



Townsville Photography Club Inc.

Snap Shot

Volume 17 Number 11

November 2023

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From the President

Report time again! Well, the weather is warming up, the grass is turning brown, the watering holes at the Town Common are drying up and Christmas is getting closer!

We haven't had any organised trips as such this month, but the last 2 Saturdays, Phensri, Marcia and I, then the following Saturday, Cecily, Marcia and I, headed out to the Town Common to try out our new cameras and lenses that Marcia and I have recently purchased, in preparation for our African tour next June/July.

I have gone to the dark side in that I have recently purchased an Olympus OM1 with 2 lenses, due to the weight of the equivalent in Nikon being decidedly heavier. Our resident expert and promoter of Olympus, Cecily, who had previously checked my settings, accompanied us on Saturday, so was on hand to sort out any issues I may have. Marcia, on the other hand, decided to stay loyal to Fuji!

We were very surprised at the lack of water, and therefore lack of birds to photograph there, stilts being the most prolific, but there weren't many of them either. I was interested to try out the new flight mode offered. So far so good but more practice is definitely needed!

Our Monday night workshop saw us look at the photos entered in the 10th Queensland International Digital Circuit-2023. Some were great, some really interesting and some just ok. There were plenty of monochrome to view to get Marcia's creative juices flowing! Those who attended got their free book for future reference. If you weren't there, you can pick up yours on Monday night.

Cecily completed our last ACDS tutorial where we learnt how to just mask either our subject or the background so work could be done on either independently. A handy tool! She also showed us briefly how to change skies. Now we have to get our own selection of sky photos for future swapping!

Facebook photos have been a little lean of late. Have a think about future workshop activities and trips you might like included. Our end of year break up will be upon us before we know it. I hope most of you can make it.

Well, that's it from me,

Karen Grice

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Competition Results

The feedback and scores for 'Scapes' as well as the 'Open' competition are always welcomed by our Members.

Congratulations to all who received an Honour, Merit, Highly Commended or Acceptance.



Overlooking Townsville from Castle Hill — Ina Pryor

Scapes — A Grade

Image of the Month - Sharryl Whiting

Honour - Sharryl x2

Merit - Elsbeth x2, Cecily, Kaye, Phensri, Patricia, Ray, Goulven

Highly Commended - Karen x2, Cecily, Patricia, Garry, Larry

Acceptance 5 - Marcia x2, Goulven, Lyn, Phensri..... 4 - Annette x2, Bob x2, Toni x2, Kaye, Ray, Lyn, Larry, Garry, Sue

Scapes — AB Grade

Image of the Month - Ina Pryor

Merit - Ina

Highly Commended - Dawn

Acceptance - Dawn, Ina

Kata Tjuta Landscape — Sharryl Whiting



Competition Results (Continued)

Open - A Grade

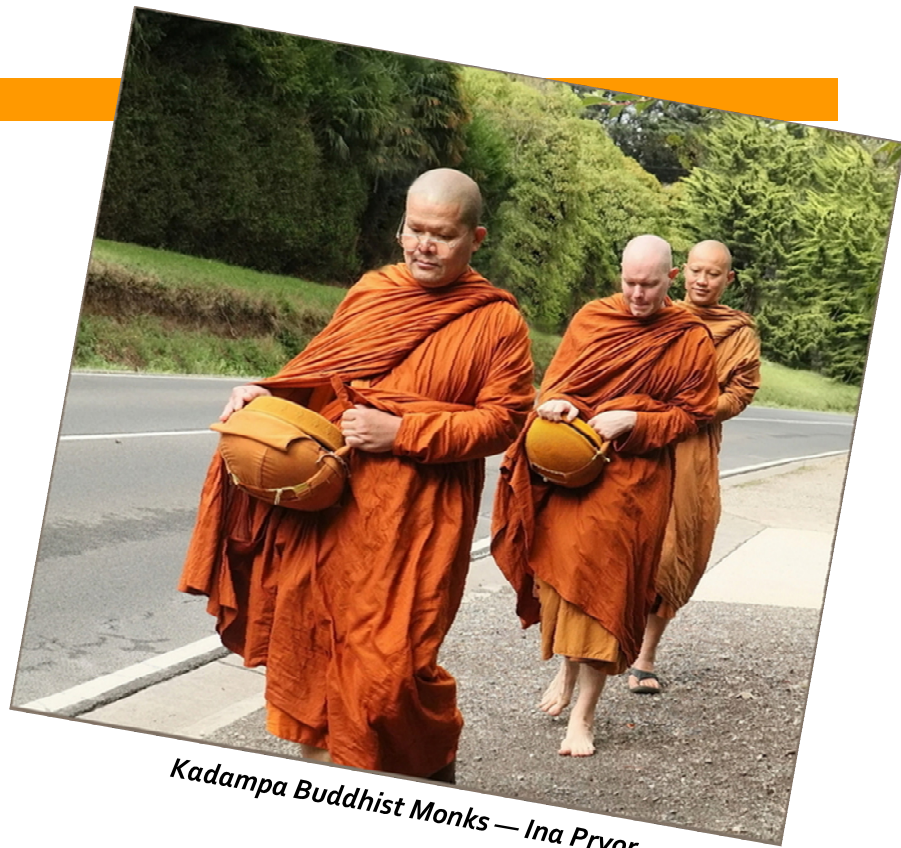
Image of the Month – Annette Sutton

Honour 9 - Annette.....8 - Phensri, Ray,
Toni

Merit – Cecily x2, Sharryl x2, Elsbeth,,
Annette, Karen, Lyn, Sue, Goulven

Highly Commended – Patricia x2, Goulven,
Phensri, Kaye, Toni, Larry

Acceptance 5 - Garry x2, Bob x2, Karen, Lyn,
Elsbeth, Kaye, Larry, Ray.....4 - Sue



Kadampa Buddhist Monks — Ina Pryor

Open - AB Grade

Image of the Month – Ina Pryor

Merit - Ina, Dawn

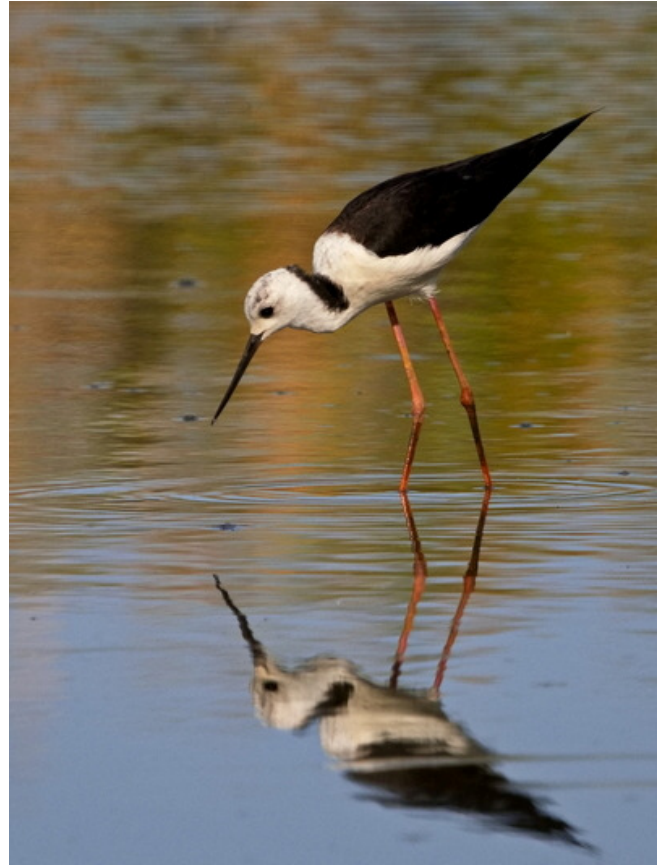
Highly Commended - Ina, Dawn



*Lunch —
Annette Sutton*

Members Facebook Page

The Townsville Photography Club have a Facebook page for members to share their images. This is some of the images posted by members over the last month.



Members Facebook Page (continued)



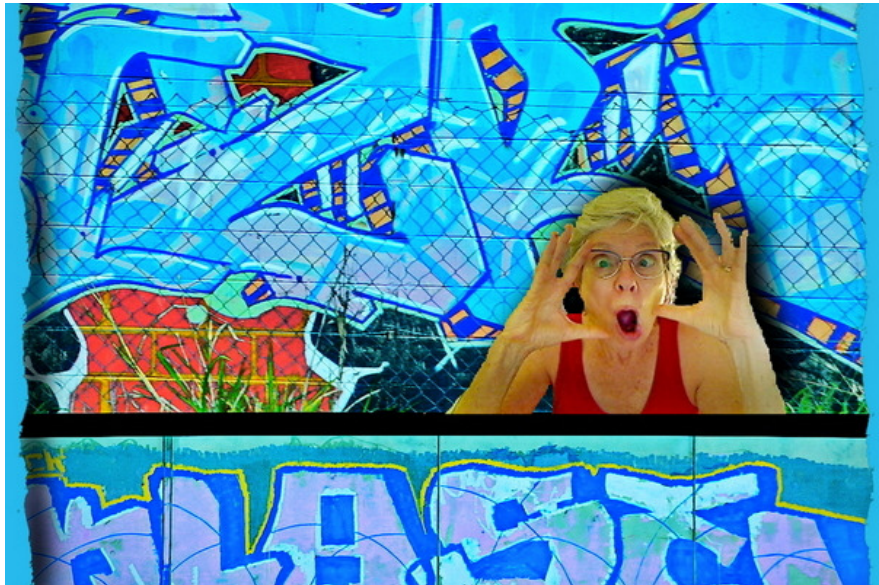
Members Facebook Page (continued)



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Outings are one of the fun things we do and we look forward to any suggestions for next year. Maybe you remember some of these.

Happy photography, Lyn.



PRINT OF THE MONTH
Theme — Graffiti
Graffiti — Sharryl Whiting



Competition Closing Dates

December 2023	Send 2 Sport Send 2 Open	In by 6th November	Bring Print Open	On 18h December
January 2024	Send 2 Monochrome Send 2 Open	In by 11th December	Bring Print Still Life	On 18th January
February 2024	Send 2 Transport Send 2 Open	In by 8th January	Bring Print Open	On 15th February
March 2024	Send 2 Marine Environment Send 2 Open	In by 12th February	Bring Print Birds	On 19th March

Remember – Some themes may have guidelines check on the website

Email Digital entries to – contesttpc22@gmail.com

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Exposure bracketing is a simple, yet effective, technique that can help ensure you capture the perfect exposure in tricky lighting situations. A classic example of one of these situations would be a sunrise/sunset. Should you stop down to preserve your highlights? Maybe overexpose to keep detail in your shadows? Or should you let your cameras metering decide and try to keep a bit of both. If you use exposure bracketing you can have all three of these options and give yourself the most flexibility when you finally get to editing the photos.

WHAT IS EXPOSURE BRACKETING?

When you activate exposure bracketing in your camera what you are essentially doing is telling the camera to take a series of identical photos but adjust the exposure slightly between each shot. To keep it simple I usually have it set to take three images, one that is a stop under exposed, a 'correct' exposure and one stop over exposed; this generally covers all the grounds I need to get what I need out of the shot. In order to allow your camera to change the exposure you generally need it to be able to control at least one variable (Auto ISO, Aperture Priority or Shutter Priority). If your camera doesn't have exposure bracketing in-built you can mimic what it is doing by taking three photos and adjusting your exposure compensation, but this is generally a bit of a slower process.



WHAT HAPPENS NEXT?

Now we have our bracketed set, you have a few options when it comes to editing. Firstly, if you haven't used exposure bracketing before; or have recently changed the model of your camera; I would practice putting all three images into your favourite editing software and process all three. Every camera is different so see how your camera handles the under exposed and over exposed images. For example, Nikon are able to recover immense detail from extremely under exposed areas of an image but aren't as good as recovering the highlights. This means if you are in a high contrast environment with a Nikon camera you should generally use the underexposed frame from your bracketing and brighten the image up in your editing software to keep as much detail in the image as possible. This will vary not just from brand to brand, but even specific models in each brand so it is best to get familiar with how your camera handles it!

EDITING YOUR IMAGES

The second option that bracketing images gives you is to take all the best parts of each image and merge it all into one. This can be done using Lightroom, Photoshop or a range of other programs who have the ability to use 'HDR'. It works in a similar way as your in camera HDR system but gives you more control and generally results in a nicer image. The second way we can merge these photos is a much more manual process of 'exposure blending' which is only an option for people using a photo editing software that uses layers, such as Photoshop. To exposure blend your images you would essentially apply layer masks to the darker and brighter exposures and begin to paint in the sections of

light or dark using the brush tool. This way can get a little complicated so it may be a good idea to get a hand from one of your other club members who have tried it before.



When Not To Use Bracketing

These are all the positives of exposure bracketing but it certainly isn't without its disadvantages. Taking three frames of every photo means you need three times the space on your memory cards, you add three times as many actuations to your camera's shutter life and it is going to take three times as long to take each photo. This makes it not ideal for sports or fast-moving subjects, and if you want to use the HDR or exposure blending process there can't be any movement in your shot at all.

Now you are armed with all you need to know to get out there and start with exposure bracketing! It is an easy process but can be difficult to master. As I mentioned each camera is different so if you struggle to find how to turn on exposure bracketing for your model, make sure to ask another club member, or come see us at Camera House.

- Julian

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Domain Central, Garbutt

