Events pencil into your diary

CALLING A SPECIAL GENERAL MEETING of all members on Tuesday the 9th of August. (Meeting will take place after July Competition Results and comments.) This is our Birthday Night and members are reminded that we will be having a meal at The Flying Horse, starting at 6.00 pm. If you are intending to go to The Flying Horse please let Pam Allen know so that she can ring through appropriate numbers. We are calling a Special General Meeting on this night to determine the future of the Club. We ask that all members be present on this night if possible.

On the **23ʳᵈ August** the Club will be holding an in service for members by Craig Townsend (Professional Photographer) at the Kohinoor Meeting Rooms on August 23rd from 7.30 to 9.30
Topic to be discussed. Off Camera Flash Lighting. Questions and Answers. Should be a very worthwhile night for all members.

**** **2016 Safari**- this year will be at Southcombe Lodge, Port Fairy 9ᵗʰ 10ᵗʰ 11ᵗʰ **September**.
IMPORTANT NOTICE:

Deposits are now required for our camp at Southcombe Lodge in Port Fairy, 9th 10th and 11th September.
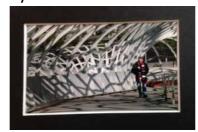Cost will be $35.00 per person per night.
We request you pay the first nights accommodation as a deposit to Dianne at the next meeting.

Monthly Competition Results for July - This month's judges was Peter Voterakis
Small Prints (Set Subject - Open)

First "My Hero"
by Steve Demeye

Second "No Luck Today"
by Carol Townsend

Third "Up in the Air"
by Neal Sinclair

EDI (Set Subject - Hands)

First: "Give Us a Hand" by Steve Demeye

Second: "In Good Hands" by Jenny Trainor

Third: "Stardust" by Steve Demeye

Large Prints (Open)

First: "Abandoned Boat" by Anne Earnshaw

Second: "Arriving for the Shot" by Neil Sinclair"

Third: "Fox Glacier" by Neil Sinclair

From the Executive Committee

Victorian Amateur Photographic Society Year Bar Awards:

At the Annual VAPS Conference held in Albury in June this year, the following Members of the YMCA Camera Group received these awards.

Ivan Downing	35 years
Marilyn Bradford	20 years
Len Bradford (dec)	20 years
Ron Downs	15 years
Mark Bevelander	10 years
Leo Fletcher	10 years
Bruce Fryer	10 years
Ken McLean	10 years

Some of our longest serving members are:

Judy Johnson 47 years, Trina Jones 38 years, Bill Hirt 32 years, and Doug Reid 31 years.

This year we were able to recycle badges from members who donated their earlier badges back to the club after receiving a higher Year Bar. Having those badges on hand saved the Group $70.

These bars commence at 10 years and are awarded in 5 year Increments.

We encourage members to wear these awards to our group meetings.

Our Group has arranged a night at the Kohinoor Meeting Rooms on August 23rd from 7.30 to 9.30 Craig Townsend will speak to us about Off Camera Flash Techniques .

Craig is a Professional Photographer of many years, and is willing to answer any queries you may wish to ask.

He has been a member of the YMCA Camera Group for many years and is a past president.

All members welcome to come along and learn from his knowledge.

LeGerche Forest walk:

This was a well attended excursion into a little known part of Creswick.

There were plenty of fungi to photograph and lovely light filtering through the trees highlighting the remaining autumn foliage.

The day was rounded out with a hot drink by a cosy fire before heading home.

Don't forget to bring your two favourite photos of the day (Mounted Small Prints) for judging at our next meeting.

Next meeting Tuesday 9th August:

Our 55th birthday dinner at the Flying Horse at 6 pm, then our usual meeting at 8 pm, followed by a special general meeting to discuss our position with the YMCA.

Wear your shirts and caps for a group photo.

Bring to August Meeting:

Photographs to submit for *monthly competition.*

2 Small prints (Open)

Any subject treated pictorially, ie. Good design, arrangement and composition.

** Prints must not exceed 180mm x 125mm (7in x 5in), mounted on a board which must not exceed 300mm x 200mm (10in x 8in). Mounting thickness must not exceed 5mm.

2 Projected images (Set Subject – Panorama)

An open subject photograph in landscape format that should be at least twice as wide as high. The photo must remain within the 1920 pixel wide format.

** Images must not exceed 1920 pixels wide x 1080 pixels high.

** File size for each image must not exceed 5 mb. Save in JPG format.

*** **Image file names** must begin with the member's code number, linked by an underscore, with the title of the image eg. 025_A Day at the Beach.jpg*

2 Large Prints (Open)

Any subject treated pictorially, ie. Good design, arrangement and composition.

*** Prints must not exceed 500mm x 400mm (20in x 16in) mounted on a board which must not exceed 500mm x 400mm (20in x 16in). Mounting thickness must not exceed 5mm.*

For those that attended the club outing to the La Gerche forest walk, bring your 2 favourite photos of the day for judging.

*** Prints must not exceed 180mm x 125mm (7in x 5in), mounted on a board which must not exceed 300mm x 200mm (10in x 8in). Mounting thickness must not exceed 5mm.*

Items of Interest

- Lal Lal Moorabool Photographic Group Inc, 2016 Annual Photographic Competion/Exhibition is now accepting entries. For more information check out their website located HERE

How to get more from your photography

What is exposure bracketing and how do I use it?

Exposure bracketing is a simple technique photographers use to ensure they properly expose their pictures, especially in challenging lighting situations.

When you expose for a scene, your camera's light meter will select an aperture / shutter speed combination that it believes will give a properly exposed picture. Exposure bracketing means that you take two more pictures: one slightly under-exposed (usually by dialing in a negative exposure compensation, say -1/3EV), and the second one slightly over-exposed (usually by dialing in a positive exposure compensation, say +1/3EV), again according to your camera's light meter.

The reason you do this is because the camera might have been 'deceived' by the light (too much or too little) available and as a result your main subject may be over- or under-exposed. By taking these three (or more) shots, you are making sure that if this were ever the case, then you would have properly compensated for it.

As an example, say you are taking a scene where there is an abundance of light around your main subject (for example, at the beach on a sunny day, or surrounded by snow). In this case, using Weighted-Average metering, your camera might be 'deceived' by the abundance of light and expose for it by closing down the aperture and/or using a fastershutter speed (assuming ISO is constant), with the result that the main subject might be under-exposed. By taking an extra shot at a slight over-exposure, you would in fact be over-exposing the surroundings, but properly exposing the main subject.

Another example would be the case where the surrounding might be too dark, and the camera exposes for the lack of light by either opening up the aperture and/or using a slower shutter speed (assuming ISO is constant), then the main subject might be over-exposed. By taking an

extra shot at a slight under-exposure, you would in fact be under-exposing the surroundings, but properly exposing the main subject.

Now, most digital cameras have auto exposure bracketing, meaning that if you select that option before taking your shot, the camera will automatically take the programmed number of shots for you (usually three): one which it thinks it has perfectly exposed; a second one (or more) slightly under-exposed; and the third one (or more) slightly over-exposed.

When should you use exposure bracketing? Anytime you feel the scene is a challenging one (too much highlights or shadows) as far as lighting is concerned, e.g. sunsets are usually better taken slightly under-exposed so use exposure bracketing there, or whenever you want to be sure you don't improperly expose a fabulous shot.

Remember, you are not using film anymore, so there are really no wasted shots (unless you are severely constrained by the size of your storage media).

Should you delete the extra shots right away? No, if storage permits, keep all three shots until you get home and upload them to your computer and into an image editing software, such as Photoshop. By using the layers functionality of Photoshop (or similar functionality of another image editing software), you can load all three shots into different layers and then carefully erase the under-exposed or over-exposed part of one or more layers to end up with a final shot where both the main subject and the surroundings are properly exposed!

This Photoshop functionality allows you to shoot in very extreme lighting situations where there are many parts in different intensity of light and shadows such that you are losing details in the highlights and shadows. In this case, you might need more than two extra shots to obtain details in the different parts. Without moving the camera (a tripod is essential here), take as many shots as you need, exposing for the different parts you want details to be visible. Then you would load them all up into Photoshop, each into its own layer, and by erasing the under- and over-exposed parts in each layer you can end up with an 'impossible' shot where every part of the photo is properly exposed.

Used judiciously, exposure bracketing is a simple technique that can ensure proper exposure of a difficult lighting situation.

Any information not directly concerning this newsletter should be directed to our secretary. cameraclubymca@gmail.com or to 'The Secretary'; Ballarat YMCA Camera Group PO Box 259 Ballarat 3353

Yours in photography,

Steve