



SHUTTERBUGS

Newsletter of the Camberwell Camera Club

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SOME INTERESTING THOUGHTS FROM YOUR PRESIDENT

Seize the Moment!

For some time now I have been thinking about something Ken Spence commented on one day when we were heading off to photograph one of Barney's amazing urban landscape locations. He said, "You'll never remember the mornings you sleep in until 10am, but you'll remember the time you woke at 4am for an exciting photo shoot!" It's so true, don't you agree?

I've been trying to seize the moment with my photography as much as possible lately. It's easy to become complacent. The next time you see a gorgeous scene just outside your window and think, "I can't be bothered," think again! Instead tell yourself, "It will only take a minute to take the photo and it could be terrific!"

Amazing images begin with grabbing your camera and getting yourself out there. This especially applies in the winter months when we tend to hibernate a little more.

Our July competition, *In my Neighbourhood or Backyard* is fast approaching. So get a move on and brave the rain, fog and cool weather! Explore your neighbourhood and you just might find a diamond in the rough.

**Happy Shooting,
Rebecca**



A PHOTOGRAPHIC WALK AROUND THE VICTORIAN MARKET

On Saturday morning of 24th March seven of us from Camberwell and the Melbourne Camera Club met outside the odoriferous entrance to the fish market section of the Queen Victoria Market. We decided to walk around in pairs or on our own to try to soak-up and photographically record the diverse people and highly varied produce of this most interesting place in Melbourne. Some of us just wanted to take visual images of the ambience of the Market, others concentrated on photographing chosen themes that hit the camera lens. I photographed Aussie souvenir flags and beach towels, AFL club scarves, and the great variety of olives beautifully stacked in the display boxes of diverse delicatessens at the Market. After an hour and a half of photographing people and the colours, shapes and patterns of all the produce and wares that are there, we met again in one of the beautifully restored buildings to have morning coffee. We all enjoyed our QV Market

photographic experience and felt that this is a place to which one could return with one's camera again and again.

Joe Hajdu

CAMBERWELL MID-WEEK OUTING

With due deference to the winter weather our **June Midweek Outing** will be local. We will meet at 10.30am on Tuesday 19th June in Maling Rd. (Melway 46 C11). After a warming coffee a short walk on Canterbury Rd towards the city will bring us to Victoria and Monomeath Avenues. These streets are known for their real estates values but they have some of the best examples in Melbourne of London Plain trees. Proceeding down Victoria Ave to Mont Albert Rd a left hand turn will find Monomeath Ave to return to Canterbury Rd. A warm lunch will finish the day.

For those wishing to see how native trees can be used as street trees, a visit to Iramoo St, Balwyn is recommended (Melway 46 E8). All of the trees in these streets are designed as significant trees by City of Boroondara.

Peter Brady

Digital Jottings – May 2012

Photographs are composed and judged by their subject, composition and lighting. The weight given to these criteria is a result of experience and art history. For some subjects such as still life the composition is paramount.

There is no such thing as the perfect composition but it is worth examining composition variants which can be done by applying the ten laws of composition. These “laws” are not something that you apply rigidly but are more like guidelines.

1. **The rule of thirds.** This is probably the best known of the composition rules and is widely reported. With some modern cameras the screen can be subdivided into 9 equal segments. The photographer can then select one of the four intercepts to align the most prominent feature of the image. If you are unsure which of intercepts to use then shoot several variants so that you can consider them at your leisure.
2. **The Golden Ratio & Fibonacci.** The basis of the Golden Ratio dates back to the Middle Ages when Leonardo Fibonacci an Italian mathematician described a sequence of numbers where the first two numbers are 0 & 1 and each proceeding number is the sum of the previous two. 0, 1, 1, 2, 3, 5, 8, 13, 21, 34, 55, and so on. The Golden Ratio (Phi or Φ) is given by the ratio of consecutive numbers which approximates to 1.618. This ratio has been used by artists, craftsmen and architects for centuries to produce a design that is pleasing to the eye. It is found widely in nature and is used by photographers in compositions where adjacent objects need to be brought into harmony. Examples would be the height and width of a building or the composition of a still life.
3. **Lead-in Lines.** Look for an element in your subject that will lead the viewer’s eye into or through the scene. Elements such as fences, rows of plants, paths, railway rails or lines of buildings can all be used. Sometimes if you vary the height of the camera you can vary the impact of the lead-in line. Shadows can frequently be used to give effective lines.
4. **Using Foreground Elements.** A prominent foreground element can frequently give impact to an image. This is particularly true in landscape photography. The foreground element should be sympathetic to the subject. The foreground, subject and background do not have to be in sharp focus but softer elements should not detract from the overall scene. Obviously the depth-of-field obtained will be determined by the choice of focal length and aperture. When you are trying to find a point of focus within a scene, you might question the value of using autofocus. Can you afford to allow the camera to make these decisions for you?
5. **Things That Work.** With experience you will find a composition that “works for you”. It may be a selective focusing technique; it may be using a slow shutter speed that gives the sensation of movement; it may be using a flash gun in second curtain sync mode.

6. Creative Depth-of-Field. Depth-of-field can be a powerful effect in any image. Choosing a focal point and a narrow dof will guide the viewer to concentrate on the sharp part of the image where we want them to concentrate. Choice of a small aperture (say f/16) will maximise the dof and will allow the viewer to examine all parts of the image in detail. The choice of a small aperture means a slow shutter speed and camera movement can become a concern. This will mean choosing a higher ISO or using a tripod, remote release and/or mirror-lockup. Using a tripod has the added benefit of giving you time to consider options in the interpretation of the scene before you.

7. Cropping With Lenses. There is much to be said for taking your time when photographing a subject. We all have a tendency to capture an overall version of the subject, and this is not such a bad thing. How often have we ready to record an image when it suddenly changes; the bird has flown; the light has changed; someone has walked into the scene. It is good to have that insurance shot. But if we have more time we might ask ourselves “where is the real subject” in the scene? Can we get more impact by zooming in on our subject? Try various options while the subject is before you as it might not be there again.

To be continued next edition

OUR NEXT MONTH'S GUEST SPEAKER

(Pete Davies)

Some thoughts on photography from Pete

Do you have any underlying motivations, commitments, beliefs or attitudes that inform your photography, which you would be willing to share?

I am besotted with the way photography can take the ordinary and every day and present it in a completely new and different fashion. It's such a turn on for me to see other people look at a photograph and really see (perhaps for the first time) the subject as they haven't seen it before. How wonderful it is to simply change the angle from which one views a subject, or alter the lighting from what we would be accustomed to or even just remove the colour and be able to change people's perceptions. I love trying to come up with new ways to challenge the accepted reality.

I love being in a position where I can bring people together through photography. As a member of a camera club I get to do just that by organising competitions, outings and workshops. It would be all too easy these days to sit at home in front of a computer and just look at other photographers' images but I find that nothing beats actual face to face social interaction. I adore getting out there and sharing my passion with others who are just as enthralled with image making as I am.

Pete Davies

Pete has had a very active involvement in Victorian Camera Clubs since 2006. Apart from presidency of Waverley Camera Club he has judged at many National Exhibitions and has been a committee member of VAPS since 2009. He is a member of the Australian Institute of Professional Photography and has numerous articles published in The Herald Sun and Digital Photography and Design.

Matt

"ASK AN EXPERT"

This is the title of an entertaining **WORKSHOP** that will consist of a "group discussion" on three subjects that will be led by three specialised speakers. Come along and learn a few additional small but important details on particular photographic activities. This will be held at the residence of Anna Janiak on Monday 4th June at 7.30pm

If attending please contact Anne on 9857 5646.

KNOX INTERCLUB

The Knox Photographic Society is running an Interclub Competition to which we have been invited. Therefore you are requested to provide Sue with at least two monochrome entries in each category of "Large Prints", "Novice (Small) Prints", "Open EDI" and "Novice EDI" no later than our June meeting.

The technical requirements of the entries in the various categories are consistent with our monthly competition except "Novice" relates to out Grade B members. The subject is OPEN.

A MYSTERY ABOUT SAILING SHIPS

Last year on viewing photographs taken on a Melbourne Camera Club outing to the Polly Woodside I discovered an unusual construction of that ship that did not make sense to me. A shot of the ships aft showed the helm (steering wheel) mounted against a wooded structure covering the mechanism connecting the wheel to the rudder under the rear of the boat. The compass used for maintaining the ship on course was mounted forward of the steering wheel allowing sufficient space for the sailor steering the ship to stand. (See photograph)

My question is: how does the helmsman turn the steering wheel while looking forward at the compass and the



direction the ship is sailing? He would need to have his hands behind his back.

I thought that maybe on the reconstruction of the ship they had made a mistake but on visiting another reconstructed sailing vessel, the Brig "Amity" in Albany WA, the construction was exactly the same. So what is the answer? Does the helmsman steer with his hands behind his back or does he stand on one side of the helm and steer with one hand?

Matt

TONIGHT'S GUEST SPEAKER

I believe that most of you will either know, or have heard of, **David Burren AAPS** who is our Judge and Guest Speaker tonight. David is a professional photographer who makes himself available to assist various Clubs and VAPS with his extensive knowledge of photography and photographic equipment. I am sure his presentation will be most informative and interesting so prepare yourselves for a significant learning experience.

Matt

PRINT MOUNTING

In lieu of the print mounting workshop, Don Weston has produced an audiovisual on his method of mounting. If you would like a copy please contact Don (donfweston@gmail.com) and he will send you a copy via Yousendit. The file size is about 16 MB.

Dates for your Diary

Workshop "Ask an Expert": Monday 4th June at Anna Janiak residence at 7.30pm.

(See details page 3)

Melbourne Camera Club Outing: This will be to the State Library and RMIT Gallery on Tuesday 5th June. Meet at the Pearson & Murphy's Café at 10.00am. *(Full details this page)*

Audio Visual Judging: At the Melbourne Camera Club on weekend 9th & 10th June. *(See details this page for times)*

Digital Group Meeting: This will be held at Don's residence on Monday 18th June starting at 7.30pm.

Camberwell Mid-week Outing: This will be on Tuesday 19th June to the Maling Rd shopping centre followed by walks around the historical streets.

Meet in the Centre at 10.30am. *(Details Page 1)*

Monthly Meeting: At 8.00pm in the RSL Hall in Camberwell on Monday 25th June. Bring entries for the Knox Interclub and some supper. Also bring entries for the July monthly competition. Subject:

(In my Neighbourhood or Backyard)

CAMBERWELL INTERCLUB

Our June meeting is our annual Interclub Competition so make sure you come along to see the work of four other Clubs. The clubs represented at this meeting are:

Essendon Camera Club

Knox Photographic Society

Williamstown Camera Club

Yarra Ranges Photographic Society

The competition entries from the five clubs have been delivered to our Judge for his evaluation.

If you are coming it would be appreciated if you could bring a plate of goodies for supper. If this is not possible please pay Lorraine \$4.00.

AUDIO-VISUAL JUDGING

This is an invitation and an opportunity to Camera Club Members to view the 83 entries to the International Digital Audio Visual Festival Challenge 3-2-1

Judged in 24 international locations, and for the first time in Melbourne on the Queen's Birthday Weekend 9th and 10th of June at the Melbourne Camera Club.

Judging sessions 10am to 3pm on Saturday

Gala Selection shown Sunday starting 2pm

Followed by refreshments.

Please RSVP to Barb Butler at barbyb@tpg.com.au for catering purposes

Ruth Goldwasser

MELBOURNE CLUB MID WEEK OUTING

State Library and RMIT Gallery

Tuesday 5TH June 2012

The MCC June Outing will be to the exhibition at the State Library (Love and Devotion - from Persia and Beyond) and a complementary exhibition at the nearby RMIT Gallery (Only from the Heart can you Touch the Sky).

Meet at 10 am at the Pearson and Murphy's Café on the RMIT campus, which is located behind Building 1, the original Working Men's College, a Gothic stone building on La Trobe Street. Leave the Swanston/La Trobe Street intersection on the corner diagonally opposite Melbourne Central, and go up La Trobe Street about 50m until you pass the statue of Francis Ormond at the front of the pedestrian mall that runs through the campus. You are now at Building 1. Turn left into the mall and go around the back, keeping this building on your right. Lunch will be at the same Café.

Jim Weatherill

VAPS CONVENTION

Last weekend, the 19th and 20th May, we attended the VAPS Convention at the Ballarat University. The venue was superb, in a well-tiered and amply heated lecture theatre. The speakers were outstanding with interesting and well planned workshops and photo opportunities.

This annual event brings members of Victorian camera clubs together in a weekend of learning, sharing, competing and socializing with like-minded people. I have attended many VAPS conventions and often find that the couple of days is not really long enough. But I guess there is APSCON, run by the Australian Photographic Society coming up in September.

All the images entered for the competitions by the clubs are displayed. The prints are put up in the gallery, whereas digital images and audiovisuals (AV) have special showing times in the main theatre.

Whilst all digital images entered were projected at the convention, the time required to view all the AV entries would have been forbidding. As a result only the winners and merits in the AV division were shown at the weekend. This year Melbourne Camera Club has offered to show all the entries, all 38 of them, on the night of Wednesday 6th June at 8.00pm in its Club rooms and is inviting members of all camera clubs to attend.

It would be very interesting to see all the entries but please email Barb Butler at barbyb@tpg.com.au to let her know if you are coming.

Ruth Goldwasser

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

**NEXT MEETING: JUNE 25TH AT 8.00PM, RSL HALL, 403 CAMBERWELL RD, CAMBERWELL
ALL WELCOME**