



Townsville Photography Club Inc.

Snap Shot

Volume 17 Number 12

December 2023

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From the President

2023 is almost done and dusted! Where has the year gone? It seems to go faster the older you get! Looking back over the year, we seem to have achieved quite a lot.

On our monthly club nights, we get to hear what a judge has to say about our photos, often giving positive advice on how to improve our photo, but sometimes making us feel a little disheartened when we get what seems like a reasonable evaluation, yet we only get given a 5!! We just have to roll with the punches and aim to do better next time...remembering it is just one person's point of view.

Workshop nights also held monthly, either include helpful videos to watch or practical sessions where we bring our camera and photograph whatever is on offer.

Monthly ACDSsee tutorials have been capably given by Cecily, and sometimes Annette, where we watch and then hopefully retain the information learnt so we can improve our editing skills.

We have made several trips this year which are always fun. We started our year with the annual luncheon at the Yacht Club where some of us take bets as to what Cecily will order...usually chips! A trip after the rain to the Town Common was next. Some of us also ventured up to the Bridal falls to check the flowing waterfall as well.

On another get together, we headed to the Palmetum with morning tea there. The Sugar City Rodeo then took us to Ingham for the day to check out the crazy people

who attempt to ride bulls and bucking horses as well as the barrel races. Texas Longhorns near Charters Towers was next on our agenda which was a fun day, which also included a very tasty butterscotch slice! Some very amusing moments were had here, hey Ina. Magnetic Island was our last major trip for the year. This is becoming an annual event organized largely by Stephanie! We are very fortunate to have this on our doorstep. On this trip we ventured part of the way up the hill to look for koalas. While Phensri took thousands of photos of one koala, 3 of us headed up a little further to be rewarded with an echidna on the track! You never know what you will come across.

We were also asked if we would be interested in taking photos at the Pineapple Festival which some of us did. They were very grateful.

Many have participated on our Facebook page which is encouraging!

We thank you for being part of our club and hope you all continue to be active members. We are always looking at ways to improve things so any suggestions would be gratefully appreciated.

I will take this opportunity to wish you all a very Merry Christmas, and a Happy New Year of getting together as a club to continue our interest in Photography!

Karen Grice

(your illustrious president lol)

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Annual Awards for Digital Images and Prints 2023

A Grade Theme Digital Photographer:

First — Marcia Bacon
Second — Karen Grice
Third — Cecily Jones

Image of the Year — Karen Grice

AB Grade Theme Digital Photographer:

First — Ina Pryor
Second — Dawn Furmage

Image of the Year — Ina Pryor

A Grade Open Digital Photographer:

First — Annette Sutton
Second — Cecily Jones
Third — Lyn Hastings

Image of the Year — Cecily Jones
Image of the Year — Phensri Rutledge

AB Grade Open Digital Photographer:

First — Dawn Furmage
Second — Ina Pryor

Image of the Year — Ina Pryor

Print Photographer:

First — Cecily Jones
Second — Phensri Rutledge
Third — Sharryl Whiting

Print of the Year — Karen Grice



Phensri Rutledge — A Grade Open Image of the Year

Cecily Jones— A Grade Open Image of the Year



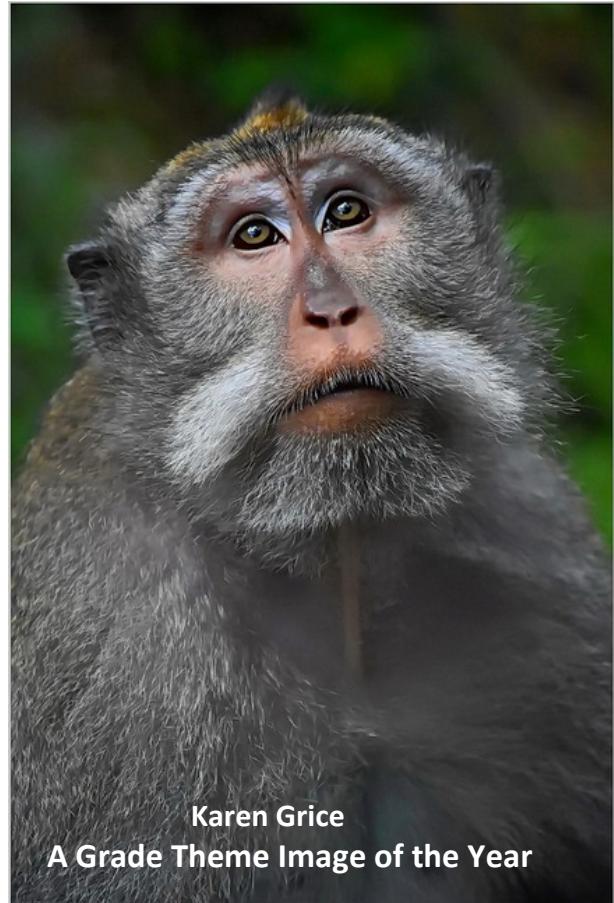
Images of the Year in 2023



**Karen Grice
Print of the Year**



**Ina Pryor
AB Grade Open Image of the Year**



**Karen Grice
A Grade Theme Image of the Year**



**Ina Pryor
AB Grade Theme Image of the Year**

Merry Christmas

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Competition Results

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

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

Sport — A Grade

Image of the Month -

Karen Grice

Honour 9 - Karen.....8 - Elsbeth, Marcia, Lyn, Wayne, Goulven, Bob

Merit - Cecily x2, Phensri x2, Annette, Marcia, Ray, Wayne

Highly Commended - Kaye x2, Elsbeth, Karen, Annette, Lyn, Toni, Patricia, Sue, Patricia

Acceptance - Sharryl x2, Bob, Ray, Sue, Larry



Preparing for the Race — Karen Grice

Sport - AB Grade

Image of the Month – Ina Pryor

Honour - Ina

Merit - Ina, Dawn

Acceptance - Dawn



Dog Agility Trials — Ina Pryor



Competition Results (Continued)

Open - A Grade

Image of the Month –

Cecily Jones

**Honour 9 - Cecily.....8 - Cecily,
Kaye, Karen**

Merit - Ray x2, Annette x2, Elsbeth
x2, Goulven x2, Garry, Patricia, Toni

Highly Commended - Lyn x2, Bob x2, Larry x2,
Karen, Phensri, Garry, Sharryl, Wayne, Sue,
Patricia

Acceptance - Sharryl, Phensri, Kaye, Toni, Sue



Mist on the Water — Cecily Jones



Bowerbird Eating Bread— Ina Pryor

Open - AB Grade

Image of the Month – Ina Pryor

Honour 8 - Ina

Merit - Ina, Dawn

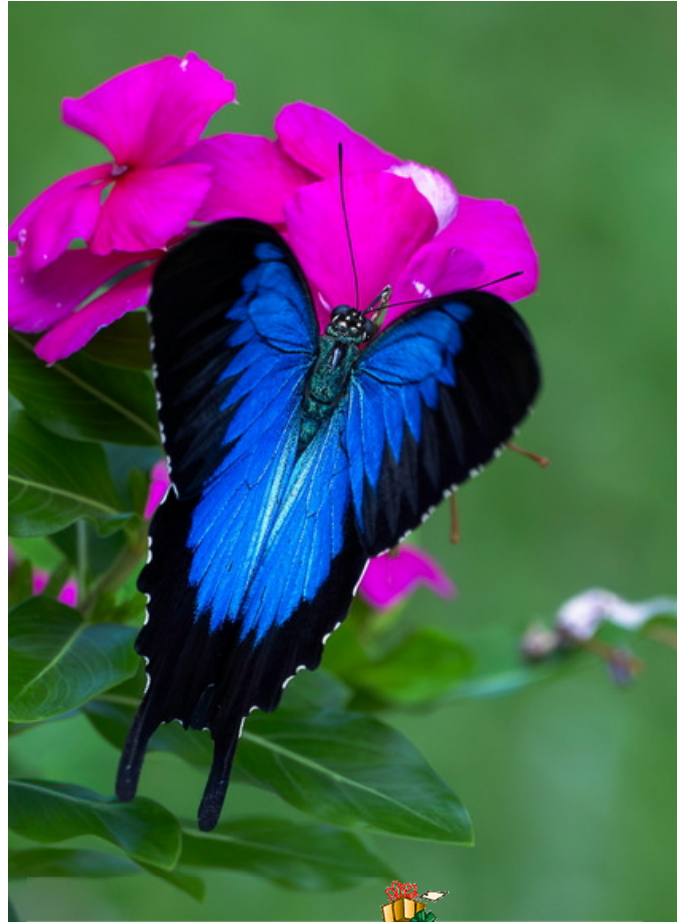
Highly Commended - Dawn

Members Facebook Page

The Townsville Photography Club have a Facebook page for members to share their images. This is just a few of the images posted by members.



Members Facebook Page (continued)



Issue VOLUME 17 NUMBER 12

2023 is coming to an end and we look forward to 2024. Congratulations to all who received Certificates for their photography in 2023 and wishing everyone a very productive 2024.

Happy photography, Lyn.



PRINT OF THE MONTH
 Theme — Open
 Autumn Colours — Cecily Jones

Competition Closing Dates

February 2024	Send 2 Transport Send 2 Open	In by 8th January	Bring Print Open	On 15th January
March 2024	Send 2 Marine Environment Send 2 Open	In by 12th February	Bring Print Birds	On 19th February
April 2024	Send 2 Churches Send 2 Open	In by 11th March	Bring Print Open	On 18th March
May 2024	Send 2 Minimalism Send 2 Open	In by 8th April	Bring Print Pubs	On 15th April

Remember – Some themes may have guidelines check on the website

Email Digital entries to – contesttpc22@gmail.com

Tips on Photographing Lightning!

Lightning Photography During the Day or Night

It is getting to that exciting time of year where we start to see storms rolling through Townsville (hopefully). There's something incredibly evocative about lightning photography. And the act of taking pictures of lightning can be thrilling. The real joy hits once you've grasped the settings and know exactly how to photograph lightning. Then you can enjoy the storm and reap the benefits of your knowledge when you review the stunning photos afterwards. If you're ready to take the plunge, read on to find out the right equipment you'll need and the best settings for lightning photography.



The Right Equipment for Lightning Photography

At a minimum you'll need:

A tripod, remote trigger (preferably with an intervalometer), rain protection for your camera, a weather radar app for your phone & of course your camera!

Tripod

Having a tripod ensures your camera remains still so you can take long exposures without capturing motion. Since you'll likely be photographing in wild conditions, it's better to invest in a heavy tripod.

Remote Trigger or Intervalometer

A remote trigger or any cable release ensures you capture the shot without jolting the camera when you press the shutter button. Wireless triggers add a bit of luxury in a storm since it means you can set up the camera outside and then capture images from the comfort and safety of your car interior.

Your Camera

A remote trigger or any cable release ensures you capture the shot without jolting the camera when you press the shutter button. Wireless triggers add a bit of luxury in a storm since it means you can set up the camera outside and then capture images from the comfort and safety of your car interior.

The Right Equipment for Lightning Photography

It's hard to pinpoint specific settings for lightning photography since a lot depends on the circumstances around your shoot. Are you shooting in the pitch dark, around city lights, or in daylight? Is the lightning close to you or further away? Are there foreground elements you want to capture? We've provided some general recommendations for settings below but once you've captured your first shot, it's best to review the photo and make sure the lightning bolt is sharp and the exposure just right. Then adjust any necessary settings for the next shot.

Shutter Speed

Most people assume you need a fast shutter speed to capture lightning but in fact the opposite is true.

To capture lightning as it happens (instead of gambling on your reflexes when you see the flash), it works to lengthen the exposure time with a long shutter speed.

Photographers often use a long exposure of between 5 and 30 seconds but of course, it's essential to have a camera that produces low noise for this to work. The longer the shutter speed, the more lit up your foreground will be so also try experimenting with shorter shutter speeds of between 1 and 3 seconds to keep the foreground darker.

Focus

It's essential to use manual focus when photographing lightning (especially if you're photographing at night) since many camera autofocus systems can't focus in the dark. Set your focus on infinity but make sure the camera lens doesn't focus beyond infinity. If you can, switch to the live view setting on your camera, use the LCD screen to zoom in on a distant light source (even the moon works) and turn the focus ring until that light is crisp.

Aperture

The aperture you use can often depend on a variety of different factors, particularly when and where you shoot. Most lightning photography benefits from a wide aperture and a shallow depth of field. But the wider your aperture is, the harder it will be to focus. If you're trying to photograph lightning at night and away from lights, try starting with an aperture of f/5.6 and check the image afterwards. If the image is too overexposed, stop down the lens to f/8 or even smaller. If it's dark but you're photographing lightning over a city, narrower

apertures are often more reliable in capturing both the city lights and the lightning. Consider using f/10 to f/16. If you're trying to photograph lightning in daylight, try stopping down to f/16 or f/22.

ISO

To avoid taking grainy photographs, try to set your camera to base ISO – that is, the lowest possible value on your camera. This could be anywhere between 64 and 200.

RAW

A trick to lightning photography is ensuring there is some texture in the foreground, so the image has more depth. Shooting your images as RAW files rather than jpegs enables you to recover foreground details much better in post-production.



Cheat Sheet!

Based on the settings we recommend above, here's our cheat sheet for photographing photography:

- Step 1:** Set up your camera on a tripod
- Step 2:** Attach an intervalometer or remote shutter to reduce camera shake.
- Step 3:** Turn off image stabilisation as it can lead to a softer image.
- Step 4:** Focus your lens to infinity.
- Step 5:** Take a photo with lightning in it and check the result to make sure the settings are right.
- Step 6:** If you have a remote or intervalometer, lock it down so the camera continuously shoots.

Ready to Photograph Lightning

Now you understand how to photograph lightning, there's nothing left but to get out there! As with all photography – but even more importantly with lightning photography – practice makes perfect. Of course, equipment helps you skill up faster. Come in and see the team at Camera House today and check out our range of tripods & remotes in store!

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GARRICKS
camerahouse