

# Barnes Common



**1: Light:** is always my number one consideration when taking a photograph – and the reason I get up at the crack of dawn and head out as the sun sets. I found ignoring the rule to never shoot into the light can bring images to life - an ant on the common so much more interesting with the light coming through his body, and the dandelion shot directly into the sun creates a beautiful prism. All the pictures shown here were taken on an iPhone using an external Macro Lens(bar the top image).



**2: Composition - creating a mood and atmosphere:** consider where to place your subject matter – if you have a choice. The Rule of Thirds is one not to ignore! In your mind's eye, simply divide your potential picture into nine equal sections (see bottom left picture). Try to place what you are photographing on the intersections, not in the middle. You can also consider pleasing shapes (e.g. the yellow & orange broom), symmetry and creating a 'leading line' – something to draw you into the image.

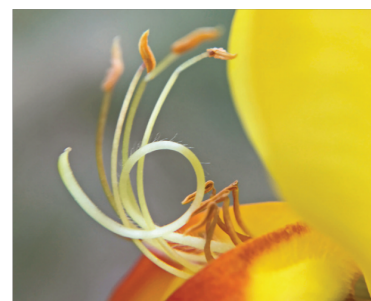


**3. Keep things simple:** Try not to crowd your image. Using a macro device has the added advantage of isolating your subject, so try to arrange a background that is a pleasing complement to the main subject's colour or alternatively helps to make your subject stand out more.



**4. Experiment:** These days with digital we have lots of memory to play with and the chance to instantly review our pictures. So go on – just play!

**5. Planning and knowing your camera:** When considering outdoor photography, remember to keep an eye on the weather, as this can make or break a picture – and of course, always take a little time to read up on your equipment, in order to get the most out of it.



**Andrew Wilson, local author, photographer  
and friend of Barnes Common**

