



SHUTTERBUGS

Newsletter of the Camberwell Camera Club

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CAPTURING LANDSCAPE PHOTOGRAPHS WITH CHARACTER

Written by: Andrew Goodall

Landscape photography is a most rewarding pastime, but it can be far more challenging than some people imagine.

It sounds so easy; visit a beautiful location, shoot a few snapshots, and come home with a work of art in your camera. After dealing with the public for over 20 years, I swear most people think it really is that simple. But really good landscape photography is much more challenging. Anyone can recognize the potential of a good subject, but turning that potential into a memorable image is another story.

The task is even greater if it is a popular location. When you photograph a place that is photographed a thousand times a day, you have to find a way to create something different from the everyday snapshot.

Here are just a few tips for capturing the character of a landscape.

Tip # 1. You Don't Have To Fit Everything In. Some panoramic views are so huge that the only way to fit everything into your photo is to use a very wide-angle lens. The trouble is, this reduces everything in size, so that the grandeur of your subject is diminished. It can be more effective to concentrate your composition around one feature of the landscape; a feature other people will recognize. With this approach, you can use a larger lens to add size and prominence to the subject. You may also capture details that could be lost with a wide-angle lens.

Tip # 2. Look For A New Angle

Why is it that so many photos of the great landmarks look the same? Simply because everybody photographs them from the same lookouts. It is easy to get a good shot from a major lookout; in fact, that is probably why the lookout was built in the first place. The trouble is, it is almost impossible to get a unique shot if your photo is taken from the same angle as all the others.

If possible, search beyond the established lookouts to see if there is a more interesting angle to take your photo. This may take a little more effort, and you may have to do some bushwalking to find the best spot. I don't suggest risking your neck or trespassing, but in most cases there are alternatives to the established lookouts.

Tip # 3. Use The Surroundings To Your Advantage.

Anyone can take a snapshot of a mountain range. But what about a mountain range framed through the branches of a tree in the foreground, or with a river winding away into the distance, drawing with it the eye of the viewer?

Every landscape can be photographed from a number of angles; the most obvious one is not always the best. By scouting around and looking for interesting foregrounds, you can add real character to your image and create something truly unique.

Always try to remember that you are not the first person to photograph this subject. To produce a memorable photo, you need to put in some effort to create something a little different.

Tip # 4. Consider The Conditions. Capturing your subject in the best light can be a real balancing act. First you need to consider the time of day. Usually the ideal light is early in the morning and late in the afternoon, when the light is softer and more colourful. The trouble is, any photographer with experience already knows that. So how do you take your photo to the next level?

Keep a constant eye on the weather. You may be able to see something special, like a storm front, a good cloud formation, or even a good chance of a rainbow, starting to develop. If you choose your moment just right, you can be on location in time for something really special.

This is a measure of the commitment of a landscape photographer. The more effort you put in, the greater the rewards. You will spend a lot of time waiting for the right moment, but once you get that perfect image, you will see it was not time wasted. You will know you have done a good job when people start to say "I have been there - but my photos are nowhere near as good as yours!"

Andrew Goodall's top selling ebook "Photography In Plain English" is a great place to start learning the art and skills of nature photography. Find it at <http://www.naturesimage.com.au> along with a great collection of Andrew's landscape and wildlife photography. You can also sign up to the online newsletter for free gifts and tips on photography.

(This article is copied from a Web Site:

"Photography General - Photograph Tutorials")

A small section of Barney Myer's presentation of "Super Panoramas Part 1" at George's residence on Tuesday 17th February

LAST NIGHT I LOST ALL MY MONEY TO TWO CARD SHARPS



While I was distracted by the décolletage of their blonde female companion the black dude and the white dude cleaned out all my money. I was left with four jokers and had to throw in my hand. They left with the money and the girl.

"Those of you who know Barney will recognise the common relationship between the four players"

AV Group Report

The Audio Visual group of our camera club met on March 3rd for its first meeting of the year. We started by looking at an article by Ron Davies, who has written about how he makes an audio visual sequence from concept to the final product. This was sourced from Peter Cole's excellent site at <http://www.avpeter.com>. Peter had asked us to put in an AV for the Geoffrey Round International competition which closed on March 7th, but unfortunately we did not feel ready to participate at this stage, maybe next year? Maureen Albright's presentation on Autumn Leaves was shown by muting the sound on the computer at first, before turning on the speakers. The idea was to see the impact of music and then voiceover on a series of photographs. Maureen lives in the Cotswolds in the UK and her sequences can be seen at www.digital-av.co.uk/gallery.htm.

The second AV we saw was Heatley - My Kind of Place - a creative production by Howard Gregory. Howard has made a series of tutorial CD-ROMs about sound editing, microphones, preamplifiers and how to make the best soundtracks for audiovisuals. He also makes, refines and sells equipment for improving the capturing of sound and it was obvious from the demonstrations that we watched, that they work very well in improving the sound quality of AV presentations. We watched a couple of tutorials from his 'Better Soundtracks' CD which showed how to import music from audio CDs as well as how to best record voiceover, with and without a preamplifier. If you are interested in how to go about capturing and editing sound, or in his tutorial CDs or equipment, Howard is the person to contact. He is the chairman of the Winslow Guild Audio Visual Group www.wilmslowguildav.org.uk and his email address is chairman@WilmslowGuildAV.org.uk

Bert Hovelling had just completed the first draft of his AV about balloons which he showed and I am looking forward to seeing it in a final stage when we next have our meeting in May. We were going to see one of Don Weston's many creations but did not get around to it this time. Don is probably the most prolific AV workers in

our club, making many shows of his trips, broken down into bite size episodes.

I am looking forward to attending the International AV Festival in Adelaide next weekend, 20-21 March, and perhaps I may see one or more of you there.

Ruth Goldwasser

Digital Jottings - March:

Sometimes we have a special photograph that we like to share with others. Be it a photo of family, partner, son or daughter, grandchild, new house, favorite view or holiday shot, an image is better than a thousand words. For convenience lamination makes the display much more manageable but to laminate one or two small prints can be a quite costly if you have to buy a laminator and associate plastic sheeting.

Recently I came across a system using self-sealing laminating pouches which produces wallet sizes laminates. The system needs no laminating machine, is easy to use, claimed to acid free and produces a hard wearing clear end-product. In fact it is easy to produce back-to-back images for twice the enjoyment.

Peter Brady

Australian Digital Photography Awards (ADPA)

The Australian Photographic Society invites residents of Australia to enter the third year of this popular annual digital photography competition. No membership is required and entry is free.

If you are proud of your work, your photographs do well in club competitions, or your friends love what you do, why not see how the judges like your photographs? If you were among those who entered in previous years, come back and try your luck again this year.

Simply resize your images as set out in the entry form and email your entries before June 21. There are 4 sections: General, Creative, Nature and Photojournalism. You can enter one or all sections with up to 4 entries per section.

Go to www.adpa.org.au for instructions and the entry form. Closing date: June 21 2009

Janie News (ADPA Publicity Officer)

RESULTS OF THE FEBRUARY MONTHLY AGGREGATE COMPETITION

Subject: Open

Judge: Peter Hammer

LARGE PRINTS

Place	Title	Author
1 st	"Streets of China"	Michael Persin
2 nd	"The Calf"	Matt Moore
3 rd	"Portrait"	John Davis
4 th	"Lone Passenger"	Matt Moore
5 th	"Milford Waterfall"	Philip Maxwell

SPECIAL MENTION

"Magnolia Como2"	Peter Brady
"Once Upon a Time"	Michael Persin
"Man v's Nature"	Deborah Mullins
"Old Dragline"	Barney Myer
"Leucadendron"	Avice McConnell

PROJECTED IMAGES

Place	Title	Author
1 st	"White Rhododendron"	Sue Welsh
2 nd	"Anisa"	Eva Alegre
3 rd	"Hoi-An Man"	Eva Alegre
4 th	"Daisy"	Vicky Hyduke
5 th	"Reflection"	Geraldine de Korte

SPECIAL MENTION

"Horse Hair"	Matt Moore
"Gannets Kissing"	Bert Hoveling
"Big Smile"	Gaynor Robson
"Ping yao"	Michael Persin
"NGV Mentall"	Charlotte Bradley



John Davis receiving his certificate from Peter Hammer for third place in Large Prints



Sue Welsh receiving her certificate from Peter Hammer for first place in Projected Images

SMALL PRINTS

1 st	"Swan"	Deborah Mullins
2 nd	"Antheriums Life & Death"	Lis Frank
3 rd	"Night Runner"	Melva Cairns
4 th	"Reflections in Glass"	Lis Frank
5 th	"View from a Bridge"	John Davis

SPECIAL MENTION

"From Under the Lilly Pad"	Melva Cairns
"The Travellers"	Don Weston
"Marita"	Amara McCready



Lis Frank receiving her certificate from Peter Hammer for second place in Small Prints



Geraldine de Korte receiving her certificate from Peter Hammer for fifth place in Projected Images

Knox Photographic Society Interclub

We have again been invited by the above club to enter their Interclub Competition. Entries close on July 8th so this is an advance notice for everyone to prepare their entries for delivery to the club no later than our May meeting. There are three categories; "Novice Small Prints", "Large Prints" and "Digital Projected Images". The subject is Open but all entries must be in Monochrome. The criteria for all entries are similar to that we use in our monthly competition except Small Prints are limited to members who have not received acceptances in National or International Exhibitions in the last ten years.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Digital Group Meeting: On Monday 20th April at George's residence. Starts at 8.00pm.

Camberwell Mid-week Outing: To the Sony World Photography Awards display at the Obscura Gallery in East St Kilda. Meet at the corner of Carlisle & Chapel Streets at 11.00am on Tuesday 21st April. *(Full details on this page)*

VAPS Muster: This will be held at Mount Macedon on 16th to 18th May. Any club member is welcome to attend either for one or all of the three days. Registration closes on 30th April. Full details of the muster and the registration form is available from their web site; www.vaps.org.au.

Camberwell Interclub Competition: Together with three other competing clubs this will be held at our normal May Monday evening meeting. The subject for this competition is "Industry" and includes our normal three competition categories. Up to two entries in each category to be given to Bevellee Bryceson no later than our April meeting.

Melbourne Camera Club Outing: This will be on Tuesday 7th April for a tour of the bush fire devastated area around Narbethong. Meet in the car park of the Black Spur Roadhouse, Narbethong at 10.30am. *(Full details in the article on this page.)*

JOHN CHAPMAN FAPS (Tonight's Guest Speaker)
While not earning a living John has lead a very active and interesting life exploring most of the walking tracks around the world or in his younger days Rock Climbing. While not walking or rock climbing he has spent his spare time writing and publishing guide books. As John carried a camera throughout all these expeditions, allowing him to obtain the photographic honours of FAPS, undoubtedly he will have some interesting landscape photography to show us tonight.

Matt

Austrian Circuit Group Entry

I will not be able to undertake the job of sending a group entry to the Austrian Super Circuit this year. The exhibition closes on April 27 so there is time for someone else to take on the job. I allow 10 to 12 days for parcel airmail delivery to overseas addresses. My apologies for the short notice.

George Thomas

SONY WORLD PHOTOGRAPHY AWARDS 2008

This collection of the best world-wide photographs for 2008 will be on display from 14th April to 5th May at the Obscura Gallery located in Suite 11, Beller House, 285 Carlisle Street, East St Kilda.

The Gallery is open Tuesdays to Saturdays from 12.00 to 6.00pm.

For further information telephone 9525 9377

(Those members with good memories will remember an article in the October 2007 edition of this newsletter where it was mentioned that our Bert Hoveling, after being one of the judge of the above world wide competition, had been invited to the Sony Festival in Cannes, French Riviera, in April 2008 where the winning photographs were on display to all the world's photographic dignitaries. These photographs have since been on display throughout the world and are now on show here in Melbourne.)

CAMBERWELL MID-WEEK OUTING

This will be to the above Sony World Photography Award 2008 Exhibition on Tuesday 21st April. Because the Obscura Gallery does not open until midday it is proposed that we meet at the corner of Carlisle and Chapel streets at 11.00am and locate a café for a snack before proceeding to the gallery. This is an outing that should not be missed.

Peter Brady

Melbourne Camera Club Outing

The next **MCC monthly outing** for all members is on **Tuesday 7th of April** in **Narbethong** (22km past Healesville) to photograph the recent bushfire devastation. As always, Camberwell members are welcome to attend.

We have arranged a local-guided bus tour and photo-shoot commencing at 11:00am, followed at 1:00pm by lunch at the Black Spur Inn Hotel for \$25 inclusive per person. This is a local initiative to encourage people back into the area. We may be restricted in numbers, so anyone intending to go should register beforehand with John Adlam (MCC) or Peter Brady (CCC).

Meet at 10:30am in the Black Spur Roadhouse car park, 264 Maroondah Highway, Narbethong. We could have morning tea here if it's suitable, or at the Black Spur Inn Hotel, 436 Maroondah Highway.

Venue information can be found at:

* The Black Spur Roadhouse -
<http://www.theblackspur.com.au>

* The Black Spur Inn Hotel -
<http://www.blackspurinn.com.au>

Anyone requiring transport should contact John Adlam (MCC) or Peter Brady (CCC) for possible car-pooling arrangements. With thanks: *John Adlam*

PRESIDENT: Don Weston 9822 5019. HON. SECRETARY: Edith Conway 9899 1784

EDITOR: Matt Moore LAPS - email mdentm@netspace.net.au

Visit Camberwell Camera Club Inc. www.camberwellcameraclub.org.au

**NEXT MEETING: APRIL 27TH 8.00pm, RSL HALL, 403 CAMBERWELL RD, CAMBERWELL
ALL WELCOME**