

The terrible winter weather caused Axholme Camera Club to cancel the first two meetings of the New Year. The programme has been rearranged to include the AVs at a later stage. However, the snowy conditions enticed a number of members to attend the Hood this year, evidenced by photographs entered in the fifth competition.

The title 'People' gave members a broad spectrum, and there were portraits to crowd scenes entered. The judge, local man Ray Bramall FRPS, chose Alan Rowsell's beach scene in monochrome for 20 marks, with Andy Kershaw and new member David Nelmes close behind with 19 each. Judy Newton, awarded 'Most Improved Member' last year, came in with 18 marks.

In the colour section, Geoff Trinder gained 20 marks for his cheeky gang of youngsters, Allan Rowsell, Andy Kershaw and David Ulyett with 19s and 18s.

Braving the cold damp conditions, thirteen members attended a Falconry Photography day at Sturton by Stow. Thankfully the heavy rain of the previous day had passed, but left the ground waterlogged. This did not spoil a fantastic day of photography, with Lewis, Mick and Paul, the bird handlers doing a splendid job, Lewis also giving expert tips on how to get the best results. Everyone came home with some good photographs of the birds, a Barn Owl, Charlie, an Eagle Owl, Horace, and a Harris Hawk, Hedgerow, who all flew, and others who perched in trees patiently posing. Horace, a veteran at these events, even joined members in the clubhouse for lunch, enjoying a flapjack, much to his owner's surprise! They are all bird's of prey, of course, and he'd never been known to eat anything like a flapjack before. Lewis, a professional photographer, who took up falconry as a hobby, can be found on www.wildshotsfalconry.co.uk.

Member Geoff Trinder LRPS treated fellow members, visitors and guests to a superb show 'Highlands and Islands' with projected images of Scottish landscapes and wildlife, including some birds rarely seen. With the usual high standard of photography and interesting commentary, all present enjoyed a pleasant and entertaining evening.

Coming up in March, Parry Jenkins will be presenting his 'Musical Tour' with projected images and presumably, music, on 3rd at Haxey Church Hall, 7.30pm. Everyone is welcome to come along and enjoy the show. There will be a small door charge, £1.50, to include refreshments. Similarly, George Fiddler will present 'Canada and Alaska' on 30th. On 9th images from the Royal Photographic Society's Nature Group Exhibition will be shown. Everyone is welcome to attend these, too.

The Ladies v Gents competition and a talk by Ray Brightman FRPS, DPAGB, Hon, PAGB AFIAP complete the March programme.

As always, if you are interested in photography and thinking about joining the club, or just want to see if it's for you, you will be made very welcome. You can telephone Chairman Allan Rowsell, or just come along.