



Wildlife photography is an area of growing interest but remains one unnecessarily shrouded in mystery. I have developed this talk specifically to share my experience and try to dispel some of the myths and confusion that often surrounds this fascinating and rewarding subject.

I have been a keen naturalist from a very young age and a photographer from my late teens. My early photography consisted of taking colour slides to illustrate talks I gave on wildlife. I learnt my photographic craft seeking to capture animals in difficult situations and specifically recording

animal behaviour. This was all the more difficult with older manual film cameras but proved a good grounding for practising and refining the skills that still serve me well in the digital age.

Photography has changed markedly since my early days with a camera and digital photography in particular has brought many opportunities including the option to post process photos. I however remain a photographer who prefers to get the photo as right as possible 'in camera' rather than spend hours in front of a computer. I believe that it is the careful observation of wildlife behaviour that leads to distinctive photos which truly capture the spirit of the animal.

Throughout my life I have been fortunate to have shared experiences and worked with some very competent naturalists and photographers. They have collectively helped me and taken me on my exciting journey of exploration. Through this talk I share my experiences, explore the lessons I have learnt, the mistakes I have made and the options available to the aspiring wildlife photographer. I pay particular attention to the opportunities provided by modern digital cameras and equipment but also consider the importance of good field craft and observation. I run wildlife photography workshops and holidays and will to share my experiences working with photographers at all levels and with varying experience.



I illustrate the talk with my photos taken both in the UK and in East Africa and seek to demonstrate, wherever possible, the techniques and skills I used. I bring along examples of the equipment and 'tools' I have come to rely on over the years. These are the tools that for me make the difference between a 'snap shot' and that the award winning photo. I will also 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.

The talk lasts about 2 hours including a 10 minute break in the middle. The first half covers tips and techniques and the second explores various options and approaches in a great deal more detail.

*Bob Brind-Surch*