

722: Southside Camera Club Newsletter

August 2012



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

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

**Club Meeting - 7:30 pm Wednesday 8 August 2012
at the Burns Club, 8 Kett Street, Kambah**

2012 Program

Presentations

Month	Topic	Coordinator(s)
August 8	Portrait Photography	Ken Crawford
September 12	Photography in the Flinders	Rod Burgess and Bob McHugh
November 14	Landscape Photography	Paul Kowalski
December 12	AGM + Show and Tell	

Reminder Note about Paul Kowalski presentation in November.

Some of you may remember a presentation by Paul Kowalski on landscape photography back in the Irish Club days. Paul gave a most interesting talk and was very happy to pass on his expertise. He now has a landscape photography business in Bungendore (<http://www.paulkowalskiphotography.com/index.php>) and runs tours and workshops in addition to selling his photographs.

Paul will be back in November to give another presentation. He has asked what aspect of landscape

photography club members would most like to hear him talk about. So if you have any suggestions please get them to Warren at sscc.president@gmail.com

Walkabout Group

Month	Activity	Coordinator(s)
August 21 (Tuesday)	Pine Island - Murrumbidgee Corridor	Rob Wignell
September	TBA	Denis Walsh

Please join me (Rob Wignell) for a photographic walkabout at Pine Island in Tuggeranong.

The first time I went to Pine Island it was miles from anywhere so I was surprised to discover how close it has moved to the Tuggeranong shopping and office complex since then. On reflection, there wasn't a Tuggeranong shopping and office complex when I first went to Pine Island. Not a lot has changed but all the changes are improvements for us. Good parking, walking paths along the river and an amenities block.

Meeting time: 9:30 am

Directions: From Athillon Drive turn south onto Don Dunstan Drive. After less than 100 metres turn right

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onto Pine Island Road. After about 700 metres turn right onto Pine Island North Road. Then, after about 200 metres turn right and find a parking spot near the amenities block.

Photo Opportunites: The waking path gives easy walking above the Murrumbidgee River in both directions from the car park. Side paths lead down to the river for shots of rapids, river beaches and many small wildflowers. There were lots of kangaroos around on my scouting visit and they let me come as close as 20 metres (not so useful for an iPhone camera).

Coffee: at Brother's Bakery in Tuggeranong Homeworld with free 1 and 2 hour parking at about 11:30.

August Excursion

The August Excursion is a practical portraiture session that is a direct follow on from Ken Crawford's talk about portrait photography.

When: 9:00 to 12:30, Sunday 12 August

Where: Burns Club, Cargill Room

All of the club's studio lights and associated equipment will be available (listed in an email from Warren in early August) but feel free to bring any of your own, especially flashes, to complement the collection.

Digital Imaging Special Interest Group

Convenor: Graeme Kruse
Venue: The Burns Club
Time: 7:30
Dates: Fourth Wednesday of each month, February to November.

The next DIGSIG meeting is on Wednesday 22 August at 7:30pm, The Burns Club

Report - July Meeting

The July meeting topic was presented by Warren College. It was a very informative and entertaining presentation that included sensor sizes, the influence of sensor size on lens focal length, digital camera configurations (DSLR and ILC-mirror less *Interchangeable Lens Camera*; also know as MSC, *Mirror less Camera System*; and; EVIL, *Electronic Viewfinder Interchangeable Lens camera*-e.g. the Sony NEX series, Nikon 1 (Sept' 2011) and the Micro 4/3rds cameras), and, 4/3rds DSLR's with their standardized/universal lens mount (non-camera maker specific). A point that was of particular interest was that there is now a lens adaptor available for the Sony NEX series cameras that allows you to use your Canon EF lenses. A quick search on the internet reveals several manufacturers are making adaptors for the Sony NEX series that will enable other makes of lenses to be coupled to the NEX cameras-certainly an attractive attribute when thinking of a buying a back-up camera for your existing system! Canon may offer a camera along the same lines soon (<http://www.extremetech.com/electronics/119313-is-canon-finally-entering-the-mirrorless-camera-market>) .

What made Warren's presentation of the above particularly interesting and informative was that it was all delivered via extolling the relevant

desirable attributes of his cameras-a Nikon D200, Leica D Lux 5 and Sony NEX 7-which he had on hand.

August meeting, Wednesday 22 - Photo Restoration

This will be presented via demonstrating simple techniques using tools that are available in the most common programs. The image will be a scan of a black and white print that has several types of damage-physical and staining. I also hope to demonstrate restoring colour balance in old colour prints. I will also discuss scanner settings for obtaining a suitable image file from the original print.

Show and Tell

Bring along your images that you would like to receive some advice/help with-composition and/or editing.

Software Buddies

The Club now has all bases covered in regards to you being able to contact someone for image editing help for all the significant software programs currently being used by Club members. So, if are in need of some advice or help your relevant 'Software Buddy':

Photoshop CS – Graeme at gkruse@bigpond.net.au

Photoshop Elements – Peter at Peter.Bliss@water.nsw.gov.au

Photoshop Light Room – Peter at Peter.Bliss@water.nsw.gov.au
Shane at shane@sb.id.au

Apple Aperture – Claude - claudemorson@gmail.com

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Exhibitions

Future exhibition at the National Gallery of Australia:

25 August 2012 to 13 January 2013: Project Gallery: Carol Jerrems, photographic artist 1968-1978. "Carol Jerrems's gritty, poetic and elusive images show people trying to find a new way of life and action in the 1970s. Her images have come to define a decade in Australia's history."

Saturday 8 September 11 am - 4.30 pm and Sunday 9 September 11 am - 2 m: Carol Jerrems: a celebration, is a two-day program of events, including talks, a forum and film screenings. For event details, visit nga.gov.au/WhatsOn.

Thursday 26 July 12.45 pm: Free talk at the NGA on: Curator's perspective. Anne O'Hehir, Assistant Curator, Photography, discusses the new photographic display 'Down and dirty: photographs of mining 1850-present.'

News

Membership Subscriptions

Club membership subscriptions are due in August each year. The preferred payment method is for direct transfer payment into the Club Account. The Treasurer will email the club bank account details to all members soon.

100 Views of Canberra

Andrée Lawrey has brought this event to our attention.

100 Views of Canberra - PhotoAccess

With more than a reverential nod to Katsushika Hokusai and his *100 Views of Mt Fuji*, **PhotoAccess** is pleased to announce its major Centenary of Canberra project, *100 Views of Canberra*.

Supported by the ACT Government's Community Centenary Initiatives Fund, **100 Views of Canberra** is a project inviting Canberra region photographers to submit images showing Canberra in all of its guises—the public face, the homely, the grungy, the youthful and everything that makes our vibrant contemporary city tick.

100 images by 100 photographers will be selected for an exhibition in the Huw Davies Gallery at the Manuka Arts Centre accompanied by a high quality book in August 2013.

Entry is free but entrants must be or become PhotoAccess members and agree to comply with the PhotoAccess Constitution and Code of Conduct. Photographers selected for the book and exhibition will be required to pay an upfront fee of \$100 for the printing of their exhibition work, some gallery costs and a copy of the book.

Entries will be received from 9 July to 9 October 2012. A full set of terms and conditions and instructions for submitting entries, including image requirements, can be found on the PhotoAccess website www.photoaccess.org.au

For more information please email barbie@photoaccess.org.au

Digital Photography Review - July 2012

July 31

- Facebook pushes photo prominence in timeline

July 30

- Nokia 808 PureView Review
- Photojournalists discuss the ethics of non-intervention
- Gariz leather half-case for Sony RX100

July 29

- Book Review: Sketching Light by Joe McNally

July 28

- Nikon D3200 in-depth review updated to include WU-1a WiFi adapter

July 27

- Pro shooter to cover London 2012 using Panasonic Lumix DMC-G5
- Metabones creates second-generation Canon EF to Sony NEX 'Smart Adapter'

July 26

- Nikon D3200 in-depth Review
- German Designer Unveils Concept for 'Instagram' Glasses
- Five Friends Take Same Picture for 30 Years

July 25

- Fujifilm announces F800EXR - 20X compact superzoom
- Sony releases DT 55-300mm F4.5-5.6 SAL Telephoto Zoom for Alpha

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July 24

- Site Updates and New Features
- Lytro Light Field Camera now works with Windows
- Updated: our Canon EOS M hands-on preview
- Sigma UK launches Olympics-themed photo competition
- Kipon develops electronic adapters for Canon lenses on mirrorless bodies
- Canon announces two EF-M lenses to accompany EOS M mirrorless camera

July 22

- Quick Pentax K-30 samples gallery

July 21

- Sony Cyber-shot DSC HX20V Review

July 20

- New Hipstamatic tools inspired by photojournalist Ben Lowy
- Rob Galbraith puts Digital Photography Insights website on hiatus
- Flickr responds to 'Dear Marissa Mayer' appeal with an appeal of its own

July 19

- Is Instagram 'debasing photography'?
- Richard Franiec creates accessory grip for Sony RX100

July 18

- Panasonic Lumix DMC-G5 and DMC FZ200 previewed, DMC-LX7 with samples
- Canon creates on-screen user-guides for EOS-1D X
- Samsung launches MV900F flip-screen Wi-Fi compact
- Panasonic announces Lumix DMC-Lx7 with F1.4-2.3, 24-90mm equiv. lens
- Panasonic launches Lumix DMC-G5 16MP mid-level mirrorless camera
- Panasonic reveals DMC-Fz200 high-end superzoom with constant F2.8 lens
- Panasonic develops 45-150mm F4.0-5.6 ASPH tele-zoom for Micro FourThirds
- Panasonic creates DMC-FZ60 and FZ62 mid-price 16MP superzooms
- Panasonic unveils Lumix DMC-SZ5 Wi-Fi capable compact superzoom
- Panasonic offers Lumix DMC-LZ20 budget 21X CCD superzoom

July 17

- PentaxRicoh: no decision made on future of Pentax compacts
- ACD Systems adds raw support for 14 cameras to Pro5 and ACDSsee 14

July 16

- Nikon Coolpix S9300 Review
- Samsung confirms lower price for 12MP EX2F 'Smart Camera'
- Portraiture exhibit that omits the subject
- Cosina announces Voigtlander Color Skopar SL II 28mm F2.8 lens

July 13

- Sigma US gives price for APO Macro 180mm F2.8 EX DG OS HSM

July 12

- Concert Footage from Nokia 808 Pureview
- Fujifilm gives more details of X-system lenses and accessories

July 10

- Fujifilm X10 in-depth review
- Nikon announces development of 800mm F5.6 VR super-telephoto lens
- Olympus issues OM-D E-M5 firmware v1.2
- Lexar promises XQD cards later in 2012
- DxO Optics Pro 7.5.2 gains Olympus E-M5 and Panasonic GF5 support

July 10

- Canon announces Pixma MG4220, 3220 and 2220 all-in-one printer/scanners
- Canon launches Selphy CP900 Wi-Fi compact 4x6" photo printer
- Canon issues allergy warning for EOS 650D/Rebel T4i

July 9

- Researchers follow the noise to find composit images
- Nik Software announces HDR Efex Pro 2 with improved tone-mapping
- Behind the photo: Apple's Retina Macbook Pro zebras

July 6

- Photoshop CS6: Martin Evening's Top 5 Features for Photographers
- Photographer explains controversial Team USA Olympic Portraits
- Firmware updates from Nikon and Sigma: D4, SD1 and SD1 Merrill updated

July 5

- Nikon Coolpix P510 Review

Reuters to use robotic DSLRs for Olympics coverage

July 4

- Canon 650D preview updated with studio and real-world samples

July 3

- Samsung releases 12MP EX2F 'Smart Camera'

July 2

- Sony announces 168MB/s 'S Series XQD cards for Nikon D4 shooters
- Canon issues product advisory for PowerShot S100

July 1

- Olympus M.Zuiko Digital ED 75mm F1.8 Sample Images

iPhone-enabled Kick photography light reproduces light in any color

Lighting is possibly the single most important aspect of good photography and filmmaking, yet it's frequently overlooked and considered the reserve of professionals. This is a shame, because you don't need a professional lighting setup to see a marked improvement in your shots. The Kick is a budget full-spectrum lighting studio which can fit in your pocket and is controlled by your iPhone.

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For details see Gizmag:

http://www.gizmag.com/kick-iphone-photo-light/23025/?utm_source=Gizmag+Subscribers&utm_campaign=22dd834d08-UA-2235360-4&utm_medium=email

Competitions

mEye World Photographic Competition



Your one eyed editor is pleased to give this competition pride of place.

For details visit: <http://www.visionscapedirect.com.au/templates/meyephotocomp.aspx?messageID=13280&contactID=3315699>

Entries close on 14 September 2012

Geoscience Australia

Chris Fitzgerald has sent details about a Geoscience Australia photo competition closing on 22 September 2012. Images must relate to Earth science in Australia.

Chris comments that "Although Earth Sciences covers a large area, a landscape photo with rocks will suffice."

This reminded me that in some of the road cuttings in Canberra there are some excellent examples of geological faults. Ed.

For further details see: <http://www.ga.gov.au/education/public-events/top-geoshot-2012.html>

Classifieds

Wedding Photo Opportunity

The club has had a query via our website about a wedding photography job in February next year. See email below for further info. If any members are interested in the work please contact Roslyn directly.

My daughter is getting married in Canberra next February.

We are looking for a photographer to take photos and put them on a DVD/CD for her. No albums.

All the professional photographers we have contacted are much too expensive.

Is there someone in your club who is 'good' and willing to do the job for a much smaller fee.

Any help you can give would be appreciated.

*Regards
Roslyn MacRae
Colin & Roslyn MacRae
VS & R Training
2513 Mitchell Highway
VICTORIA NSW 2799
Ph: (02) 6368 7284
Fx: (02) 6368 7206*

Editor's note: I have left this ad running for 3 issues now and would like to know if anyone has responded to Roslyn. I would like to hear about your experience and especially, I would like to hear from anyone who has taken up this challenge. Thanks. Rob

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Sensor cleaning - Shane Baker

Shane Baker has provided a description of his experience with cleaning the sensor of his D300 and a few photos to illustrate his comments..

A few months back, I noticed some strange "artifacts" on some of my images. They certainly weren't sharp, and they only really appeared in areas such as a blue sky – but they were there.



I had dust on my sensor!!!

If you think you may have dust in your camera, the simplest check is to take a shot of a clear sky at f.22 or thereabouts. You won't be able to miss the little sods.

In the past, I've had success in shifting dust with my rocket blower – and of course, many cameras have a mode to shake the sensor free of dust. Neither worked in my case.

To try the blower, burrow into your camera's menu. Somewhere in there will be a mode whereby the mirror flicks up and exposes the sensor. Be warned though – only try this with a fully charged battery. I hear that nasty things can happen to cameras when their battery goes flat in this mode.

I then had a choice. My preferred option was to get Nikon to do it – but it would cost freight in both directions plus around \$50.00 – and I would be camera-free for over a week. Since a trawl of the

internet didn't reveal any local service people, the other option was to do it myself. The Copper Hill kit seemed to have a good reputation, so I ordered one from Quality Camera Sales Australia in WA. It was the Copper Hill Wet/Dry Sensor Cleaning Kit, which with Australian Air Express courier fees included, was \$89.49. This was probably cheaper than a single clean from your camera service centre in Sydney or Melbourne.

The kit comprises:

- SensorSweep – which is a little plastic spatula-like gadget.
- A small bottle of cleaning solvent.
- 100-pack of PecPads – which are used with the SensorSweep and the fluid to clean the sensor.
- Written instructions and illustrations – which are long, but not very clear.
- A SensorSwipe – which is a brush designed to lift dirt by static electricity.

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It arrived within a week, and all I then had to do was suck it up and do it!

Maybe it's just me, but I didn't find the instructions very helpful. They're intended to be comprehensive, but I didn't find them particularly clear. That said, there are tutorials and videos available on line – so Google.

Following instructions, I blew off my sensor with my rocket blower – and prepared a swab using an entire PecPad. (I had 100 of the things, after all.) They suggest you fold it with the SensorSweep at one third across (The rule of thirds! I could do that.)



It produced a rather thick pad, but I thought: hey, the sensor should be safe! I added the cleaning fluid, waited the required 10 seconds – and plunged it.

Much to my relief, I didn't scratch my beloved D300's sensor, and the blobs were gone – to be replaced by other dirt! Clearly, I hadn't done it right, so I repeated the process – only to find I was simply moving the fibres around.

After some colourful and ungentlemanly language, I had another look at the instructions, and decided to try the other way of setting up the SensorSweep, which is

to cut an appropriate sized PecPad and apply it as a single layer.



This produced a thinner swab – and I tried again.

Things were much improved, but there were still a couple of fibres left. So, I waited 30 minutes or so, treated the SensorSweep according to its instructions to charge it up – and brushed down the sensor.



Voila! Clean as the proverbial whistle!

So, what did I learn?

- For me, using the single layer swab worked best.
- I'm glad I bought the SensorSweep brush, because I needed it (I also suspect it may be a less aggressive option that sits between the rocket blower and actually swabbing the sensor.)
- Get the correct kit. Different sensors need different size spatulas and some newer sensors have fluorite coatings designed to reduce dirt, but which need a different cleaning fluid.
- Be patient.

I know people who have had success with iso-propyl alcohol and good quality cotton tips. However, the issues I have with this are:

- It would be difficult to evenly clean an entire sensor with a cotton bud;
- I would be concerned about applying too much pressure with such a tiny contact point; and
- I read on the internet (where much wisdom and an equal amount of rubbish is to be found) that some sensors can't handle this chemical.

Finally, a *don't*. There is broad acceptance that "canned air" is *not* good for sensors. Use your blower only.

So there you have it. Good luck – and may the dust particles on your sensor be little ones.



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Editor's comment. This article came about though a discussion about sensor cleaning following my own experience with severely degrading some snow photos through some dust on my D7000 sensor.

I took the "do it yourself isopropyl alcohol route" after checking through a pile of Google advice. 100ml of 99.5% pure Isopropyl alcohol cost \$15 at the Coleman Court Pharmacy. I used cotton buds with 50x50mm squares of lens cloth folded and attached with a rubber band.

Whatever I had on my sensor was more like welded on tar than dust and it took multiple swabs to get a good result. The first few swabs merely dissolved the offending bits and spread the result in a wider area (causing a fair bit of concern that I had stuffed things up). Persistence paid off.

I now try to avoid changing lenses outdoors, especially in windy conditions. I also set the sensor cleaner to activate on shutdown (I have an option to activate it on startup but this introduces an infinitely small chance of missing a shot while the sensor cleaner is doing its thing).

I asked Teds about sensor cleaning and they quoted \$85 to clean the sensor. They do this work in Melbourne and take about 2 weeks.

The advantage of getting the sensor professionally cleaned is that there is some sort of implied assurance that it will be done properly and that the camera will be returned without damage.

I spoke with two other members about their experiences with dust. A Pentax owner assured me that the Pentax sensor cleaner eliminates the problem. A Nikon owner sends the camera to Nikon for a service every 12 months.

With film, of course, the camera has a new sensor for every shot.

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Paul Livingstone has sent me a reference to a Dubbo based website called "Camera Check Point" (<http://www.cameracheckpoint.com.au/>) run by Ben Vang, a European trained photographer who is also a qualified camera technician. He sells products for cleaning cameras, including sensors and asserts that he uses all the tools that he sells. He also provides a reassuring extra service whereby, if after you have used his cleaning equipment and followed his advice he will clean your sensor for the return cost of sending your camera to him (\$29.50).

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Warren Hicks sent in the following comments about his experience with sensor cleaning:

"I've done it myself with a kit from Vanbar. The hardest part was making sure you had the right swab and cleaning fluid (type 1 or type 2). The cleaning was quite easy. One comment about all the hysteria about scratching sensors is to remember Mohs hardness scale* and relax."

* Mohs scale of mineral hardness. Characterises the scratch resistance of various minerals through the ability of a harder material to scratch a softer material. Created by the German mineralogist Friedrich Mohs. See wikipedia: http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mohs_scale_of_mineral_hardness

In short, softer things can't scratch harder things. So, a microfibre cloth can't scratch a camera sensor but it can damage it if you press too hard and break it.

Editor's Note

A big thank you to Shane Baker for his detailed description of cleaning his camera sensor. Thanks also to everyone else who contributed comments. If other club members have had a sensor cleaning experience that they would like to share please let me know.

I was due to have my second cataract operation on 1 August (which as everyone knows is horses birthday). I mentioned the upcoming event and its conjunction with horse aging to President Warren in an email and he kindly sent me the joke below.

A leading horse trainer was given an eye test and was presented with a new pair of glasses. The optician

said they would cost £200. "Too much!" cried the trainer. "They're bi-focal" said the optician. "I don't care if they're by Phar Lap. It's still too much."

As it happened I have developed some swelling in the first eye, so the operation on the second eye has been delayed. However, the essence of the joke remains, it still costs too much.

I will be doing some travelling at the end of September and at the end of October so I need to give early notice that the October and November newsletters will probably be abridged versions.

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