# VIEWPOINT



Tauranga Photographic Society Newsletter

August2019



Thought to be the first commercially available digital camera, Nikon produced this Model SVC in 1988, or thereabouts.

### **Editorial**

I saw a news release the other day heralding Sony's new A7R Mk 4, a full frame, mirrorless camera with a 62 megapixel image sensor! That is quite something, I thought, and so started thinking about all of the new mirrorless cameras that have appeared in the market recently. I suppose it may be obvious, but are we seeing the end of the DSLR? far as I know, only Canon and Nikon are still offering DSLR cameras and sales declinina are reportedly rapidly with both auite manufacturers now pushing their new mirrorless offerings extensively.

I switched to the mirrorless product about a year and a half ago when the Sony A7iii appeared on the market, ditching my trusty Nikon and all of its lenses via TradeMe and I have to say I am very pleased with the result. It is a camera with remarkable capabilities, exceeding mine by quite a bit!

know its fashionable for people to say "its the photographer, the not camera that makes a great image" but a good workman always buys the best tools that he (or she!) can afford and photography is no different. For example, would you try for a bird in flight with your cell phone camera? You might be lucky, but your luck would be much improved with a long telephoto lens of a reasonable aperture, a fast shutter speed and the magnificent auto-focus of a Sony A7R4! Not to mention using a camera with a full-frame - or larger - image sensor.

I am off now to start saving for the Hasselblad H6D-400C, its only \$US47,995 – plus lenses of course .....



## **Club Contacts**

The Club Meets @7.30pm on the 1st and 3rd Thursday of the month (February to November)

@ Arts & Craft Centre, 177 Elizabeth Street West, Tauranga.

### Visitors are welcome.

#### **Contacts:**

President: Annette Johnston tpspresident19@gmail.com

Secretary: Trish Peddle secretary.tps2@gmail.com

Newsletter Editor: Neville Harlick tpsnewseditor@gmail.com

Club Web Site: taurangaphoto.nz



## From the President's Desk



In my recent Annual General Meeting President's message, I talked a little about the functioning of the Executive Committee (my full message can be viewed under the resources tab on our website). The Executive Committee (EC) are charged with the management and the future directions of our club. The guiding document of Tauranga Photographic Society is the Constitution which sets out the parameters of our actions, our authority, our obligations and our accountabilities. Foremost in this document are the list of nine Objectives (Clause 2) with the very first Object stating that TPS should be 'an association for the mutual enjoyment of photography'. I sincerely hope that all members of this club feel that we as your EC are adhering to these principles in all that we do.

Following the AGM, we will

hold our first meeting of the 2019/2020 Executive Committee. High on that agenda will be the way we communicate to club members: is this something that could be improved upon? I do like to think that I, and all other members of the EC are completely approachable, either during club meetings or by telephone or by email. I know I am very happy to meet over a tea or coffee with anyone if a discussion would be of help. We make our decisions with what we view to be the best interest of the club as a whole; but you may have a better solution to a problem or a really fabulous idea. If so, we would love to hear from you. The art of listening and communication are after all the responsibilities of all parties.

TPS are very fortunate that we have the Tauranga Art and Crafts Centre (TACC) as our home. I spoke at the AGM about the lease of this building which will expire 30 May 2028, and at this moment of time with no further right of renewal. As with all assets there is a certain level of liability with this structure which has been built and maintained largely by volunteers over the past 31 years, and now needs constant maintenance. Following discussion at the AGM about the subscription we pay as TPS members, I thought it

should be noted that of the \$65 /\$70 (non PSNZ members), \$40 goes directly to the TACC for the management, upkeep, repairs and maintenance of the building. TPS is therefore being run on \$25 per member; not a generous amount but an amount the EC make work with prudent and careful management of our current resources and fundraising where appropriate.

After all this talk of procedure, and organisation please remember that TPS should be about the mutual enjoyment of photography. We all share a rather special passion, and it is my hope that TPS is a place where we can all enjoy sharing the techniques, the ideas, the joys and the challenges of this wonderful craft in absolute support of each other and our individual and collective artistic creations.

The sharing of our individual successes will be utmost in our minds when in a couple of weeks' time we join with each other along with some friends and family, over a meal and celebrate our first ever club salon. This new format has attracted 135 digital images and 106 prints entries. Results aside, it will be exciting to be able to mull over so many fabulous images!

## **Announcements**



#### From the Webmaster:

As you know the TPS website has recently had some updates made to improve the service we provide to members. In particular you will now find information about how to read the online feedbacks and view your images. To read the instructions just follow these instructions: Logon to the website; go to the Resources Tab >Help Sheets/Tutorials > How to View Evaluation Images and Feedback. Once the page is open, just follow the notes.

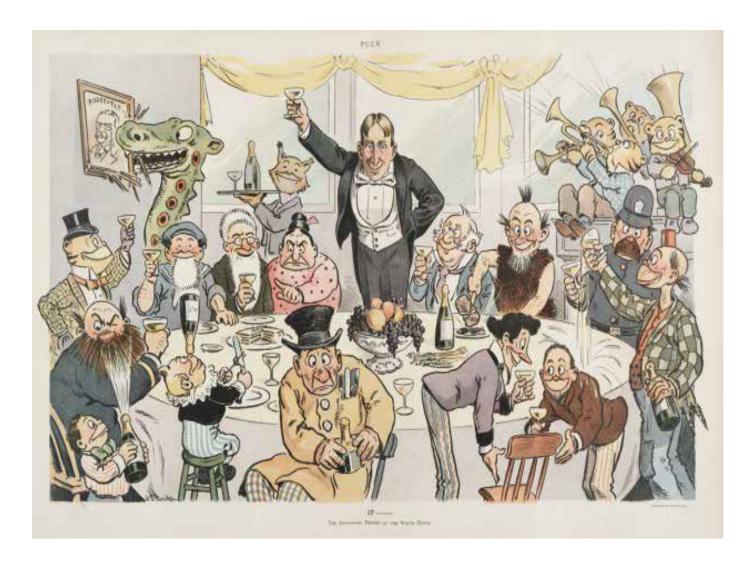


### **Announcements - continued**

### **CLUB SALON PRESENTATION AND DINNER**

The event will be held on Thursday, August 15, 2019 from 6:00 PM to 10:00 PM.

Venue: Sir Tristan Room, Tauranga Racecourse, Cameron Road, Greerton



## **Ongoing TPS Program**

#### FROM the PROGRAMME COMMITTEE

**1st August** Our visitor this evening will be Martyn Davis from Rotorua. Martyn is passionate about the outdoors, tourism, photography and video. In recent years Martyn has worked as a freelance photographer and videographer, basing himself at Mt Ruapehu, with the occasional detour to work providing webcasts and remote communications support to productions like the World Junior Surf Championships, The Hobbit and Pete's Dragon.

15th August Club Salon Exhibition, Dinner and Presentation

**5th September** Craig Robertson who is the Fujifilm Rep will talk about some of his personal photography

#### **Evaluation**

September: Entries close at midnight on 31st August

**Prints: Creative** 

Instead of taking a realistic style photograph, create something which is different from reality. If you take a photo of a garden which looks like the garden then this is a realistic style image. However if you take a zoom burst of the same garden or a multiple image in the garden then you are creating something which is different. A straight forward photo of a beach scene is realistic however if you want to portray that beach scene in a creative way you may choose to use a slow shutter speed and/or camera movement to create an impressionist image of the scene. You may decide to blend two or more photos together in a composite image to tell a story which is different from reality.

#### Digital: Low Key

A low-key image is one that contains predominantly dark tones and colours. They convey atmosphere and mood which is usually dramatic and full of mystery. Remember to put a very narrow border - maybe a mid grey, around these images to separate them from the background when displayed. Check out the youtube references in the expanded guidelines for more ideas. If you like black and white check out https://digital-photography-school.com/low-key-black-and-white-photography/

## The Story Behind.....



In 2018, I set myself two challenges:

- · Learn and become competent at focus stacking,
- · Develop off camera flash techniques.

In studio, I 'focus-stacked' whatever was to hand eventually photographing flowers; this process required the use of multiple off-camera flash, thereby nicely linking my two ambitions.

The images of this panel emerged as I explored a range of techniques, including focus stacking, the use of added light, and a touch of the creative composite as I carefully placed and arranged blooms; the choice of focal plane the key to revealing the natural architecture.

The result, a variety of blooms, both colourful and luminous; a nod to the work of the classical water colour botanic artists, but with a modern nuance.

I was pleased, delighted and relieved to be awarded my APSNZ (Associate of the Photographic Society of New Zealand) in April this year.

#### **Annette Johnston**

# **Evaluation Results - Digital**

The top Digital images from June.



OPEN - Sky Dancers by Jeanette Nee



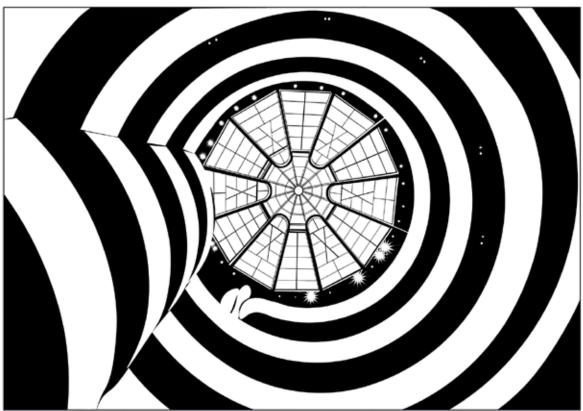
**SET SUBJECT - Default by Ian Saunders** 

## **Evaluation Results - Print**

The top Print images from July



OPEN: Lioness Cleaning Cub, Serengeti. By Raewyne Cathie



SET SUBJECT: Atrium, Guggenheim Museum by Annette Johnston

# Readers images



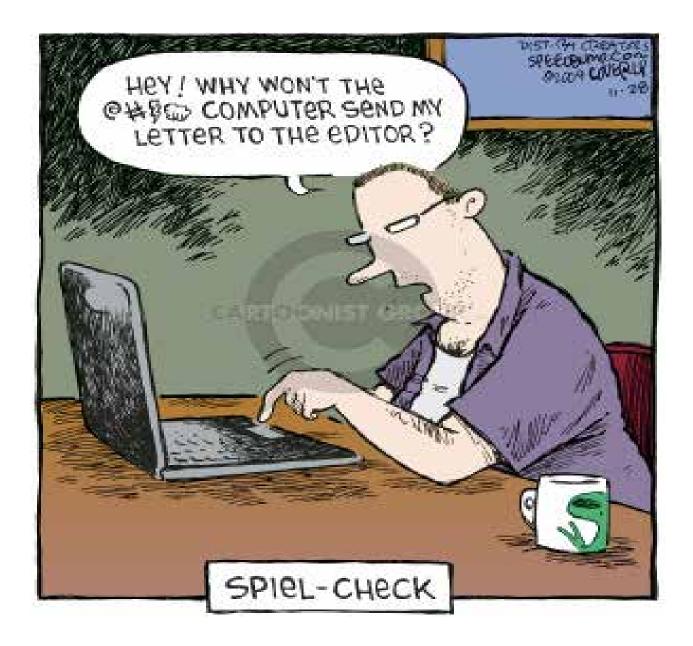
An Italian Sheepdog protecting his flock from a bevy of photographers, one foggy morning in Tuscany. From Annette Johnston



"Waxeye / Tauhou" sent in by Graham Jones

## **Letters to the Editor**

No comments, complaints or communications this month!



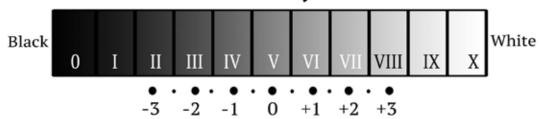
## **Tips and Tricks**

Don't be fooled into believing that a good quality colour image can automatically be morphed in to great Monochrome image.

Monochromatic or black and white photography has been available to photographers since the inception of photography in the late 19th Century.

The Americans, Ansel Adams and Fred Archer are credited with inventing the "Zone System" of photography in the 1920's.. This system provides technical formulae which enables photographers to better understand the process of exposing film to light sources in order to provide a predictable and consistent outcome for prints.

## The Zone System



As you can see from the above chart, Zone 0 is pure black whilst Zone X is pure white. Zone V consists of an equal amount of of black and white tones and is referred to as 50% grey. The whole system is also known as the 'Grey Scale.'

It is not my intention to discuss the system in detail but suffice to say that light meters work on the principal of measuring a scene in terms of the volume of grey which can be detected by the meter. They are formulated to predict an exposure which will provide a range of tones from pure white to pure black by exposing for Zone V. [i.e. 50% Grey.]

The photographer can manually under expose or over expose an image by increasing or decreas-

ing the exposure. Less light hitting a sensor will create a darker image whilst more exposure leads to lighter images. [See: <a href="https://photogra-phylife.com/underexposure-and-overexposure-in-photography">https://photography</a>]

The Zone System goes beyond mere exposure and describes the technical requirements of wet-film development in chemicals for various time periods and temperatures. Each of these elements would have produced a variation to the final development of a negative in the wet-film process. Due to the light sensitive nature of materials in use, all manipulations were conducted in a darkened room. [Dark Rooms]

With the advent of computers, algorithms and data processing, it didn't take long for someone to apply modern technology to film processing. One of the emerging results has been that of a program called "Light" room. [Lightroom]

The developers have literally taken the bones of the traditional dark room techniques and embellished them into a user friendly facility which can now make identical and better adjustments to a 'negative' or image file. Work on these files can be done in a safe environment where light sensitive materials and dangerous chemicals are excluded from the process.

In the development module of Lightroom [see fig1.] you will notice under the Basic Tab a button called "Black & White". If you touch the button, the on screen colour image will immediately be rendered into a monochrome image.

Whilst any coloured image can now be reproduced in shades of



## Tips and Tricks - continued

black and white, the mere transition from one medium to the other does not necessarily produce an effective result. A true monochrome image should contain a full spectrum of shades of grey; from pure black to pure white.

I suggest that in 99% of cases, post production work will be required to bring a coloured image

up to an acceptable standard for the monochromatic genre. I believe this statement is true for both print and digital outcomes of the process.

Once you have chosen to create a black & white image from a

coloured original by depressing the button described in fig1, you will notice that another dialog box will open within the development tools panel of Lightroom. It is called 'B&W' and contains a number of sliders which can be moved left and right to increase or decrease shades of the original colours. [fig 2.] These sliders are being used to affect the degree of grey which exists within the new mono image.

Whilst good results can be obtained by this method, I personally prefer to use external plugins such as Silver Efex Pro 2 or Topaz Labs. Both these programs provide the author with greater control over his/her finished product.

It might be worth reminding people that the terms 'Low' and 'High' key images were originally used to describe the amount of Dark-grey or Light-grey tones contained within an image in proportion to the number of 50% grey tones. Thus, if there were more tones towards black the image

is said to be a Low key, but if there were more tones towards white, the image is referred to as a High Key image.

Paul Byrne FPSNZ, AFIAP, APRS

The following images are not Pauls, but they do serve to illustrate some of what he has described. Ed.





That's all, Folks!