

## Sussex Ornithological Society Sussex Bird Photographer of the Year 2020

The SOS is thrilled to announce our new bird photography competition – we are looking for beautiful photographs capturing Sussex’s wonderful birds, taken during the year 2020. This competition is open to everyone who lives in Sussex, not just members of SOS.

### Categories

There are two prize categories: the **Overall SOS Sussex Bird Photographer** (open to all SOS Members, and non-members resident in East and West Sussex and Brighton & Hove, of all ages), and the **Young SOS Sussex Bird Photographer Prize** (open to SOS members, and non-members resident in East and West Sussex and Brighton & Hove, up to the age of 18 as at 31 December 2020).

### Prizes

Prizes on offer for both categories, and three runners-up in each category, include camera shop tokens plus a free year’s membership of the Society. The winning photographs and runners-up will be featured in the SOS Bird Report for the year 2020 (published towards the end of the year following the competition, in November 2021), as well as on our website, and at Society events.

- The Overall SOS Sussex Bird Photographer Prize is a camera shop token to the value of £100, plus a free year’s membership of the Society.
- The Young SOS Sussex Bird Photographer Prize is a camera shop token to the value of £100, plus a free year’s membership of the Society.
- We are also offering three Runners-Up Prizes to the value of £20 in each category, plus a free year’s membership of the Society.

For the full Rules, Terms and Conditions of entry – including details on how to submit your images – please see below.

### Where to send your entries

You can now submit your entry to the following email address:  
[sos.photo.competition@gmail.com](mailto:sos.photo.competition@gmail.com).

### Competition closing date

The closing date for entries is 31 January 2021. Good luck!

### Rules in brief

You can enter up to 5 images for your chosen category.

- Please send your images to the email address [sos.photo.competition@gmail.com](mailto:sos.photo.competition@gmail.com), in digital format only, as JPEG files of the best quality available, with a minimum resolution of 300dpi, and a minimum file size of 4MB. Images must be uncropped, in either landscape or portrait format, with minimum editing, such as for exposure, contrast and sharpness.

- Please read the competition's full Rules, Terms and Conditions below before submitting your entry. Entry to the competition confirms your acceptance of these Rules, Terms and Conditions.
- The 2 Category Winners and a further 6 Runners-Up Entries will be selected by the judges.

### **The judging panel**

Judges to be confirmed.

### **Terms and conditions in detail**

- Entry to the competition is acceptance of these Terms and Conditions.
- Entry to the competition is free and open to all Sussex Ornithological Society Members, and to non-members resident in the counties of East Sussex, West Sussex and Brighton & Hove only.
- The Young SOS Sussex Bird Photographer Prize is open to entrants of all ages up to the age of 18 as at 31 December 2020, SOS members, and non-members resident in the counties of East Sussex, West Sussex and Brighton & Hove only. Those under the age of 16 must obtain permission from a parent or guardian to enter. If your entry is chosen as a prize winner, you will be asked to provide proof that you are 18 or under. Photographs entered for the Young Photographer category will also be automatically entered for the Overall category.
- Each entrant may enter up to a maximum of 5 images in the competition.
- Entries must be in digital format only – no prints or slides will be accepted.
- Entries must be JPEG files and of a minimum file size of 4MB at a minimum resolution of 300dpi.
- Entries can be in either landscape or portrait format, but please remember that portrait-format images will have a better chance of being chosen to feature on the cover of the Society's Bird Report.
- Entries must be free from text and photographer's watermark.
- Photographs should be entered by email to the following address: [sos.photo.competition@gmail.com](mailto:sos.photo.competition@gmail.com). Please include your full name, address, email address and contact number, and date of birth if entering the Young SOS Sussex Bird Photographer category. The digital image files should include the title of your image and your name.
- Your details will not be passed on to any third party without your permission.
- Entrants will retain copyright in the photographs that they submit to the Sussex Ornithological Society. By entering the competition all entrants grant to the Sussex Ornithological Society the right to publish and exhibit their photographs, and to reproduce and exhibit the image in all media to promote the Society's work. No fees will be payable for any of the above uses. Photographers will be credited if an image is used.
- All entries must be the original work of the entrant and must not infringe the rights of any other party. The entrants must be the sole owner of copyright in all photographs entered (and must have obtained permission of any people featured in the entries or parents/guardians of any children under 16 that are featured).

- Prior to submission, entrants must not have offered any of their entries for sale, been paid for any publication of any of their entries or won or been a runner up in any other photographic competition with any of their entries.
- All images must be taken in Sussex (East Sussex, West Sussex and Brighton & Hove). Images of birds must be taken in the natural environment or in their natural habitat. Images of birds taken in captivity, domesticated or restrained in any way will not be eligible.
- All images must be taken during the year of submission – 1 January 2020-31 December 2020
- Entrants must not have breached any laws or regulations when taking their photographs.
- The welfare of the bird subject of any photograph is of greater importance than the photograph itself – entries which show evidence of undue disturbance or stress imparted on the subject by the photographer will be disqualified. Please take care to avoid damage to the environment in the process of your photography.
- Minimum digital adjustments are acceptable, such as for exposure, contrast and sharpness – the way in which any digital enhancement or editing has been used will be taken into account when judging the entry. Major changes of content are not allowed.
- Judges appointed by the Sussex Ornithological Society will choose the winning images and runners-up. The organisers' decision on all matters relating to the Competition is final, and no correspondence will be entered into concerning the Competition, decision, judges and organisation. Due to the high number of entries expected, individual feedback is not possible.
- The prizes are non-transferable.
- A list of prize winners will be available on the Sussex Ornithological Society website.
- All entries are sent at the photographer's risk. The Sussex Ornithological Society regret that they cannot accept liability for any loss or damage of any images entered in the competition nor for any other loss or damage resulting therefrom.
- CLOSING DATE: 31 January 2021.

Sussex Ornithological Society, July 2020

[sos.photo.competition@gmail.com](mailto:sos.photo.competition@gmail.com)