Northumberland & Tyneside Bird Club

Photographic Competition sponsored by “Serenity Farne Island Bird Tours”

The Northumberland & Tyneside Bird Club are pleased to announce that there will be a photography competition for photographs of birds in the Northumberland & Tyneside recording area taken during in calendar year 2023. Entries must be submitted by January 31st 2024 and the results will be given at the Indoor Club meeting at McCraken Park Gosforth on April 11th 2024.

There will be two competitions: one for Northumberland & Tyneside Bird Club members and an “open” competition for non-club members.

Entries will be judged by Rob Jordan.

Rob has had a passion for nature, particularly birds since childhood and has been photographing wildlife for over 50yrs. He has received many awards from the NHM/BBC Wildlife Photographer of the Year Awards and has also judged and been a featured photographer in a BBC programme for that competition. He’s lectured widely including the prestigious festivals for nature photography in Kuusamo, Finland, the GDT (European Nature Photography awards) Germany, the BVNF festival in Belgium and the members of the Natural History Museum in London.

Rob’s career as a Northumbria Police Sergeant and also the Force Wildlife Officer, ended prematurely some years ago following an assault on duty. He’s pursued his combined wildlife & photography and writing interests since which has taken him to many countries as diverse as Svalbard and Seychelles. Northumberland and Highland Scotland still remain his favoured places however and he prefers working regularly on subjects, locations and themes that he returns to time and again. His work on the protection of a Black Necked Grebes project in Northumberland was published in BBC Wildlife magazine and elsewhere in a number of languages and he’s lead photography & birdwatching tours for himself and a number of companies.

Each competition will have a winner, runner up and third place and there will be a prize for each. The prizes are:

1. For NTBC Club members, the winner will two complementary tickets on “Serenity Farne Island Bird Tours” Grey Seal Cruise, the runners up a copy of David Attenborough’s Life of Birds and third place a copy of “A Newsworthy Naturalist – The Life of William Yarrel”
2. For non-members, the winner will receive two complementary tickets on “Serenity Farne Island Bird Tours” Sunset Cruise, the runners up a copy of “A Bird a Day” by Domin Couzens and third place a copy of “A Newsworthy Naturalist – The Life of William Yarrel”.

Rules of Entry

In each respective competition, an entrant may submit up to three images. The images must be of birds taken in the Northumberland & Tyneside bird club recording area in 2023 and must be numbered from 1-3 in order of the author’s priority. This is in case we need to limit the number of images for judging.

The bird must be in its natural setting in the wild; images of captive birds are not allowed.

We encourage the submission of images that are not purely illustrative but go beyond into the artistry of bird photography that perhaps captures the essence of the subject, some movement or motion, a fleeting moment in time or unusual behaviour or some exceptional lighting.

The images must be sized to 1600x1200 pixels and the subject species and location should be clearly included in the file name (sensitive species locations will not be made public). The file extension should be .JPG or .jpg and the image saved in sRGB colour space.

Please DO NOT include your own name in the file name.

Images should be sent via e mail to ntbcphoto@gmail.com to arrive by 31st January 2024. Images submitted after this date will be excluded.

The processing of images must be limited to cropping, exposure adjustment, colour correction, noise reduction, dodging/burning, HDR, focus stacking and sharpening. Cloning of image defects and minor distractions is permitted but it must not distort the truth of the photographic statement.

The judge’s decision is final.

Entrants must provide their e mail address and contact phone number.

The Northumberland & Tyneside Bird Club reserves the right to publish submitted images in publications or social media which promotes the Bird Club and in our monthly bulletin and annual Birds in Northumbria. No images will be used by the Northumberland & Tyneside Bird Club for commercial gain without the express written permission of the author.