition counts too.

There are 3 categories to aim for:   Daytime  
  Nightlife  
  Best Features

Using your skill & imagination, try to produce the most stunning & unusual shots. Bring in a maximum of 6 pictures please, either prints or digital - on CD or memory stick. By whatever means, a winner will be selected for each category.

The prizes could be ....ummm...how about your very generous donations of any unwanted Christmas presents..... or leftover - but not too stale – Christmas goodies?!! Bring them all in (& sincerely hope that you don't win them back!)

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January 21st	Pete Norton	Still Trying to get my Best Ever Picture
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Pete is a self taught professional photographer who considers himself very fortunate to have been able to go that one step further and build up a thriving business out of what started off as an all-consuming hobby. His specialist area is capturing local sporting events, in fact the next football season will be his 25<sup>th</sup> year of photographing 'The Cobblers'.



Pete has a very varied subject range though and will show us a broad selection of his work.

One interesting technique he'll tell us about is how to create controlled lighting conditions or 'a studio on a budget' using ordinary domestic fluorescent tubes as an alternative to flash.

[www.petenorton.com](http://www.petenorton.com)

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February 4th

Informal  
Participation

Winter Wonderland

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Snowflakes, crunchy footprints, ice, frost patterns, icicles, visible breath, log fires, steaming mugs, twinkling lights....all the magic of the wintertime.



Forget about all the slush & mud; drab skies & freezing cold fingers.....  
Instead, capture what you can of the loveliness of the coldest months and bring in your images (a maximum of 4 each please, prints or digital).

If it happens to be a warm start to the year – just dig out some of your old pre-global warming images!!

We will then organise a very democratic method to allow each member in turn to be a judge and to give an honest critique of a random selection of the pictures presented. Authors will be permitted in this case, to answer back and to defend themselves if necessary!

This is not meant to be an intimidating exercise at all, but it should give us all a chance to share our skills, thoughts & opinions.

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February 18th

Beth Hartley  
'The Studio'  
Towcester

Portraits & mobile studio practical

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If you have ever walked through the Sponne Shopping Centre in Towcester, you may have noticed 'The Studio' which is run by Beth Hartley LBIPP.

Beth has been a photographer for over 20 years. In 2006 she was awarded membership of the prestigious British Institute of Professional Photography in recognition of the quality of her portrait work. Beth is passionate about her craft and believes that excellent quality photography should be available to everyone.



For this session Beth will bring some of her work to show us and she will also bring along her mobile studio for a practical demonstration of portrait work.

[www.bethhartleyphoto.co.uk](http://www.bethhartleyphoto.co.uk)

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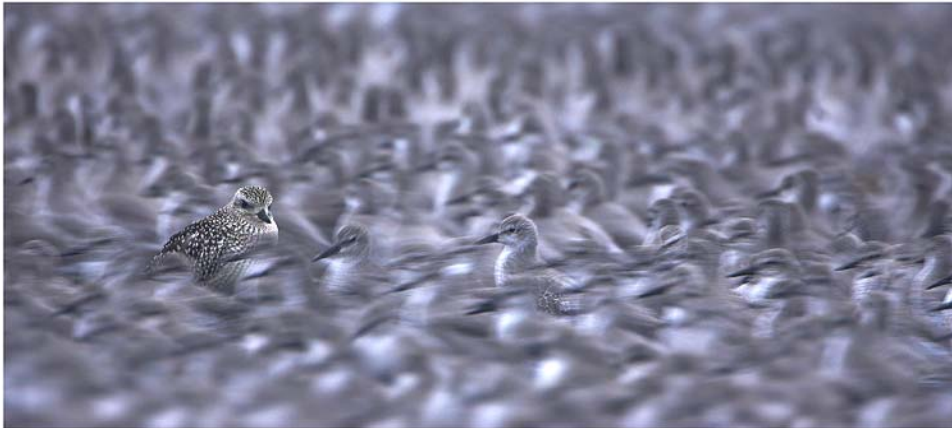
March 4th

Danny Green

The Long Road North

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Last year we were very fortunate to get Danny Green to come and show us some of his incredible wildlife images. He has a real gift for catching such perfect shots which can only come from endless hours dedicated to getting to know and thoroughly understand his subjects. Danny is returning for a second visit to our club and no doubt will enthral us with another selection of stunning pictures and inspirational tips.



This image won  
Danny the  
'International  
Wild Bird  
Photographer of  
the Year  
Competition' in  
2007.

Danny is currently working towards publishing a new book of his images and has recently set up a photographic mini-break and holiday company (web site below).

[www.dannygreenphotography](http://www.dannygreenphotography)  
[www.natures-images.co.uk](http://www.natures-images.co.uk)

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March 18th

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Details to be confirmed & will be announced asap and listed on the website.

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April 1st

Dr Andy Hooker

Mountain Scenes

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It may sound like a bit of a joke to invite your recently retired GP along to show some of his photographs on April Fool's Day! I have it on very good authority however that over the years, photography has played a large part in his life and also that the 1st of April is a significant date for Dr Andy Hooker.....so it seemed like a good idea.

We look forward to seeing a varied selection of his photographs, probably quite a few of which will be of a mountainous nature which is his particular passion. We will learn too, about some of the challenges that this type of photography can present.

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April 15th

Informal  
Participation

Versatility Challenge 2009.

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The challenge here is to demonstrate how versatile your photography (and your imagination) is by showing photographs you have taken which appropriately fit given titles. This is usually a good fun event, often with some very surprising displays of talent and interpretation!

As we normally have a very enthusiastic response to this challenge, so as to ensure that we don't run out of time, please select only 6 from the 10 titles listed below.

**The 2009 Versatility Challenge Titles are:**



1. Parallel Lines
2. Catchlight
3. A funny way to make a living
4. Lights
5. Silhouettes
6. Bits & pieces
7. Say 'Cheese'
8. New Life
9. Cheers!
10. A soft touch

Bring them in on the evening, ready to be projected digitally, either on a CD or on a memory stick. It is helpful if you label each photograph to match the titles and put them into a digital folder with your name on for easy transfer.

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April 29<sup>th</sup>

Cathal Gantly

"Just what I like"

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We encountered Cathal Gantly as a judge last season at our annual competition with Olney Camera Club and we were impressed by his relaxed and easy, but still very fair, assessment of all the competition prints. Cathal may have a relaxed judging style but it was obvious that there is also a real depth of knowledge and skill behind his humorous yet constructive comments. I have a feeling that we could learn a great deal from seeing some of Cathal's own work and by finding out a bit more about his preferred techniques and style of photography. If nothing else, this evening is likely to be entertaining!

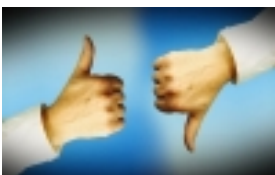
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May 13<sup>th</sup>

Annual General  
Meeting.....plus

The 'Ayes' have it!

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This is your chance to have your say on how you think your club is being, or should be, run.

We will take a quick look backwards, then a longer look forwards!

All committee posts will be assessed and the election of officers will take place. All new volunteers please make yourselves known!

After the formalities are over, there will be a chance for you to show and receive comments on some of your own work (prints or digital) on a set theme – "The Ayes have it!"

Interpret the title however you fancy...Aye, Aye? Eye, Eye? I, I?  
It is up to you!



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May 27th

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Details to be confirmed & will be announced asap and listed on the website.

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June  
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Sharing our skills  
(Volunteers)

Techniques we have tried and results

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Good photography inevitably requires the learning of new practical techniques.

In this meeting we will explore some of these skills together, as some volunteer members will choose a new technique that they have already tried and will demonstrate how they tackled the learning curve and show some of the results they achieved. This should be a good way of sharing the learning process as any 'difficult bits' will already have been overcome by our volunteers.

Which brings me very nicely to the bit where I now ask for some volunteers, please! Have you had a go at successfully mastering any new technique which you'd be willing to share?

If so, please make yourself known and you may gladly lead this meeting!

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June 24th

Steve Gosling

The Nature of Creativity

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What is creativity? Can it be learnt? Is it innate? How can creativity be developed? These and other questions will be explored by Steve Gosling.



Steve says "I believe that a passion for the subject is an essential pre-requisite for a successful photograph. If the photographer feels ambivalent about whatever is seen through the viewfinder how can they hope to have any impact on those who see the final photograph? Communicating mood & emotion are my most important motivators for making images. I've never been overly concerned with technical perfection or producing an accurate pictorial record of a subject or a location. For me the heart of photography is to capture and communicate what I'm feeling, as much (if not more) than what I see at the time of releasing the shutter. If my photographs speak to the viewer on an emotional level then I have succeeded in my work."

Steve is a very talented photographer who has created some stunning landscape images. We have a very reliable recommendation, direct from our member Huw (a Steve Gosling protégé) that Steve is also an excellent teacher.

This is definitely not an evening to be missed. It is a fantastic opportunity to learn from a top class photographer.

[www.stevegoslingphotography.co.uk](http://www.stevegoslingphotography.co.uk)

July 8th	Ray Vessey	Ethiopia
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Some of our members are very widely travelled and Ray Vessey is no exception. He has in the past shown us some brilliant photographs from the Galapagos Islands.

This time, Ray would like to show us some of his images from a fairly recent trip to Ethiopia. One unforgettable image that Ray took in Ethiopia was featured on the front cover of our Club calendar last year. (It was a holy man in a small hole in a rockface, for anyone who didn't see the calendar). Ray has a very special talent and this should be an excellent evening.

July 22nd	Informal Participation	A Treasure Hunt in Greens Norton (The last meeting before the summer break)
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Have some fun taking pictures around the village – a good excuse to go off exploring. No doubt there will be some creative interpretations of the set titles, which will be distributed at the start by Alison..... then we'll all meet back at the Chapel to see & compare the results.

Let's hope for a proper (& dry!) summer's evening! Don't forget to bring your camera!

At all informal Meetings	New!	Towcester Camera Club Trading Table Your old kit could be somebody's upgrade!
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At the request of several members, and as a trial this season, we are introducing a 'Trading Table' and will make available a corner of the meeting room where any relevant 'items for sale' can be displayed prior to the start of the meeting - to be haggled over either then, or during the break!

To be polite however, the Trading Table will only be available at those meetings where we do not have guest speaker.

Naturally, all transactions are to be made directly between individual members and all items brought in remain at all times, the full responsibility of their owner!

We think this idea has some good potential. It is up to you all to make it work!

8<sup>th</sup> April

Extra -  
An Invitation

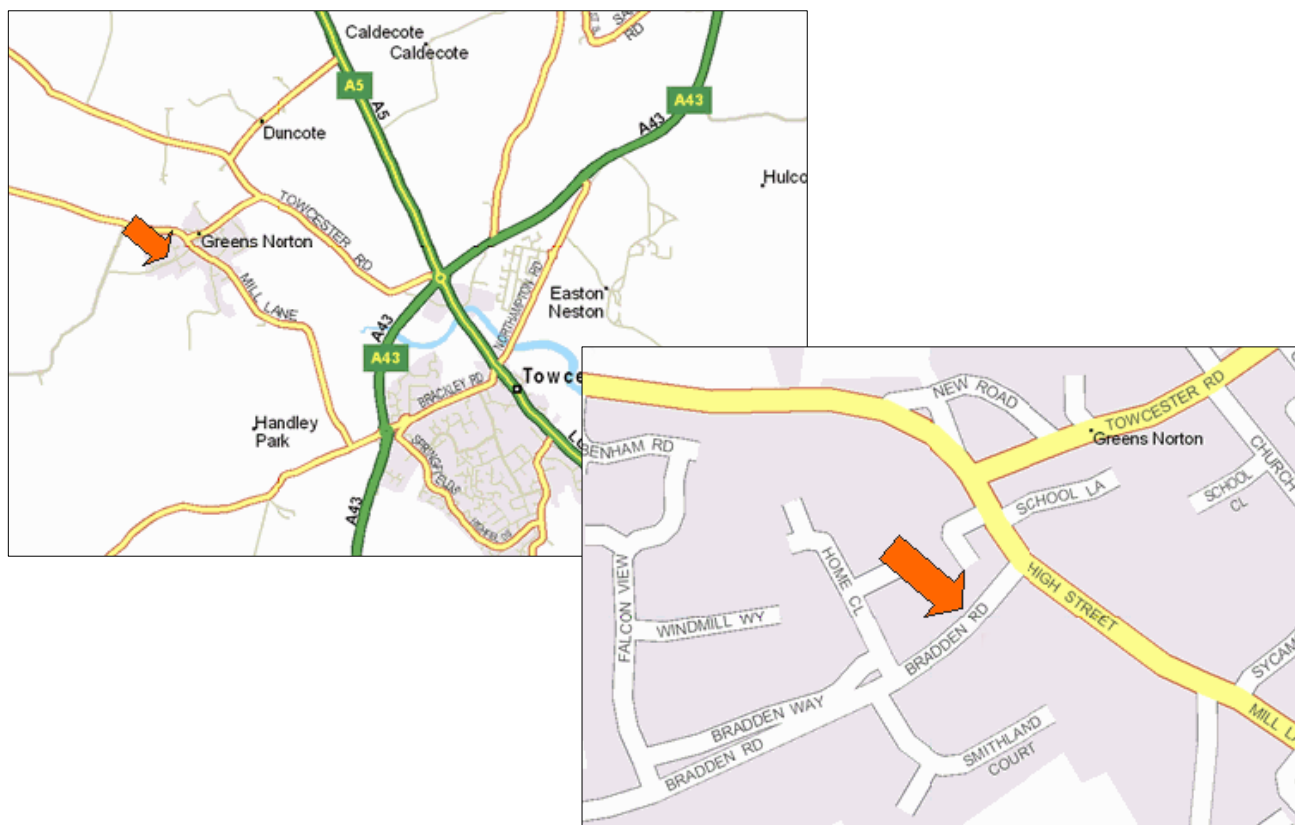
Will Cheung at Olney Camera Club

We have kindly been invited to join Olney Camera Club for one of their meetings at which Will Cheung, the well known photographer & journalist, is the guest speaker.

Will recently joined Archant Specialist as editorial director and now works across a portfolio of imaging magazines including 'Photography Monthly', 'Which Digital Camera' and 'Professional Photographer'. The venue is Olney Camera Club's usual meeting place, for map/directions see [www.olneycameraclub.co.uk](http://www.olneycameraclub.co.uk)

### Map of Our Venue.

#### Greens Norton Methodist Hall



For more information please go to [www.towcestercameraclub.co.uk](http://www.towcestercameraclub.co.uk)

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