



Townsville Photography Club Inc.

# Snap Shot

Volume 18 Number 2

February 2024

## IN THIS ISSUE

## From the President

It's the President's report ing, as well as an ACDSsee yet again, and there's not post-processing workshop much to write about, tutorial that was well except to complain about received.

the heat, the humidity, the cyclone, the rain and the mozzies, all of which inhibit our desire to go out and about to take photos! Hopefully, the weather will improve soon!

We haven't even had our annual get together for lunch at the Yacht Club yet,

due to the cyclone and the hot weather so I am really struggling!

We did, however, have a hands-on workshop with oil on water to create bubbles, which was quite interest-

I am a bit over the humidity myself, so I've decided to escape Townsville for nine days and visit Taiwan before the Chinese try to do a take-over. I leave on the 16<sup>th</sup> March. I'm going

solo on a tour as I've got no friends who want to come with me.

Well, this is one of the shortest reports yet! Hopefully, next month will be better!

Karen Grice

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## Competition Results

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

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

### Transport Theme —

#### Image of the Month - Cecily Jones

Honour 9 - Karen x2, Cecily, Brian

Honour 8 - Phensri x2, Goulven x2, Cecily, Sharryl, Bob, Brian

Merit - Wayne, Elsbeth, Ina, Larry, Bob, Kaye

Highly Commended - Lyn x2, Garry x2, Annette, Elsbeth, Sharryl, Ray, Larry, Kaye

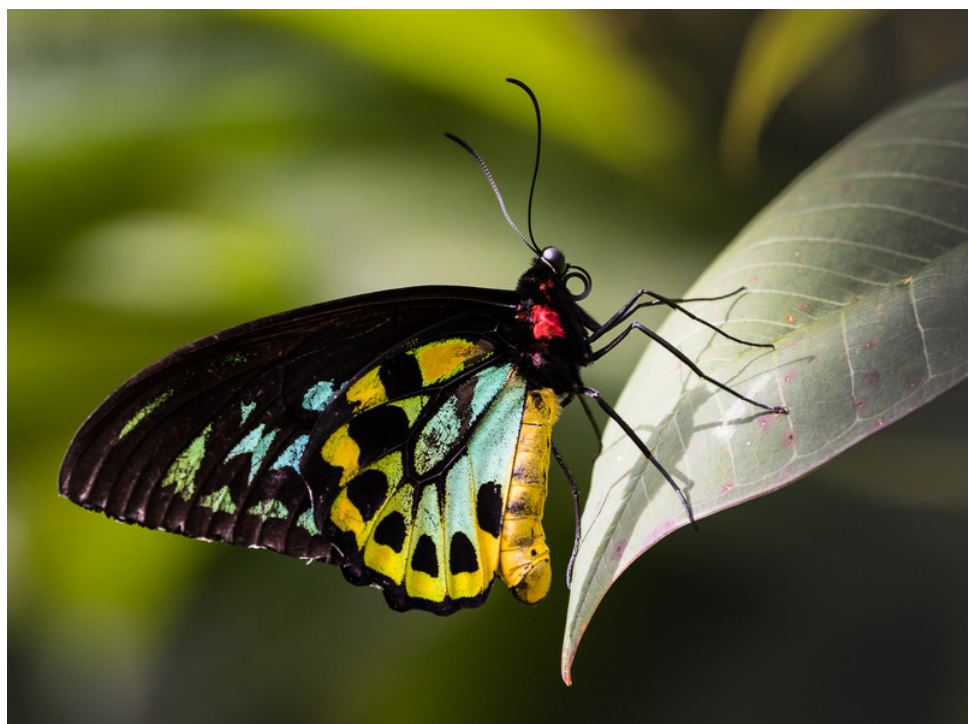
Acceptance - Toni x2, Patricia x2, Annette, Ray, Wayne, Ina



*Travelling by Bike — Cecily Jones*

### PRINT OF THE MONTH

Theme — Open  
Cairns Birdwing Butterfly —  
Phensri Rutledge



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## Competition Results (Continued)

### Open Theme

#### Image of the Month –

#### Garry McGovern

Honour 9 - Garry x2, Brian x2, Cecily,  
Karen, Larry, Phensri, Goulven

Honour 8 - Annette x2, Cecily, Marcia, Sharryl,  
Larry, Karen, Patricia, Goulven

Merit - Ray x2, Elsbeth x2, Lyn, Marcia, Phensri,  
Ina

Highly Commended - Kaye x2, Toni x2, Lyn,

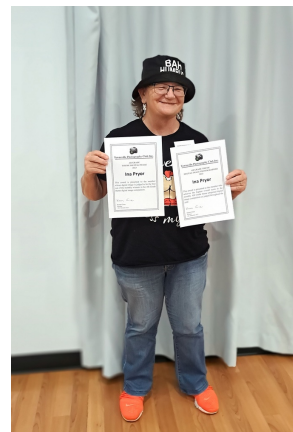
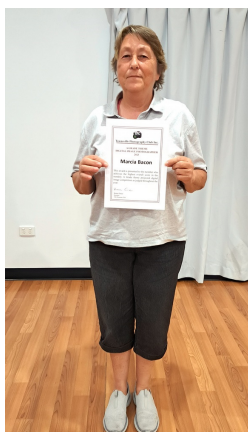
Acceptance - Bob x2, Sharryl, Patricia, Ina



*Leave Your Hat Outside — Garry McGovern*

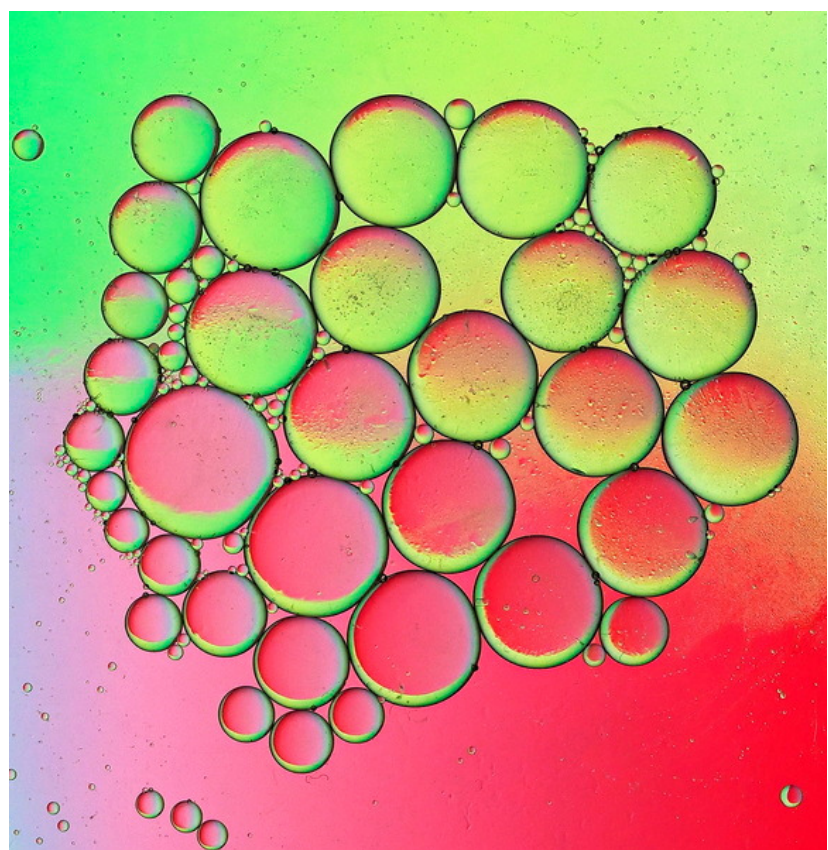
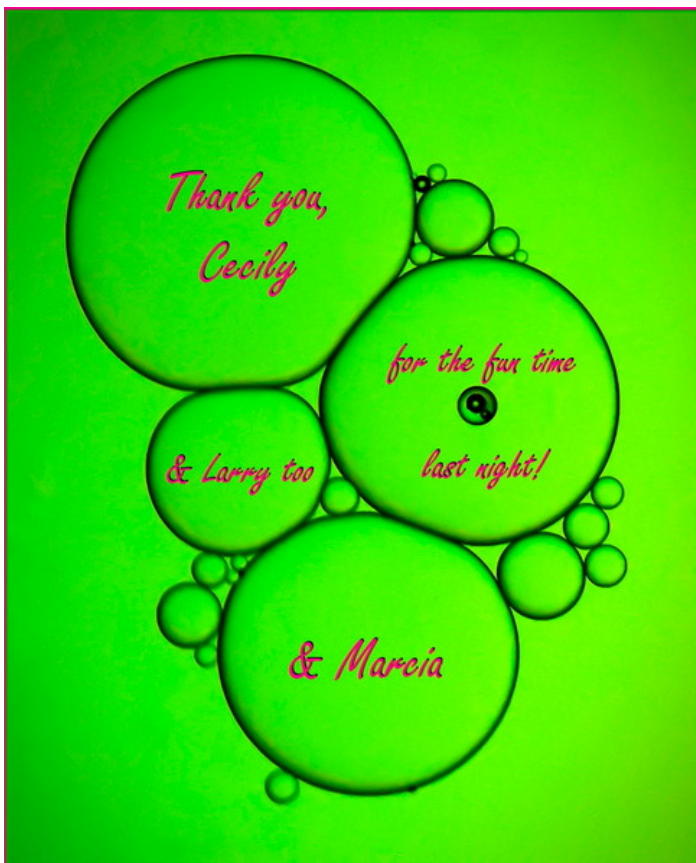
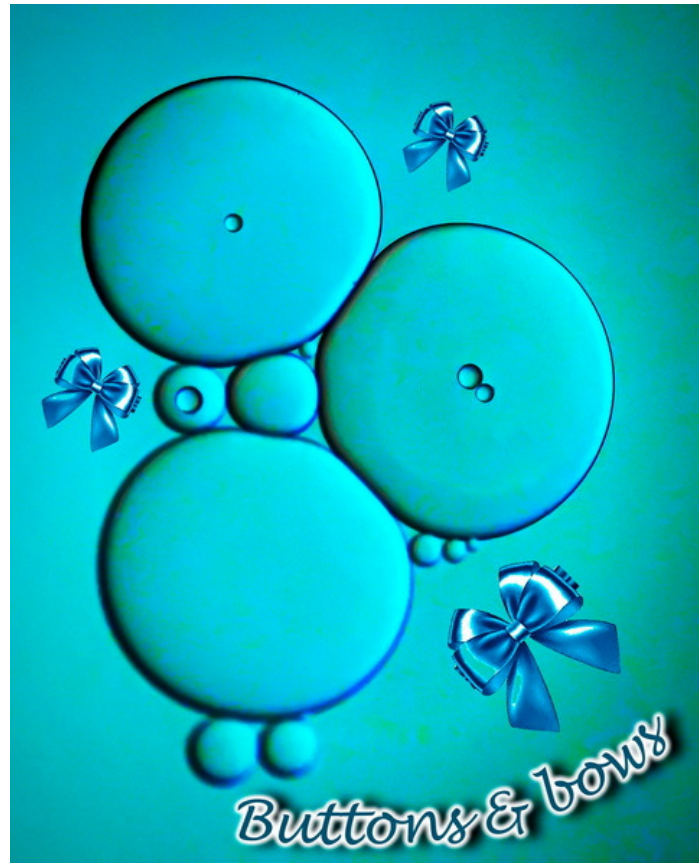
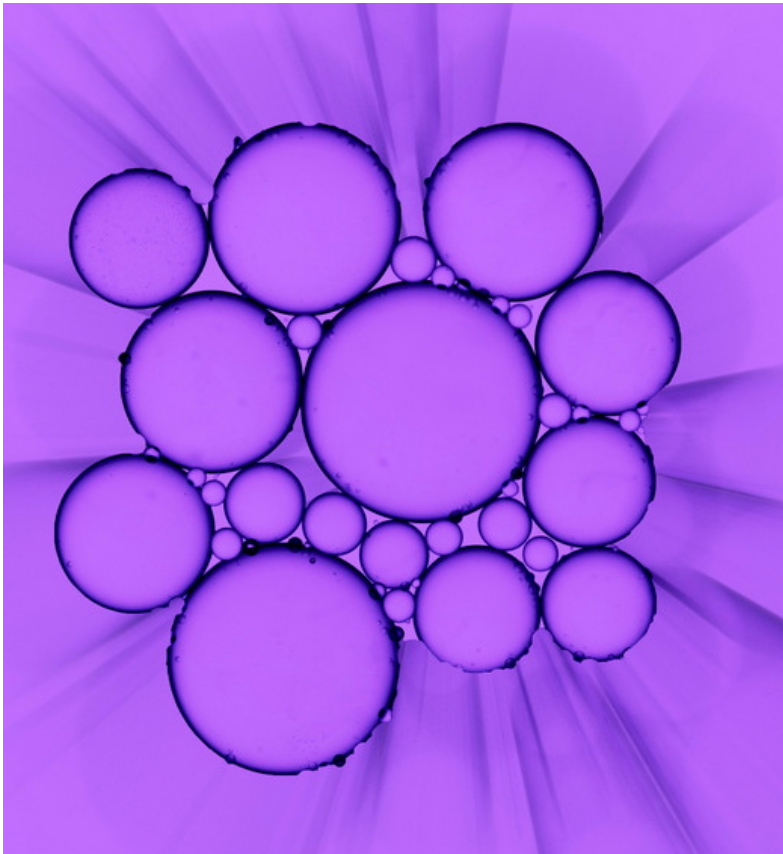
## From the Editor

It is hard to believe that February is fast disappearing, and we are well under way in accumulating scores for 2024. Last year winners were - Annette Sutton - A Grade Open Digital Image Photographer. Marcia Bacon- A Grade Theme Digital Image Photographer. Cecily Jones - Print Photographer and Ina Pryor AB Grade Theme Digital Photographer. Who will be 2024 Winners? Whatever the outcome, we as a Club continue to enjoy the get togethers and the company. Roll on 2024.

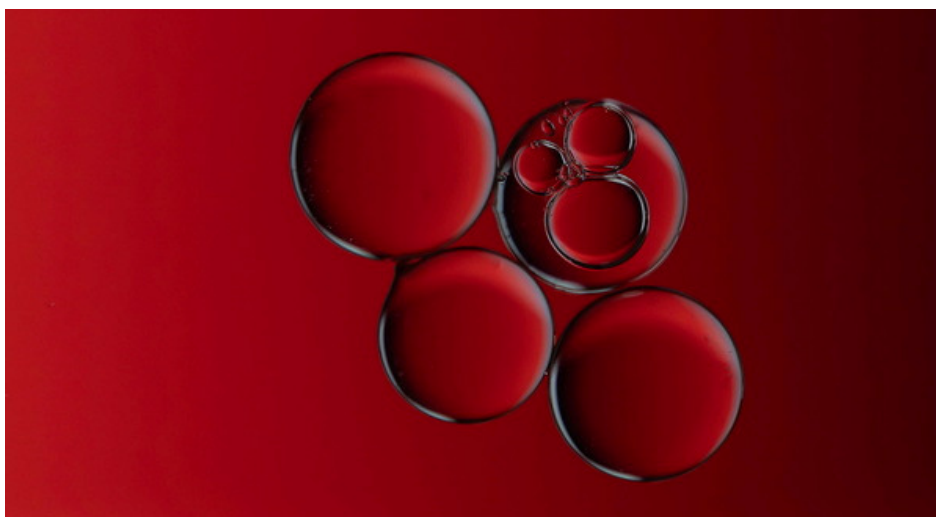
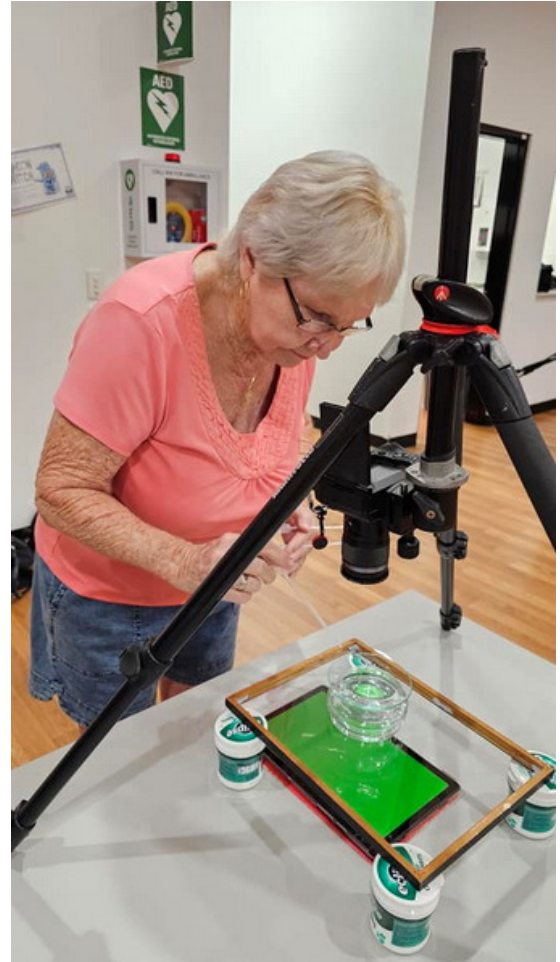
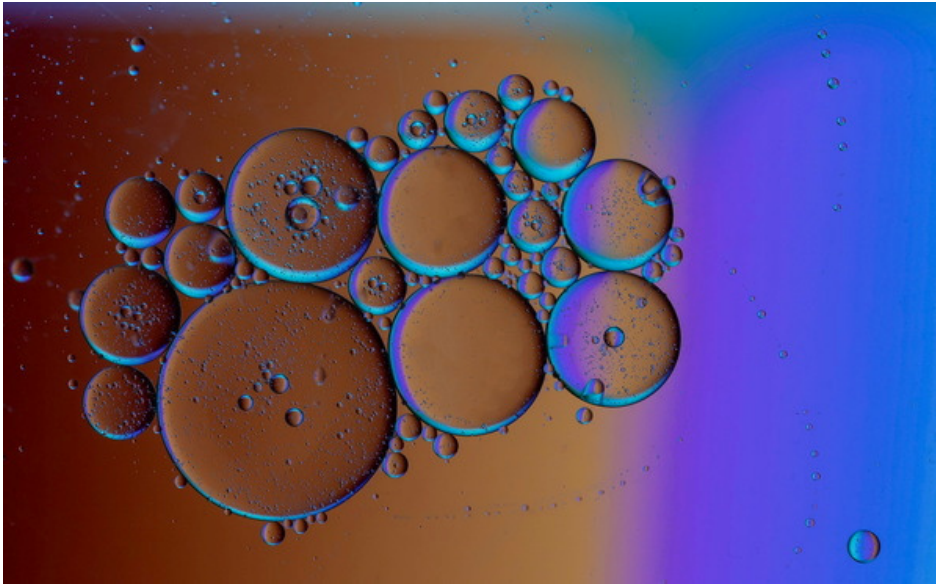


## Members Facebook Page

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 from the Workshop for 'Oil on Water' to create bubbles.



Members Facebook Page (continued)



## Competition Closing Dates

<b>April 2024</b>	Send 2 Churches Send 2 Open	<b>In by 11th March</b>	Bring Print Open	<b>On 18th March</b>
<b>May 2024</b>	Send 2 Minimalism Send 2 Open	<b>In by 8th April</b>	Bring Print Pubs	<b>On 15th April</b>
<b>June 2024</b>	Send 2 Creative Send 2 Open	<b>In by 13th May</b>	Bring Print Open	<b>On 20th May</b>
<b>July 2024</b>	Send 2 Colour Purple Send 2 Open	<b>In by 10th June</b>	Bring Print Flora	<b>On 17th June</b>

***Remember – Some themes may have guidelines .... check on the website  
Email Digital entries to – [contesttpc22@gmail.com](mailto:contesttpc22@gmail.com)***

### Post Processing Sessions

We will be running these sessions on ACDSee at the Aitkenvale Library at 7.00 pm on the fourth Monday of each month, starting in January. What to bring - laptop with latest ACDSee installed. Notebook and pen if you need to take notes. Require further information - contact Cecily.

**Aitkenvale Library 7.00pm Monday, 26th February.**

### Photography Workshops

These are usually held on the first Monday of the month at the Oonoomba Hall at 7.00 pm. There could be some changes to these dates but you will be notified by email of any such changes. In the meantime mark your Calendar for the first workshop -

**Oonoomba Hall 7.00 pm Monday 4th March.**

## 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!

Julian

Garricks Camera House

Domain Central

Ph: 4725 4711

[julian.forsyth@camerahouse.com.au](mailto:julian.forsyth@camerahouse.com.au)

GARRICKS  
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