



A color portrait of Mark Twain by Alvin Langdon Coburn, 1908, made by the recently introduced Autochrome process

## Editorial

I have also been away (as has the President) and spent some three weeks visiting South Africa, Zambia and Botswana.

I have now set foot on all of the Earth's continents and Africa was a definite highlight, rated right up there with Antarctica! The history and the wild life are simply extraordinary. All I can say is "Go There!"

The middle of the year has arrived – or nearly – and this is the fifth newsletter that I have produced as editor. The flavour and structure

of it have changed from past years and I thought that as the visible presence of a photography group that it should try and show a collection of member's images as much as keeping members informed. With the committee deciding to publish only four images from the evaluation submissions each month, it becomes difficult to find much suitable material and thanks to the "Story Behind" contributors for providing some interesting topics.

Another initiative was the "Reader's Images" idea, but

that has been unsuccessful as not a single member has offered any contributions, so I will drop that one.

This leaves me wondering just how many of the hundred or more members actually read this newsletter and what it is that people would like to see published here?

Perhaps the time has come to discontinue it entirely and members can just use the web site to give them whatever they need?

Your suggestions and contributions are welcome!

# 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:**

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**Club Web Site: [taurangaphoto.nz](http://taurangaphoto.nz)**



# From the President's Desk



As most of you know I have recently been overseas for a few weeks, Italy (Tuscany) and then across the seas to New York and a few hops later across the mighty USA before departing from San Francisco. Whilst in New York I took what felt like a pilgrimage to B & H Photo Store, a place where photographic gear of every persuasion, colour and creed, new and shiny and seemingly all capable, abounds! I bought one very small item (a new wrist-strap) as well as a new electrical cord for my laptop which had died whilst in Tuscany (very annoying).

The abundant gear that was available at B&H got me to wondering about the relationship between gear and photographic excellence. Will better gear make us a better photographer?

One Erick Wahlstrom, put

it this way: "There is no lens or camera body that will transform a bad photographer into a good one, so does gear matter? Yeah. 100% yes. Absolutely it does. Except, I guess, when it doesn't?"

It is my view that new and better equipment may enable us to have more photographic potential, but it is only in the fine tuning of our skills and style, that our images will really improve. In saying all the above, I must pause for a moment and acknowledge, and with the deepest respect, our very own, wonderful, friendly and all knowledgeable camera shop 'Carters Photographics'; almost my sole purpose for 'going to town' and supplier of almost all my own equipment! Thank you, Matt, Terry and team, for your support to the club and our members, (I am not actively discouraging members from making purchases).

As winter is upon us, we have an opportunity to do some self-education, perhaps ask technical questions of Google (the font of all knowledge), follow certain photographers on social media, subscribe to photographic sites on You Tube. I find an hour or so in front of my computer on these long evenings can give me

much in the way of tutorials that will hopefully lead to greater photographic skill. To grow as an artist and photographer, practice your photography skills on a regular basis. Set time aside in your schedule to practice specific things like; editing, retouching, controlling the light, posing, and shooting in different modes – it's very important! Remember, equipment alone will not make you a better photographer!



*Annette practicing what she preaches in San Francisco!*

# Announcements

## Club Salon (formally the Club Champs)

Entries for the Club Champs are now open on our [TPS Club Website](#) You will find the submission form under Evaluations – *Submit Images to Evaluation*. The Club Salon will have its own headings *Club Salon Prints* and *Club Salon Digital*.

### You can enter:

- A maximum of 4 Print Images and/or
- A maximum of 4 Digital Images

### Important Dates:

Club Salon Exhibition, Dinner and Presentations: 15 August 2019  
Presentation Evening (Guests are welcome) \$35.00 per person  
Venue: Sir Tristan Room, Tauranga Racecourse  
\*Entries Open: 01 June 2019  
Entries Close: 30 June 2019  
\* (Prints must be handed into Ian Purden, by Thursday 18 July which is the second club meeting in July)

Remember: All entries will be judged in the first instance as OPEN images. We do however have two themes this year so if your image qualifies as either a MONOCHROME or as a NATURE Image please indicate at the time of submission as shown below.

To attend the presentation evening, dinner and exhibition please register with Ingrid Ronner <mailto:ironner@xtra.co.nz> no later than 1 August 2019.

### FOR CLUB SALON ENTRIES ONLY

**Edit New Images**

The images below have been saved into your image library. To replace an image, add it to your image library or from the Submit to Competition page after completing this page. Use the "Delete" checkbox to delete an image from your library.

Review these images and make any needed changes to the title or other information. Click the "Save any changes..." button when you have finished all of your updates on this page so that your changes can be saved and, possibly, added to a competition or gallery. You will then return to the page where you started your upload.

Note that each image from an author must have a unique title. An image ID may have been added to your original title to make it unique.

Do not upload duplicate images. Instead, you should reference the existing image from your image library. Image duplicates may have their data merged by the system, if detected after images have been processed.

After your images are uploaded into your library, references to these images will be automatically entered into your Competition.

Competition Title: Nature - Trainsa Packer Competition  
Competition Date: Sunday, June 30, 2019  
Competition Type: Nature - Trainsa Packer Competition

The maximum number of characters displayed in a title for judging and shows is 25. Image Sequences are not permitted in this competition. You have already entered 0 of the 3 images permitted for this competition.

Title: Perspective

Image ID: 10435366\_15742199

Author's Image ID: Monochrome

Select a Competition Level: All images

When you click the button below your changes will be saved. You will then return to the page where you started your upload.

Save any changes and return to the original page

**CHECK TITLE HERE**

**IF APPLICABLE enter the theme (Monochrome or Nature) here**

# Announcements - continued

## Workshops:

All the information on our upcoming workshops, including how to register can be found on the new website under the Workshops tab. Please consider giving some, or all, a go.

The 'Approaching Honours' workshop with Bruce Girdwood (7.00pm 21 June) is open to all to attend. Just so we can keep abreast of numbers can you please register with me by emailing [aj@heddfan.co.nz](mailto:aj@heddfan.co.nz) There are now only a few spaces left for the July Double-up Workshops. Be in quick to register.



## Presentation Evening (20th July)

Each year the club organises an audio-visual competition which attracts entries from New Zealand, Australia, South Africa and several European countries. Entries haven't closed yet so we don't know who has entered this year.

The award winning audio-visuals from this year's Tauranga Audio-Visual Salon are shown at a special evening at the Arts and Crafts Centre on Saturday 20th July at 7.30pm.

Everyone is welcome so please bring your family and friends to enjoy the evening with you.

Entry is \$2 which includes supper afterwards.



# Announcements - continued

## Workshop: Audio-Visuals for Beginners

Learn how to create an audio-visual for fun, to share or for competition. No previous knowledge of creating audio-visuals is necessary but a knowledge of how to process photos is useful.

This is a practical workshop so you will need a laptop with image processing software such as Faststone, Lightroom or Photoshop on it or being able to share with someone. NB If you already have the Creative Cloud on two devices and you want to put it on a third device ( eg a laptop) you can deactivate it on one device so you can use it on a third device. This does not remove the application and it will work again when you reactivate it.

Saturday 20th July  
At the Arts and Crafts Centre, Tauranga  
From 10.30am to approximately 5pm  
Cost \$25pp

For more information and to register go to the Tauranga Photographic Society website. Select Audio-visual.



## Workshop: Beyond the Basics

This workshop is for photographers who know the basic controls of their camera and want to learn more. Please note that this workshop is offered by Trish McAuslan through Gallery One Photo School and is not a club workshop. If you know someone who is not a club member but who is interested in photography, they are welcome to enrol.

The topics covered include:

Tricky Exposure	Using Filters
Shooting in RAW	Low Light Photography
Macro or Close Up	Using your 'on camera' flash
Photographing People	

Dates: Starting on the 3rd July.

This is a six week course, held each Wednesday evening from 7-9pm at the Arts and Crafts Centre.

Cost \$150

For further information and to enrol go to the gallery one website  
<http://galleryone.co.nz/classes-in-tauranga/beyond-the-basics/>

# Ongoing TPS Program

## Programme Notes

Please note the change of dates from those announced last month

### **6th June Convention Feedback:**

Thirteen club members attended the Convention in Lower Hutt in April and they will share some tips. We will also see club members' images which were successful in the National Exhibition, Canon-on-line and the Jack Sprosen Memorial Trophy Competition. It will be lovely to see the successful Honours Sets created by Karl, Jay and Annette.

### **20th June Annemarie Clinton High and Low Key**

High Key images are considered happy. They convey positive emotions. The opposite are Low Key images which are darker and present drama or tension. Later this year, low key is one of our set subjects. Annemarie will help you understand more about these interesting photographic genre.

### **4th July Going Bush with Shirley Kerr**

Shirley has a in-depth knowledge of the bush and the things you are likely to find in it, particularly the fungi. When she lived in Katikati (quite a few years ago) she was an active club member and frequently shared her images and knowledge with us. It will be lovely to have Shirley visit the club and share some more of her work and knowledge. Check out her website: [www.kaimaibush.co.nz](http://www.kaimaibush.co.nz)

## Evaluation

### **July: Entries close at midnight on 30th June**

#### **Prints: Black and White**

The image has shades of grey from black through to white. Unless you want to create a specific mood, try to have a full tonal range from deep shadows to a bright highlight otherwise your image may be flat. Subjects which have strong shapes, textures or design often make good black and white images. While it is possible to take black and white images in your camera, it is not recommended. It is better to take the photo in colour and then convert it to black and white later. This means you have a colour version as well as the B&W version you have created. Nearly all photo editing programmes have at least one option for converting your image from colour to black and white. There is a lot written about the different options on the internet. Search the information for the photo editing programmes you have and then try them all out to find which works well for you.

#### **Digital: Reflections**

The emphasis needs to be on the reflections rather than on what caused the reflections. Look for colourful and interesting reflections in a variety of surfaces; water, in sunglasses, car headlights, on a shiny bench top or a newly polished kettle. Try to be a bit creative and think outside the square on this set subject.

## The Story Behind.....



### The Back Story of '**ABANDONED**' By Annemarie Clinton

In August 2018 my husband and I took a couple of Kiwis on a Southern African Photographic Quest - focusing on South Africa.

Africa is a continent of huge contrast and South Africa is no different. An African adventure is a bucket list item for many. We nowadays have the great pleasure of taking clients to this beloved continent of ours and share with them the many riches it has to offer. The smells, sights and experiences of Southern Africa are hard to beat and once you've been you'll forever yearn to go back for more!

Due to our client's back issues we were forced to reconsider one stretch of our trip due to bumpy roads. We opted for an alternative route and found ourselves spending a couple of days in the very remote and unique Tankwa Karoo National Park, a first visit for all of us. This place was like no other I've visited before!

The Tankwa Park is one of the most arid sections of the Karoo. Annual rainfall is in the 0-100mm range. Winter temper-





## The Story Behind..... continued.

atures in July fall to below zero and reach up to 40 degrees C in Summer between Nov - Mar.

The history of the park:

San Hunter-gatherers who inhabited the region prior to pastoral occupation left numerous rock paintings spread throughout the escarpment areas surrounding the park. Nomadic pastoralism first brought sheep into the succulent Karoo about 2000 years ago and cattle some 1500 years later. In the 19th century, the Karoo became the first biome used for settled European pastoralism. Several historical clay homesteads in various stages of decay are found throughout the park. Old cultivated fields are found scattered all along the flood-plains that drain into the Renoster River, with canals and dam walls constructed in order to assist with flood irrigation.

Declared a National Park in 1986 to protect the under-conserved Succulent Karoo as one of 25 biodiversity hotspots throughout the world. Today Tankwa's area covers 1436 square km and the nearest towns 120 and 180 km away.

It was here in this arid, desolate and barren landscape that we discovered this abandoned wagon from a bygone era. Knowing we had an "Abandoned" set subject early 2019 I set out with my camera, tripod and filters at sunset to try and capture this amazing scene. Vast and truly forgotten doesn't begin to describe it. The silence was deafening and the isolation like nowhere I've ever been! A never to be forgotten moment.

*"Africa is not just a place, it is a feeling.  
Africa is the heart of the world and there are only a few of us  
who have been touched by her"*

# Evaluation Results - Digital and Print

In accordance with the new rules, only the top images in Set Subject and Open for both Print and Digital are displayed in the Newsletter. These all achieved "Honours". To see how the other images fared, you must log on to the new website.



**OPEN DIGITAL**  
Ian Saunders. Xihai  
Grand Canyon, Yellow Mountain

**OPEN PRINTS**  
Alex Hunter. New  
Zealand Dotterel



## Evaluation images - continued



**Set Subject PRINTS  
Annette Johnston.  
Parnassius Apollo**

**Set Subject DIGITAL  
Bill Bilbe. Sand**



# Tips and Tricks

Very often, the last thing to be done after post-processing an image in Photoshop will be to sharpen it. If an image is over-sharpened, it will cause a certain amount of "haloing" around the highlights and the appearance of this is quite objectionable. This limits the amount of sharpening that can be done.

There is a way to increase that sharpening without causing the halo effect and that is to split the image into two layers ie separate the highlights from the shadows and then the shadows may be sharpened quite a lot more with much less risk of halos and highlight blowouts.

To do this, all the adjustment layers that have been used must be crashed together into a separate layer. (Ctrl-Alt-Shift-E)

Duplicate this layer. (Ctrl-J)

Select the top layer and go to the "Channels" panel to select the channel with the least white in it. Ctrl-click so the "marching ants" appear.

Go to the "Layers" panel.

Select the "Add layer mask" icon at the bottom of the page.

A new white mask thumbnail will appear on the top layer with the image of the selected channel within it.

Select this thumbnail and invert the mask. (Ctrl-I)

Select the image thumbnail within the layer and proceed with the sharpening - only the image shadows will be sharpened, not the highlights.

This layer can be over-sharpened and then the opacity reduced to give the optimum result.

If the highlights require sharpening as well, select the next layer down and sharpen it.

Using Photoshop's Unsharp Mask, the following settings give good results:

Amount	20%
Radius	50 pixels
Threshold	0

The main thing about this method is to split the shadows from the highlights! It is this separation that allows a sharper, more natural look.



***That's all, Folks!***