

722: Southside Camera Club Newsletter

March 2012



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

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

**Club Meeting - 7:30 pm Wednesday 14 March
at the Burns Club, 8 Kett Street, Kambah**

2012 PROGRAM

PRESENTATIONS

Month	Topic	Coordinator(s)
March 14	Long Exposure Photography	Rod Burgess
April 11	Lightroom 4	Shane Baker
May 9	History of photo manipulation from Daguerrotype to Digital	Peter Bliss
June 13	Two great photographers	Giles West and Jenny Thompson
December 12	AGM + Show and Tell	

EXCURSIONS

Month	Activity	Coordinator(s)
March 14 (2:00 pm)	Ansell Adams Prints at NGA Booked Out	Robert Deane
March 10-18	Balloon Festival	Get yourself there. Take Pix

EXCURSIONS CONTINUED

Month	Topic	Coordinator(s)
March 17-18	Cancer Council Relay for Life - Photographers needed	Chris Fitzgerald See article on Page 2
March 31 - April 1	Guthega Lodge Trip	Rob Wignell
August	Practical Portraiture	Shane Baker
September	Dawn Shoot followed by slow trip to Cooma and BBQ in Park	Norm Fisher
October	HDR Workshop Excursion	Peter Bliss

MIDWEEK PHOTOWALK GROUP

Month	Activity	Coordinator(s)
March 21	Cotter Dam	Rob Wignell
April 17 (Tuesday)	Autumn Leaves	Doug Crawford
May 16	Rural ACT/NSW	Laurie Westcott

722: Southside Camera Club Newsletter

Excursion Notes

Cancer Council Relay for Life 17-18 March

Chris Fitzgerald took photos of this event last year and would like others in the club to share his experience of this inspiring event.



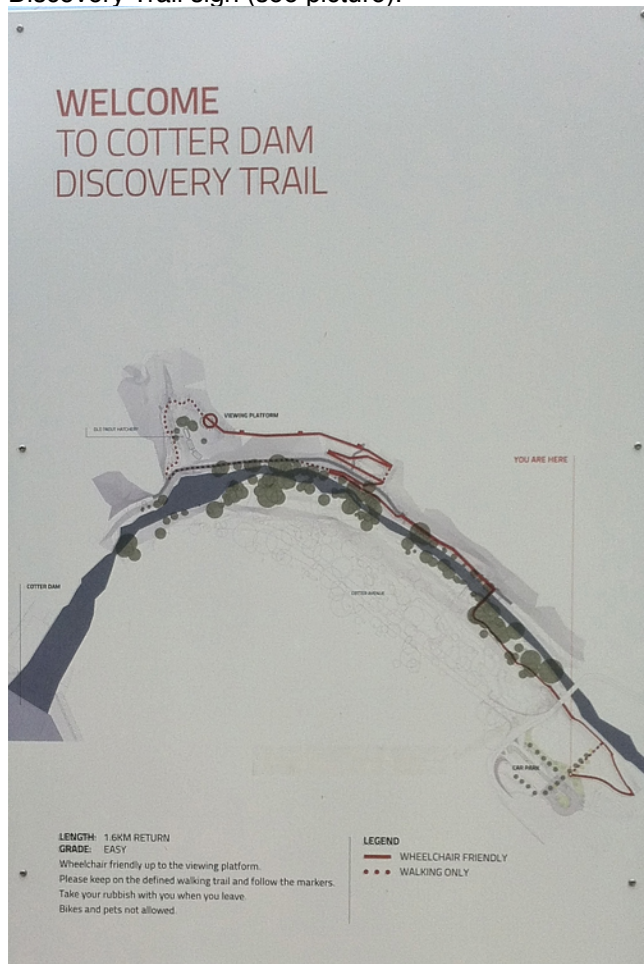
Chris' comments about the event are: *"I found the whole experience rewarding and one of the few ways I can support such a good cause. I'm not much of a walker or fund raiser, but I am a good photographer and that's where I can make a difference. I don't expect others to attend as much time as I intend to put in but having others provides a greater spread of artistic talent and viewpoints."*

Give Chris a call on 6249 9151 or send an email to chris.fitzgerald@ga.gov.au if you can give some time to this worthwhile event.

Midweek Photowalk Group: Cotter Dam 21 March

The next Midweek Group meets at the beginning of the Cotter Dam Discovery Trail (see photo below) at 9:15 for 9:30. Park in the adjacent parking area (it was next to the Cotter Hotel before the fires). Or, follow Paddy's River Road across the Cotter River. Stop in carpark immediately to the left and look for the

Discovery Trail sign (see picture).



ACTEW has built a viewing platform which is a gentle 300 metre walk from the car park. Bring a plastic bag to collect blackberries there were lots nearby in February and some may still be around in March.

I have checked out some of the back roads that used to give good access to views of the dam from above but they have all been blocked off.

Morning tea, after the excursion, is at Mt Stromlo.



722: Southside Camera Club Newsletter

Guthega Trip 31 March - 1 April

There are some rooms available. Please contact Rob Wignell on 0416 055 322 or rob_wignell@hotmail.com if you want to come.

For those who haven't been to Guthega it is the most isolated of the snowy ski fields and on the highest dam on the Snowy River. Autumn is a great time to be in the mountains and there are lots of photographic opportunities.

We stay in a comfortable ski lodge with 14 en-suite bedrooms, plenty of catering facilities, central heating, fireplace and great views of the mountains. No snow is expected but it can happen at any time.



Informative Stuff

Hamilton Island Photography Workshop

Justin Blank, Photography Manager, Hamilton Island has written to us as follows:

Dear Photography Lovers,

I would like to take this opportunity to advise you of the AWAY Hamilton Island Photography Workshop being held on Hamilton Island from 29th July to the 3rd August 2012.

In 2012 we celebrate the 10th Anniversary of the AWAY Hamilton Island Workshop series with an enlightening and invigorating program covering both technical and aesthetic aspects, of photography. Watch David Oliver shoot a mock wedding, listen to Peter Eastway explain the subtleties of his landscape technique, let Bruce Pottinger demystify the complexities of digital processing and printing and explain the art of aerial photography. And don't forget the thrilling trip to amazing Whitehaven Beach including aerial photography from helicopters and the opportunity to fly "doors off" over the Great Barrier Reef, including the beautiful Heart Reef.

*Registration and Accommodation Packages:
\$1099 includes workshop program, some meals and a Whitehaven Beach helicopter flight!*

*Away Photography Accommodation Special:
Priced from \$1,400, Twin Share. As part of our Pay 4 Stay 5 holiday special you receive 1 nights accommodation FREE when staying at the Reef View Hotel or Beach Club. You will also receive a complimentary upgrade to a Coral Sea View room at the Reef View Hotel.*

For more information on the AWAY Hamilton Island Workshop please visit our website at www.hamiltonisland.com.au/photography-course/ or contact me via email at jblank@hamiltonisland.com.au or Telephone Justin Blank on 07 4946 8690

Botanical Blueprints circa 1843

<http://the-scientist.com/2012/02/01/botanical-blueprints-circa-1843/>

Cristina Luiggi reported in the *Scientist Magazine* of 1 February 2012 about a book by Anna Atkins. The book *Photographs of British Algae: Cyanotype Impressions, Part XI*, is now in the New York Public Library and is one of only 13 existing editions. See the above reference for more details and for additional photos. It is thought that this was the first book containing photographs.



Anna Atkins - cyanotype of algae circa 1843

722: Southside Camera Club Newsletter

Presentations needing Presenters

During the February meeting we discussed possible topics for future meetings. The list below was supported as being interesting but we need members to present these topics or to find someone to do it for us:

- Flash and low light techniques
- Landscape photography
- Shooting and developing raw photographs
- Discussion on preferred camera settings including exposure metering etc.
- Macro photography
- Demonstration of monitor calibration techniques.
(NB: As this would take perhaps 10 minutes, it would not be a presentation as such.)
- Guest speaker???

Outings needing Co-ordinators

Similarly, there were some outings that need a sponsor:

- A Temora outing one weekend when they are flying is good. June maybe.
- An action shooting outing e.g. soccer, AFL or netball.

This club is very supportive and appreciative of people who volunteer to organise an event. Contact Warren Hicks by e-mail or phone if you can help.

1 Day Photo Course with Chris Bray

Chris Bray is bringing his 1 Day Photography Course to Canberra's picturesque Botanical Gardens on Saturday the 19th of May 2012.

For more information, costs, course syllabus and to book please visit:

http://www.chrisbray.net/photography_courses_dates.php

INDUSTRY NEWS

Breaking news: Canon EOS 5D Mark III



This looks like a serious FX camera from Canon.
Main features are:
22MP full frame CMOS sensor
ISO 100-25600 standard, 50 - 102,800 expanded
6fps continuous shooting
Shutter rated to 150,000 frames
1080p30 video recording, stereo sound via external mic
61 point AF system
63 zone iFCL metering system
100% viewfinder coverage
1040K dot 3:2 LCD
Dual card slots for CF and SD

see www.dpreview.com for preview.

Nikon D800 announced



Features:

- 36.3 Megapixels CMOS sensor
- 51 point auto-focus system
- ISO range from 100 to 6400
- 1080p HD video
- 3.2" 921K-dot LCD monitor
- 4fps continuous shooting in FX mode
- High durability shutter
- High fidelity audio recording
- Image sensor cleaning system
- plus lots more

Note that access to the Nikon Australia website is very slow. For more details I recommend the USA website:

722: Southside Camera Club Newsletter

<http://www.nikonusa.com/Nikon-Products/Product/Digital-SLR-Cameras/25480/D800.html>

Olympus (former) President arrested

"Tsuyoshi Kikukawa — who has been named as a key player in a scheme to shift \$1.58 billion of losses from the camera-maker's balance sheets — was taken into custody for questioning, several Japanese broadcasters and news wires reported.

Kikukawa was arrested after initial questioned by prosecutors, Jiji Press reported, while two others were also arrested on suspicion of falsifying the company's financial results, TV Asahi and other broadcasters said.

Prosecutors will press ahead with their probe and are expected to continue raiding locations related to the case.

The three Olympus executives have admitted to prosecutors their involvement in the falsification of financial statements, TV Asahi said."

Source: AFP Thursday, February 16, 2012

Digital Photography Review Contents

DP Review 27 Jan 2012

- Nikon 1 System reviewed
- Canada lens interface experts Conurus and Sino-Japanese adapter maker Metabones have created an electronic 'Smart adapter' for using Canon EF lenses on the Sony NEX's E-mount
- Mamiya and Leaf bands and lineups consolidate
- Panasonic updates firmware for GX1 and 100-300 F4.0-5.6 Mega OIS
- Sigma Interview "We must prepare a camera for our loyal customers"
- Kodak files for Chapter 11 bankruptcy protection
- Olympus updates PEN E-P3, E-PL3 and E-PM1 firmware for power zooms
- Article: Landscape Photography Primer
- Eye-Fi contests SD Association's Wireless LAN standard
- Exhibition Review: Yul Brynner - A Photographic Journey
- Technique Article: Automating Photoshop
- Sony redesigns back-lit CMOS for improved smartphone cameras
- Japanese news service lends support to Olympus OM rumors
- Lytro meeting suggests Apple looking beyond conventional photography
- DxO Optics Pro v7.2 extends Panasonic G series support and adds Canon S100
- Pentax announces Optio VS20x zoom with twin shutter options
- Tamron and Tokina join Micro Four Thirds
- High-end video maker Astrodesign joins Micro Four Thirds

DP Review 10 Feb 2012

- Nikon D800 previewed
- Olympus unveils OM-D E-M5

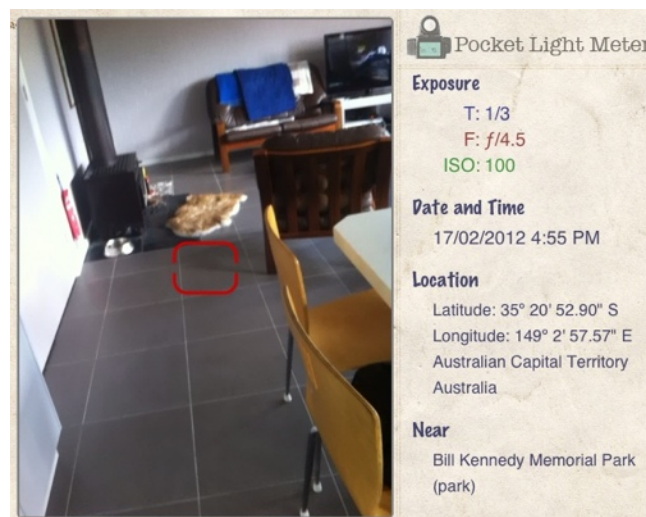
DP Review 18 February 2012

- Panasonic DMC-GX1 reviewed
- Lensbaby Edge 80
- Canon PowerShot G1 X studio samples posted
- News Updates:
- 'No Future in Photojournalism' - an interview with Dan Chung
- Facebook Lightbox vs Google+: which better presents your images?
- World Press Photo announces 2012 contest winners
- Book Review: Edward Weston, One Hundred Twenty Five Photographs
- Article: Depth of Field in Macro Photography
- Scalado's Remove technology takes distractions out of photos
- CIPA starts to report growing mirrorless sales
- Samsung US announces rugged and waterproof SD cards

iPhone App for Photographers

by Rob Wignell

I recently bought an iPhone App called Pocket Light Meter which is simple to use and seems useful. It will give a reading for Shutter Speed, Aperture and ISO. It will give Shutter speed and F stop readings and allows the user to set ISO. An additional feature is that it can take a picture of the scene you are measuring and record the light settings and your GPS location.



I compared Pocket Light Meter results with readings from my Nikon D7000 and, on initial testing in the dull light available they were consistently different by about 1/3 of an F stop.

It also tries to guess where you are. Apparently I live near the Bill Kennedy Memorial Park.

F22: Southside Camera Club Newsletter

WHAT'S ON

Cancer Relay For Life 17-18 March

Chris Firzgerald invites club members to take photos at this event. See article on Page 2 for more details. Give Chris a call to help out with this worthy cause.

Mirramu Creative Arts Centre Photographic Workshop 23-25 March

This workshop is held at Mirramu on Lake George and was advertised in the February edition of F22. At least two club members have registered for this weekend workshop.

For more details see:

<http://mirramu.files.wordpress.com/2012/01/escape-to-the-lake-brochure-revised.pdf>

Thredbo Jazz Festival 23-25 March

Photographic opportunities and good music at the Thredbo Jazz Festival
<http://thredbojazz.com.au>

Access All Areas 2012: The PhotoAccess Members Show

The first PhotoAccess members' show for 2012 is Access All Areas from 3 to 20 May. Entries close on Friday 20 April 2012

NEW MEMBER'S REQUEST

A new member, Kirsten Scott, has written to Warren with a request for help. Her letter (slightly edited) is below. If members can help Kirsten please contact her directly at: kirsten@elphinfarms.com

Hi Warren,

I enjoyed the meeting earlier in the month and will endeavor to attend some more activities with the group.

I've got a question that perhaps you can help me with or direct me to someone who could be of assistance. I have an old Nikon D70 that got rather wet in November of last year due to an unexpected tumble in the Molonglo River!. The camera still turns on and all the menus work. It'll focus but won't take pictures – it's as if the shutter fires but then won't release and then an error message pops up. I took the camera into Ted's Camera for repair and it came back with the following report: *inspected the camera, removed front and rear cover to find the boards, circuits and flexes have developed a considerable amount of corrosion*. I was advised that to reliably repair the camera it would be uneconomical and so I've done nothing with it and since bought a replacement/upgrade camera.

I would, however, like to fix the camera if possible and hand it on to a friend - I guess being an environmental scientist I really hate waste and don't want to just chuck it out! So my question is this – do you know of anyone in the club who would be able to help me out with repairs (I'm willing to pay of course) or perhaps has the same model camera with a different problem that I could buy for parts? Please feel free to pass this request to whomever you think might be able to help.

Many thanks in advance, Cheers,

Kirsten

DIGITAL IMAGING SPECIAL INTEREST GROUP

Convenor: Graeme Kruse
Venue: The Burns Club
Dates: Fourth Wednesday of each month,
February to November.

Note that the April meeting will be held on
18 April to avoid Anzac Day (25 April)

Report on February 2012 Meeting

It was good to see the many happy faces at the first Digital Imaging SIG for 2012. The night began with a presentation by Rob Wignell on DxO, a niche RAW file processing/editing program for digital images. Rob gave a

722: Southside Camera Club Newsletter

brief overview of a number of the features available in DxO - RAW conversions , optical corrections (pin cushion, barrel, vignetting), geometric corrections (verticals and the like), adjustments of exposure and contrast, some of the presets available and colour management. He then demonstrated some of these features on several files that he had made recently on one his Mid-week photo walks. If you wish to have a closer look at DxO then click on the following link to take you to their site <http://www.dxo.com/intl/photo> Thanks Rob for an informative and interesting presentation.

After the break and just before the meeting was to see the results of the Digital Imaging SIG survey, Peter Bliss showed an image (taken on Sydney Harbour) that had been accidentally grossly over exposed. The image was recorded as RAW and JPG simultaneously. The degree of over exposure was very apparent when the un-edited version of the RAW file came up on the screen - overall very pale and showing no detail in the sky. After a bit of massaging of the RAW file in Photoshop Lightroom (at home) a significant amount of detail was brought back into the sky and the mid and foregrounds were rendered with an acceptable range of tones and contrast. However, when Peter had tried to weave a similar level of magic on the JPG file, the results came a very distant second to that of the adjusted RAW file image. The lesson, quite dramatically shown here, is once an image file has been compressed (i.e. recorded in JPG format) it is not possible expand that image's information back to its pre-compressed level. Thanks Peter for being willing to show us your mistakes. Just in case you are wondering the camera used was a current/recent full frame Canon 5D MkII

Now came the results of the Digital Imaging SIG survey that I put out at the end of 2011. I had the survey displayed in a table that displayed the survey questions, a summary of the responses for each question then a possible 'action' that could be taken in view of the responses. The outcome of that discussion has set the agenda for the next two meetings (March and April) and given members (well those at the meeting) a clear overview of what you want out of this group. There is more than enough to keep the SIG going for a couple of years! I also have a lot of enquiring and organising to do to enable the highly supported workshops and mentor concept (I know we discussed the use of the word mentor as not being the best term but as yet I cannot think of best term) come to fruition.

March Digital SIG Meeting

One of the most resounding requests derived from the survey was that of a demonstration of using the Club's calibration equipment. So, this is where the night's meeting decided to commence our tutorials for the coming year. There will also be a presentation on the basics of Colour Management with time for questions and discussion.

April Digital SIG Meeting (change of date)

As the 4th Wednesday for April is ANZAC Day the February meeting requested that it be brought forward one week to April 18. I have contacted the Burns Club and this date has now been locked in for Digital SIG April meeting.

Show & Tell

Bring along your images for our show and tell. We will commence another outcome of the survey that was supported at the March meeting. That is, constructive criticism of images - initiated when requested by the author of the image.

CLUB OFFICE BEARERS

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722: Southside Camera Club Newsletter

EDITOR'S END NOTE

Hi All,

Although I took a lot more time than I had intended to produce this Newsletter, I had a lot more fun than I did producing the first one. I have used the Apple Word Processor called Pages.

It seems fairly easy to use, it is significantly cheaper than Microsoft Word and seems to do a very good job producing PDF versions of this document.

Also, I would like some feedback on two things. I have turned off the hyperlink feature so that, to look up an address I have included you need to copy it and paste it into a web browser. I did it because with live links in the document while I am editing, I often ended up in a web site when I really wanted to cut and paste.

The second question is about pdf document size. My word processor gives me a choice of pdf quality - good, better, best (perhaps they haven't heard about the Furphy water tanks from Shepparton). The good pdf for this newsletter was about 400KB, better was a bit over 1 MB and best was about 5MB. The better version looks much better than the good version on a computer screen but I know that not everyone has the higher speed broadband that I have access to. I prefer to send out the higher quality (better) version - the one you are reading now - but if it puts too much strain on too many peoples download capacity then I will downgrade to the good option.

Thanks to all those who have agreed to prepare articles for future editions.

Cheers

Rob Wignell