

# 722: Southside Camera Club Newsletter

## December 2013



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

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

**Club Meeting - 7:30 pm Wednesday 11 December 2013  
at the Burns Club, 8 Kett Street, Kambah**

### 2013 Program

#### Club Program

##### Monthly Meetings

When	What	Who
11 December	AGM and Show and Tell	

##### December Meeting

The AGM is for electing office holders for next year, organising a calendar of events and, most importantly, for members to display a few of their best photos for the year.

Because we do not schedule a presentation at the AGM we have time for all members to display the photographs they are most proud of from this year.

##### November meeting report

Warren Hicks gave a presentation on Charles Lutwidge Dodgson, better known as "Lewis Carroll". Dodgson, as well as being a mathematician, writer and Anglican Deacon was also a photographer when it was a new art form.

He took many photographs of Alice Liddell from an early age until she was 18. Many of his photographs of young children cross boundaries that are challenged today but did not attract comment at the time.

#### Walkabout Group

The walkabout group had its last meeting for the year in Belconnen with a bit of urban landscape and some lakeside scenery.

We even managed some planning for next year at our inevitable coffee discussion afterwards.

The next walkabout will be in February 2014.

#### DIGSIG

This group meets on the 4th Wednesday of each month from February through to November each year. Graeme Kruse is the convener. The location is the Burns Club at 7:30pm.

At the November Club meeting the DIGSIG convener, Graeme Kruse, announced that he is planning to leave Canberra in 2014 as soon as he can sell his house.

Graeme will be a big loss to the DIGSIG which has been an important part of the Southside Camera Club for many years.

##### February DIGSIG meeting, Wednesday 26

The February meeting presentation will be on the Library of Photoshop Lightroom and the presenter is Shane Baker. This is the component of Lightroom that is used to import your photos. Also add Keywords, assign Ratings, Rename files, make a Second Copy (ie back-up), apply Presets (to images and metadata) and much more.

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## November DIGSIG jottings

David Raff and Reg Johnson combined to put forward an excellent overview of Photoshop Elements. It began with showing the basic steps in importing images using the Organizer. Then David and Reg, by way of demonstration and explanation, selected and opened a camera raw image. The opening of the camera raw image brought into play Adobe Camera Raw (ACR). ACR allows many global adjustments to be applied to the camera raw image without actually modifying the image's pixels. Once the ACR adjustments to the image were finalized the image was then opened in the Develop module of Elements. This is where you can make further adjustments, of which there are many available, to refine the image even further. However, perhaps the key difference here is that adjustments can be local and this is achieved via the range of selection tools and the use of Layers.

Following on from David and Reg was Stuart Bath with a presentation of some of the new and improved features of the latest release of Photoshop Elements, version 12. Stuart demonstrated how sophisticated Elements has become with version 12 where relocating elements (in this case some cows in a country setting) within an image is so easily achieved.

The next demonstration by Stuart was even more amazing. That of selecting very fine detail. In this case it was of a young girl riding a bicycle with the bane of all such images, fly-away hair. After making the bulk of the selection a new selection tool (to version 12) was selected. With a few moments taken to select and set associated attributes of the new selection tool, the fly-away hair was quickly and easily selected in a painting-like movement of the cursor – incredible!. The selection was now inverted, deleted

(ie the background), a new layer added (below the layer containing the young girl and bike) and was filled with a colour of radial graduation. Stuart then lent to one side and picked up a framed a print showing the finished product - all agreed it was a outstanding image.

My thanks to David Raff, Reg Johnson and Stuart Bath for a very informative presentation on Photoshop Elements. A list of resources (books and internet sites) was made available to help members find there way with PS Elements.

Graeme Kruse

## 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  
bliss.images@yahoo.com.au

**Apple Aperture** – Claude at  
claudemorson@gmail.com

**Photoshop Light Room** – Peter at  
bliss.images@yahoo.com

## News

### Yearbook 2013

The Southside Camera Club Yearbook was an initiative by Shane Baker when he was president. Shane has continued to produce the yearbook as a Blurb book ever since.

The idea of the yearbook was to encourage every member of the club to provide their two best photos, a short blurb about themselves and a small photo. The names of all club members for that year are listed at the back of the book.

So, over time, these yearbooks become a collection of some great photos produced by club members and an ongoing list of club membership.

In preparation for selecting photos for the yearbook, bring a few of your best for 2013 to the AGM for display and comment.

## Ilford Insolvent

Oh dear, I have lost the source for the report that follows:

The cash-strapped company has failed to find an investor despite interest from more than 20 parties

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since a UK backer [pulled out](#) earlier this year. The last potential investor withdrew their interest earlier this week, Ilford Imaging Switzerland said in a statement today.

It adds that the company 'is again facing liquidity issues and is no longer able to honour its full financial obligations'.

The firm has sent a letter to a court in Fribourg 'declaring insolvency'.

Staff have been informed, according to the statement.

The company is totally separate from Ilford Photo which is based in the UK and is unaffected (Ilford Photo is the trading name of Cheshire-based Harman Technology which makes traditional b&w photographic papers and film).

Earlier this year, Ilford Imaging Switzerland said it employed 230-240 people worldwide, mostly in Switzerland but six based in the UK.

At the time, Ilford Imaging Switzerland said it planned to bounce back from its financial difficulties, while cutting 40% of its workforce.

The firm announced a series of financial acquisitions and partnerships it said would allow it to embark upon a new business plan.

The management team acquired the Ilford Imaging and Property companies. However, today's statement adds: 'After the liquidity issues during the summer, it was challenging to re-start the business, as many existing customers began to buy products from competitors which resulted in a large negative impact on the company's revenue.'

Bosses said problems were compounded by reduced demand, falling prices and the fact that 'most suppliers would only deliver raw materials against payment in advance'.

The statement continued: 'The management is working closely with the State and the appropriate authorities in order to minimise the negative impact on all parties involved.'

'No further information can be provided until the decision of the court is made and the next steps are understood.'

**Editor's comment:** I have been using packs of Ilford Galerie paper from Teds to learn more about printing. Teds sells packs of 40 sheets with 4 different types of Galerie paper for \$19.95. The four types are very good quality paper with different textures and background colour. For instance, the Gold Fibre Silk gives warm skin tones and seems very good for portrait work. I hope that they can trade out of their difficulties.



Ilford Imaging Switzerland makes Galerie-branded photographic inkjet paper

The firm warns that the effects of restructuring measures taken in August will not be seen until the first quarter of next year.

## Corel PaintShop Pro X6

All the confusion from Adobe introduces business opportunities for other imaging companies.

Apple Aperture is a very competent image processing option with most of the features of Lightroom and some extras as well (but limited to Apple Owners).

Corel is advertising PaintShop Pro X6 at a discount at the moment and it too seems to have a lot of the features needed to touch up most photos (and cheaper than LR or Aperture). See: [www.corel.com/](http://www.corel.com/)

## On using the Nikon D800

Shane Baker reflects on his experiences with his D800.

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Nearly a year ago, I bought a Nikon D800. It's a superb camera, but it does have its drawbacks. Firstly, in a world hankering for small and light, it's neither.



At the British Museum

This doesn't mean that it can't be used for street photography, though!

But I digress.

Also, due to its staggering 36 M sensor, it's a camera which doesn't tolerate errors. Unless my focus is pin sharp, images from it are almost useless.

This creates problems. Due to it being full frame, the depth of field compared with my old and much-beloved crop frame D300 is very shallow. This means I need small apertures / high f-numbers for anything that isn't stationary - which can be a problem as, unless I'm using a tripod, I need a high enough shutter speed to avoid camera shake.

Of course, sometimes a tripod isn't an option. This is the result of a 30 second exposure:



Shine Dome, Canberra

I've got to say that I'm in awe of modern digital cameras. Look at the contrast ratio in that shot and

the colour balance. Somehow, the D800 has handled at least five different light sources and still produced a great image.

The red streak is the tail lights of a passing car. It also left a "ghost" of its roof near under the street light on the right!

Anyway - the bottom line is that every photographer needs a tripod - and a good tripod at that. I'd suggest that you go for a ball head. Just make sure it can handle the weight of any camera-lens combination you're likely to use in the future.

The other result of going full frame is the loss of focal length. Using a crop frame sensor means that the focal length of every lens is effectively changed. On a Nikon APS-C camera such as the D300, my 70-200 is effectively a 105 - 300, which is handy when trying to photograph birds. (It's not so good when going wide. My 14 - 24 was a 21 - 36 on the D300.)

Anyway ... I decided to get myself a teleconverter to try to get some "reach". I bought the Nikon x1.7 unit, which as you would expect, increases the focal length of a lens by a factor of 1.7, at a cost of losing 1.5 f-stops.

So far, I'm happy with the results. This little chap was up in a small tree and using my 70 - 200 would have meant either a tiny image, or the need for me to crop very hard indeed. Using my lens effectively as a 340mm telephoto, got what is for me, an effective image.



Baby magpie lark

The loss of speed due to the teleconverter isn't an issue, as I have to stop the lens down to achieve a good depth of field.

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*I actually worked "semi-manually" with this. I had the camera on auto ISO and manual. I selected the appropriate aperture, went for a high, 1/500 sec shutter speed and dialled in centre-weighted metering. The Nikon did the rest.*

*I'm no bird photographer - so I'm happy with the result.*

*Shane Baker, December 2013*

## Clique

The following was sent as an email to club members but is worth recording in F22:

*Dear Canberra photo clubs,*

*This week Fairfax Media launched Clique – a brand new photographic community that's designed to challenge, support and reward photographers of all ages and skill levels across Australia.*

*Every month, members of Clique will be given a photographic assignment from the photo editors at The Sydney Morning Herald, Fairfax's flagship newspaper, with different topics designed to let both amateurs and professionals display various skills, with the winning photos published in the Herald on the last Friday of each month.*

*In addition, Clique members will also get special access to feedback and portfolio reviews with the Herald's team of award-winning photographers, as well as discounts on photographic equipment and entry to special events thanks to Clique principal partners Canon, Digital Camera Warehouse and Adobe.*

*For more details and to register, interested parties can go to [smh.com.au/clique](http://smh.com.au/clique)*

*Kind Rgds,  
Rachael Hoy (on behalf of Fairfax Media)*

## Adobe extends offer

During November Adobe introduced a Creative Cloud deal of \$9.99 per month for Lightroom and Photoshop. The offer was only open for a few weeks through to 30 November. Very late in November, they extended the offer through to 8 December.

It is hard to know where Adobe is going with all this. It seems that they are unsure about the best way to

manage their transition to their "Creative Cloud" in relation to new customers and the people who own Lightroom but could be interested in occasional access to Photoshop.

Would they find an increasing market in just keeping the \$9.99 a month deal open on a permanent basis?

## Quotes from photographic masters



**"You don't take a photograph, you make it."** - Ansel Adams

Reference supplied by Shane Baker

## When photographers say...

**When photographers say...**

What are you shooting?

**They actually mean...**

Hello there! This is me, trying to break the ice.

Reference supplied by Paul Livingston. This is the first of 32 sayings ( <http://www.digitalcameraworld.com/2013/09/30/photography-talk-32-things-photographers-say-and-what-they-really-mean/>)

## Technical Reference

Shane Baker sends lots of good stuff to the editor. This one has me stumped however because I don't know what it means (something to look up after the Newsletter is distributed).

Nikon has announced that they have released: Nikon NEF Codec 1.20.0

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## Jonathon Ive's Leica

The Leica that Apples Jonathon Ive designed has been auctioned by Sothebys for US\$1.8 million. For details see: <http://www.bjp-online.com/british-journal-of-photography/news/2308887/jonathan-ives-one-off-leica-m-camera-fetches-usd18m-at-auction>

WOW!!!!

## DPreview November 2013

This list is copied each month from the DPreview.com web site. DP Review maintain an ongoing list of announcements about things photographic. Under each heading they provide a short synopsis and a link to a more detailed article. There is a wealth of information about current events.

30 Nov

- What to buy and why: Entry-level mirror less cameras
- What The Duck #88

29 Nov

- DPreview Gear of the Year Part 3: Olympus OM-D E-M1
- Camera review: Google turns its attention to imaging on ned Nexus 5

28 Nov

- DPreview Top Picks: Stand-out third party lenses
- Nikon Df test scene samples added to first impressions review
- Olympus updates firmware for OM-D E-M1, XZ-2 and 12-50mm lens
- Fujifilm to update firmware for X-Pro1, X-E2, X-E1 and X100S (again)
- Photo app promotes creativity with crowd-sourced assignments

27 Nov

- Celebrated photographer Saul Leiter dies, aged 89
- DPreview Recommends: Best Compact Cameras for Travel
- What to buy and why: Consumer DSLRs
- DPreview Recommends: Best Waterproof Cameras
- Tokina announces Sony Alpha-mount version of 11-16mm F/2.8 II

26 Nov

- DPreview Recommends: best Cameras for Beginners
- What to buy and why: High-end pocketable compacts
- Google reworks Android to allow for Raw imaging

25 Nov

- What to buy and why: Enthusiast compact cameras
- Nostalgic images combine miniatures and real-life backdrops
- Roger Cicala cynically re-defines photography

23 November

- Holiday gift guide for the mobile photographer

- Rare 1932 Leica fails to set record at Hong Kong auction

22 Nov

- Sony Alpha 7 test scene samples added to first impressions review
- Lens reviews update: test data for the Zeiss Otus 1.4/55

21 November

- Sigma fixes Nikon D5300 lens compatibility issues
- Adobe expands Photoshop and Lightroom offer

20 November

- DPreview Gear of the Year Part 2: Panasonic Lumix DMC-GM1
- Fujifilm launches free digital magazine for X series owners

19 November

- Google working on Raw format for Android
- Leica invites entries for 2014 Oskar Barnak Award
- Sigma issues advisory on lens compatibility with Nikon D5300

18 November

- French newspaper publishes issue with no photos
- In Photos: Family business documented shipwrecks

17 November

- Rare photos of Rolling Stones emerge from estate sale

16 November

- In Photos: Portraits of the living legends of blues

15 November

- Shooting with the Sony Alpha 7 and Alpha 7R
- Lg G2 review: First 13MP Android with optical image stabilisation
- Sony Alpha 7R test scene samples added to first impression review
- What The Duck #1413

14 November

- Casio enters enthusiast compact sector with well-specified EX-10
- Toshiba ups capacity and speed of its Wi-Fi SD card
- Nikon updates firmware for D3100, D3200, D5100, D5200 and P7700
- Apple Raw update brings support for 10 cameras, including D610

13 November

- Lens reviews updates: test data for the Nikon 58mm f/1.4G
- Smartphone versus compact camera: Which is best when it comes to zoom

12 November

- Galaxy NX First Impressions: An Android-powered camera with promise
- DPreview Gear of the Year Part 1: Fujifilm X100S
- Blackmagic Pocket Cinema Camera now supports Raw Cinema DNG

- Lytro adds 3D viewing capability to its photos
- CaptureNX 2.4.5 and ViewNX 2.8.2 released with D5300 and Df support

11 November

- Pentax K-3 real-world samples gallery

10 November

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- Classic photographs recreated in Lego
- 9 November
- Canon Korea teases new camera, EOS M2 or SL1/1000D?
  - Award-winning wildlife photos capture candid moments
- 8 November
- Sample Gallery: LG G2 smartphone images
  - Adobe releases Camera Raw 8.3 and Lightroom 5.3 release candidates
  - In Photos: Olymic torch to make first-ever spacewalk
  - SD card labelling for 4K video announced
- 7 November
- A different point of view: Our Panasonic Lumix DMC-GX7 Review
  - Tamron to develop 150-600mm F5-6.3 ultra-telephoto zoom
  - Roger Cicala gives Nikon D610 a clean bill of health
  - DxOMark reports: Nokia Lumia 925 scores nearly as high as Lumia 1020
- 6 November
- Weather-resistant Pentax Limited 20-40mm F2.8-4 zoom lens announced
  - Ricoh launches Pentax Q-mount ultra-wide-angle zoom
  - Canon offers Dual Pixel AF upgrade for Cinema EOS C100 camera
  - Fujifilm updates X-system lens firmware for X-E2 compatibility
  - Non-destructive photo editing feature coming in Android 4.4 KitKat
- 5 November
- Nikon Df First Impressions Review: Is this retro done right?
  - Hands-on with the retro Nikon Df
  - Nikon Df combines classic design with modern technology
  - Nokia shootout: A sibling rivalry between the Lumia 920, 925 and 928
- 4 November
- 'Every six months I want to do something new' Kimio Maki of Sony
  - Real-world samples added to Panasonic Lumix DMC-GM1 first impressions
- 3 November
- 5 must-have iPad apps for every photographer
- 2 November
- Robert Capa speaks for himself: 'The camera was far above my head'
- 1 November
- Retro Nikon 'Df' emerges from the shadows
  - Panasonic Lumix DMC-GM1 updated with test scene samples
  - Sony Xperia Z1 review: Smartphone with camera-sized sensor
  - Stunning images of things invisible to the naked eye
  - Not just any competition: Roger Cicala's First Annual Photogeek Contest
  - Samyang offers lens kits for videographers

## Editor's Note

Hi All

Last month I mentioned that I thought that two years was long enough for one person to be editor of F22 and therefore this should be my last edition. I haven't been overwhelmed with offers to replace me completely but Bev Bailey has offered to help and we are discussing how best that can work.

In the meantime, I will continue on a temporary basis.

Technology is a friend and foe in producing the newsletter. For the past week I have been holidaying on Kangaroo Island and expected to be able to use my iPhone to connect to the internet and keep in contact with the world. Naturally, my download limit ran out and when I tracked down a Telstra agent they sold me the wrong card for my iPad mini.

When I called Telstra the heavily accented voice explained to me that all I needed to do was go to a Telstra shop and they would give me a SIM card that would fit and assign the value from the unsuitable SIM to the new one. I was unkind enough to ask for the address of the nearest Telstra Shop but after being put

on hold for 5 minutes Telstra won and I lost and gave up. The call was already costing heaps because I have an Optus phone and the Telstra number was one that charges premium rates (or free to Telstra subscribers). I don't understand how they are allowed to get away with such theft.

Last year, I produced most of a newsletter while I was in Cambodia. Every coffee shop had free wifi internet access as did every hotel we stayed at, even in isolated small towns. In Kangaroo Island the tourist information service wanted \$10 per hour and we were staying a long way from them anyway.

OK, so my Telstra rant is over so I can get onto Adobe.

I use Lightroom and have paid for it and its upgrades since version 3. For my sins, I am interested to learn more about using Photoshop. I don't actually expect to use Photoshop very much so it is a bit counter intuitive to spend a lot of time learning how to use and more importantly understand some of its many features. However, I am prepared to put in the effort and, when the very short term offer came up during November, to sign up for the Lightroom and

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Photoshop Creative Cloud option for \$9.99 per month came up I grabbed it.

My thinking was that upgrading Lightroom is likely to cost me \$50 to \$80 per year regardless, so the cost of Photoshop is essentially the \$40 to \$70 balance.

BUT, I feel uneasy. When this \$9.99 per month offer was first created it was limited to owners of Photoshop from version 3 onwards until 31 December 2013. Adobe also said that the price would be fixed at \$9.99 per month.

The \$9.99 per month now applies for the next 12 months (you have to sign up for 12 months) but Adobe has become vague about what happens to the price after that. I shouldn't be too critical as I am paying \$9.99 Australian dollars per month and not \$9.99 American dollars. So there is at least a slight advantage over the American price.

However, what I paid has been advertised as a one off opportunity and it was only open for a couple of weeks. Newcomers are essentially cut off. (In the Newsletter there is a reference to the deal being extended to 8 December - this is a bit late to help with that).

It seems to me that Adobe originally decided that if you are a professional photographer, you already have Photoshop and Lightroom and, because you have made a considerable investment in Photoshop they would give you a good price to move to the cloud.

If you are an amateur, you can buy Lightroom and Adobe will continue to upgrade it (and charge you for the upgrades). If you want to do extra things with your photographs that Lightroom can't manage then you can use Photoshop Elements which Adobe will also sell to you and charge you for upgrades every 12 months or so.

From this interpretation of Adobe's actions, it was a surprise that they gave the opportunity to sign up to the Lightroom/Photoshop Cloud option for the same price as the owners of Photoshop even for a short period of time (that was then slightly extended).

It has been pointed out to me that Adobe is a multi billion dollar company and its flagship products, like Photoshop, because they are industry standards, generate huge revenues well beyond the photography industry. Lightroom is a spin off product from Photoshop and, in Adobe terms, is a small market.

I am not great at making predictions but I think that the one off option for Lightroom/Photoshop was a marketing "toe in the water test" to see what sort of response they would get.

If the response is big enough I wouldn't be surprised to see it reinstated on a permanent basis (probably a bit more expensively) some time early next year.

The trouble is that their actions seem to be arbitrary. I was upset when the original \$9.99 per month offer excluded me, but I have read very passionate statements by long term Photoshop users saying that they felt that their purchases and updates of Photoshop (which really does cost a lot of money) have been completely devalued by the same offer being extended to people who had never spent a cent on Adobe products.

We will have to wait and see what Adobe does and whether any other companies see the Adobe move as an opening for expanding into the photographic software market. We could see some competitive developments over the next few years.

Wouldn't it be good if someone at Google was also a keen photographer. Apparently Steve Jobs was keen on photography - Apple have certainly been successful in integrating iPhone photography into the life of millions.

I hope you have had a good year photographically speaking. I have learned lots this year and have quite a long list of things I want to attempt in 2014.

Best wishes

Rob Wignell

## Club Office Bearers

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