



# SHORT SNAPS

## Blacktown City Photographic Club Annual Events

### Inside this issue:

Club Annual Annual Events	1
Competitions and Exhibitions.	
Simple tricks	2
Sony World Photographic Competition	
Free Photoshop Tutorials	
Library News	3
Member Profile	
September Top Scorers	
Tips for photographing Flowers.	4
Findaword	5
Committee members	
September Digital Open	

Our club has a busy calendar with things of interest for the members as well as for the promotion of the club.

In March 11–13 2011 is the Blacktown City Show and our camera club runs their Photographic Exhibition. We accept the entries, have them judged and display them at the show.

Each year the Federation Of Camera Clubs (FCC) holds an Interclub competition which our club endeavours to enter. They also organize another competition called “FCC Topshot” and our president will ask all members to submit images to be selected so the club can enter these comps.

Our club also is involved with three other interclub

comps. One is between our club, Blue Mountains Photo Group and Upper Blue Mountains CC. The second is between our club and Hawksbury CC and Castle Hill RSL CC. We ask ALL members to submit entries to be selected for our club’s entry.

The third interclub is called “The AV Challenge”. Entries for this are obtained towards the end of the year and they are made up into an Audio-Visual to compete against castle Hill and Hawksbury CC.

We have a Camera Rally held in September of which I mentioned in last months Short Snaps.

Early December we hold our Christmas Party. Club members are asked to bring a plate (preferably with some

food on it) and after the lunch the club Yearly Awards are presented.

During the break over Christmas and New Year, we have three workshops. These are notified in this publication and also announced at club meetings. Through the year, we arrange Sunday outings and these are announced here and verbally at the club meetings. They involve going to some photographic location as a group and socialize and take heaps of photos. These days are great to learn your photography as you can ask other member all the How’s & Why’s, as well as enjoying a good social day out.

### OCTOBER COMING CLUB EVENTS:

6th, Broken Hill Trip

By

Penny O’Brien, Jen Keys and Linda Death

13th, Committee meeting

20th, Competition “Open”

## Competitions and Exhibitions

Saturday, 16. October 2010, 9:00am - 6:00pm

**Calling photographers young and old: Pick up your camera, ignite your creativity and join the race!**

Foto Riesel, Sydney’s leading photographic retailer, presents a unique photography event.

Calling photographers young and old: Pick up your camera, ignite your creativity and join the race!

Walk, ride or pedal your way around our city, as you com-

plete photographic challenges to win great prizes.

You can spend an hour, or spend the day. Get off the beaten track and refresh your perspective on Sydney.

If you have any further questions or comments, please email [rally@fotoriesel.com](mailto:rally@fotoriesel.com) The Foto Riesel Foto Rally is an Associated Event of Art & About Sydney 2010, presented by City of Sydney [www.artandabout.com.au](http://www.artandabout.com.au)

**Living Australia** online Photographic competition, en-

tries close December 3, 2010.

Categories are Community, Pride, Family & Mates, Freedom. Prize of \$5000 and your image on an Australian Stamp. Go to [www.aussievault.com.au](http://www.aussievault.com.au)

-oO-

Teds camera shop competition has prizes up to \$5,000 worth, go to <http://www.photoartgallery.com/competition/teds>

### **Simple trick**

So you want to photograph the Opera House ( or some other iconic landmark) but do not want passing spectators in the final image. A simple way to achieve this is to use a tripod and take multiple images, the number will depend on the number of people passing by, then using Photoshop import them into one image as layers, then by using a layer mask remove the people leaving a nice uncluttered Opera House.

If any body has a similar simple trick to share, send it to me and I will include it in the next Short Snaps.

## **Calling all Photographers! Win \$5,000 - \$25,000 USD**

The 2011 Sony World Photography Awards is open for entries and international photographers of all levels, from amateurs to professionals, are invited to enter their images for the chance to win \$5,000 in the Open Competition and \$25,000 in the Professional Competition. The deadline for entries is January 5th 2011, photographers can find out more and enter for free online at [World Photography Organisation Competitions](http://www.worldphotographyorganisation.com/competitions)

### **Prizes for winners and runners-up**

#### **include:**

- \$5,000 - \$25,000 US dollars
- Professional digital camera equipment from Sony
- Tickets to attend the 2011 Sony World Photography Awards ceremony in London
- Return travel to London and accommodation



- Publication in the annual winners' book
- International exposure through WPO exhibitions, local and global media coverage
- Representation by the World Photography Organisation
- Continued support on WPO platforms, including our website and social channels.

## **Free Photoshop Tutorials**

I have found a website that has FREE Photoshop tutorial. Check it out at <http://photoshoptutorials.ws/>, you can subscribe to their newsletter and be kept up to date. Worth a look. If you know about any similar sites, let me know so I can inform the rest of the membership here.

## Club Library

We now have a small library in almost in operation, see Ron to get items.

All items can be borrowed and **must be returned next meeting**, they can be re-borrowed if no other person is waiting for them.



I would like some donations as it is at the present a very small library. Any unused books, and magazines with their CD's would find a nice friendly home here to look after them in their old (not too old I hope) age.

### Member Profile—Linda Death, Secretary.

I first thought about going beyond a point and shoot camera when booking a trip to Canada to see the Polar Bears in 2004, so I purchased a Canon Pro 1. The trip was amazing although the photos were disappointing. This was me and the camera. When I decided to travel to Antarctica in Jan 2007 a DSLR camera was the only option. The weapon of choice a Nikon D80 with a D50 back up (not to many camera stores in Antarctica). I was really happy with the photos. It was while in Antarctica I discovered a new passion, wildlife photography. On my return, how-

ever, I found the camera stayed in the bag then in July 2007 someone mentioned joining a Camera Club, after some research I joined Blacktown.

Since joining the club I have learned a great deal, mainly how much I didn't know about photography. Since then I have travelled to Japan, Alaska and Africa photographing wildlife and I find that I am also enjoying branching out and photographing other subjects.

I do have a tip for new photographers – don't get the camera wet (snow has the same effect as rain). I

did, twice, and my D80 died.

I now shoot with Nikon D300. I recently purchase was a Sigma 150 – 500 as I am off to Africa Sept 20.

There are 2 things I want to achieve going forward - return to Churchill and photograph Polar Bears again and to start my own micro photography business.



Linda Death

Master list			Issue	Book / CD / DVD
CC	1	Photoshop CS2 Training	Part 1	DVD
CC	2	Photoshop CS2 Training	Part 2	DVD
CC	3	Photoshop CS2 Training	Part 3	DVD
CC	4	Spyder Monitor Calibrator		
CC	5	Digital Photo Mag on DVD	123 Dec 09	DVD
CC	6	Digital Photo Mag on DVD	125 Feb 10	DVD
CC	7	Digital Photography & Design	Apr/May 10	Magazine
CC	8	Canon 20D training Video		DVD
CC	9	Photoshop Enhancing Landscapes		Magazine
CC	10	Photoshop CS2 & 7.0		Magazine
CC	11	Photoshop Image editing		Magazine
CC	12	Photoshop Creative	49	Magazine
CC	13	Photoshop Creative	50	Magazine
CC	14	Photoshop Creative	53	Magazine
CC	15	Photoshop Creative	56	Magazine
CC	16	Photoshop Creative	58	Magazine
CC	17	Photoshop Creative	59	Magazine
CC	18	Photoshop Creative Collection	Vol 06	Magazine
CC	19	Better Digital	27	Magazine
CC	20	Practical Photography	Spring 10	Magazine
CC	21	Digital Photo Magazine	122 Nov 09	Magazine
CC	22	Digital Photo Magazine	123 Dec 09	Magazine
CC	23	Digital Photo Magazine	124 Jan 10	Magazine
CC	24	Digital Photo Magazine	125 Feb 10	Magazine
CC	25	Digital Photo Magazine	126 Mar 10	Magazine
CC	26	Digital Photo Magazine	127 Apr 10	Magazine
CC	27	Digital Photo Magazine	129 May 10	Magazine
CC	28	Digital Photo Magazine	130 Jun 10	Magazine
CC	29	Digital Photo Magazine	131 Jul 10	Magazine

## September Competition Top Scorers

### Set Subject—Landscapes

#### COLOUR PRINTS

Penny O'Brien

#### B&W PRINTS

Ron Atkinson

#### PEOPLES CHOICE

[Penny O'Brien](#)

[Digital](#)

[Chris Randall](#)

He should be looking into the image area, not out of it !!!



#### Tips for Photographing Flowers.

With the advent of digital cameras and the huge amount of features, close-up photography has become the domain for everyone. The simple macro feature on the current generation of digital compacts has opened up this world to virtually anyone with a camera. Of course the ideal situation is the use of SLRs but is not limited to them. One of the first accessories I bought for my film SLR way back in the 1980s was a set of close-up filters that screwed on the end of my lens. This added a new dimension to my photography and I was able to get in really close to my intended subjects, flowers. Although, I did dabble a bit in shooting some of the slower insects and bugs. But flowers were still my focus. Here are some simple tips that will help you shoot better flower photos.

#### 1. Weather conditions and lighting

It is totally useless if you plan to shoot flowers on a day when high wind speeds are predicted. Movement is critical especially when shooting close-ups and your image will be spoiled if you don't take this into consideration. Lighting is critical as you need to shoot under conditions that enhance colours and allow as much natural light as possible. Unless you're using a ring flash with a digital SLR you are too close to use the on camera flash system. Never shoot at midday as the lighting is harsh and lacking in contrast.

#### 2. Select the right flower

Getting your lighting, exposure and composition perfect and then finding that there are blemishes on the flower's petals or leaves is a let down. Always inspect the chosen subject before setting up your equipment and make sure that it's almost perfect. If there are little imperfections, change the angle of view or shoot the opposite site of the flower. You can also remove offending petals and leaves if they do not leave gaps and make the image look imperfect.

#### 3. Check the background

You are limited to how many angles you can shoot from if the flower is in a garden and not a studio. Make sure that the flower or flowers you choose have a background that is simple and uncluttered and enhances the overall quality of the flower image. If it doesn't, then consider using a piece of card that compliments the dominating colour of your chosen flower. Your focus must be on the flower and a viewer's eye should be attracted to the flower and not the background.

A tripod is essential to flower photography as you need as much light as possible when using a narrow depth of field or focus and if you need a wide aperture the shutter speed is often slower. A slow shutter speed will always be a problem and this limits hand holding due to camera shake.

#### 5. Composition

Flower shots always look their best when taken from the side. Shot from above they don't have same appeal as when taken from the side. Use the rule of thirds placing them in a slightly off centred position and never right in the middle of the image. Getting in closer will always add to the composition. If you are shooting macro you'll see details that really create an interest.

Creating your own indoor studio and shooting picked flowers is a simple process. Use natural light from a window and a simple coloured background and stunning images will result. Be prepared to experiment and practise your techniques.

As with any photography take you time to think before shooting but also to get the composition perfect. Don't be afraid to vary your angles and work at getting a good focal point. Overall, flower photography is exceptionally rewarding so work at it and create great images.

#### *About the Author.*

Do you want to learn more about photography in a digital world? I've just completed a brand new e-course delivered by e-mail. Download it here for free by clicking here: <http://www.21steps2perfectphotos.com/>. To learn how you can take your photography from ordinary to outstanding click here – <http://www.21steps2perfectphotos.com/21steps.htm>.

Wayne Turner has been teaching photography for 25 years and has written three books on photography.



Chris Randall  
14 / 15

### September Digital Open Competition

#### High Scorers

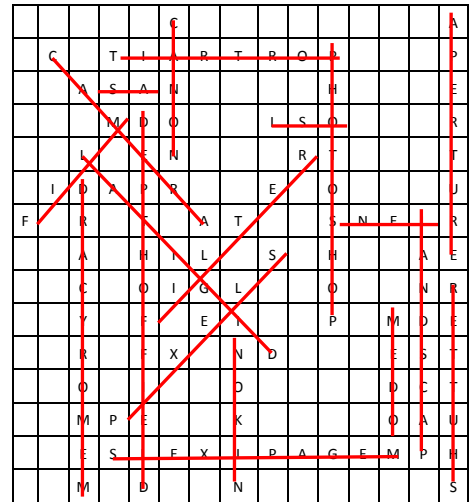


Linda Death  
14 / 15

### WHEN YOU HAVE NOTHING TO PHOTOGRAPH

AGFACHROME	A	G	F	A	C	H	R	O	M	E	C	N	B	B	G
BRONICA	D	A	D	R	O	F	L	I	I	S	D	C	C	G	R
CANON	O	D	W	N	F	S	N	Y	N	Y	J	I	Y	B	Q
CONTAX	Z	L	L	D	I	O	E	J	O	R	W	N	S	B	K
COSINA	A	Q	Y	H	X	V	A	Q	L	E	R	S	V	O	E
DEVELOPER	C	N	P	G	E	A	P	H	T	M	B	T	D	Z	A
EASTMAN	I	O	V	K	R	P	T	G	A	O	B	A	C	V	S
EKTACHROME	N	N	T	V	E	C	T	N	E	R	V	M	J	Q	T
EKTAR	O	A	L	W	O	L	J	D	O	H	C	A	D	S	M
FIXER	R	C	M	S	P	H	V	Z	R	C	O	T	B	R	A
HASSLEBLAD	B	A	I	O	L	S	A	O	P	A	N	I	N	A	N
ILFORD	R	N	N	Y	E	B	M	R	M	T	G	C	C	C	N
INSTAMATIC	A	Z	O	V	V	E	J	D	B	K	Y	I	N	Z	M
KODACHROME	T	H	X	D	E	Y	Q	P	A	E	E	D	S	A	S
LEICA	Z	J	J	P	D	D	A	L	B	L	E	S	S	A	H
MINOLTA															
MINOX															

All will be revealed next newsletter.



Last meeting, did you get them all?

How did you go? I know one who thought he had them all, however the word Pixels and Megapixels were two separate words.

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#### **MONITOR CALIBRATION TOOL**

We have a Spyder Express Monitor Calibration tool for CRT, LCD monitors and Laptops available to all members. See the Short Snaps editor Ron to be able to borrow it.

