

**BAILIWICK WILDLIFE
PHOTOGRAPHER
OPEN EXHIBITION**



BAILIWICK WILDLIFE PHOTOGRAPHER OPEN EXHIBITION 2022

28TH JANUARY - 20TH MARCH

OPEN DAILY 10:00 - 16:00

THE GREENHOUSE GALLERY, GUERNSEY MUSEUM, CANDIE GARDENS

ENTRY FREE WITH A DISCOVERY PASS

EXHIBITION SPONSORED BY



FIND OUT MORE ABOUT
ARTS FOUNDATION GUERNSEY



 [the greenhouse gallery](https://www.thegreenhousegallery.com)

Exhibition No:



Guernsey Arts is proud to present the first Bailiwick Wildlife Photographer Open. Last year we asked Photographers from the Bailiwick to submit their wildlife photographs. The result was amazing with 50 photographers across all ages and levels submitting entries, the result you see here, creating a unique insight into Bailiwick wildlife including birds, insect and marine life.

Alongside the open we are also delighted to feature the work of Chris Bale and we thank Chris for allowing us an insight into both the professional and personal side of his life. .

We would like to thank Nick Despres and Chris Bale for judging the submissions and deciding on the final pieces that make up this wonderful exhibition.

Thanks go to Arts Foundation Guernsey for sponsoring the exhibition.

A big thank you to all the photographers that make up this exhibition, it couldn't have happened without your wonderful work.

We would also encourage you to visit arts.gg to find out more about the arts in the Bailiwick and seek out and connect with the wildlife groups.

RUSSELL NICHOLSON

Inquisitive Atlantic grey seal taken whilst sea kayaking north of Herm in late August 2020 Atlantic grey seal in the swell north humps.



ALAN BULL

Help I'm stuck. / Beasley the Bee.

Taken on a hot evening during August in the garden at Le Grand Courtil.



ALASDAIR MCKENZIE

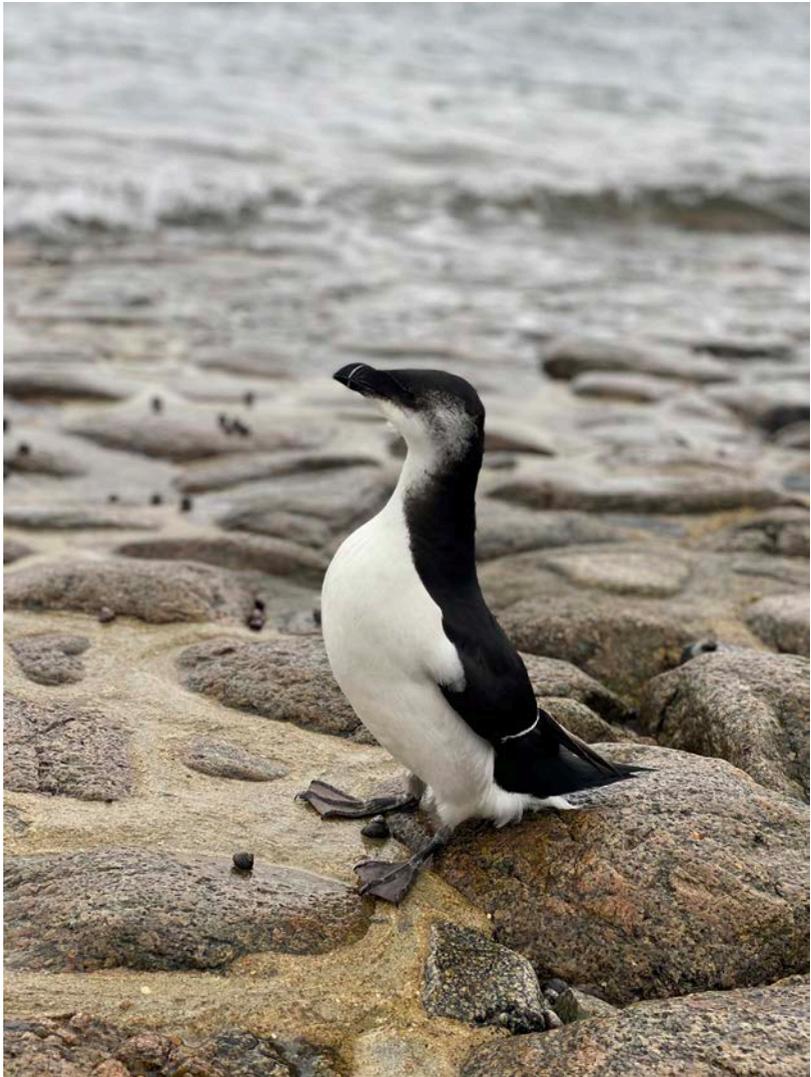
Wolf Spider.

I spotted this little guy hiding in a gorse bush. A wolf spider. So called because they hunt down their prey, like wolves, rather than rely on a web to catch their supper. The two large front facing eyes give excellent vision, all in a cute package of less than 10mm!



BECKIE BAILEY

Razorbill being released after rehabilitation after being covered in oil.



BEN LE PREVOST

Long Eared Owl.

Taken by accident
with a slow shutter
speed.



LYNETTE HARVEY

Puffin Train.

Out on Wildlife Boat Trip Back of Herm Saw 3 Puffins Together.



CARL BIDEAU

I had seen several butterflies on some plants near Rouse slipway and decided to photograph as many different species as I could to see how many species that I could find in that area. For 1 hour a day over a 3 day period from 28th June to 1st July I photographed 8 species in the same area including this Painted Lady.



CARL JONES

Kestrel.



CHRIS GRIFFITHS

Five-spot Burnet Moths.



Azure Damselfly.

Taken on a cool, still, early morning of 7th July 2018 at Le Grand Pré nature reserve in the Vale. Insect macro photography is challenging; it is essential to get out early and catch them before they warm up and become active. This is a focus stacked image, allowing a wide aperture to be used to blur the background, while being able to capture the whole insect in sharp focus. Camera: Fujifilm X-T2 with 80mm f/2.8 macro lens.



CHRISTOPHER REEVES

INSTAGRAM- @CJZMAR



CHRISTOPHER WILKINSON

Kingfisher.

Captured at Claire Mare nature reserve on Sunday 10th October 2021.



Zostera marina, plus various seaweeds at Lihou Causeway.

Lihou Causeway, Zostera marina which is an Eelgrass species, plus various seaweeds. 27th May 2021, at 15:30pm. I am studying Eelgrass beds in the UK for my Masters research project, and I have recently been awarded the La Societe Bursary for 2021-22, to help survey the Eelgrass beds here in Guernsey. This was a pilot survey back in May 2021, to see if Eelgrass is present at Lihou Causeway, and will be followed up in 2022, with a full marine survey!



CONNOR GALLAGHER

I had just started getting interested in macro photography and I tried for a while waiting and looking for any type of insect. I took a couple of some bees but didn't quite get them good enough. Then followed this hover fly around a couple flowers when I then tried to get a shot. I was amazed and surprised when I managed to get this shot.



DAN SCOTT

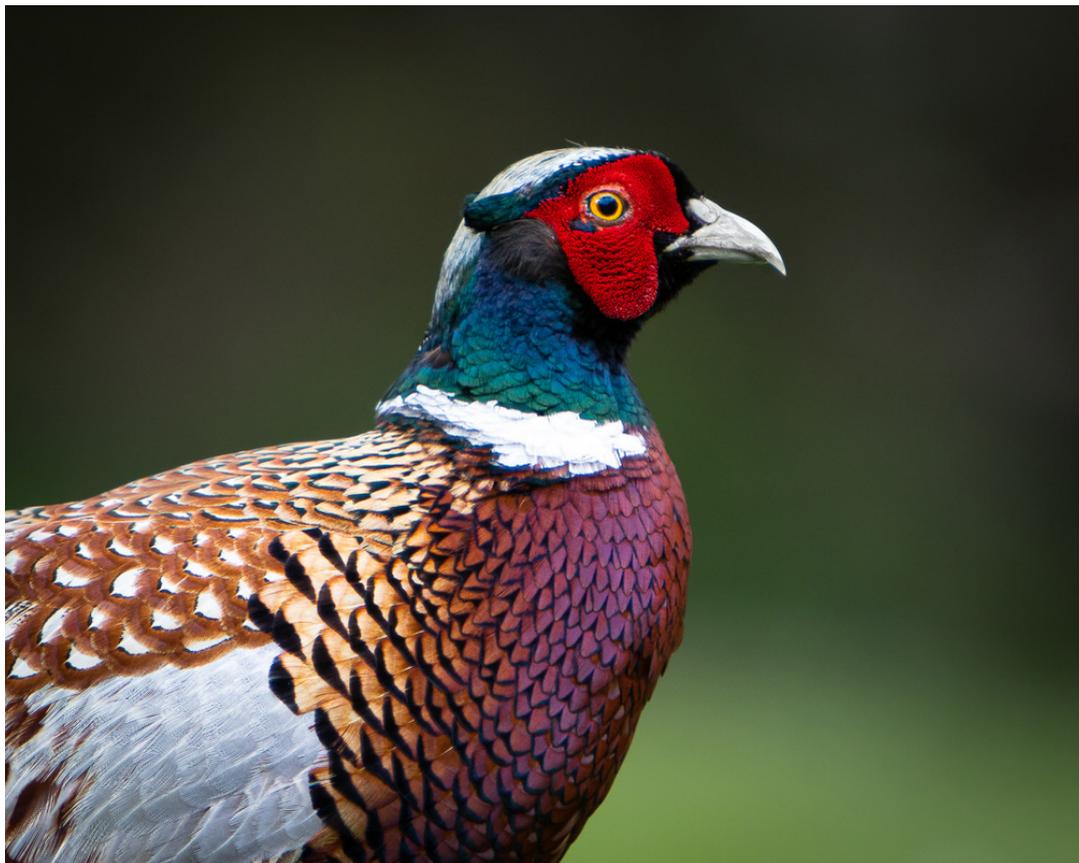
Barn Owl.

This particular shot taken at Mt herault and it was an unforgettable experience, with 7 barns owls patrolling the fields searching for there prey. One Owl favoured a stretch of field, soaked in golden light. It then unbelievably headed straight for me, allowing some great shots.



ELEANOR SAUVARIN

@GUERNSEYPHOTOGRAPHER



ELLIE LAWLOR

Butterfly.

Taken at
Victorian
walled garden
and Saumarez
park.



ROSALIND DE CARTERET



The Engine Room.

This beautiful Female Migrant Hawker Dragonfly landed right by me on a nettle stem at the Grande Pre nature reserve and stayed there for several minutes allowing me to photograph it. The image shows a close up of the working parts that drive the wings.



Fly on a caterpillar.

I was walking with my brother when I spotted a fly. I pointed the camera at it and focused on it which is when I noticed that it appeared to be feeding from a caterpillar. I enjoy these chance encounters with nature that most people wouldn't even notice.



ADAM CLAYTON



JOANNE MAHY

Blue jelly fish *Cyanea lamarckii*.

Taken 14th June during an ascent, found mid water.



BONNIE LE NOURY

Owlets :Ever had that feeling you're being watched?? It was probably these two long eared owls! We love walking and studying the trees to see which knobby, lichen-covered trees are actually young owls. After two successive years of seeing these chicks, we were over the moon to see that the mother had made it three on the bounce - amazing! Taken 13th June 2021 Firecrest.



The photos of a cute couple, projecting human meaning of relationships within wildlife.



Another one from our garden, well suited to the high key background Singing Robin.



JOSEPHINE DOWDING

Suspended Spider.

This was taken during a holiday in Alderney. From the bird hide beside Mannez quarry, I saw this incredible spider web across the opening. I considered cropping the photo but I like the bit of darkness because it reminds me I was in the hide. The web didn't come out on the photo but I like the way he looks like he's flying. The Mannez pond is an important area for birds living in Alderney and those travelling through the island on their holidays, just like me.



KAY MARTIN

Bottlenose Dolphin 10:12am, 28th August 2017. On a trip to Sark we had a small pod of Bottlenose Dolphins follow the boat. This particular Dolphin was very curious watching me take its photograph.



KIM WILKINSON



LIZ WALTON

Glanville Fritillary.

At the age of 74 I had never seen one of these beautiful butterflies. I was told to look at Les Tielles. Got out of the car, walked to the path and immediately saw this beautiful and rare specimen.



MARCIA JACKSON

Blue Tit

Blue Tit on a bed of red.



Photos were taken during the past few years in Guernsey. During the first Covid lockdown I put a chair and a tripod facing the back door of my home in St Peter Port. I sat there for a good few hours with the radio on quietly in the back ground and using my remote control I was able to capture natures life. This has carried on to quite a pleasurable activity for me.



MICHELLE GRIFFITHS

INSTAGRAM @MICHGGSY

Turtle Rock, Alderney.

Alderney's Northern Gannet colonies are the second most southerly in the world and support around 1% of the species' population. Les Etacs, known by the locals as Gannet Rock, is also known as Turtle Rock from this particular angle, as it resembles a turtle rising up in the centre. Taken during an Alderney Wildlife Trust boat trip on an iPhone7 using the 'Pano' function. June 27th 2021.



Luffia lapidella f. *ferchaultella*.

Whilst my daughter was at a Saturday club, I wondered around a nearby cemetery with my macro lens. I noticed a few moth larval cases on gravestones and eventually found this small case-bearing moth larva (approx 3mm long) on a gravestone grazing on Lichen and managed to get a few shots. They turned out really well with the colours of the lichen.



MICHELLE HOOPER

Dahlia anemone.

Dahlia Anemones are always a joy to find, but when I rediscover the same individual over the year it's like bumping into an old friend. Taken while snorkelling at Portelet on: 11th April 2021.



JAMES TAYLOR

INSTAGRAM - @JAMESTALEUR

Afternoon Tea for one!

At afternoon tea at the OGH on Friday, 17 September, a robin decided to go for a little lie down in the sun. I just had to capture the moment!



MIKE REEVES

Robin.

Enjoying a terrace lunch at the Hideaway, this little Robin just kept getting closer to me and my lunch! Very brave, and was not phased at all when I reached for my phone and started snapping.



Hummingbird hawk-moth / *Macroglossum stellatarum*.

I first saw one of these years ago when on holiday in France and mistook it for a hummingbird. We were at a cafe and when I overheard another diner saying that it was a moth, I couldn't believe it. I'd never seen any in Guernsey but in recent years, they have certainly become more common. Perhaps our summers are becoming warmer or the winters are not as harsh but either way, I'm always happy to see one in the garden.



RACHEL RIDLEY

INSTAGRAM: MADAME_RAGE

Common Kingfisher. I spotted this male kingfisher briefly one day. So for the next 7 mornings just after sunrise I waited patiently for him to return. On day 8 he turned up, and it was evident that he was very much aware of my presence and happily posed for a few shots. This one is my favourite as he was looking straight at me and you can clearly see the water residue on him just after he had dived to fish and returned to his pole. The morning light also shows off his beautiful colours.



Flitty Firecrest/Firecrest.

I was in Herm and could hear Firecrests (what sounded like) all around me using their very high pitched call to guard their territory from other birds. I was very excited because I had only recently learnt what the call of a Firecrest sounded like. They are very fast birds and never tend to stay in one place for more than a second so I was very lucky to get this shot while it was flitting about the trees trying to see off any rivals in that area. A bird that to this day is still a joy to see.



RIC CARTER

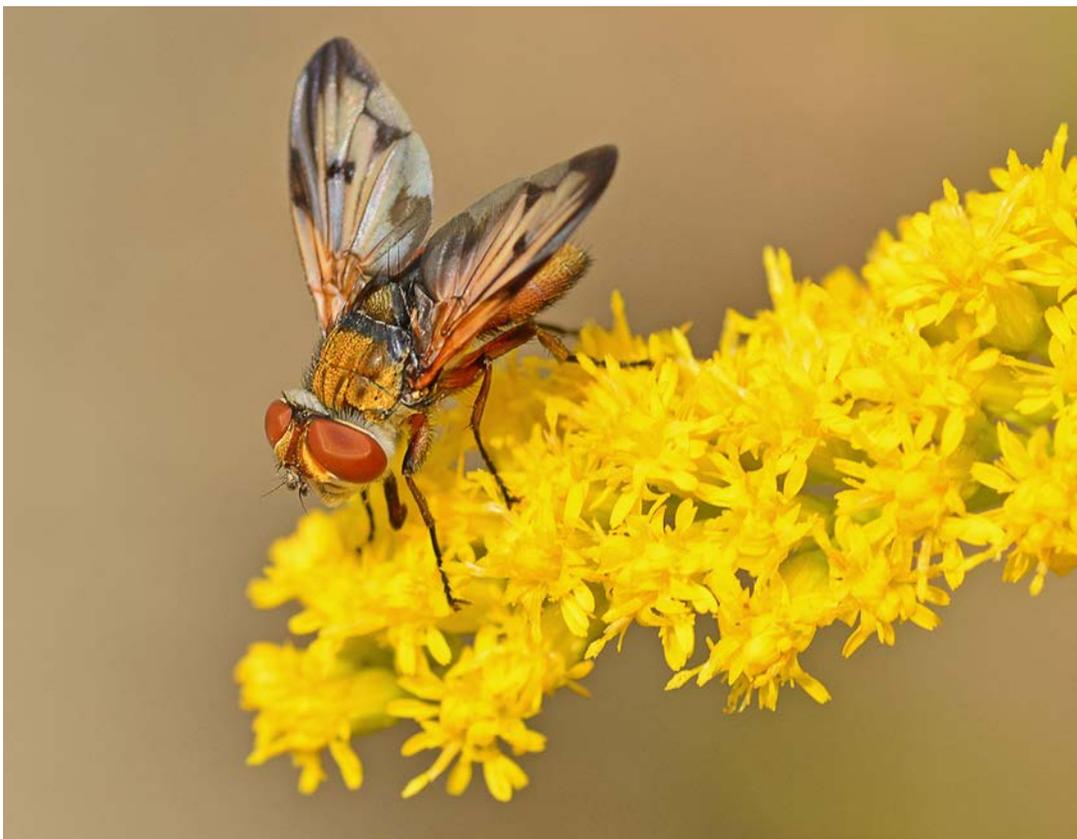
Woodlouse.

I took this picture a few years ago whilst walking down by the bluebell woods. This little critter wasn't particularly difficult to spot - there are woodlice everywhere! But I liked the way he was framed by the mossy bricks either side of him, they bring out the green in his eyes.



ANNE WOODINGTON

Golden Rod is popular with bees, hoverflies and flies. This particularly beautiful fly was photographed in my garden, one of many visitors on a sunny morning.



ROD FERBRACHE

Spoonbill.

The sun was just about to set and caused the plumage of the spoonbill to have a tinge of champagne. It was preening, when a Marsh Harrier suddenly flew overhead and it suddenly looked up, and provided me with this unique pose!



RYAN LE CHEMINANT

Atlantic grey seal.

Grey seal in relaxed 'banana pose' Seals will perform the banana pose when they are feeling safe and content. Lifting their heads and flippers into the air also helps to regulate their body temperature and keeps their extremities dry when close to water.



RYAN QUERPEL

Swallow.

I was observing these spectacular swallows diving low over the water at great speed, either taking a sip of water or trying to catch insects- I later noticed in my photographs that whenever a swallow would dive in, a fish would poke itself out of the water in protest!



STEVE MAHY

[HTTPS://WWW.FLICKR.COM/PHOTOS/SWM1974/](https://www.flickr.com/photos/swm1974/)

Glanville Fritillary : The Glanville Fritillary is only found in a few locations in the United Kingdom and we are lucky enough to have a few spots in Guernsey where this butterfly can be found in early summer. Over several years I had tried to get a good shot of this beautiful but elusive butterfly, but until now had only managed some mediocre snapshots. Whilst searching a location where I had heard they had been spotted, I could not believe my luck to see this one roosting on some thrift, right next to a coastal path. It was a very still evening, and the lack of wind enabled me to take this extreme close-up. Taken on 31-05-18 at about 19:30.



SUE COUGHLIN

Spider Web.

This is my resident spider, he hangs diligently by my recycling bin in the garden, watching for his prey to come along, diligently fixing any holes in his web. Impressively he has been there for around a month now.



SYLVIA FOSSEY

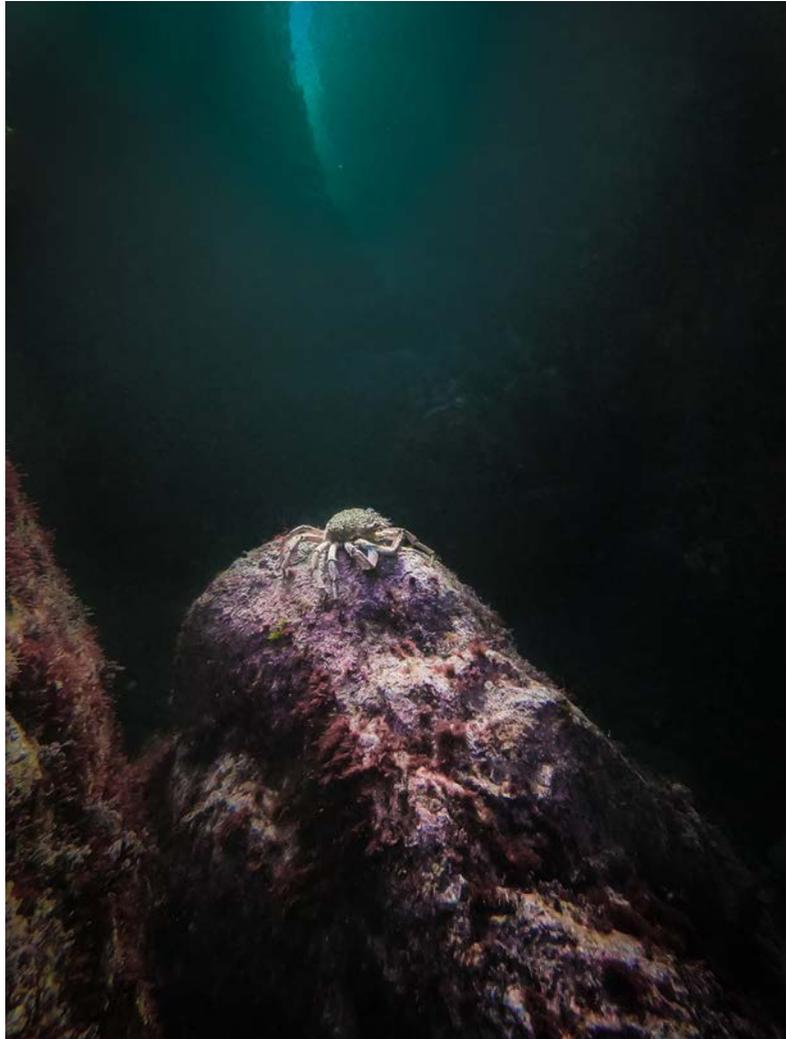
I take great pleasure in walking in the country lanes, on the cliffs and the beaches. I always have my camera with me to capture the wildlife. I enjoy looking through my photographs in the dark winter evenings.



TIM HARVEY

Spider Crab.

I found this spider crab, perched on a boulder, whilst snorkelling through a deep narrow rocky gully at the bottom cliffs at Pleinmont on Guernsey's South West coast. May 2020. Pleinmont, Guernsey.



TINA LE CHEMINANT

Greenshank at Vale pond .

I have been birdwatching since April this year & am now totally engrossed in the beauty of our local & visiting migrant birds. I particularly admire the Greenshank as they are so elegant with their long legs & beaks .



TONY WILLS

WWW.DIGITALGUERNSEY.COM

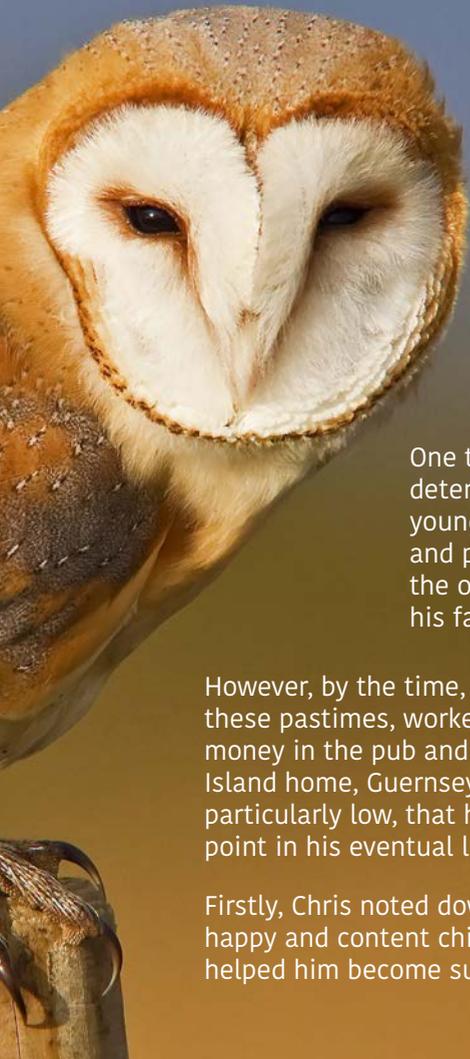
Gull at Castle Lighthouse.



CHRIS BALE

INSTAGRAM : @GUERNSEYBIRDNERD





Biography

Chris Bale, is a self-taught nature photographer and although his passion for wildlife can be easily traced back to childhood, he did not begin to share this publicly until he was in his mid thirties.....He's now 48 and there's no turning back! Often stating, that he never intended to become a photographer, even an amateur, let alone someone who, for a few years relied on his images, entirely, for income, Chris tells an interesting story.

One that speaks volumes about his dedication, determination and competitive spirit. As a child and young man, Chris was deliriously happy. He was active and prominent in sports and music, locally, and loved the outdoors; fishing and birdwatching were just two of his favourite things!

However, by the time, he'd reached 35 he no longer partook in any of these pastimes, worked a job he didn't like and spent too much time and money in the pub and the bookies. He also lived away from his beloved Island home, Guernsey. It was during this time, when he was feeling particularly low, that he wrote two lists which proved to be a pivotal point in his eventual life choices.

Firstly, Chris noted down all the activities that had made him such a happy and content child and, secondly, a list of all the things that had helped him become such a miserable and unfulfilled grown up!

This moment of brutal honesty made his next decisions far easier! By simply choosing a few things from the 'happy' list to replace a few of the things on the 'miserable' list, Chris began to transform his life. After about 2 years his daily routine, outlook and demeanour looked very different. A new job at a school for autistic children, a move away from a relationships that had stagnated and much less time and money in pubs and bookies. A new hobby was also beginning to dominate his waking hours.....photography. Very amateur nature photography.

A 10x zoom Kodak was his first camera with the idea, at that time, to take record photos of the birds he saw when out walking. He'd then use them for reference online, to help identify them later. The images he was taking were appalling (by his standards, now) but good enough for their purpose. However, whilst searching online for images Chris was seduced by the hundreds of superb shots; vibrant in colour and pin sharp things of beauty. A stark contrast to his initial, feeble attempts. This began to creep into his consciousness and he found himself thinking about new places to go and species to find, or what clothes he could wear. Considering sitting still, hiding and waiting all by way of improving his lowly shots.

It began to pay off and his images although still poor were gradually becoming less poor. This led, to another epiphany and Chris began to look at his camera and think is there something he could be doing to reduce the blur or make things brighter or less bright as was sometimes the case? And so it began.....reading manuals, blogs and seeking advice from those who knew better. Chris continued with the Kodak for a while longer but soon realised an upgrade, in gear, would be necessary. Only, once he was satisfied that he'd done all he could with his very modest camera and could justify the expense, of course. One of Chris's mantras is 'to upgrade one's skills before upgrading one's equipment'. So, into the heady world of DSLR's he ventured. Armed with a Canon 40d attached to a Sigma 50-500 mm telephoto lens. Chris decided early on in this partnership that he was going to shoot everything in manual mode. He knew he'd get some things wrong, miss opportunities and generally be all fingers and thumbs, from time to time, but soon learnt that every missed chance or glaring mistake helped him improve that little bit quicker!





By now bird photography was, actually, all he ever thought about. Having a longer focal length was a game changer, for sure, but all the hours of field craft without the luxury of focal reach meant he'd become very good at being in the right place at the right time and that was always going to be a huge part of what he wanted to do. So, as the photography 'know how' developed with it came those first few 'decent' shots. For the first time, he felt like a photographer and that feeling was immense and very addictive!

From this point forward Chris never stopped learning and despite selling all his gear and not picking up a camera for a couple of years, whilst dealing with a family bereavement, he has constantly sought to improve as a person and as a 'tog'. When he did start again it was like starting anew. Inspired, determined and keen to re-establish himself Chris felt that in this digital age we'd become totally immersed by online images. Slaves to the 'like' button, if you will. So, he consciously decided to keep his portfolio ticking over and keep it in print. This, in his mind, would act as a tangible hall mark of quality. It is easy to get an image to look good in online dimensions but printing often shows up the flaws. This is what drove Chris to improve as he always found far more satisfaction with how his images looked in print than sharing them online.

This commitment to printing is how he ended up selling them, exhibiting them and seeing them frequently printed in various national and international publications over the years.

Chris continues to push his hobby to the extreme and has some exciting plans for the coming months and years. Re-branding with a new website, that is in the making, his Youtube Channel and the proposed re-opening of his shop, The Bird Box! 2022 is, indeed, set to be a busy one for the original Guernsey Bird Nerd. To be kick-starting it all with this exhibition, a few talks and some primary school visits puts Chris exactly where he wants to be. Sharing his photos, his experiences and his know how, so that we might all learn about and take care of our Islands and their wildlife, for generations to come.

PROMOTE
SUPPORT
INSPIRE



GUERNSEYARTS



GUERNSEYARTS



INFO@ARTS.GG



01481 229747



ARTS.GG

