

Camera club Communiqué

September 2020 U3A ACT Australia

The U3A Camera Club *Communiqué* is part of a newsletter sent to members of "The Camera Club", which is a year-long course run by the University of the Third Age in Canberra, ACT. For privacy reasons, class notices have been omitted from this public version. Because of the Covid19 restrictions, the class will be meeting only on-line until further notice but can be contacted at u3acanberracameraclub@gmail.com



Video Tour through the History of Photography.

It repays all photographers to know something about the history of our art, indeed, to know something about art history generally. Andrew Szydlo recently gave [a video tour through the history of photography](#) at Britain's Royal

Institution. Apart from being a photography enthusiast and collector of antique and vintage cameras, Szydlo is also a chemist and educator. As well as discussing early photographs and cameras, he also talks about the importance of photographers such as Henri Cartier-Bresson.

Japanese Cameras in for a Shake-up

Following the sale of Olympus' camera division to Japan Industrial Partners (JIP), *Nikkei Asian Review* indicates that the [Japanese camera business is in for a shake-up](#). Of course, the rise of smartphones and the present Covid19 epidemic has a lot to do with disrupting most industries, but Nikkei suggest that the camera industry has itself to blame: *'Smartphones are not the only reason Japanese camera makers, who had established an oligopoly nearly everywhere around the world, have come to this point. Japanese industry, which has a penchant for competing against its own products, can also blame itself.'*

The article also quotes Hiroshi Hamada, formerly of Hoya, saying:

Digital camera companies intend to strangle their rivals through excessive competition, but in the end they'll strangle themselves'.

It also claims: *Some analysts believe the entire industry will collapse unless companies undertake major reforms, like splitting design and development from manufacturing, and consolidating production.'*



More Cameras for Mars Perseverance Mission

The Mars [Perseverance will carry more cameras](#) than any of the previous interplanetary missions. This mission, launched recently, is intended to provide a better look at the Red Planet than we have had

up until now, including searching for signs of ancient life. It will also collect rock and soil samples for possible return to Earth. In all, there will be 19 cameras on board which, when their images are pieced together, should give a high resolution photo of the planet's surface. There is also on board a helicopter which, scientists believe, will be able to fly in Mars' thin atmosphere.

Landscape Photographers to Follow while in Lockdown

Louise Carey, on *Digital Camera World*, suggests that while we might be



unable to travel, we can do so vicariously by following [these 12 photographers](#). These men and women – she says - are among the most innovative and exciting landscape photographers working today.

Photo: Daniel Kordan

Inaugural World Landscape Competition

The winning photographs of the [inaugural World Landscape Competition](#) have been announced and are can be seen on their website. The competition required each photographer to submit 5 landscape



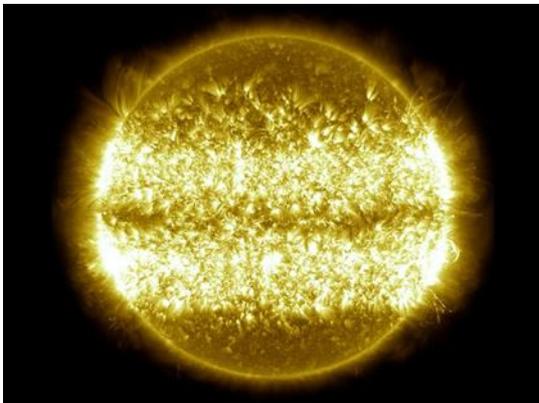
images taken before 1st March this year. Unusually, the entry fee was just £10. At least 90% of the entry fees went to Covid19 charity.

2nd Place — The Copse by Jason Hudson

Australian Centre for Photography On-Line Courses

ACP is launching [a number of online workshops and courses](#) providing tuition in many aspects of photography. These will range from those suited to novices all the way up to professional levels and include topics such as *Digital Photography Basics* and *Lighting Design at Home*. Their most popular course, *Camera Craft 1*, is designed to stimulate creativity using a DSLR or Compact-System camera in full manual mode. *Camera Craft 2* looks to the technical aspects and aesthetics of light, colour and composition.

NASA Took 425 Million Photos of the Sun



From June 2nd, 2010 through June 1st, 2020, NASA's Solar Dynamics Observatory has captured [425 million photos of the Sun](#) (that's over 20 million gigabytes). Now they have combined them into a time-lapse video. This lasts for an hour – if you have the time to watch it all.

What is ISO?

Most of us probably set our cameras to our preferred ISO – or whatever the situation seems to demand – but have little idea of [what it is all about](#). For starters, it seems we shouldn't really be pronouncing it as a series of letters because the word order would change in different languages. It comes from the Greek for “the same” and is actually the Switzerland-based standard 12232:2019 adopted by the International Organization for Standardization in 1974. Of course, most of us equate it with “sensitivity”, comparing it with

that of films and the ASA “speeds” we used in the past. Actually, it was devised to match the old ASA standard as closely as possible.



Learning to See in B&W

Alistair Benn is a Scots photographer living on the Isle of Skye so he should not be short of landscapes to photograph. He and his wife also lead group tours and workshops on the island as well as further afield, on the NW coast of Scotland and even to Iceland. In [this article](#), Benn takes us through “Why B&W?”, what is suitable light for B&W, the photographer’s intent when taking the photo, suitable subjects for B&W, visualisation, and finally, 10 tips for taking B&W. The

article is well illustrated with presumably his own photos taken in the wild locations of his part of the world.

Bob Hay - Presenter