



SHUTTERBUGS

Newsletter of the Camberwell Camera Club

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A MESSAGE FROM YOUR PRESIDENT



Hi Everyone. This is my last message to you as your President, as after four years I feel it is time to step down and devote my time to other things that are waiting to be done, photographic and otherwise. It is also time for someone else to take over, with some new ideas and direction (and I suspect a whole lot more organizational skills than me!). I am sure that the core values of the club will remain the same and that you will continue to enjoy our great list of speakers, an excellent learning environment, and the friendship of other club members. Photography is similar to golf really – we are always after that perfect shot. So keep trying and learning. Don't forget either that the most important photographs you will ever take will be of family and friends and the only ones your family will bother keeping when you are gone. So take your photography seriously but not so much that you forget to have fun. If you are not having fun then

maybe you should just walk away and take up golf - but I suspect you'll soon be back. Thank you every one, Good Luck and take care.

Gaynor

FINDING AND USING LIGHT

(This article is an extract from one by Shelton Muller published in the photographic magazine he edits called "Photo Plus")

One of the most misunderstood concepts about photography is that the subject is the key behind the success of an image. A pretty face, a spectacular landscape, a fabulous car. While all of these are interesting subjects, they are not in themselves the key to dynamic images.

Even the most ordinary object can make a photograph dynamic and interesting – if it is lit well. If you consider that many of the advertising product photographs you see are just beautiful lit images of boring packages and products, you begin to really understand the power of lighting. Painters and photographers have been creating still life images of every day subjects for hundreds of years. A bowl of fruit can have real meaning and beauty if bathed and captured in the kind of light that reveals something interesting about its nature. Imagine then how powerful your image can be when they too are powerful, beautiful and interesting. Pretty faces, spectacular landscapes and fabulous cars can not only be interesting in themselves but are even more powerful as subjects in a two dimensional image when light is used to enhance their character.

While composition is vitally important, photography is essentially –'writing with light'– the real meaning of the two Greek words from which the meaning of

photography is formed. Composition and subject are often meaningless without light as the most beautiful composed portrait or landscape can mean little if the light is wrong.

Understanding light is at the heart of successful photography. Light is the tool we use to create images. More than any other element in our images, light reveals the very nature of our subject because it can single handedly convey – and even alter – its character to the viewer.

Using Light to Evoke Emotion

Because we relate colours to emotion we therefore cleverly use these colours to suggest them. Warm light is used to create the idea of romance, love and comfort etc. Cold blue light is usually less comfortable to the mind and is used to convey coolness, discomfort, sadness, harshness etc. Shadow and contrast also create emotions. The greater the contrast, the harder the image appears. Naturally the reverse is usually true. Light rarely has only one of the above characteristics at any given time. Combinations of the above are often used successfully for greater impact. Carefully study studio lighting techniques is a great start to how light can be created and used. Using the light that is given, or that you produce with lighting equipment is the key to successful photography. Acquire this understanding first and your images will begin to improve exponentially

(Members will possibly remember Shelton as our Guest Speaker at our August 2004 meeting)

FILE SIZE FOR DIGITAL PROJECTED IMAGES

The committee recently debated the question of the file size for entries in the Projected Image category. At present the maximum file size is 220 kB. Most members reduce their images to this file size using the “save-for-web” option in Adobe Photoshop. Once the image dimensions have been reduced to a maximum of 1024 pixels wide by 768 pixels high, save-for-web reduces the file size by increasing the level of JPEG compression.

In this mode of compression, multiple pixels of very similar hue and density are replaced by the same number of pixels with a single density value. Images with a lot of the plain areas of colour can be compressed more than images containing much detail. I took an image containing an area of plain colour which was a slightly crumpled clock face at Hampton Court Palace and saved the original 5.4 MB TIF image with a series of JPEG compressions of 12, 7, 4, and 2.

The file sizes were 694, 223, 174, and 128 kB respectively. I then printed the centre sections of the clock face. The prints show very little deterioration of the plain section of the clock face between the original TIFF and JPEG compressions of 12 and 7. More degradation of image quality is seen with the JPEG 4 and significant deterioration occurs with the JPEG 2. The results suggest that JPEG compressions of up to 7 can be used to reduce the file sizes of projected images without significantly reducing the image quality. For most image files, this is enough to reduce the file size to 220 kB

I then took an image containing a lot of detail, reduced the size to 1024 by 768 pixels at 72 DPI and used save-for-web to produce images of 200 and 500 kB. Looking at both images on my computer monitor I could not see any differences between the two. Based on these results I concluded that no quality improvements could be achieved by increasing our maximum file size for projected image entries from 220 to 500 kilobytes.

I found an excellent article on the Web by Ian Bateman of the Wantage camera club in the UK, entitled “The myth of 72 DPI”. It is well worth reading. His key point is that for the optimum display of an image, its dimensions in pixels must match the resolution in pixels of the display medium. For example if your image has more pixels than your computer monitor can display, the video card will “discard” the excess pixels, often leading to jagged edges. This is the reason why the Club sets a maximum size of 1024 by 768 pixels for projected images. It is the resolution of our digital projector.

Ian recommends that images for slide shows do not significantly exceed 200 kB, as larger images can cause flickering in the transitions between images. This is especially true for computers with older graphics cards.

Don Weston

EASTERN INTERCLUP COMPETITION

In the last issue of this newsletter under the heading of “Eastern Interclub Competition 2008” I listed Camberwell as coming equal 1st with Southern Suburbs Photographic Society in the Small Print Section. This should have read equal overall in the competition.

It has been agreed that the two clubs will hold this trophy for six month each with Camberwell having it first. As our Barney Meyer won first prize in the Projected Images Section he was given the honour of holding the trophy until being past over to Southern Suburbs.



Gaynor handing the trophy over to Barney for safe keeping

DIGITAL JOTTINGS

Looking back on the year’s work the volume and standard of the presentations has improved considerably. For this everyone who has entered work is to be congratulated. Looking forward to next year if I was asked how we could further develop our offerings I would suggest more emphasis on composite images. This would include the use of multilayered images particularly for Experimental/Creative and People photography. Processing of these images is time hungry and maybe over the holiday season you might be able to do some planning.

Digital Jotting would like to wish all members and their friends and families a merry Christmas and a Happy New Year – keep taking those photos and digitally enhancing them, and most importantly keep enjoying your hobby.

Peter Brady

MELBOURNE CAMERA CLUB OUTING

The next MCC monthly outing for all members is on **Tuesday 2nd of December** in the **Albert Park area**. As always, Camberwell members are welcome to attend. We will visit **Albert Park Lake** and **St Vincent Place**, both of which pose interesting but diverse urban photo opportunities, not to mention the good coffee and lunch venues!

Meet at 10:30am in the Carousel Restaurant car park or cafe, Aughtie Drive, Albert Park Lake (Melway 2K G9).

John Adlam

Melbourne Camera Club

RESULTS OF THE OCTOBER MONTHLY MEETING COMPETITION

SUBJECT: Open

JUDGE: Michael Matthews

Place	Title	Author
LARGE PRINTS		
1 ST	"Mist Cataract Gorge"	Charlotte Bradley
2 nd	"1898"	Peter Brady
3 rd	"Misty Lake"	Don Weston
4 th	"Reflecting on the Past"	George Thomas
5 th	"Sunset Over Mountain"	Barney Meyer
SPECIAL MENTION		
	"Beauty and the Beast"	Barney Meyer
	"Russian Orthodox Church"	Len Murphy



Eva Alegre receiving her certificate for 5th place in Projected Images from Michael Matthews



George Thomas FAPS receiving certificate for 4th place in Large Prints from Michael Matthews

SMALL PRINTS

1 st	"Bush Stone Curlew"	Amara McCready
2 nd	"Study in Blue"	Michael Persin
3 rd	"Reflections"	Charlotte Bradley
4 th	"Rock Detail Devils Gullet"	Charlotte Bradley
5 th	"How Much Is that Dog"	Deborah Mullins
SPECIAL MENTION		
	"Copper Beech"	Don Weston



Amara McCready receiving her certificate for 1st place in Small Prints from Michael Matthews

PROJECTED IMAGES

1 ST	"Lotus Reflection"	Charlotte Bradley
2 nd	"Ricoletta Cemetery"	Michael Persin
3 rd	"Mt Williams N.P."	Michael Persin
4 th	"We are not Alone"	Barney Meyer
5 th	"Foggy Day in Venice"	Eva Alegre
SPECIAL MENTION		
	"Art-Deco Hat"	Eva Alegre
	"Kohekohe Church"	Barney Meyer

MONTHLY COMPETITION ENTRIES

Members who are submitting entries in the above competitions are reminded to make sure each entry has their club number, brief title and month/year of the competition clearly shown.

Generally these will be written on the back of the print in such a way as to indicate which way up the print is to be judged. An arrow can also indicate this.

Digital projected images must be submitted on a CD (Compact Disc). The CD should be labelled similarly on the front and preferably submitted in an envelope or case.

Please make sure the prints/mounts comply with the rules.

Large Prints: Maximum size of print/mount 40cm x 50cm (16" x 20")

Small Prints: Maximum size of mount 20cm x 35.5cm (8" x 14") and the print no larger than 13cm x 28cm. (5" x 11")

Also please make sure you collect any envelopes or bags at the back of the hall at the end of each meeting.

Finally a reminder that entries in each category must now comply with the set subject as stated in the syllabus.

Competition Steward

ANNUAL CHRISTMAS BBQ

This BBQ will be held on Sunday 7th December at Sue's House, 10 Hillard Street, Malvern East. Beginning at 4 pm, everyone is welcome. Bring your own Meat (if you don't want provided sausages), Drinks, Chairs, Bathers and Towel. If you wish to attend please let Sue know tonight or, if not, give her a ring on. 9571 6543

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Committee Meeting: Will be held on Tuesday 2nd December at Don's residence. Meeting begins at 7.30pm.

Christmas BBQ: This will be held at Sue's residence on Sunday 7th December from 4.00pm. (See notice on page 3)

December Monthly Meeting: This is our special end-of-year meeting held on Monday 8th December. (Second Monday in the month). The usual time and place.

Melbourne Camera Club Outing: Tuesday 2nd December to the Albert Park area. Meet in the Carousel Restaurant car park at 10.30am. (See article on page 2)

Theme of War: The National Gallery of Victoria at its Federation Square gallery is holding a small display on the theme of war to coincide with the 90th anniversary of the First World War. Included in the exhibition are two photographs by the adventurer and war artist Frank Hurley. The exhibition will continue until 25th January, 2009.

No Standing. Only Dancing: At the Ian Potter Centre, Federation Square until 22nd February. (See article this page)

(From THE AGE dated Friday October 31st 2008)

PHOTOGRAPHY

No Standing, Only Dancing is not a bad philosophy for any weekend, but at the NGV it's also the title of a new retrospective of photos by the late Rennie Ellis. A "social diarist with a camera" is how the gallery describes him, capturing everyday life with this collection focusing on those days from the 1970s and 80s. Hippy culture, Kings Cross, Melbourne's bar life and celebrity portraits are all in the picture.

When: Until February 22nd. Ian Potter Centre, Federation Square. ngv.vic.gov.au

DECEMBER CHRISTMAS MEETING

As is the custom for our Christmas function we request that those members who are able, bring a plate of food to satisfy the appetite of not only our members but also any visitors who may be invited. If you are not able to bring a plate, for whatever reason, you will be excused providing you give Lorraine \$4.00 to bolster our finances.

EDITH CONWAY

There are many members of our club who have made significant contributions to our many and varied activities. However there is one member who was an active participant in the functions of this club before I joined in 1976 and has been the backbone of our administration ever since. Of course I refer to our hard working Secretary, Edith Conway.

Edith took over the secretarial duties from Bess Lees shortly after my joining and has faithfully carried out this demanding role ever since. Anyone who has ever performed the duties of secretary knows how demanding it can be. In most clubs the one common contact for information is usually the secretary. You are the one common denominator that has the responsibilities of answering all those difficult questions about how, where, why and what the club does or has done in the past. In our case I really believe Edith fills that requirement perfectly. Because she has represented Camberwell for so long most other clubs think of Edith Conway as being Camberwell Camera Club and has all the necessary answers. In most cases she does.

Edith has performed Camberwell Camera Club's secretarial duties for over thirty years but because of her quiet, unpretentious and good humoured personality she is hardly noticed by most members. At any monthly or committee meeting Edith works away in the background quietly carrying out her duties, mostly unnoticed. If she ever has to relinquish the secretarial duties of this club we would quickly discover just what a vital cog she is, and always has been, in our administration machine. Edith would be very difficult, if not impossible, to be adequately replaced.

Away from her secretarial duties Edith is one of the most consistent participants in the majority of our club's social and photographic events. I wonder how many members know that for as long as I can remember she purchases and brings the supper requirements for every monthly meeting. While I firmly believe that the Camberwell Committee has one of the most dedicated, enthusiastic and hard working members of any club, her contribution over so many years entitles others to think of this club as **Edith Conway**.

Matt

THIS MONTH'S MIDWEEK OUTING



It was a tour of the lanes of the Melbourne CDB and some 14 members of both clubs participated. A great day was had by all and the above is a photograph taken in ACDC Lane. The photographer shown is Norm Blakey

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

**NEXT MEETING: DECEMBER 8TH 8.00pm, RSL HALL, 403 CAMBERWELL RD, CAMBERWELL
ALL WELCOME**