



President's Annual Report - 2018

Again we had a presence at the annual Moonee Valley Festival in February.

We had the successful continuation of our Beginners' Camera Course commencing in April and running for 8 weeks.

We've been privileged to have some interesting visitors to our Activity Nights, Dr Lloyd Shield on his passion for Photography, Pinhole in particular and showing us his collection of built and restored cameras.

Glynn Lavender presented on his Street Photography, talking about how to focus on the subject, excluding the unnecessary from the image.

Yana Martins of posing people. We've also enjoyed the presentations from some of our members.

Boris M Struk on his trip to Iceland with some fantastic images and entertaining anecdotes.

Mark Busuttill presented on time lapse and drone photography, which was great to see a different perspective of our landscape.

From a competitive view point, we've seen fantastic achievements at VAPS this year, entries from Monica Bonnici and Wade Buchan had fantastic results along with all the other entries. We have also had success in our three- way inter-club with Rosanna & Ivanhoe this year with Adrian Whear's 'Going Home' DPI entry being selected as Best DPI for Essendon and Best overall DPI between the 3 clubs, and Monica Bonnici won best print for Essendon. We placed first along with Rosanna so will be represented on the Gary Lewis Trophy. We also won the Geelong Interclub by 13 points last year, so let's put our best images forward for this year.

Our committee has striven to bring about some vital changes to our club's structure and running, while still maintaining the fundamental principles upon which it was built. While we have seen much achieved, the investment of time required to undertake each task demanded a necessary compromise in other areas. We're aware that we may not have quite reached our hope of more organised activities; our time, as you can appreciate, was consumed by other necessary details . . . details in areas that have seen the smooth operation of our Club, both within the scope of our activities, our monthly competitions, as well as our inter-clubs. All of these areas have required such a huge time commitment, it meant that other goals suffered. The committee along with the club members will hopefully work towards making the next year even better.

I would like to recognise all of the individuals who formed part of the team: Alan Wilson, Hugh Turner, Ineke Struk, Boris M Struk, Levin Barrett, Clem de Silva, Andy Samari, Douglas Golob, Monica Bonnici, Ondina Savi and Rosemarie Federle. I would like to say thank you for your commitment of time, and more importantly your patience and perseverance in trying to get the work done. I know it's not always been easy.

I would also like to acknowledge the members who do so much behind the scenes assisting in all aspects of setting up and packing up on our meeting nights, those that serve us our tea and coffee and those that tend to details on our website and Facebook pages. Working at the Moonee Valley Festival and organising the outings, supporting the end of year presentation night, huge thank you to you all. It has been greatly appreciated.

President - Robyn Wannan

July 2018

**THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
of the
ESSENDON CAMERA CLUB**

23 July 2018

The meeting was opened by the President, Robyn Wannan, at 8:10 p.m.

Present

Committee

Robyn Wannan, Hugh Turner, Alan Wilson, Doug Golob, Clem De Silva, Andy Simari, Levin Barrett, Ondina Savi.

Members

John Loriggio, Jan Hannasky, Terry De Cotta, Alex van Harmelen, Leo McGuire, Neil Anderton, Tom Kress, Tony Zorzi, Wade Buchan, Kevin Phelan, Craig Brown. Peter Robson, John Hamilton, Steve Sheddick, Martin Vargas, Margaret Greenwood, Sue Newton, Darren Bell, Julie Perry, Mohita Kukreja, Maria Kouppas, Michael Cvetkovski, Jack Chiodo.

Visitors

Sue-Ann Lowther

Apologies

Irene Robinson, Boris M Struk, Ineke Struk, Martin Greenwood, Janet Ramsay, Bill Howard and Paul Brown

President's Report

See front page of In Focus

Treasurer's Report

I present the following report to the Annual General Meeting of the Essendon Camera Club held on 23rd July 2018. Opening balance on 1st July 2017 was \$25,616.38. This was made up of \$13,694.22 in the general statement account, \$409.23 in the credit card account and \$11,512.93 in a term deposit.

The profit and loss statement indicates an overall increase of \$2884.35, made up of \$2603.75 in the general statement account and \$280.60 of interest on the term deposit.

As at June 30th 2018 the Essendon Camera Club has accumulated funds of \$28,559.13, made up of \$16,765.60 in the general statement account and \$11,793.53 in the term deposit.

The profit and loss statement reflects the \$increase/decrease year on year.

The committee has suggested that monies from the general account should be transferred to term deposit in August 2018 when renewal becomes available to obtain better interest returns, leaving sufficient funds for the running of the club.

Ineke Struk

Treasurer, Essendon Camera Club

Election of the new committee

The conduct of the meeting was passed over to Steve Sheddick. He ran the elections.

President : nominated, Robyn Wannan, elected

Vice-president : nominated, Hugh Turner, elected

Secretary : nominated, Alan Wilson, elected

Treasurer : nominated, Ineke Struk, elected

General committee

Ondina Savi, Levin Barrett, Andy Simari, Doug Robb, Boris M Struk, Clem De Silva, Martin Vargas, Jack Chiodo, Michael Cvetkovski.

The above members nominated for the general committee.

Alex van Harmelen pointed out that we can have no more than seven members on the general committee.

The meeting concluded at 8:35 p.m.

Alan Wilson

Secretary

Essendon Camera Club

Subsequent to the AGM as we had too many nominations, Martin Vargas and Jack Chiodo withdrew their nominations.

REPORT ON ACTIVITY NIGHT OF - 28th May, 2018

Vivian Sammut

Glynn Lavender is a professional photographer who loves to take portraits of people from different places. He takes small groups on photography tours to interesting countries like India. His presentation was on 'Travel Portraits – Refining Portraits from Chaos'.

Glynn said we should ask ourselves why we want to take the images while travelling and there are many reasons such as enriching the experience of human connection; greater understanding in sharing an experience; to remember the experience through images, etc. What is it that captures our imagination to take the images – things that excite us, frighten us, challenge us, or make us laugh?

Glynn said tourists should go to the back streets, working areas, or where celebrations are being held, and take part with the natives and talk to them. They feel more at ease with you that way and are more willing to have their picture taken by you. He said you should try to find your subject from the chaos and remove everything that isn't pertaining to the portrait. He gets as close to the subject as practical and doesn't crop. He likes to have black or dark backgrounds.

While Glynn was giving his presentation, he showed us some of his excellent work.

We thank him for an interesting evening.

REPORT ON ACTIVITY NIGHT OF - 25th June, 2018

Vivian Sammut

The presenters for the night were our own, very talented couple Martin and Jane Clancy. They joined Essendon Camera Club in 2008 and Melbourne Camera Club in 2012. In this short time they have received many honours and won many competitions from their large amount of entries into National and International competitions. Among other things, they like to photograph creative portraiture, landscapes and seascapes. The subject for the night was their journey into portraiture.

Martin and Jane started by photographing ballet students on the other side of the hall where the latter practised. Later they progressed to photographing models, dancers, musicians, and special

projects like pregnancy, etc. They like to meet their clients ahead of the shoot and find out what they and the clients want, organise their wardrobe selection, hairstyle, and make up, for the day. They explain the equipment to the clients and talk to them, which makes the latter feel more comfortable. They said rapport is important. The Clancys give a free hand to their subjects, wanting to capture the person. They work together, inside their studio or outside.

Martin and Jane showed us some audio visuals of their beautiful work. They ended by showing us some interesting portraits of the people they met on a trip to Vietnam. We thank Martin and Jane for a very enjoyable evening.

May Comp Results

May - Novice - Print

Photographer	Title	Place
Jack Chiodo	Mona Lisa Smile	1
Jennifer Swanton	Young at heart	2
Jack Chiodo	double trouble G	3
Jennifer Swanton	Cuenca countryside, Spain	4

May - Novice - DPI

Photographer	Title	Place
Sam Fitzgerald	Devils Tower	1
Chelsea Trewarne	Too cool for school	2
Sam Fitzgerald	Peaceful	3

May - Open Intermediate - DPI

Photographer	Title	Place
Astrid Ross	Fish eagle focusing	1
Wade Buchan	Rainbow Bee-eater	2
Pam Kreuger	Following Father	3
Robyn Wannan	City Sunset	4
Wade Buchan	Bridport Pier Sunrise	HC
Drazen Basar	Gentle Soul	HC
Michael Cvetkovski	Wide And Mighty	HC
Andy Simari	Feeding Time	HC

May - Open Advanced - Print

Photographer	Title	Place
Neil Anderton	Black-shouldered Kite almost to	1
Jan Hannasky	Ruby	2
Steve Sheddick	Stormfront Lightshow	3
Steve Sheddick	40's Sweetheart	4

May - Open Advanced - DPI

Photographer	Title	Place
Jane Clancy	In Mourning	1
Monique Whear	Guilin Mountains	2
Martin Clancy	Tuscan Fog	3
Jane Clancy	Agapanthus Bud	4
Paul Scicluna	Cadillac Beach	HC
Adrian Whear	Montane	HC

May - Set Subject - Group Photo - Print

Photographer	Title	Place
Ineke Struk	Whip crackers	1
Jack Chiodo	KoolKatz	2
Jan Hannasky	Mad Hatters Tea Party	3
Maria Kouppas	Waiting fro the Rodeo	4

May - Set Subject - Group Photo - DPI

Photographer	Title	Place
Jane Clancy	Synchronised Movement	1
Drazen Basar	The Kiss	2
Adrian Whear	In Step	3
Chelsea Trewarne	Variety Pack	4
Adrian Whear	Macho Men	HC
Astrid Ross	Homeward bound	HC
Anis Chemali	Balinese Beauty	HC
Jennifer Swanton	Monks at Angkor	HC
Douglas Golob	My Family	HC



June Comp Results

June - Open Novice - Print

Photographer	Title	Place
Jack Chiodo	Agony or Ecstasy	1
Jack Chiodo	Yellow Flash	2
Jennifer Swanton	Bassi woman	3
Jennifer Swanton	Autumn in Japan	4

June - Open Novice - DPI

Photographer	Title	Place
Michael Moore	Room for expansion	1
Sam Fitzgerald	Arches National Park	2
Jacquelyn Viti	Good Boy	3
Michael Moore	Point Lonsdale Lighthouse	4
Maria Hardie	Red Lake	HC
Jacquelyn Viti	Where Am I?	HC

June - Open Intermediate - DPI

Photographer	Title	Place
Drazen Basar	Green	1
Wade Buchan	Flinders Island Milky Way	2
Jenny Turner	Snake path	3
Andy Simari	Got you now	4
Drazen Basar	Two Hats Are Better Than One	HC
Wade Buchan	Trousers Point	HC
Pam Kreuger	Mehrangarh Fort	HC

June - Open Advanced - Print

Photographer	Title	Place
Jan Hannasky	AVANT GARDE	1
Neil Anderton	Spotted Harrier WTP	2
Ineke Struk	Weeping Japanese Maple	3
Ineke Struk	Rose Robin	4
Steve Sheddick	Million Dollar Smile	HC

June - Open Advanced - DPI (11/06/2018)

Photographer	Title	Place
Adrian Whear	Framed	1
Carmen Caruana	free fall capture	2
Clem De Silva	Psychedelic Party	3
Jan Hannasky	Wilson's Prom	4
Levin Barrett	Supermoon	HC
Martin Clancy	Blenheim Vines	HC
Monique Whear	Fuji Sunset	HC
Jane Clancy	A tender Moment	HC
Martin Clancy	Ingrid	HC
Jane Clancy	Native Hibiscus	HC

June - Set Subject - Abstract - Print

Photographer	Title	Place
Jan Hannasky	abstract 3d sphere	1
Kevin Phelan	Reflections	2
Ineke Struk	Natures abstract	3
Jack Chiodo	American Sky	4

June - Set Subject - Abstract -

Photographer	Title	Place
Monique Whear	Sea Wall	1
Jane Clancy	Lillies in Abstract	2
Adrian Whear	Bubbles	3
Anis Chemali	Splash	4
Adrian Whear	Welcome gate	HC
Jan Hannasky	powerhouse abstract	HC
Carmen Caruana	reflected orb	HC
Jennifer Swanton	Linear	HC
Drazen Basar	Texture	HC
Levin Barrett	Facade	HC
Jane Clancy	Sculptured	HC
Clem De Silva	The latest in fashion	HC
Astrid Ross	Bronc rider	HC



First : 6 Points
Second : 5 Points
Third : 4 Points
Fourth : 3 Points
HC: 2 Points
NWS*: 1 Point

*non winning submission



July Comp Results

July - Open Novice - Print

Photographer	Title	Place
Jennifer Swanton	This way to the beach	1ST
Jack Chiodo	Charlie Girl	2ND
Jennifer Swanton	Shy schoolgirl	3RD
Jack Chiodo	Big Nick	4TH

July - Open Novice - DPI

Photographer	Title	Place
Jacquelyn Viti	Laundry Day	
Sam Fitzgerald	Mount Rushmore	1ST
Jacquelyn Viti	Busy City	2ND
Maria Hardie	Like a Cat	3RD
Michael Moore	Billy and Friends	3RD
Michael Moore	All steamed up	4TH
Sam Fitzgerald	Yosamite	HC

July - Open Intermediate - Print

Photographer	Title	Place
Irene Robinson	Sunset Watch	1ST
Irene Robinson	Reflections	2ND

July - Open Intermediate - DPI

Photographer	Title	Place
Astrid Ross	Pied Heron	1ST
Andy Simari	Just empty my tank	2ND
Wade Buchan	Moeraki Boulders Sunrise	3RD
Andy Simari	The 3 Smoketeers	4TH
Wade Buchan	Castle Rock Sunset	HC
Ilhan Saya	EXXOPOLIS	HC
Astrid Ross	Flying ducks	HC
Pam Kreuger	Stepwell	HC

July - Open Advanced - Print

Photographer	Title	Place
Steve Sheddick	Hastings Waterfront	1ST
Steve Sheddick	My Beautiful New Slippers	2ND
Neil Anderton	Black-shouldered Kite Hunting	3RD
Ineke Struk	Femme Fatale	4TH
Neil Anderton	Rainbow Bee-eater flies in	HC
Ineke Struk	Scarlet Robin Woodlands	HC

July - Open Advanced - DPI

Photographer	Title	Place
Adrian Whear	Under Queensbridge	1ST
Boris Struk	Lake Eppalock	2ND
Monique Whear	Docklands Sunrise	3RD
Monique Whear	Kyoto Geisha	4TH
Martin Clancy	Deep Within My Shadow	HC
Adrian Whear	Umeda	HC
Carmen Caruana	adam's apple	HC
Craig Brown	Nature's Sculpture	HC

July - Set Subject - Bent, Broken or Busted - Print

Photographer	Title	Place
Ineke Struk	Junk or Treasure?	1ST
Ineke Struk	Bent, broken and busted!	2ND
Jan Hannasky	busted	3RD
Steve Sheddick	Smoko Seating	4th
Kevin Phelan	Livestock Loading Ramp	HC
Kevin Phelan	Grandpa - the car won't start	HC

July - Set Subject - Bent, Broken or Busted - DPI

Photographer	Title	Place
Jane Clancy	Beauty among the Ruins	1ST
Ken Gale	The Last Link	2ND
Paul Brown	Crystal broke	3RD
Adrian Whear	Rusting in Silverton	HC
Paul Brown	Broken Lumix Lens	HC
Levin Barrett	She'll Never See Daylight Again	HC
Adrian Whear	The old backbone	HC
Jane Clancy	Twisted and Broken	HC
Boris Struk	Bent & Broken	HC



Three Way Interclub

				ESS	IVAN	ROS	
NO.	TITLE	MAKER	CLUB	SCORE	SCORE	SCORE	
1	A KATHMANDU SMILE	BORIS STRUK	ESSENDON	14			
2	APARTMENT LIVING YANGON	JENNY KAISER	ROSANNA			13	
3	BALNARRING GROYNES	MONIQUE WHEAR	ESSENDON	11			
4	BAY OF ISLANDS HARBOUR	JOAN SONNEMANN	IVANHOE		13		
5	BEE EATER AT REST	ALAN MARSHALL	ROSANNA			12	
6	BOOTS	ANNE DAKIN	IVANHOE		11		
7	BOW WAVE GIPPSLAND LAKES	RON DAVIS	IVANHOE		12		
8	CHURCH BEETLES	SHARON WEYMOUTH	IVANHOE		11		
9	DAVID	ROCKY ZAMPAGLIONE	IVANHOE		11		
10	DOCKLANDS SUNSET	ROBYN WANNAN	ESSENDON	11			
11	DOUBLE EXPOSURE	JAN HANNASKY	ESSENDON	11			
12	EARLY BIRD	SHAW TAN	IVANHOE		11		
13	FAMILY GROUP	JULIE MARSHALL	ROSANNA			12	
14	FLOWERING SPEAR THISTLE	SHONA PAPADOPOULOS	ROSANNA			13	
15	GLOW	DAVID MARE	IVANHOE		11		
16	GOING HOME	ADRIAN WHEAR	ESSENDON	15			Best EDPI
17	HOT AIR BALLOONS YARRA VALLEY	THERESA FITZMAURICE	ROSANNA			12	
18	IN THE NAUGHTY CORNER	GAMINI EKANAYAKE	ROSANNA			11	
19	LORNE SURF	RICHARD ASPLAND	IVANHOE		14		
20	MAGGIE AND THE DRIP	JIM HICKS	IVANHOE		12		
21	MELBOURNE SPIRE	CLEM DE SILVA	ESSENDON	13			
22	MOTHERLY LOVE	ROSE MEDDINGS	ESSENDON	13			
23	PRETTY AND PINK	WALLY GORE	ROSANNA			13	
24	SALUTATION TO THE SUN	JANNETTE BLENNERHASSETT	IVANHOE		11		
25	SHINJUKU BY NIGHT	DRAZEN BASAR	ESSENDON	14			
26	ST KILDA PIER	CRAIG BROWN	ESSENDON	12			
27	SWAN ON THE RESERVOIR	CRAIG GURNETT	ROSANNA			13	
28	THE ANT IN THE LOTUS	GERRY GORE	ROSANNA			13	
29	THE FOREST FROM ABOVE	STEVEN HEASLIP	IVANHOE		11		
30	TOOLANGI RAYS	KEVIN PHELAN	ESSENDON	13			
31	TOUCH THE SKY	MATTHEW WINGS	ESSENDON	14			
32	TRADITIONAL FARMING MYANMAR	GEOFF KAISER	ROSANNA			12	
33	TREE FERN	CHARLOTTE LAW	IVANHOE		11		
34	TUI (NZ BIRD)	MALCOLM VICKERS	ROSANNA			13	
35	TWIRL	JANE BARNES	ROSANNA			15	
36	WYNDHAM MUDFLATS	MARY LOGAR	ESSENDON	13			
	TOTAL SCORES			154	139	152	

TOTAL SCORES				
CLUB	PRINTS	EDPI	TOTAL	
ESSENDON	144	154	298	TIE
IVANHOE	142	139	281	
ROSANNA	146	152	298	TIE

VAPS - ECC

Results

The results are - EDPI total 182 points

Monica Bonnici - Squirrel - 15
Wade Buchan - Rainbow Bee-eater - 14
Wade Buchan - Sunrise Storm over boat shed - 14 & Merit Award
Neil Anderton - Black Shoulders Kite - 13
Alex Van Harmelen - Flow Motion - 13
Adrian Whear - Smoking Man - 13
Carmen Caruana - Slow Death - 13
Carmen Caruana - Secret Path - 13
Monique Whear - Five Fingers Mountain - 12
Steve Sheddick - The Black Swan - 11
Clem de Silva - Market day at Guatemala - 11
Steve Sheddick - Architectural Elegance - 11
Kevin Phelan - Toolangi Bays - 10
Boris Boris M Struk - A Kathmandu Smile - 10
Ken Gale - Boats of 3 Tribes Yangzi River - 9

The Results - Print total 160 points

Neil Anderton - White bellied Sea Eagle - 12
Ineke Struk - Maternal Feelings - 12
Alex Van Harmelen - Mt Buller Summer Sunset - 12
Jane Clancy - The Reading Room - 12
Jane Clancy - Golden Reflections - 11
Steve Sheddick - Seascape Lightshow - 11
Carmen Caruana - Free Fall Capture - 11
Neil Anderton - Powerful Owl - 10
Monica Bonnici - Bow Lake Canada - 10
Monica Bonnici - Old Melbourne Goal - 10
Kevin Phelan - Kevin - 10
Kevin Phelan - Winding through the Trees - 10
Paul Scicluna - Storm over Lake Fyans - 10
Steve Sheddick - Turning away - 10
Carmen Caruana - Alley Break - 9

OVERALL CLUB RESULTS 2018

AGGREGATE POINTS OF TOP TEN SCORES PER CLUB

OPEN PRINTS

CLUB	SCORE
Southern Suburbs Photographic Society	126
East Gippsland Photographic Society	126
Geelong Camera Club	124
Eastern Suburbs Photographic Society	123
Ballarat Camera Club	122
Berwick Viewfinders Camera Club	117
Pakenham Camera Club	116
Doncaster Camera Club	116
Rosanna Photographic Club	115
Benalla Camera Club	115
Frankston Photographic Club	115
Diamond Valley Photographic Society	114
Wodonga Albury Camera Club	113
Corio Bay Camera Club	112
Waverley Camera Club	112
Caulfield Photographic Society	111
Colac Camera Club	111
South Gippsland Camera Club	111
Essendon Camera Club	111
Parklands Photographic Club	110
Latrobe Valley Camera Club	110
Melbourne Camera Club	110
Mornington Peninsula Camera Club	110
Phillip Island Camera Club	108
Casey Camera Club	107
Knox Photographic Society	107
Warrnambool Camera Club	106
Echuca Moama Photography Club	105
Shepparton Camera Club	105
Stawell Camera Club	105
Williamstown Camera Club	104
Preston Photographic Club	104
Maroondah Photographic Society	104
Macedon Ranges Photographic Society	103
Warragul Camera Club	103
Nepean Camera Club	101
Yea Camera Club	101
Craigieburn Camera Club	101
Bendigo Camera Club	101
Whittlesea Photography Club	100
Ivanhoe Photographic Society	100
Camberwell Camera Club	99
Portland Camera Club *	97
Myrtleford Bright Camera Club	95
Ballarat Photography Group	95
Nhill Camera Club *	68

OPEN EDPI

CLUB	SCORE
Essendon Camera Club	131
Maroondah Photographic Society	130
Waverley Camera Club	126
Southern Suburbs Photographic Society	126
Doncaster Camera Club	124
Geelong Camera Club	121
Rosanna Photographic Club	120
Williamstown Camera Club	120
Stawell Camera Club	119
Melbourne Camera Club	119
South Gippsland Camera Club	118
Craigieburn Camera Club	118
Knox Photographic Society	118
Latrobe Valley Camera Club	117
Frankston Photographic Club	117
Warrnambool Camera Club	116
Wodonga Albury Camera Club	115
Shepparton Camera Club	114
Corio Bay Camera Club	114
Eastern Suburbs Photographic Society	114
Diamond Valley Photographic Society	113
Whittlesea Photography Club	112
Parklands Photographic Club	111
Mornington Peninsula Camera Club	111
Sale Camera Club	111
Colac Camera Club	110
Phillip Island Camera Club	110
Casey Camera Club	110
Warragul Camera Club	109
Berwick Viewfinders Camera Club	109
East Gippsland Photographic Society	108
Ivanhoe Photographic Society	107
Preston Photographic Club	106
Macedon Ranges Photographic Society	106
Ballarat Camera Club	105
Echuca Moama Photography Club	105
Nepean Camera Club	105
Pakenham Camera Club	103
Ballarat Photography Group	103
Bendigo Camera Club	103
Caulfield Photographic Society	102
Yea Camera Club	101
Myrtleford Bright Camera Club	99
Camberwell Camera Club	98
Portland Camera Club *	98
Benalla Camera Club	93
Nhill Camera Club *	71

Top club in Prints based on count back

* Indicates less than a full entry

5 Unusual Tips for Being Good at Photography & Everything Else

PictureCorrect.com

Of course, there are way more than five tips for being a good photographer.

But, I'm focusing on these five for now, because they seem to be such a surprise to the students that come to my photography workshops.

That's aside from the fact that I don't focus on f-stops, shutter speed, and types of lenses. That would be like telling someone who's learning to drive that a car has a steering wheel, a brake, and an engine. F-stops and other technical details can be learned in one lesson, and the more you use your camera, the better you will get at them.

Those technicalities are not what make a good photographer. In the same way, having a convection oven doesn't make you a good cook and having a Lamborghini doesn't make you a good driver.

Technology and technical learning, like most other regurgitated learning, do not make anyone a good anything.

To succeed in any individual department of life, you need to be good at life as a whole. And that means being aware, awake, and alive. Machinery can't do that for you.

That said, becoming aware is a journey. We are often so conditioned by society and our upbringing that we can't see beyond the conventional. So, here are some tips about how to start waking up to life.

1. Let go of your mind

Its endless monkey chatter and insistence on judging things as good or bad will block your instinctive sense of what works. Instead of thinking, listen—with your attention, not your ears. (Your attention is actually your soul.)

2. It's not the camera that takes the photo...

It's you. All of you. Not just your physical eyes. When the whole of you is attuned to the whole of what you're photographing, the image that results will be remarkable. (The same applies to everything in life. If you bring your entire attention to bear on whatever you are doing right now, you'll have the best outcome.)

3. Be aware of essence, energy, and spirit in everything you do

Everything is energy. Frequencies differ, which is why a chair looks different from a dog. But, at its core, in its essence, everything emits and absorbs energy. If you allow yourself to tune into the energy, you will be able to capture it via your camera and in the way you express your life.

4. Reject fear in favor of love

Fear is the mind's favorite tool for distracting you from what matters in life. Fear arises from our regrets and anguish about the past and projects itself into anxieties about the future. Photos taken in a state of fear will fail. Love, on the other hand, is not some vague, sentimental concept. It's the result of being in the present moment, noticing with full awareness and without judging what is happening right now. That calm, soft, accepting mindfulness makes whatever you see meaningful. It therefore makes whatever you capture meaningful. What you capture carries your mindfulness.

5. Let what you're photographing come to you

Let it show itself. Which comes back to listening, paying attention. If you're being ever so busy choosing the subject according to your mind's dictates and you're moving around to get the 'right' angle, you'll miss what is whispering that it needs to be shown to the world. Stop. Listen. Be aware. Make the photograph about something other than yourself and the ego that wants to be praised for being the best photographer in the world. Be a servant of what needs to be shown.



5 Simple Exercises to Improve your Photography

PictureCorrect.com

How to grow as a photographer

Everyone, from beginners to professionals, seeks to improve their photography. Yet we often struggle to do just that, repeatedly asking the question, "How do I actively move my photography forward?"

Learning to take top-notch photographs isn't like learning a musical instrument, where you can practice fingerings and scales while slowly gaining skills. When it comes to improving photography, the path often seems nebulous, difficult to grasp.

It doesn't have to be this way. There are more focused ways of improving your photography. Below, I discuss five of these exercises, which, if done consistently, will help you improve your photography by leaps and bounds.

Exercise #1: Photograph every day for a month

The first exercise is simple; photograph every day. This may sound easy, but it often isn't. With a job and family and life, it's surprisingly difficult to get out and do photography.

But I'd like to emphasize this, if you're serious about improving your photography, start here. Make sure that you use your camera each day, even if you only take one image. Carve out a particular time of the day that works. Or, if it's easier for you, carry a camera around in your purse/backpack/briefcase, and bring it out during your lunch break.

I've found that there's a sort of magic that comes from photographing—not just consistently—but daily. Your camera becomes a familiar tool in your hands. You start to see compositions everywhere. The photographic medium starts to make sense.

Trust me, if you do this your work will improve fast.

Exercise #2: Make 10 unique images of one subject

One of the main barriers to photographic improvement is not the technique so much as it is the ability to see.

A great photographer often views a subject and starts to visualize the many possibilities, quickly rejecting those which won't work, and selecting that which does.

Then, rather than moving on, force yourself to look for more. Get in close and take some more abstract or detail shots. Move back and look for more environmental images. Alter the background, the angle, and/or the lighting. If you normally use a tripod, try working handheld, or vice versa.

This exercise is meant to improve your ability to see. It is meant to take you out of your comfort zone so that you go beyond the obvious, and start looking deeper at your subject. Once that is ingrained, the photographic possibilities begin to open up, and your images will become unique and more satisfying.

Exercise #3: Share only one image per week

Let me explain this one. Part of improving one's photography involves becoming a better self-critic. If you cannot recognize where you need to improve, then it's very difficult to improve at all. But if you can pinpoint your strengths and your weaknesses, then you can improve upon the weaknesses—and harness your strengths.

To this end, I recommend joining a photo sharing site, one that is geared towards photography. Flickr, 500PX, and Tumblr would work well (or the dPS Facebook group). Then post one, and only one, image per week. Make sure that you've looked through your recent work, and that the image that you're sharing is your best.

Before posting, think to yourself, "What is it that makes this a strong image? What would make it better? And what was it that made me reject the other images in favor of this one?" Take note of your responses, and remember them the next time you're out in the field.

So why can't you just do this privately, rather than posting to a photo sharing site?

I find that there's a bit of pressure that comes from posting your pictures publicly. This forces you to work slightly harder in identifying your best images. However, if you would strongly prefer not to post your images publicly, you could adjust the settings on your chosen sharing site so that only you can view the images—but imagine that you're assembling them for a gallery showing.

Continued pg 12

Exercise #4: Critique at least 10 images per week

Similar to Exercise #3, but with a slightly different focus. Learning to critique your own work is great, but it's also important to look at a broad array of photography with a critical eye. Hence, join a photo critique forum, and critique at least 10 images per week.

There are a number of forums out there that I recommend for nature photographers like myself: Naturescapes, Nature Photographers Network, and Birdphotographers.net are all good ones. They should allow you to make a free account in order to comment on other images.

This will help you in a few ways. First, constantly looking at images will help you to internalize compositions and get a sense of what works and what doesn't. It's difficult to improve your own photography if you don't have a sense of what good photography looks like.

Second, it may give you ideas for your own photography. By this, I don't mean that you copy other people's photographs directly. But you can take note of interesting techniques, camera settings, and compositions, and incorporate them into your own work.

Third, being forced to articulate, in writing, what you find pleasing about an image will go a long way toward being able to understand how to make your own images more pleasing.

Notice that I'm not telling you to post your images on the critique forum—but if you feel confident enough to do so, then that is an excellent way to improve as well.

Exercise #5: Work in another genre of photography

This exercise is for those who would self-identify as intermediate or advanced photographers. Early on in your photographic journey, I would recommend focusing on a single genre and improving within that genre.

I took a break from macro photography to work on my street photography skills.

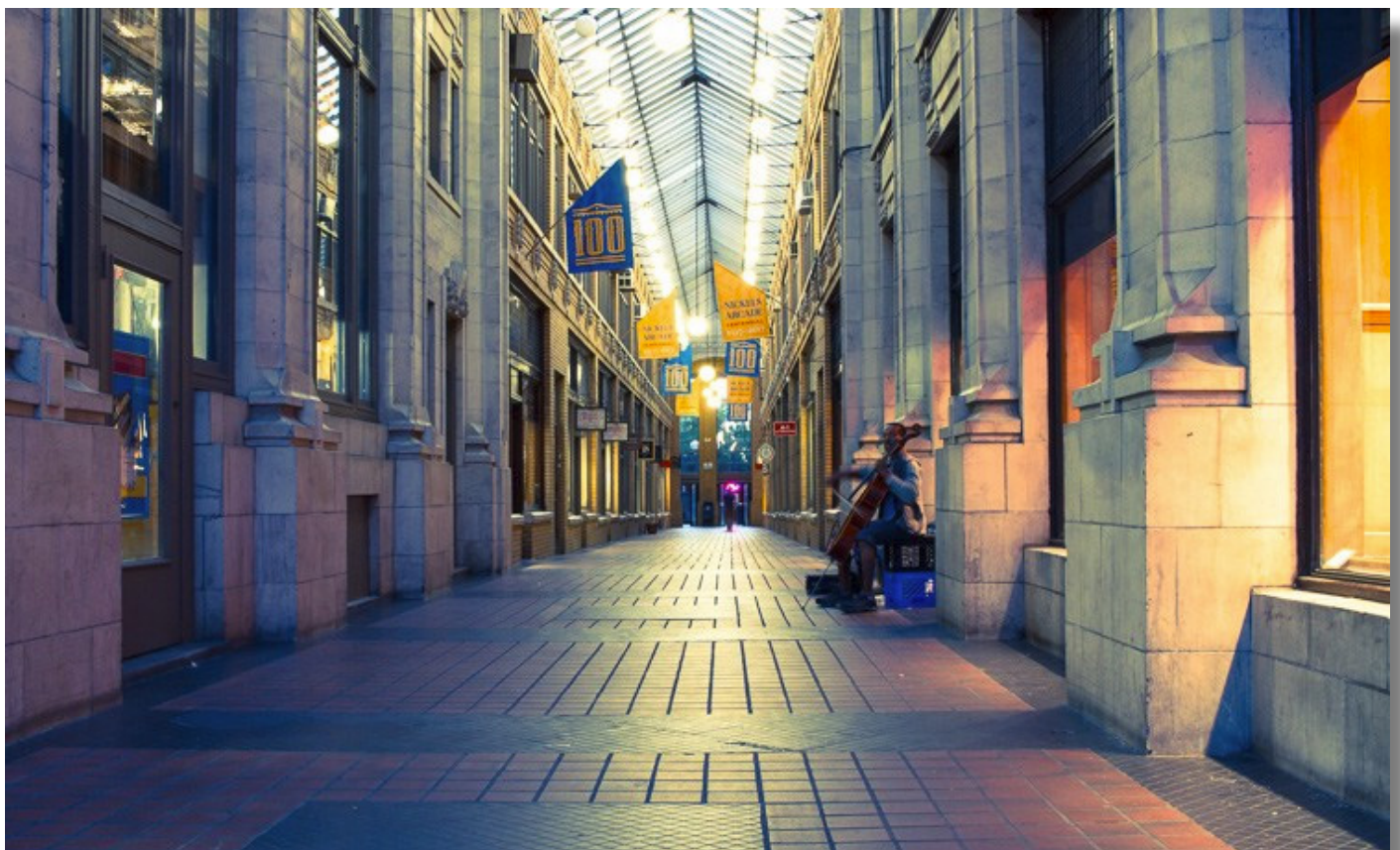
However, once you have a decent amount of experience, I find that it is really beneficial to get out of your comfort zone by working on another photographic genre (the more different, the better!). Stick with this genre for an entire month.

This forces you to expand your photographic eye and think in new ways. It can often generate unique ideas that you can apply to your primary area of photography. And when the month is up and you switch back to your favored type of photography, you'll likely find that you'll be seeing the world in a whole new light.

In conclusion...

If you're seeking to improve your photography, follow the exercises discussed above.

If you photograph every day, focus on expanding your photographic eye, look at numerous images and learn to critique your own, and expand your photographic horizons—you will soon be on your way to a higher level of photography. I wish you the best of luck!



ECC Kitchen Roster!

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IF YOU ARE UNABLE TO ATTEND ON YOUR ROSTERED DAY, PLEASE ADVISE THE OTHERS ROSTERED ON WITH YOU. AND PLEASE ARRANGE TO SWOP DAYS.

Please keep an eye on stocks of Tea, Coffee, Sugar, Cups, etc.... If running low please let someone on Team 8 know.

Essendon Camera Club

2018 Set Subject

MONTH	TOPIC	DEFINITION
February	THE MUNDANE	A photograph of a common item or event that would be considered mundane. The subject can be staged or in real life. Thinks shopping isles, coins, driveways, pegs etc.
March	MUSICAL INSTRUMENT	Any musical instrument, with or without musician. A close up of sections or a whole instrument, or a busker playing in the street.
April	HIGH KEY	Light is exaggerated to the bright end of the spectrum (bright and vibrant). A high-key image consists primarily of light tones, without dark shadows.
May	GROUP PHOTO	Posed photo with a minimum of 3 people, either in studio or natural setting.
June	ABSTRACT	A composition consisting of shapes which are not suggestive of any particular object. Natural or man made objects may be employed provided that they are not readily recognisable.
July	BENT, BROKEN OR BUSTED	A photograph of anything that is wrecked, broken, out of order or damaged. No people can be included.
August	STREET PHOTOGRAPHY IN B/W	A candid image of everyday life, but one that makes the everyday seem both extraordinary and strange Un-posed, un-staged photography which captures, explores or questions contemporary society and the relationships between individuals and their surroundings.
September	SHOES	Shoes may be smart and stylish, old and worn, large or small, in groups, lines, pairs or piles. Try a close up or abstract of a shoe or a boot, create an image of shoes with a purpose, or an artistic arrangement. Other ideas might include a shoe store display or the messy floor of a closet.
October	RENEWAL/NEW LIFE	Photograph a new beginning , a baby, a new life, flower bud, spring, a butterfly emerging from a papoose etc.

Submissions that do not meet the definition criteria may not be accepted by the Competition Secretary*

Contributions are sought for
your newsletter - *In Focus*.

More members' input is most
welcome!

Please send your contribution:

Boris@Struk.com.au

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Wanted - For Sale Free to a good Home

Social media provides an avenue for buying or selling goodies so this experiment may be a lost cause...

There may be an opportunity for ECC members to effect a sales, swap of gift thier camera or related photography equipment in the knowledge that it's not going too far away from its original home.

So with great enthusiasm, we will trial this new section called **Wanted, For Sale, Free to a Good Home.**

This may be a Boom or Bust segment. However, we already have our first victim! Sorry, Seller, so see the next column

For Sale

Nikon D5100 in excellent condition with **Yongnuo Speedlight** and remotes, 3 lenses, carry bag, water/dust proof carry box, softnose and softbox for flash, filters and lens attachment, carry straps, manuals, cables, lens extensions and spare battery. All of this for just \$600 and no, Jon will not throw in a dozen steak knives.

Jon Sparrey 0425 700 812

ECC Members, please send The Editor an email if you have something you wish to sell, swap, want or otherwise and it will feature in the next edition.

Social Media

There are a number of ways to "connect" with the Essendon Camera Club including:

Website - www.EssendonCameraClub.org.au

Flickr - www.flickr.com/groups/2847869@N21

Facebook - www.facebook.com/groups/EssendonCameraClub

Do use these social media channels to stay in touch, contribute to discussion or post your images.

“Thank You”

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ECC Committee 2018-19

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Interclub Secretary	-	Levin Baret	
WEB	-	Matt Wings	

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Use ECC social media channels to contribute to discussion or post your images.

