



**April Club Meeting - 7:30pm Thursday 10th
at the Canberra Irish Club, 6 Parkinson Street, Weston**

March Meeting Notes

Evolution of Photography in Japan

Robert Deane

Robert gave an informative and well illustrated talk covering photography in Japan from the time of the Meiji Restoration to 1960.

March-April Excursion

Thanks to Laurie for organising the March coast excursion to Burrawang.

Club BBQ

After finding a shady spot about a dozen members and their families enjoyed a relaxing BBQ lunch at the Cotter Bend Reserve. Although most came with

camera gear and good intentions, such was the company and relaxing surroundings that nary a shot was fired.

April Talk

Night photography Kim Barnabas and Susan Hey

April Excursion

When: Saturday 19th April

Where: tba

Coordinator: Kim Barnabas

Industry News

New Olympus E-420 Digital SLR

Olympus press release

E-420



Key Features

- 10 megapixels
- LiveView with easy to use Contrast Autofocus
- Face Detect
- Shadow Adjust

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- 2.7 inch HyperCrystal II LCD screen
- 18 Scene Select Modes for easy picture taking
- [Panorama shooting capability with Olympus xD cards](#)
- [Dust Reduction Technology](#)
- Dual slot for CF and xD-Picture Cards

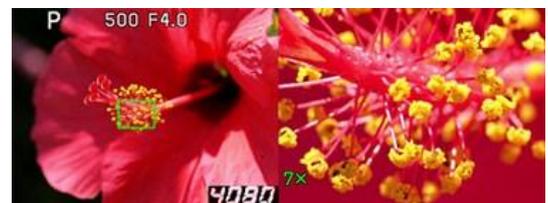
- With its new "AF Live View" technology, improved picture quality and enhanced ease-of-use features, the Olympus E-420 makes picture taking truly easy for newcomers to DSLR photography.
- Family users, casual snapshot shooters, keen photo-bloggers, and travellers who require a minimal-weight yet full featured camera, will enjoy using this camera because of its remarkable portability and high picture quality.
- New and intuitive autofocus operation in Live View



- A simple half-press of the shutter release button easily activates autofocus in LiveView operation with the new contrast-detect AF system available in an Olympus DSLR model for the first time. Contrast-detect autofocus is the same type of easy-to-operate focusing method used in most compact digital cameras of today.
- Highly accurate phase-detect autofocus is retained for non-LiveView operation and is user selectable in the LiveView mode.
- Face Detect and Shadow Adjust for great pictures with minimal fuss
- Powerful face detection technology used in the E-420 improves autofocus in LiveView and optimises exposure for faces in single or group portraits. Up to eight faces can be detected with this incredible new system.

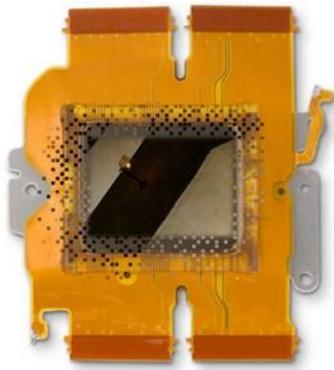


- Shadow Adjust technology makes getting good pictures in harsh or high contrast lighting situations easy by automatically improving dark area detail whilst retaining properly exposed bright areas. Combined together, both technologies means it is easy for DSLR novices to capture great pictures with little fuss with the E-420.
- Easy to operate for the DSLR beginner
- Eighteen "Scene Select" picture modes automatically adjust the camera to the best camera settings to use, so that all you need do is to pick the type of picture you want to shoot, and the camera does the rest!
- For the novice DSLR user who likes to judge picture results before snapping, white balance, exposure compensation and depth of field can be conveniently previewed in LiveView, just as with a compact point and shoot digital camera. New with the E-420, four separate exposure 'difference' previews (Perfect Shot Preview) can be seen at once on the screen to enable the user to conveniently select the best exposure option.
- For accurately focused 'macro' close-up pictures of your favourite flowers, nature or small detailed objects, the E-420's LiveView mode includes a powerful zoom magnifier for a comfortably large real-time preview of the part of the picture that needs to be sharp.



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- The Olympus E-420 uses both xD and Compact Flash memory cards for upgrading convenience. Fast memory card write speeds means no data transfer delays even when the camera is set to shoot at the highest image quality setting, which means the E-420 will always feel quick and snappy in everyday use.
- Better picture quality through improved hardware
- A new *enhanced* 10 megapixel LiveMos image-sensor chip with an *improved* TruePic III picture processing engine delivers better picture quality with improved colour reproduction and lower noise levels. This high image equality allows for large picture prints, and provides cropping flexibility so that you can choose to use only the part of the image you want later in editing.



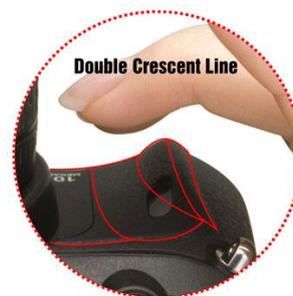
- Automatic White Balance quality has been improved significantly and a new exposure algorithm for ESP metering means accurate exposures in even more lighting situations.
- New wireless flash capability for more creative possibilities
- Utilising the same sophisticated wireless flash control system as our range-topping E-3 model, the affordable E-420 makes high-quality home portraits and macro photography easy and affordable,

especially when combined with the FL-36R flash unit.



- Small business owners will appreciate the low cost and convenience of this wireless lighting system for high-quality product catalogue photography for web or print when used with light tents or small shooting tables. Both the FL-36R and FL-50R flash units can be conveniently controlled from the E-420.

An improved, more ergonomic grip



- The E-420 features a improved more ergonomic grip that makes handling by users with large hands even better.
- Universal colour for everyone
- The Olympus E-420 features operation/function labels and icons that are visible to colour-blind users who are protanopic, deutanopic or tritanopic.



- A camera that comes with great lenses in the box
- Experienced photographers know that a camera is really only as good as the lens used with it. To this end, the Olympus E-420 is sold with, arguably, the best 'kit' lenses available today. This means that you can be confident that you will be getting a great camera with quality lenses when you buy an E-420 single or twin lens-kit.
- A rarity at this price level, the ultra-compact wide-angle 14-42mm and telephoto 40-150mm zoom lenses made with special ED and aspherical glass elements deliver sharp and detailed pictures even at wide open apertures. This ensures that low-light or indoor pictures without flash, or portrait shots taken at the inevitable open apertures will be superbly sharp across the whole picture, from the middle of the image to its edges - unlike many average performing entry-level lenses sold with digital SLR cameras. Close focusing distances of 25cm and 90cm respectively for each lens provide excellent macro and close up photography capabilities. Diminutive and lightweight, both lenses complement the compact E-420 body perfectly.



- The **new ultra-slim snapshot lens**, the Olympus Zuiko Digital 25mm f2.8, perfectly combines with the E-420 to create a high-performance and unobtrusive camera that's ideal for candid street photography and all-round picture taking because of its 'natural-perspective' property.

New compacts

From the DPreview Newsletter

CASIO



EX-Z9 Offers Increased Portability and 23 Best Shot Modes to EXILIM Zoom Series of Digital Cameras

Casio America, Inc. introduced the latest addition to its stylish series of EXILIM® digital cameras the EXILIM Zoom EX-Z9. This newest member of the EXILIM line features a stylish, slim and compact design to increase portability, and provides an improved 8.1 megapixels of image resolution with 3X optical zoom.

This new model stays true to the user-friendly features that have become standard to the EXILIM Zoom series. The 2.6-inch wide LCD display

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enables users to easily navigate camera operations and enhance the review of images, while the 23 Best Shot Modes and face detection technology help users take high quality photos without having to adjust camera settings.

“Whether you are taking snap shots of your family at the park or your friends at a concert, this high-quality digital camera is sure to satisfy all of your photographic wants and needs,” said Bill Heuer, Vice President of Casio’s Digital Imaging Division. “Casio’s innovative YouTube Capture Mode allows videos to be recorded and uploaded directly to YouTube in as few as 3 steps, making the EX-Z9 perfect for online video enthusiasts.”

The EX-Z9 comes loaded with other useful features including Anti Shake DSP which reduces photo blur from shaky hands or moving subjects, allowing users to shoot images with ease and confidence. Easy Mode simplifies the camera settings to three easy menus (image size, flash and self timer). With Easy Mode, the camera is set to take great photos in every situation without having to check presets or accidentally making a wrong adjustment. Casio’s Face Detection Technology maintains a sharp focus and the correct exposure for the human face.

Main Features

Stylish, slim, compact model featuring 8.1 million effective megapixels and 3x optical zoom.

Generous 2.6-inch wide LCD display
23 Best Shot Modes for high quality images

Anti Shake DSP for reducing photo blur due to shaky hands or moving subjects

Easy Mode for simplifying the camera settings

Casio’s Face Detection technology for maintaining a sharp focus .

CANON

Canon IXUS 90 and IXUS 85

Canon has today announced two new additions to its line of IKXUS compact cameras, the IXUS 90 and IXUS 85. The two models share the same 10MP sensor and 3x (35-105mm equiv.) zoom lens. Key differences are the LCD size ...

<http://www.dpreview.com/news/0803/08031301canonsd790sd770.asp>

Canon IXUS 970 IS

Canon also announced the IXUS 970 IS. This camera features improved versions of features such as face detection and image stabilization, Canon says. It also features 10 million pixels in a 1/2.3 " (6.2 x 4.6 mm) sensor and an ISO 3200 mode....

<http://www.dpreview.com/news/0803/08031302canonsd970IS.asp>

Latest News from Tamron

March 2008 Tamron announces high-performance SP AF70-200mm F/2.8 Di LD (IF) MACRO



This lightweight, high-performance and fast tele-zoom lens is designed for DSLR cameras with 35mm full-size image sensors and APS-C sized sensors, inheriting the superior cost/performance characteristics of the acclaimed [SP AF28-75mm F/2.8 XR Di LD Aspherical \(IF\)](#) (Model A09). While increases over all its dimensions are absolutely minimal, this new lens offers a MFD (minimum focusing distance) of 0.95m over the entire zoom range, giving a maximum macro magnification ratio of 1:3.1 at 200mm focal length, plus the advantages of an internal focusing (IF) system.

Internet Resources

Podcasts

An extensive range of free photography related podcasts are available covering for example technique, the creative process. There are also numerous Photoshop tutorials.

In iTunes go to the store → podcasts → arts → visual arts.

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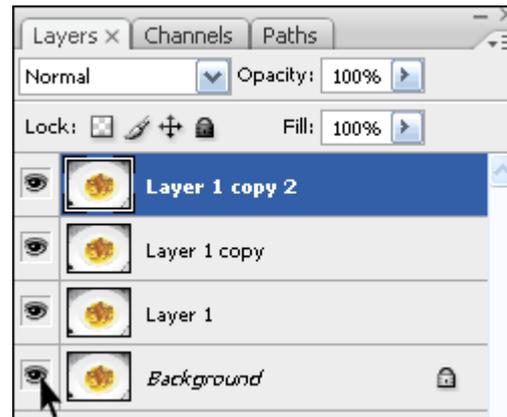
Photoshop Shortcut: Show Original

Have you ever wished you could easily preview your original image, before you added several layers to it?

It's good practice, when working in Photoshop, to always keep your "Background" layer as your original unedited image. So, what if you add several layers of editing on top of this image, and you want to go back and easily preview what the image looked like before that? If you've added several layers on top of this image, you don't have to hide each layer individually to see what you started with. Here's a quick shortcut for toggling all layers to be hidden, except for your background image, allowing you to see your before/after quite easily!

Hold down the OPTION key (on Mac), or ALT key (on PC) while clicking on the little eyeball icon on

your background layer, in the layers palette. This

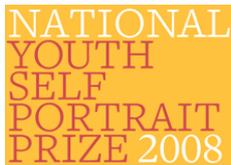


will toggle all of the additional layers visibilities, allowing you to see the before/after effects of your processing.

From PhotoshopUserTV.

What's On – Exhibitions & Events

New



Ten short listed portraits including the prize-winning work of the inaugural National Youth Self Portrait Prize 2008 will be displayed at the National Portrait

Gallery, Old Parliament House from 27 March until 27 April 2008. In addition to the short listed works a select number of submitted works will also be displayed as an online exhibition.

Continuing ...

Up, Up And Away

Where: Visitor Centre, 4th floor, National Library of Australia, Parkes Place, Parkes, ACT

When: 17 July 2007 to 13 July 2008

Admission: Free

Max Dupain on Assignment

Where: National Archives of Australia, Queen Victoria Terrace, Parkes ACT

When: 14 December 2007 to 25 May 2008

Admission: Free

Upcoming

VIVID - National Photography Festival



Australia's first National Photography Festival will be held in Canberra from 11 July to 12 October 2008.

VIVID will celebrate the vital role of photography in Australian life and history. It will involve more than 85 exhibitions and conferences at 50 national and ACT institutions.

Further information is available from the [VIVID website](#).

Picture Paradise

The first century of Asia-Pacific photography 1840s–1940s



Andre Roosevelt 'Legong dancer, Bali [Ni Pollok, aged about 11, later the model and wife of Belgian painter in Bali, A J. Le Mayeur]' 1928 gelatin silver photograph Collection of the National Gallery of Australia

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In mid 2006 Director Ron Radford announced that over the next decade the National Gallery of Australia's collecting and exhibition programs would more strongly demonstrate Australia's geographic, political and cultural position within the Asia and Pacific region and play an active role in the appreciation, nationally and internationally, of the art of our region.¹ This goal led to a

commitment by the Gallery's Council to build the first museum collection dedicated to representing the history of photography across Asia and the Pacific.

Where: National Gallery of Australia, Parkes ACT

When: 10 July – 9 November 2008

What's On – Photographic Opportunities

April

[2008 National Autumn Balloon Spectacular](#)

The 2008 National Autumn Balloon Spectacular will be held over 9 days from Saturday 19 to Sunday 27 April in Canberra. The Balloons will launch from the forecourt of Old Parliament House and will provide an exhilarating backdrop to Australia's iconic attractions. This experience is enhanced with colour, noise and excitement as these graceful giants slowly expand, transforming in massive balloons of varying shape, size and nationality as they drift gently into the dawn skies.

When: Before 7am, 19–27 April 2008

Admission: Free

Where: Forecourt of Old Parliament House

Beijing 2008 Olympic Torch Relay

Canberra is the only Australian destination of the Beijing Olympic Torch on its historic global journey. The Olympic Torch Relay is a symbolic event held in conjunction with each Olympic Games. It dates back to ancient Greece, when a fire was kept burning throughout the Olympic Games.

When: 24th April 2008

Where: The relay route is being finalised and it is expected it will pass by all of the iconic buildings in the national capital and showcase the beauty of our city

Enquiries: www.events.act.gov.au

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