With the onset of another Lockdown in January 2021 and inspired by Chris Packham’s Winterwatch programme being back on the TV, Mrs Humphreys thought it would be a good idea to encourage our school community to get outdoors and photograph wildlife in their area. The hope was that the competition would inspire our staff and students to look at the environment around them whilst on their daily walk/run which in turn would help their general wellbeing.

We would like to thank Mrs Humphreys for planning and overseeing the competition which was a huge success and took a lot of time and effort to organise.

We would also like to thank Bingley Camera Club who have been a great help to Mrs H giving their feedback on each of the shortlisted entries and also donating £50 towards the prizes.
BGS Wildlife Photography Competition

During Lockdown be inspired to look a little closer at the environment around us. Use a camera or a mobile phone to take a snap of the wildlife you see on your daily walk/run, then email your pictures with a title and description to:
Jacqueline.humphreys@bingleygrammar.org

BGS Science Department
Mrs Humphreys says,
“The response to the BGS Winter Wildlife Photography Competition was unbelievable! We had more than 150 entries, of which 90 met the criteria and were taken through to judging by Mr Weston. 21 photographs were put through to a shortlist and these final images were judged online by BGS staff and members of Bingley Camera Club.

I am sure that you will agree that the standard of the images we received was very high indeed and I was super impressed with all of your efforts, especially since members of all year groups participated.

With the volume of entries we received and the difficulties of coordinating the competition entirely online, I am very grateful to Bingley Camera Club who were so willing to offer help with setting up photo sharing and judging in an online environment. Our thanks go as well to Bingley Camera Club for their kind prize donations and valuable feedback.

We hope our students enjoyed taking part in the competition as much as we did seeing all the entries.”

The following pages show the winners and all the shortlisted photographs. A full gallery of all the entries can be found on the school website: https://www.bingleygrammar.org/latest-news/winter-wildlife-photography-competition/
Years 10 to 13 Winners!

Years 10 to 13 Winner and Best in School - Sheep 05/01/21
by Isaac Kitchen in Year 10

Bingley Camera Club feedback:
A striking pose of this special horned sheep with detail in the wool and face. The snow-covered ground and the grey sky provide a good background, with the shadows on the snow adding interest, and the sheep’s head is at the viewers level, which is impactful. Because the sheep’s legs are cut off, the photographer could have chosen a slightly different angle for the shot to try to get the whole of the sheep’s legs or else crop this photograph to the chest so there are no legs showing at all.

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Years 10 to 13 Runner Up - Winter Wonderland
by Haleema Arshed in Year 12

Bingley Camera Club feedback:
A lovely frozen scene with the road drawing our eye into the picture, that is framed really well with the trees and yellowy sky. In the Camera Club we might try several different crops to see if any tweaks can further improve the image.
**Years 10 to 13 Commended -**

*Colin the Cockerel*
by Isaac Kitchen in Year 10

**Bingley Camera Club feedback:**
A really detailed and sharp image with impressive colours in the bird, that are made even better when set against the frozen grass. It looks like a vignette has been used to darken the edges and corners, which is great. The picture would have been even better if there wasn’t a second chicken behind the cockerel, but the photographer doesn’t have much control over that!

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**Years 10 to 13 Commended -**

*Peek a boo by Isha Iqbal in Year 10*

**Bingley Camera Club feedback:**
A very interesting image of this cheeky squirrel that brings a smile. The composition is excellent, with the tree behind framing the squirrel well with minimal background distractions giving a lot of impact. Being at eye level with the squirrel adds power to the image. The squirrel isn’t quite in sharp focus, and there is darkening around the edge of the tree behind (an optical or processing effect) draws the eye from the subject a little.
Years 10 to 13 Commended - Snowy Streetlight by Amy Lorrimer in Year 12

Bingley Camera Club feedback:
The viewer’s eye is drawn along the road towards the brightest point in the image, the pool of light under the streetlamp. A very atmospheric image taken in fading light, that captures winter very well.

Years 10 to 13 Finalist - Goose by Kez Chadwick in Year 11

Bingley Camera Club feedback:
Very good detail of this fine goose, it can be very difficult to capture in a photograph the textures of feathers. The stillness of the water and the reflection adds impact to the image, as there is little distraction from the main subject, the goose. Photographers of animals and birds often try to take their pictures with space in front of the animal, so it tricks the eye suggesting there is room in the picture for the goose to ‘swim’ into.
Years 10 to 13 Finalist -
Chellow Dean Reservoir, 14 Jan 2021 by Charlie Barnett in Yr 11

Bingley Camera Club feedback:
A lovely wintry scene with some birds on the reservoir. The composition is great for a landscape with interest in the foreground from the branch, some ‘leading lines’ through the curves of the bank of the reservoir and the tops of the trees in the background, which lead the viewer’s eye through the picture. The absence of colours gives atmosphere. The birds are very small in this picture, and it is worthwhile trying cropping (or zooming) to emphasise the birds more if they are the main point in the image.

Years 10 to 13 Finalist -
Midge the Dog
by Isaac Kitchen in Year 10

Bingley Camera Club feedback:
A picture that tells a story – the dog seems to be very interested in that walker. And a clever use of processing effects so that the dog and the person with the red coat pop from the picture. The composition is strong with the leading line of the path, and interesting background. It is always worth considering different crops, a trim from the top or side might ‘improve’ the picture. With a slightly different position of the photographer when taking the shot, the path would not have been cut off to the right.
Years 10 to 13 Finalist -
What you ducking at? by Isha Iqbal in Year 10

Bingley Camera Club feedback:
Very good title, and the photographer has captured the duck very well, looking straight at camera, with a great reflection too. We can see the water the duck is about to swim too, which is great, and the photograph is taken nearly at duck-eye level which works really well. It is often worth thinking about whether a crop of the photograph would improve it, here cropping from the left to remove the half duck might add to the image.

Years 10 to 13 Finalist -
Snow on a Tree by Saysha Scott - Lawson in Year 10

Bingley Camera Club feedback:
A well composed image of this tree in snow, with the light beam and shadows adding drama and interest. With compositions in photos such as this of woods and trees it is always difficult to have the subject stand out from the background ‘busyness’, sometimes this can be adjusted during processing (e.g. in Photoshop) and sometimes it is possible to find an angle where there is less in the background.
Bingley Camera Club says,

“Bingley Camera Club commends Bingley Grammar School students for their amazing images. It was a pleasure to see them, and we hope everyone continues to develop their interests in photography. Our club, which is currently 80 members strong, is committed to growing local photographers, and we welcome budding photographers of all ages and photographic interests, you can find details about the club events on our website or on Facebook.”

website: https://www.bingleycameraclub.org.uk/

Years 7 to 9 Winners!

Years 7 to 9 Winner -
Local Cattle in West Morton
by Jacob Hubbert in Year 8

Bingley Camera Club feedback:
What a magnificent beast, and the photo captures the cow well in all its glory, with great detail and colours. The muted greens and greys of the background work really well, the background does not dominate the picture. It is always worth thinking about cropping an image, in this case cropping from the right would remove the part with the fence post and make the central feature of the image (the cow) stand out even more.
Years 7 to 9 Runner Up -
Not so socially distanced by Inaaya Iqbal in Year 9

**Bingley Camera Club feedback:**
A nicely exposed image with detail and cool colours in the sky and background trees. I like the centre bird looking to the camera would have liked to have seen more of it and also more of the bird leaving the frame in the right corner.

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Years 7 to 9 Commended -
Skeletal Shadows
by Olivia Myers in Year 8

**Bingley Camera Club feedback:**
I’m not sure what plant this is, but the picture of the skeleton like remains of the leaves, with a seed in the middle is a delight. The object is probably quite small, so well done to get such a good clear image. It is a very well-focussed shot, with the central object well placed in the composition. It is always difficult with pictures like these taken in nature where there is a lot going on in the background (twigs etc) to find a way of emphasising the subject of the image and ‘tone down’ the background which can be a bit messy. Often photographers can use photoshop and other tricks to darken or even blur the background, though sometimes you can choose an angle when taking the shot where there is less ‘clutter’.
Years 7 to 9 Commended -
The Golden Hour by Finlay Pell in Year 7

Bingley Camera Club feedback:
A lovely capture of the cat and the sun over the houses, with a great ‘leading line’ of the wall and composition, with warm colours and tones. Good use of a vignette (shadowing in corners) to emphasize the centre of the picture. Not that the photographer had any choice in the matter, but the picture may have been more dramatic had the cat been looking at the picture, and it is possible to do some minor editing to a picture to remove unwanted parts of the image, such as the bright green dot.

Years 7 to 9 Commended -
Snowy Trees 2
by Quinlan Kirk-Carver in Year 7

Bingley Camera Club feedback:
What a fabulous scene of a frosty tree and the fence, evokes winter. It can be very difficult to photograph snow because of its whiteness, to keep detail, but this is good. It can be good to try different cropping to see if that improves the picture - for example the parts of the buildings to the right and left could be cropped out.
Years 7 to 9 Finalist -
Sunset by Heidi Williams in Year 8

Bingley Camera Club feedback:
A beautiful capture as the sun is sinking behind the hill, and the starburst of the sun’s rays add interest to the image. The clouds and colour of the sky make the sky very interesting, and the curves of the hills are pleasing. Images like this are difficult sometimes, because compared to the brighter areas the foreground (grass/bushes) can be very dark and featureless. There are various photographers’ tricks that can be used to brighten up the foreground, if that is the result that is desired.

Years 7 to 9 Finalist -
Lister Park Gulls 2 by Jasmine Ingham in Year 8

Bingley Camera Club feedback:
The image is well composed, with this wintery scene of the icy lake and leafless trees and a lovely background. The birds are well focussed with interesting movement, some look that they might be wanting to fight! Photographers would consider this a difficult subject, with lots of birds it can be hard to know where to look in the photograph, and of course because the photographer can’t control what the birds are doing some are difficult to see against the background.
Years 7 to 9 Finalist -
Duck Life by Inaaya Iqbal in Year 9

Bingley Camera Club feedback: A charming picture, with a brilliant expression of the duck, and good detail in the features and face. It is well composed, with the curve of the wall leading the viewers eye into the duck and then out of the image, and the duck is really well placed in the picture, it is always good to have the subject off centre. The image looks like it has been darkened around the edges (vignette) which works very well to draw the eye to the subject. Not that the photographer could do that much about it (other than to hang around until the ducks parted company) but the second duck doesn’t add much to the image because we can’t see all of it.

Years 7 to 9 Finalist -
Blooms of Winter by Sarah Scott Year 8

Bingley Camera Club feedback: The out of focus background (Bokeh) works really well to allow the main subject of the single stem to be the centre point of the image. The flower is well focussed with good detail. For this sort of image, photographers might consider doing some tricks in photoshopto darken the sky and background a bit to make the central subject stand out even more. It is always worth considering different crops - cropping the image from the right might ‘improve’ the image a bit.
Years 7 to 9 Finalist - 
Majestic Swan by Isabelle Oates in Year 8

Bingley Camera Club feedback: Great detail of the whole swan and its feathers, it can be difficult to take pictures of animals so white, as sometimes that detail is lost (blown out highlights). The scene is serene. There is a trick that photographers of animals try to use which is to ‘have space’ for the animal to move into, i.e. more space in front of the bird than behind.

Years 7 to 9 Finalist -
Socially distanced by Inaaya Iqbal Year 9

Bingley Camera Club feedback: Pictures of birds and animals work well when the photographer shoots from their level, which is done so well here. The spacing of the two birds and the single tree, with few colours gives a simple and striking composition that really emphasises the subject. It’s always worth thinking about and trying different cropping of an image, in this case if the crop had been a little bit lower from the top, some of the small branches of the tree would be less visible, making the image even more minimal. A pro photographer might have moved a bit or waited a bit to get a picture without the stalk of grass in front of the bird.
Here are some examples of some of the other brilliant entries we received from Years 10 to 13:
Here are some of the other brilliant entries we received from Years 7 to 9: