

Obituary - Graham Duff (1939-2011)



It is with great sadness that I have to announce that Graham died on Thursday August 18th 2011, after a lengthy fight against cancer. Those who knew Graham will remember a 'gentle giant' with a lovely West Country accent and superb mutton chop side burns. Graham was also an accomplished nature photographer, rarely seen without a camera in his hands. He entertained many with vibrant talks from the trips he and Margaret had made both locally and from around the globe.

Graham was one of the founding members of the Glamorgan Wildlife Photographic Club in 2005 and we have run the club together over the last 6 years, with the help of several other members. Graham was instrumental in developing the programme to its current successful format and his dogged determination led to the launch of the club website late in 2009. As well as information about the club, this site now contains a database of almost 600 photographs taken by club members, almost a quarter of these taken by Graham himself.

He was a long-standing member of the Glamorgan Bird Club. He attended many field trips and indoor meetings, as well as giving talks on his photographic trips in the UK and abroad. Graham designed the replacement Arthur Morgan hide at Kenfig National Nature Reserve, arranged supply of the materials from his own hardwood timber merchant firm that he ran in the Vale and organised the building of the hide. Graham was very diligent in keeping records of wildfowl counts on Roath Park Lake and helping out with the British Breeding Bird Survey annually.

He was also a long-standing member and active supporter of the Cardiff Naturalists' Society making contributions in many ways. He sat on the society council but was perhaps best known for his tireless technical support at the indoor meetings. Graham was also an active member of the local Cardiff Group of the RSPB and Bridgend Group of the Wildlife Trust of South and West Wales. He gave talks to these societies and contributed widely to the overall appreciation of wildlife.

I have worked closely with Graham over these last 6 years and he has contributed a tremendous amount to running the wildlife photo club, it will be strange for him not to be there.

Graham, you will be greatly missed for these reasons and many others, but most of all for just being you.