



f22: Southside Camera Club Newsletter

February 2016

Club Meeting – 7:30 pm on Thursday 11 February 2016 at the Burns Club,
8 Kett St, Kambah

Events

Meeting Topics for 2016

Month	Topic	Convenor
11 February	Art Photography and Studio Lighting	Jenny Thompson
10 March	BYO Flash Photography	
14 April	Wildlife Photography	Malcolm Watson
12 May		
9 June	Tom Putt - Landscape Artist*	On 3rd Thursday of month.
14 July		
11 August	"Shooting" birds	Rod Burgess (Supported by other bird photography experts)

8 September		
13 October	Photo Stacking	Julie Taylor
10 November		
8 December	AGM	President

December Meeting Report

Thanks to sterling efforts by Rob Wignell, it has unexpectedly turned out that our AGM held on the 10th of December 2015 was also our last meeting at the Belconnen Soccer Club. I would like to record our appreciation to the Belconnen Soccer Club for providing us with accommodation since June, however mainly due to travel considerations, I am sure that most members will be happy to return to the Burns Club.

Apart from the accommodation issue, topics discussed included the future of DigSig, the club website, the program of activities for 2016, and of course the election of office bearers.

Office Bearers

President: as there were no other nominees Rob Wignell agreed to continue.

Treasurer: Iain Cole was unable to attend the AGM, but left word that he would continue in the role if unopposed, so as there were no other nominees, Iain will remain our Treasurer. He also provided information that the club presently has \$4,377.66 in its account.

Webmaster: Brian Moir was also unopposed for this position so he will remain the club webmaster.

Newsletter Editor: John Franze will be vacating this role after the February edition, however a new member, Peter Keogh has already volunteered to take over editing this newsletter from March onwards. Thank you very much Peter.

Rob's Rant

As I start the second year of my Presidency of this club, I am aware from the experience of the first year that you never know what surprises are coming up. However, I am looking forward to getting involved in things that interest me and that I have been distracted from by last year's upheavals.

I have had a long interest in education and, after leaving the public service I was fortunate enough to spend ten years teaching in the computing school at the Canberra Institute of Technology (CIT). I taught a few different subjects but the most satisfying was teaching the introductory computer programming course. It had various names over the years but the aim was the same of helping students to understand the basic processes within a computer language for solving problems.

Before Shane Baker, the club president twice removed from me, left Canberra he asked me to cover for him for a term at the Erindale Community Education Program where he had been conducting a course titled "Introduction to Digital Photography". It only runs when Erindale gets enough students to turn up. When Shane left Canberra, I inherited his role and, I have had the privilege of running the course twice in the past few years. I run the course for six sessions of two hours where I try to cover the basic things that digital cameras do and some of the things to change when the camera doesn't produce the result that are wanted.

From the feedback I have received my students have all learnt things that they have found helpful and some have joined our club.

However, I am fairly sure that the person who learns the most from these courses is me. It causes me to revisit my assumptions and re-check my sources of information. I need to review my work and find photos that I can use to demonstrate where I think I have taken a good photo and also find photos that demonstrate things to avoid (this takes longer because I have a bigger choice). I also discover each time how little I know and how much there is to learn. What could be better?

This term, enough students have enrolled for the course to run again and my first class is on Monday 8 February, but what is the point of this personal disclosure? Well, it is a roundabout way of saying that if you want to learn about something you will be amazed how much you learn if you try to tell others about your chosen subject. We still have a few vacancies for presentations this year and you will find it enormously rewarding to research an aspect of photography to make a presentation to our club, either at the main meeting of the month or at the Digital Special Interest Group (DIGSIG).

I know that there are plenty of people in our club who, with a little help or encouragement, would do an amazing job by doing a presentation and, because I have more time and a lot of practical experience in doing presentations, I am pleased to be a mentor or sounding board for anyone who needs some behind the scenes help. Every effort in preparing a presentation enriches the club but it enriches the presenter many times more. Please contact me if you have an idea that you would like to explore. There may be others who would like to work with you on a group presentation.

Our first presentation for the year is by Jenny Thompson. Jenny will be distilling the essence of a course that she attended at PhotoAccess last year so that we can be introduced to the basics of a challenging photographic process. I expect that it will be the start of a good year in our old home.

As a final note I want to thank everyone who has sent me notes of encouragement, sympathy, good wishes and finally congratulations during the turmoil and final success with our accommodation saga. However, we should all give special thanks to Lois Bonilla, the member of the Belconnen Soccer Club who spoke to them on

our behalf and secured accommodation for us when we were almost out on the street.

Best wishes and I look forward to seeing everyone at our first meeting for 2016.

Rob Wignell

Monthly Excursions for 2016

Please note that this is a preliminary list and more activities will be added during the year.

Month	Topic	Convenor
13 February	Multicultural Festival	Norm Fisher
March	Blue Water Holes	Julie Taylor/Giles West
April	Mogo/Burrawang	Laurie Westcott/Julie Taylor
May	Namadgi	Julie Taylor
June		
July		
August	Bird Photography	Rod Burgess
September		
October	Guthega	Rob Wignell
November		
December	Christmas Party	

Walkabout Group

walkabout Group Calendar 2016

If any member wants to organise a walkabout, then we are keen to publicise it in order to get the maximum turnout, however this year so far, no schedule has been produced. This may be rectified at the next meeting.

Excursion Reports

There have been no excursions to report upon since December.

F22 Gallery

The Best Photos of 2015

On the following pages is a selection of photos from the F22 Galleries of 2015. This is my personal selection (one of the benefits of being newsletter editor is a certain degree of freedom to make arbitrary choices based on nothing more than my own preferences). If you contributed photos to the newsletter in 2015, but none of yours has been selected here, please note that my degree of artistic sensibility is probably way down on the low side of the spectrum and I didn't consider any of my own photos worth selecting either.



Barry McGloin's 90 year old mother enjoying an ice cream - Barry McGloin



Porter at afternoon smoke, Merrylands signalbox



Jeff Cutting CA 1965

Jeff Cutting



Art: not graffiti - Denis Walsh



Near Eden May 2015 - Julie Taylor



From the Eden excursion - Mark Stevenson



Feather - Diane Cutting



Montage - Malcolm Watson



Justinian 1 - Peter McCabe



Urambi ramble - Bob McHugh

Rob Wignell

I visited Niseko in the northern island of Hokkaido 11 years ago on my first overseas skiing trip. I have wanted to return but didn't get there until January this year. Niseko, as a skiing village, has expanded considerably and has a large Australian contingent involved in many aspects of the village and resort. I met a lady who was well into her 60's who bought a house there and spends 10 weeks of the Japanese winter there every year. In a pokey little restaurant built below a small pension I was greeted by a "g'day mate" by the chef who seemed to be running the place with his Japanese girlfriend. Jam packed it would probably seat 10 people but only two of us were eating while I was there. It was hard to see how they could make ends meet like that. The biggest ski rental is Rhythm who are based in Cooma and ship a lot of their rental skis over to Japan after the Australian season. Not quite so big is Inski who are Sydney based but used to have a shop in Phillip until they closed five years ago. The mountain I skied on is called Grand Hirafu. Like most of the mountains in the area it is volcanic and there are lots of steam vents around the mountain. Some of them are used for Onsets, Japanese bath houses, where, once you have properly washed yourself, you can soak in a really hot pool of water heated by an incoming stream of water from inside the mountain while snow falls on your head to keep your temperature suitably regulated.

While the Grand Hirafu is quite large it doesn't have a classically volcanic shape. However, on the other side of the valley is Mt Yotei, known locally as the Fuji of the north. Mt Yotie is much smaller than Mt Fuji but it is very recognisable as a volcano. Apparently it belches steam every now and then but because it is often covered in cloud you seldom get to see it. I was lucky that we had a few clear days (or at least parts of days) when I was able to get a few shots of Yotie. I have also included a few general shots taken in Niseko and a nearby seaside fishing village called Otaru.

For skiers, Niseko is renowned for the reliability and quality of its snow. Typically they get 20 metres of snow each year, we got almost two metres in the two weeks we were there, and it is almost always a variation of light and fluffy. The ski slopes are well groomed every night but they leave lots of ungroomed areas for more adventurous skiers and snow boarders to pound through snow that is usually knee deep, sometimes waist deep and occasionally chest deep. You don't want to fall over in this stuff because it is very hard to get up, especially if you come out of your ski bindings. I had never skied before in conditions where I couldn't see my skis but the snow was like whipped cream to ski in and fortunately, the few times I fell in it, the landings were very soft.

I hope you enjoy the photos. For the technically minded, I used my Nikon 1 with a 10-30mm lens. It is a small camera that I could keep in a camera bag strapped around my waist. It has a 10 megapixel sensor that is claimed to have a 1" diagonal size but it doesn't look that big to me. I also used my iPhone 4. The panorama shot was made with three square iPhone shots stitched together using Lightroom.

Most of the time the temperature hovered between -10 and -5 degrees C but it usually got colder at night.

I hope you enjoy the photos. I enjoyed taking them.



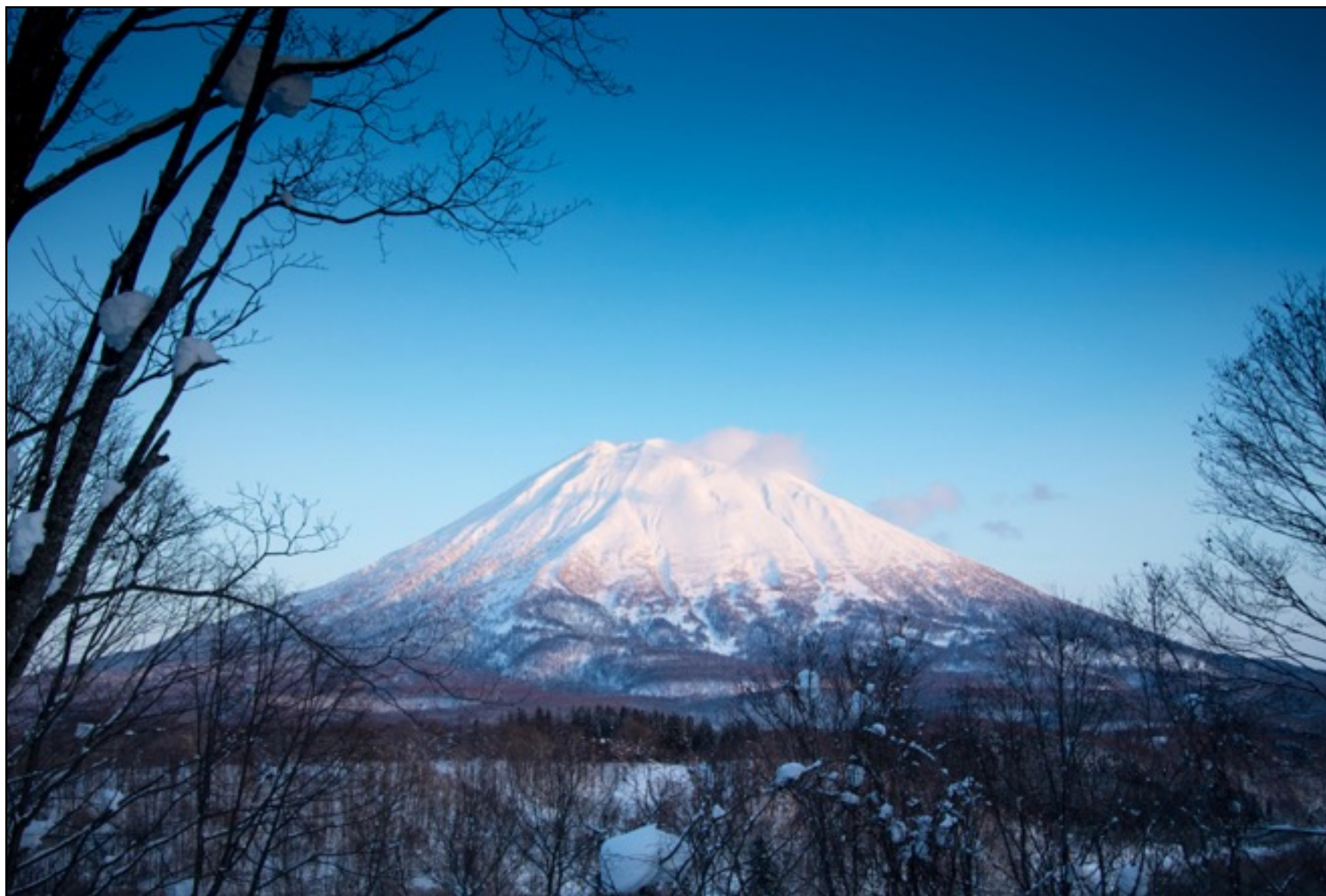
A person drawn taxi in Otaru



Otaru harbour with a huge storm out to sea



Birch tree with weak sun trying to break through a cloudy sky



Mt Yotie



Mt Yotie from near the top of the Grand Hirafu

DigSig

We will probably discuss the future of Digsig at the next meeting. Whether it survives of course depends on whether enough volunteers can be found to keep it going.

Software Buddies

If you need help with using post production software, a few club members have volunteered to try and help sort out problems using Photoshop Elements, Photoshop Lightroom, Photoshop Creative Suite and Apple Aperture. The contacts are:

Photoshop Elements: Peter Bliss at bliss.images@yahoo.com.au

Photoshop Lightroom: Peter Bliss at bliss.images@yahoo.com.au

Photoshop Creative Suite: Graeme Kruse at gkruse@bigpond.net.au

Apple Aperture: Claude Morson at claudemorson@gmail.com

Club Websites

<http://www.southsidecameraclub.com/>

Brian Moir manages the website. If you wish to send him material, his email address is brian.g.moir@gmail.com

flickr: <http://www.flickr.com/groups/southsidecc/>

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/470954196380232/>

News

Current and forthcoming exhibitions

National Portrait Gallery

Sideshow Alley

Infamy, the macabre & the portrait

Saturday 5 December 2015 until Sunday 28 February 2016

This particular exhibition is not all devoted to photography, but it does include a photography segment titled "The Portrait Gallery". Here is a synopsis from the website of what this exhibition is all about.

"Our Victorian forebears weren't squeamish. And they weren't all that prim, either. Sideshow Alley re-tells tales of criminal and institutional savagery in Australia's colonial settlements and considers the tension between the idea of portraiture as a means to edify, refine and elevate the sensibility of the populace, and the popular thirst for the lowbrow, the cheap, the tacky and the ghoulish in portraiture. Sideshow Alley transports us to a time when crowds surged to see the laid-out bodies of outlaws, competing to tear out scraps of their hair and beards; and a photograph of a corseted matron, posed against a pillar no less rigid than she, might be stuck in the family album alongside a photograph of a defunct bushranger, propped up with gun in hand to menace the populace even in death. Sideshow Alley brings to life a time when lithographs, woodcuts and waxworks of men in their direst moments attracted just as much interest as the monumental representations of explorers and statesmen that set the official tone of the age. National Library of Australia."

Please note that this exhibition is not free. The price is:

\$10 / \$8 concession and Circle of Friends

Last ticket sales 4.45pm

Like most exhibitions at the National Portrait Gallery, I bet it is worth every cent.

Check out the full description at <http://www.portrait.gov.au/exhibitions/sideshow-alley-2015>.

National Gallery of Australia

The world is beautiful

photographs from the collection : until 10 April 2016: free entry

This exhibition should be of interest to all photographers. It is an exhibition of photographs taken over the last 100 years from the National Gallery of Australia's magnificent photography collection, including work by Diane Arbus, Henri Cartier-Bresson, Max Dupain, Bill Henson, Robert Mapplethorpe, Man Ray, Cindy Sherman and many more.



Robert Doisneau Un regard oblique [A sidelong glance] 1948, gelatin silver photograph, printed 1990

See a full description at <http://nga.gov.au/WorldIsBeautiful/Default.cfm>.

National Library of Australia

Permanent photography exhibitions at the National Library of Australia include:

- [Jeff Carter collection](#) - photographs of 20th century Australia and Australians
- [Peter Dombrovskis collection](#) - photographic collection of the Tasmanian wilderness
- [Buckland collection](#) - a collection of photographs, papers and memorabilia relating to railways

Canberra: Then and now

1 August 2013 to 30 June 2016, 10.00am-5.00pm

Display area, Level 4

Since the site for the national capital was chosen in 1908, Canberra has unfolded on the Molonglo River flood plain and become part of the landscape.

In 2012 the National Library set out to capture the transformation of some of Canberra's key sites. These photographs are displayed here alongside historic images from the Library's collection, and highlight the stark changes and surprising similarities of Canberra then, and Canberra now.

Free - no bookings required.

Online Resources

DP Review

DP Review can be found by clicking on the following link
www.dpreview.com.

Photoaccess at the Manuka Arts Centre

Go to [Photoaccess](#).

Lee Filters

From Rob Wignell: Lee Filters (as I understand it) are the Rolls Royce of filters. Rod Burgess and Peter Bliss both use them and I suppose that other good photographers do too. I don't own any but will probably look at them next year.

Here is a link to their website which includes a free monthly magazine they put out:
<http://www.leefilters.com/index.php/camera/camera-resources#xposure>

Another Photographer Film

From Paul Livingston: this link is about a new film about Brazilian photographer Sebastia Salgado, *Salt of the Earth*. It was an Academy Award nominee.
<http://www.theguardian.com/film/2015/dec/06/the-10-best-films-of-2015-australia-no-10-the-salt-of-the-earth>

A less favourable review of the movie.

<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/film/salt-of-the-earth/review/>

DxO brings OpticsPro extensions to Apple's Photos software for OSX

This link was sent by Rob Wignell:
http://www.dpreview.com/articles/3589682176/dxo-brings-opticspro-extensions-to-apples-photos-software?ref=pe_1822230_161615500_dpr_nl_181_22

The new Nikon D500

Shane Baker sent me the following link about Nikon's newest DX-format DSLR: <https://mynikonlife.com.au/news/gear/nikon-dslr/nikons-newest-dx-format-dslr-the-nikon-d500/>

The Unseen Anzac - a half arsed review

Also from Shane Baker: I did a half-arsed review of *The Unseen Anzac*. The book tells the story of George Hubert Wilkins, explorer, aviator and photographer. <http://www.shanebaker.photos/blog/2016/1/a-recommended-book-the-unseen-anzac>

A Lens Rental Service

From Rob Wignell: The Polygon Group provide rental of new and pre loved Camera Equipment through all premier retailers Australia wide. For more information go to: <https://www.dropbox.com/s/75ycgpjnrnep6j/Polygon%20Group%20email.pdf?dl=0>

10 Simple Steps to Dramatic Seascapes

From Shane Baker: I thought you might be interested in a little piece from Phase One on editing seascapes: http://blog.phaseone.com/10-simple-steps-to-dramatic-seascapes/?utm_source=newsletter&utm_medium=email&utm_content=image3&utm_campaign=w01_2015_IQP

The Olympus PEN-F

Peter McCabe sent me the following link with information about the new Olympus PEN-F camera.

<http://www.olympus.com.au/Products/Interchangeable-Lens-Cameras/Olympus-Pen/PEN-F/Overview>

Composites in SLRs

Another from Shane Baker: I just wrote a piece for my blog on composites in SLRs. Members may be interested in the way Nikon (and presumably the others) are building cameras. <http://www.shanebaker.photos/blog/2016/2/maybe-plastic-is-fantastic>

Find and Fight Image Theft

The last one is also from Shane: Just picked this up from Martin Bailey on TWIP. Pixsy offers to scan the web for your photos based on files you upload or files already uploaded on Flickr or your own site or whatever. They don't charge, but if you ask them to deal with a copyright infringement, they do the work and take 50% of the proceeds.

Might be worth chasing up? <https://www.pixsy.com>

Thank you to all of the contributors of links to Online Resources for having provided interesting material which has made this section a success. I urge you all to continue to contribute material, but to Peter Keogh at peterkeogh_sccc@icloud.com.

Equipment List

Item	Custodian	Email address
Elinchrome Studio Lighting Equipment	Julie Taylor and Mark Stevenson	shinboner266@gmail.com
Colour Munki screen and printer calibrator	Dennis Lovatt	lovatts@hotmail.com
Polaroid Film Scanner (medium format)	Rob Wignell	rob_wignell@hotmail.com

Note from the Editor

This is my final newsletter, however a volunteer has come onto the scene and will be taking over from March onward. He is a new member, Peter Keogh, whom you will have the opportunity to meet at our next meeting. Peter very generously offered to take on the newsletter editorship after speaking to Rob Wignell about the club. I trust you will all help him to make the newsletter a success by sending him your photos, excursion reports, interesting links and, if you wish to become immortalised, your photographic biographies.

After two years my stock of ideas is running low, so a new editor will provide an opportunity for a revitalised newsletter.

And this is my opportunity to have the last word.

Best wishes to you all.

John

Club Office Bearers

Position	Person	Contact details
President	Rob Wignell	sscc.president@gmail.com 0416 055 322
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