



December 2018

Shoalhaven Photo Club Inc. Blah Blah Newsletter

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Hi and season's greetings. Just a quick wrap before the end of the year to wish everyone the best for the festive season. We had a very enjoyable pre-Christmas Open Assessment night. Numbers were down little but understandably there are lots of other events on at the same time.

December: Open Assessment

This is where the members get to be the judge and vote with their credit and merit tickets for the images they like best. There were some excellent and varied images as usual with many receiving gongs. Photo of the Month voting took place after we had our fill of snacks and drinks. A second tie-breaker round was necessary to determine the POTM, which is displayed below.



Bruce gave a brief talk about the image, taken from a spot just north of Jackson, Wyoming (USA). This was one of a host of beautiful places to photograph in the area and made famous by Ansel Adams in the 1940s. Other members were then invited to tell the audience briefly about their images also, which led to some interesting discussions about technique etc.

Printing Workshop

Put it in your diary now for 28th March 2018 as “not to be missed”. June Anderson will co-host a workshop on “printing workflow from monitor to print” with Derek Mobbs, Epson Australia’s Application and Training specialist (and himself an accomplished photographer). Derek will be bringing with him a brand new Epson Sure Colour P600 to be taken home by one of the audience.

Lightroom Workshop

First workshop for next year will be based around Lightroom and, depending on how things unfold, could cover everything from cataloguing to editing of RAW images. However, it seems from discussion amongst members that cataloguing is something that many of you would like to know more about. If you have Lightroom on a laptop or can get it onto one in time for the workshop that would be great. I think if you can work along in your own laptop it would help you understand Lightroom better and we can perhaps set up a some presets to help automate some of the things Lightroom does for you on a regular basis.

Affinity Photo

This is a Mac based RAW editing application that looks very promising and also very cheap. It’s kind of like Photoshop for peanuts. At the moment however I have decided to steer clear of it because it has no cataloguing function, meaning I have to keep using Lightroom anyway. I acknowledge others may have a different cataloguing program that could partner nicely with Affinity Photo but I’m sticking with Lightroom for the time being.

Photo Competitions

This came from the Photographic Society of India.

16TH PSI INTERNATIONAL SALON 2018

hosted by The Photographic Society of India

Recognized by FIAP, GPU, ICS & FIP

Total 101 Awards & Best Club Award

Last Date 2nd January 2018

All awarded & some top scoring Accepted entries will be printed (12x 18 Inch) & exhibited at India's renowned Jehangir Art Gallery, Mumbai.

[Click to Participate 16th PSI International Salon](#)

2nd ONYX 2018

INTERNATIONAL EXHIBITION OF PHOTOGRAPHY,
ROMANIA

www.campinaexhibitions.net/onyx

Ideas for curation

I was interested in trying to improve how I go about choosing, from amongst my many images, one worthy of taking to an assessment night for judging by others? This is the result of my research which I would like to share with you.

Some images have a wow factor that makes them an obvious choice but most do not fit that criteria. With the millions of images posted to Facebook, 500px, Flickr and so on there's hardly a never before seen event or place. If you do manage something along those lines, let's see it!

But what about all the other hundreds of images you have. It helps to have a system to help you decide. Here's what I have learned and tried to put into practice.

1. **Clarity of idea:** does the image clearly tell a story that can be read by anyone who wasn't there with you at the time?
2. **Subject isolation:** Is the main part of the subject distinct from the background, especially distracting background clutter that's in perfect focus. If not then it's not a strong image but one which will leave the viewer wondering what the point of the image is. We all know subject isolation can be achieved not just through a shallow depth of field with the subject in sharp focus and the background pleasantly out of focus (a phenomenon referred to as "bokeh"). Subjects can also be isolated through tonal and colour separation, which can be very useful in monochrome images.
3. **Composition:** There's endless stuff written about level horizons, rule of thirds, sweeping curves, leading lines, counter-balance, negative space etc. Don't get too bogged down in this but just be mindful that application of these concepts can provide you with a more pleasing and engaging image. Oh, and by the way, if you can achieve this composition in camera it's so much better than trying to create it in post processing.
4. **Interesting light.** Photo + graphos in ancient Greek means writing with light. Always be mindful of making the light work for you rather than against you. If possible choose dawn or dusk, use side (Rembrandt) lighting like the master painters, or back lighting to highlight the edges of your main subject and fill flash when outdoors in harsh overhead light.