



Digital workflow is an area of photography often discussed and explored in magazines, on the web and in many a conversation with fellow photographers but despite all this exposure it still seems a mystery to many.

One of the questions I am most frequently asked on workshops and when giving talks to camera clubs is - *"could you please explain from start to finish what you do after you have taken a photo."*

What I have learnt is meant by this question is not just what to do in Photoshop, but the entire creative journey, including the tools and processes used.

I have been photographing wildlife for over 40 years and when I moved from film to digital in the 2003 I had to develop my own personal workflow. In this talk I explore and describe the approach I use and attempt to demystify what I believe can be a simple and productive process if broken down in to distinct, manageable steps.

Digital photography has made shooting images ostensibly free, you no longer have to think of the cost of the film you expose every time you press the shutter. It has encouraged us to take many more photos but these hundreds of images then need sorting, sifting, cataloguing and storing. In the first part of this presentation I attempt to share my experiences and the lessons I have learnt to simplify what is often seen as a time consuming and boring task. I also explore and demonstrate the many options for organising and backing up your photos giving practical examples of the processes I use.

Digital photography also makes possible and actively encourages home based processing and a series of tools have been developed which allow you to improve your image. As a wildlife photographer I don't edit my photos extensively in Photoshop but I do take advantage of the options digital photography provides to post process my images and to modify aspects such as colour temperature, exposure and sharpness when and where it will improve the final image. In the second part of this presentation I discuss the advantages of shooting in RAW, when it's beneficial and equally as important when it's not. I also explore and demonstrate the steps and options available to post process an image as well as describing the tools available. I share my experiences and what I have found works rather than purely describing the theory.

Theory has its place but as a qualified teacher I firmly believe that the best way to understand something is to do it or see it demonstrated for real. In this presentation I use images captured on a recent trip to East Africa and describe the approach I used to sort, catalogue, post-process and store these images.

The talk lasts about 2 hours including a 10 minute break in the middle. As with all my talks I leave members with a password giving access to pages on my website which I have prepared specifically for their talk. These will provide downloadable copies of everything I cover plus information and links to tools and techniques I discuss. If any particular questions or discussion arise during the talk I will also include these and any relevant links and downloadable information.

*Bob Brind-Surch*

