

# Towcester Camera Club

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## Programme of Events Autumn & Winter 2011

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Towcester Camera Club meets on alternate Wednesday evenings at the Methodist Hall in Greens Norton 8:00 – 10:00 pm and warmly welcomes anybody who enjoys photography as a hobby.

Our members have a very wide range of photographic interests and ability and most find that they thoroughly enjoy the opportunity to share ideas and to learn techniques from each other and from visiting speakers.

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**Sept 7 All members participation including any related under 16's**  
"Versatility Challenge"

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**Sept 21 Bob Brind-Surch**  
"The Art of Wildlife Photography"

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**Oct 5 Volunteers – Sue Perin, Ajit Negandhi & Nick Holder**  
"Let me show you....."

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**Oct 19 James Moy**  
"Capturing Life in the Fast lane - F1 Fun and Frolics"

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**Nov 2 Members helpfully share their own learning curves**  
"Fireworks and Cards - Seasonal Techniques using a camera"

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**Nov 16 Keith Long**  
"In Search of Pictures"

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**Nov 30 Antony Penrose**  
"The Legendary Lee Miller" and "Creating an Archive"

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**\*\*\*Please note\*\*\***

**\*\*This meeting is to be held at Paulerspury Village Hall\*\***

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**Dec 14 Informal Participation**  
"Christmas Time Revelry – Rejoice and make Merry!"

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**New members are always very welcome:** If you think that you may like to join us, do come along to any of our meetings to see what we're like. There is no charge for your first meeting and if you do then decide to join, membership is very affordable.

Our main aim is to help our members to have some fun with their cameras. There is always a very friendly atmosphere at meetings; often there is some truly awe inspiring photography to share and sometimes members are gently pushed (very willingly!) beyond their usual 'comfort zone' into tackling exciting new challenges.

## Autumn / Winter 2011

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**Sept 7 All members participation including any related under 16's  
"Children's Versatility Challenge" and "Versatility Challenge"**

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This is becoming a very popular event to start the Autumn season off after the summer break. In fact some of the regularly participating children were asking for the titles to be released some months ago.

The challenge is to bring in photographs which fit the given titles. How you interpret the tiles is entirely up to your imagination, there are no wrongs or rights.

Bring your entries as digital images on a memory stick. The Children's Versatility Challenge will take place first, starting at 5.30pm, followed by the adult version of the same titles at 8pm.

Other family members are very welcome to attend the Children's challenge as well.

Whether or not you are bringing children along, all members are encouraged to attend both sessions, if only for the entertainment value, although as we have learnt from previous events, a child's perception can be very, how shall I put it.....? I think 'enlightening' sums it up!

### **2011 Versatility Challenge Titles**

- **It's a numbers game**
- **Talking, talking, talking**
- **Much higher than me**
- **Just messing about**
- **Playing**
- **Hide and seek**
- **Spinning round and round and round**
- **When I grow up.....**

**(Children are to select 6 from 8 /Adults to do all of them)**

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**Sept 21 Bob Brind-Surch**  
"The Art of Wildlife Photography"

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Wildlife photography is an area of growing interest but remains one unnecessarily shrouded in mystery. Bob has developed this talk specifically to share his experience and try to dispel some of the myths and confusion that often surrounds this fascinating and rewarding subject.

He has been a keen naturalist from a very young age and a photographer from his late teens. His early photography consisted of taking colour slides to illustrate talks he gave on wildlife. Bob

learnt his photographic craft seeking to capture animals in difficult situations and specifically recording animal behaviour. This was all the more difficult with older manual film cameras but proved a good grounding for practising and refining the skills that still serve him well in the digital age.

Photography has changed markedly since Bob's early days with a camera and digital photography in particular has brought many opportunities including the option to post process photos. He is clear however that he remains a photographer who prefers to get the photo as right as possible 'in camera' rather than spend hours in front of a computer. He strongly believes that it is the careful observation of wildlife behaviour that leads to distinctive photos which truly capture the spirit of the animal.

Throughout his life Bob has been fortunate to have shared experiences and worked with some very competent naturalists and photographers. They have collectively helped him and taken him on his exciting journey of exploration. Through this talk he will share experiences, explore the lessons he has learnt, the mistakes he has made as well as the options currently available to the aspiring wildlife photographer. He will pay particular attention to the opportunities provided by modern digital cameras and equipment but also consider the importance of good field craft and observation.



Bob will illustrate this talk with photos taken both in the UK and in East Africa and seek to demonstrate, wherever possible, the techniques and skills he used. He has promised to bring along examples of the equipment and 'tools' he has come to rely on over the years. These are the tools that for him make the difference between a 'snap shot' and an award winning photo.

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

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**Oct 5      Volunteers – Sue Perin, Ajit Negandhi & Nick Holder**

“Let me show you.....”

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This is another meeting format which seems to have developed into a very popular session, so once again we will have a 3-way presentation by some of our own members showing a selection of their favourite images on a chosen theme. It certainly makes the task of organising speakers much easier when there is a list of willing volunteers queuing up to share their photographs! Thanks must go to our 3 volunteer members who are going to show us a sample of what each of them found in 3 very diverse destinations:

Sue Perin – “Vietnam and Cambodia”

Ajit Negandhi – “An Indian Wedding”

Nick Holder – “Local Towcester Wildlife”

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**Oct 19      James Moy**

“Life in the Fast lane – Formula One Fun and Frolics”

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James Moy is a leading British professional photographer, based near the Silverstone Circuit. James has worked with some of the world’s largest image agencies, such as Sutton Images and Crash Media Group. His current clients include many of the world’s top racing teams and sponsors, including Lamborghini, Red Bull, BMW, Porsche, General Motors, Bridgestone, Hispania F1 Team and Coca Cola to name but a few!

He has won many awards for his innovative and imaginative style of photography and is regularly featured in international and national news pages and publications. Despite a very full and hectic schedule, James has agreed to come and show us some of his work. He describes himself as:



“A full-time F1 photographer, working both with editorial and commercial clients in the sport, and also specialising in other types of motorsport and road car photography.

I have attended every F1 race now for 11 years and photograph all aspects of the industry from fans, to atmosphere, to action images of the cars and portraits of the drivers.”

James will discuss his photography, technique, logistics and will tell us a few tales from over the years. He will also display a selection of his favourite images and talk us through the process of taking the images and the theory behind them.

I have a bit of an inkling that this might just be one of those special meetings that you will all thoroughly enjoy, whether or not you think that fast cars and motorsports is ‘your thing’!

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

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**Nov 2**    **Members helpfully share their own learning curves**  
"Fireworks & Christmas Cards - Seasonal Camera Techniques"

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This session will be in 2 parts, both involving techniques with a seasonal flavour:

Firstly, we will be looking at 'How to take successful photographs of Fireworks' This is sometimes a bit of a hit and miss affair, but there are a few techniques which can greatly improve your chances of capturing the image you want. We will be looking at which of the settings would be the best settings to try out to get different effects.

As all the various brands of camera have different names, symbols etc for their settings, it might be a good idea to actually bring in your camera and manual if you're at all unsure. Within our membership we have a good representation of those who are still finding out and those who have already cracked it!

Without being a full blown practical session, this should be a helpful 'dry run' session, which should prepare you all to go out and get those impressive shots during the following weekend's bonfire night festivities.

Then, after all that, we can settle down and watch 'Here's one I made earlier'. This will be an on-the-spot, live presentation by Andy Hooker, who will show us how best to avoid some of the pitfalls that he encountered last year whilst producing a professional looking Christmas card with text printed on the back. His intention when he started was to do something more complicated than the simpler way of printing off en-print sized images and sticking them onto a card. Sounds easy? It is if you follow a few simple steps but there are one or two tricks that you need to be aware of, or as Andy learnt last year..... they could trip you up!

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**Nov 16**    **Keith Long**  
"In Search of Pictures"

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Many of our members will have already met Keith, but some may not yet have realised that he has hidden depths.....all will soon be revealed!

Keith Long started using colour slide film in the early sixties. It very soon became his preferred photographic medium and it was not long before he joined the local camera club. Inspired by what he saw there, he began searching for new pictures, and has been doing so ever since.

This (analogue) talk illustrates a personal approach to picture taking and he hopes to show that the search can be just as pleasurable as the result.

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**Nov 30 Antony Penrose**

“The Legendary Lee Miller” and “Creating an Archive”

**\*\*\*Please note\*\*\***

**\*\*This meeting is to be held at Paulerspury Village Hall\*\***

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Antony Penrose is the son of the late Lee Miller (1907-1977) who was an American photographer. Antony has devoted many years to studying, conserving and promoting his mother's work, many pieces of which are on display in exhibitions worldwide and some are available for public viewing on guided tours at the family's home in Sussex.

For those of you as yet unfamiliar with the life of Lee Miller, this meeting will most certainly provide some fascinating insights into the life of a very remarkable lady. She has been described as being admired as much for her free spirit, creativity and intelligence as for her classical beauty.

Amongst her many achievements, Lee Miller was a successful fashion model in New York; in 1929 she worked with the Surrealist artist and photographer Man Ray, becoming known for her portrait and fashion photography and especially known for her Surrealist images. Use of the 'Solarisation' process was another notable aspect of Lee Miller's photographic work around this time.

Later, she travelled extensively in Egypt, Greece and Romania. During the Second World War, Lee was a freelance photographer for 'Vogue' magazine, a job which led her to witness and photograph, as only a photojournalist in the midst of such action could do, some incredible war time scenes. After the War, Lee continued to work for 'Vogue', becoming well known for her fashion and celebrity photography. She then settled in rural Sussex, which is where her son Antony grew up with the unusual privilege of being surrounded by very many well known artists who made regular visits to the family farm during the '50s and '60s.

Antony's own descriptions of his double presentation are as follows:

### **The Legendary Lee Miller**

The life of Lee Miller, told with reference to those with whom she exchanged creative inspiration – Man Ray, Roland Penrose, Pablo Picasso, David E. Scherman, her father Theodore Miller and her son Antony Penrose.

A definitive view by her son and biographer, this presentation has been acclaimed for its ability to embrace many different levels of the history of art and photography, social commentary and emotional connection with the subject.



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- Contains some war time images which may be disturbing.
- Toured in UK, Australia, New Zealand, USA, Canada, Scandinavia, Bermuda, and Europe.
- Very well received by NADFAS audiences.

## Creating an Archive



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A behind the scenes look at the creation of the Lee Miller Archive which houses more than 60,000 negatives of Lee Miller's work, 10,000 vintage prints plus manuscripts and ephemera. We see major exhibitions being created, conservation and curatorial work in progress and the administration and financing of the archive which is privately run and supports itself through revenue received from its activities supplying fine prints and intellectual property rights. We see what it takes to run what has become one of the most internationally significant collections of photography and fine art.

Finally, just a few more details to make sure you don't miss out on this exciting event.....

We are expecting that a large number of visitors in addition to our usual turnout of members, will be very interested to come and see Antony's presentation. For this reason, we have decided to hold the meeting at Paulerspury Village Hall, which is a much larger venue than our usual one.

Entry will be by ticket only as numbers are limited.

Tickets will be available to purchase from late August onwards on a dedicated special events page on our club website [www.towcestercameraclub.co.uk](http://www.towcestercameraclub.co.uk)

More information about Lee Miller can be found on the website listed below.

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

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### **Dec 14 Informal Participation**

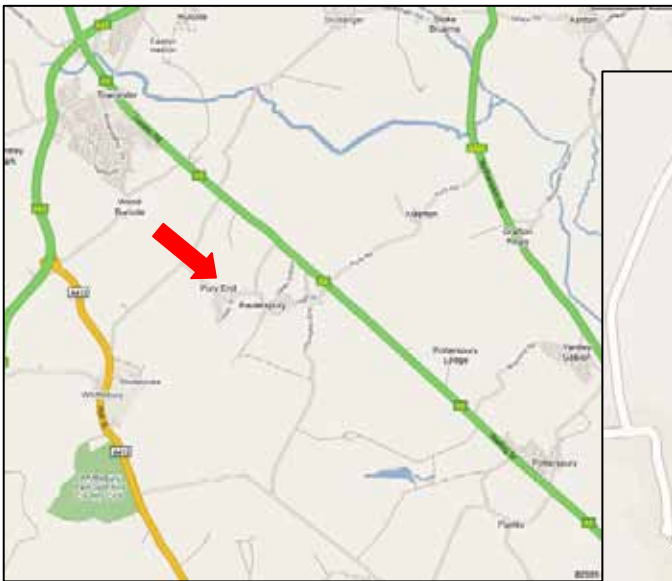
"Christmas Time Revelry – Rejoice and make Merry!"

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At the request of several members this year, we are going to make this final meeting of the year into a combined practical/social event. The exact details are not yet fully decided, but it will involve using your camera, Christmas decorations and/or lights and there will definitely be some form of enjoyable food and drink! Some suggestions have already been put forward and plans are in progress..... Full details will be circulated to members as the time approaches.

Maps of Our Venues.

(Greens Norton Methodist Hall)



(Paulerspury Village Hall)

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

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