

Southern Exposure

Southland Photographic Society

<http://www.southlandphotographicsociety.com>

September 2021

Meetings held at Age Concern Rooms in Forth Street, Invercargill at 7.30pm on the first & third Thursday of each month.

Supper Duty

2 September

Rodney Adamson, Anita Hayman

16 September

Roger Wandless, Richard Adams

NB: See note at mid bottom - you may have to organise your own 'Supper'!

Patron: Graham Dainty

Office Bearers:

President: Cheryl McMath

Vice President: Stephanie Forrester

Immediate Past President: Barbara Lee

Secretary: Liz Collett

Treasurer: Gillian Maclean

Committee Members:

Les Ladbrook, David Watson, Val Wardell, Anna Stewart, Graham Dobbs

Digital Image Secretary:

Stephanie Forrester

Print Secretaries:

Ian Smith, Cheryl McMath

Newsletter Editor:

Rosemary McGeachie

Facebook/Website:

Les Ladbrook

2 September

7pm - *Photography Basics - Colour*

Open(4) A,B & C Results

Post Processing - Les - Various

Composition Pointers - Annie

16 September

Close-off - Championship

Annual General Meeting

Guest speaker?

28 September

Southland Life Photoshoot

The fastest way to make money from photography is to sell your camera.

Did you hear that the Post Office has just recalled their latest stamps? Well, they had photos of politicians on them, and people couldn't figure out which side to spit on.

Did you hear about the guy who stole all those photos? I think he was framed.

Note from the Editor (28.8.21):

Due to the uncertainty from the Covid Lockdown, the immediate Meetings will be held by Zoom, rather than face-to face Meetings at Age Concern. There may be some changes to the Programme. We will keep you notified by email.

5 August

After a slightly late start to the evening - we got underway! Thanks to all those who helped with the set-up.

Lots on in the evening - Natural History(3) Results, followed by an AV of pics from the Mid-Winter Trip to Dunedin.

Then we had the results of the Photojournalism(3) - with the AV for the Set Subject - Patterns.

Thanks for all those who contributed!

26 August

What a great night! Our first Zoom Meeting for this year - how many more to go?

We had 33 members taking part, and started the evening with the Tyree Bros Portrait Competition results - some great portraits, and a welcome back to Kevin Tyree who was the judge this year.

This was followed by a selection of 'Nostalgia' photos from the past. Thanks to all those that put this shows together - it was fabulous!

At St. Anthony's Catholic Church in Hawthorn, they have weekly husbands' marriage seminars. At the session last week, the priest asked Giuseppe, who said he was approaching his 50th wedding anniversary, to take a few minutes and share some insight into how he had managed to stay married to the same woman all these years. Giuseppe replied to the assembled husbands, 'Wella, I've tried to treat her nicea, spenda da money on her, but besta of all is, I tooka her to Italy for the 25th anniversary!' The priest responded, 'Giuseppe, you are an amazing inspiration to all the husbands here! Please tell us what you are planning for your wife for your 50th anniversary?' Giuseppe proudly replied, 'I gonna go pick her up.'

Results

Natural History (3)

Digital

A Grade

Barbara Lee

'NZ falcon eating prey' - Merit

'Variable oystercatcher
juvenile' - Accepted

Gillian Maclean

'Fungi (Crinipellis filiformis)' -
Merit

'Pagoda Fungi (Podoserpula
pusio)' - Accepted

Dot Mullay

'Dragonfly' - Honours

Chris Watson

'Fantail' - Accepted

B Grade

Annie Carmichael

'Spotted Shag Preening' - Merit

Liz Collett

'Bouquet of Seaweed found on
Riverton Rocks beach' -
Accepted

'Pied Shag 1' - Merit

Graham Dobbs

'Chroicocephalus
novaehollandiae
scopulinus' - Accepted

'Trio of Arctocephalus forsteri
pups' - Accepted

Sally Dobbs

'Kereru' - Accepted

Sonia Kennard

'New Zealand fur seal' -
Accepted

Tania Mackie

'Paradise Shelduck family' -
Honours

Mark Phillips

'Leycesteria formosa flower
with berries' - Accepted

Sandra Stevens

'Grebe' - Merit

'Juvenile Pied Stilt' - Accepted

Anna Stewart

'Fantail Piwakawaka' -
Accepted

'Honey bees around their hive'
- Accepted

Shane Todd

'Parekareka' - Merit

C Grade

David Clearwater

'Galliformes Phasianidae-0238'
- Accepted

'Lunar Eclipse' - Accepted

Fiona Comer

'Bumble bee' - Honours

'Male Sea Lion' - Merit

Dave Rodgers

'Buller's mollymawk-Toroa
(Thalassarche bulleri)' -
Honours

Adam Vosloo

'Black Shag Phalacrocorax '
carbo' - Accepted

'South Island Tomtit Petroica
macrocephala' - Merit

Prints

A Grade

Peter Aalders

'Juvenile Shags' - Honours

Chris Watson

'Banded dotterel' - Accepted

'White faced heron' - Merit

Barbara Lee

'Grey Warbler' - Accepted

'NZ Falcon with prey' - Honours

Dot Mullay

'Goldfinches' - Accepted

'Spurwinged Plover' - Accepted

B Grade

Gillian Maclean

'New Zealand Falcon
(kārearea)' - Merit

Sandra Stevens

'Blue Duck' - Accepted

'Pied Stilt' - Accepted

C Grade

David Clearwater

'Prosthemadera
novaeseelandiae juvenile
bathing' - Merit

Photojournalism(3)

Digital

Annie Carmichael

'Hanging on For Dear Life!' -
Accepted

Fiona Comer

'towing the boss' - Accepted

Sally Dobbs

'Close country patrol' - Merit

Chris Duggan

'1st 2nd and 3rd' - Honours

'Motocross Mayhem' - Honours

Sonia Kennard

'Artist at Bluff South Sea Spray'
Accepted

Barbara Lee

'Native Falcon eating prey' -
Merit

Dot Mullay

'Grounded' - Merit

'Thanks' - Honours

Ian Smith

'Sports Day - Tuatapere' - Merit

Sandra Stevens

'Parting Company' - Accepted

Anna Stewart

'Rally Action' - Accepted

Shane Todd

'Coming through' - Accepted

Chris Watson

'Concentration' - Honours

'On the edge' - Accepted

Prints

Chris Duggan

'Junior Tour of Southland' -
Honours

'Rodeo Madness' - Merit

Dot Mullay

'Clear jump' - Accepted

'Time trials' - Accepted

Sandra Stevens

'Time for new pole' - Accepted

Chris Watson

'Flying through' - Honours

'Tight corner' - Merit

PANDEMIC HUMOUR

Never in my life would I have imagined my hands consuming more alcohol than my mouth.

When you realise your normal lifestyle is called quarantine.

So, in retrospect, in 2015, not a single person got the answer right to 'Where do you see yourself five years from now'.

On Friday, A hooded robber burst into a bank and, at gunpoint, forced the tellers to load their cash into a plain brown bag. As the robber approached the door, one brave customer grabbed the hood and pulled it off, revealing the robber's face. Without a moment's hesitation, the robber shot the customer.

He then looked around the bank and noticed one of the tellers looking straight at him.

The robber instantly shot & killed her also.

Everyone in the bank, by now horrified, stared down at the floor in silence.

The robber yelled, 'Well, did anyone else see my face?'

There was a long moment of dead silence in which everyone was terrified to speak. Then, one old Australian named Bernie cautiously raised his hand and said, 'My wife got a pretty good look at you !!!!.'

Jock and his Maggie turn up at the dentist's surgery and enquire about the cost of a tooth extraction.

When told that it cost £10 which covered anaesthetics as well, Jock asked how much without the anaesthetic. The dentist said the cost would come down to £8 without it.

Jock replied, "That will do, we'll take that" "Gosh you're brave not having an injection Sir," said the dentist. "Easy choice" said Jock, "now Maggie, hop up into the chair!"

What's the different between a cat and a comma?

A cat has claws at the end of paws; A comma is a pause at the end of a clause.

'Oh my god,' she gasps, 'what's wrong?' 'Nothing's exactly wrong,' replied the doctor. 'It's a perfectly healthy baby, it's just a little ... different ... than you might expect. Your baby is a hermaphrodite.' She looks a confused. 'What's a hermaphrodite?'

'Well,' says the doctor, 'it means it has both male and female parts.' The woman turns pale. 'You mean it has a penis, AND a brain?'

The only thing I take seriously in the newspapers these days is Fish & Chips and even then, with a pinch of salt.

Health Alert: Drinkers

Beware.....

I did not know this.... did you?

When you drink Vodka over ice, it can give you kidney failure.

When you drink Rum over ice, it can give you liver failure.

When you drink whiskey over ice, it can give you heart problems.

When you drink Gin over ice, it can cause brain damage.

Apparently, ice is really really bad for you. Please warn all your friends.....

'OLD' IS WHEN...

Your friends compliment you on your new alligator shoes and you're barefoot.

An Irish guy climbs up to the top board of the swimming baths in a diving competition with a large fish under his arm.

The judge shouts up, 'What you gonna do with that?'

He replies, 'Triple somersault with pike!'

'My father drank so heavily, when he blew on the birthday cake he lit the candles.'

'My star sign is Pyrex. I was a test-tube baby.' - Billy Connolly

*Marriage Counsellor: Your wife says you never buy her flowers. Is that true?
Him: To be honest, I never knew she sold flowers.*

What Is ISO? A Simple Guide to ISO in Photography

What is ISO? Why does ISO matter? And most importantly, when should you use a high ISO vs a low ISO for the best image quality?

In this article, I'm going to answer all of these questions - and more. ISO might seem like a complex topic, but by the time you've finished, you'll be an absolute master (and you'll be able to confidently choose the perfect ISO for every shooting situation).

What is ISO in photography?

ISO refers to *your camera's sensitivity to light*. The higher the ISO, the more sensitive your camera sensor becomes, and the brighter your photos appear.

ISO is measured in numbers. Here are a few standard ISO values: 100, 200, 400, 800, 1600, 3200.

That said, pretty much every camera offers intermediate ISO values (for instance, ISO 125 and ISO 160 between ISO 100 and ISO 200). And most cameras these days include additional ISOs on the high end of the range, such as ISO 6400, ISO 12800, ISO 25600, and beyond.

Note that, while ISO is mostly discussed in a digital context, film cameras use ISO, as well - every roll of film has a particular ISO, or sensitivity, that contributes to the image brightness.

What does 'ISO' stand for?

ISO refers to the 'International Organization for Standardization.'

Technically, it's not an acronym - the International Organization for Standardization has different names in different languages, so to make things easier, they adopted the shortened 'ISO' moniker, designed to be used across *all* languages.

For the purposes of photography, the name isn't important. Just think of ISO as your camera's sensitivity to light, and you'll do just fine!

ISO and exposure: why ISO matters

By increasing the ISO, you make your photos brighter.

That's why ISO is important.

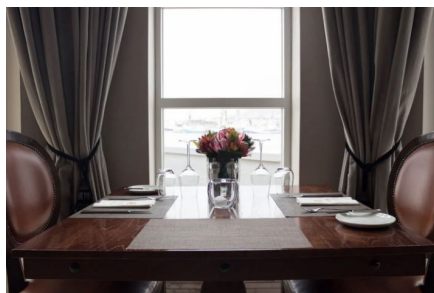
In other words, ISO works alongside the other two exposure variables - aperture and shutter speed - to determine the overall brightness level of an image.

Dial in an ISO of 100, and your image might look dark. Boost that ISO to 200, and your image will become brighter. Boost it to 400, and your image will become brighter still.

Your ISO setting could be the difference between a dark image like this:



And a much brighter image like this



Can you see why this might be useful? If you're shooting a scene in low light - outside at night or at an indoor event - your photos might keep turning out dark. But boost the ISO, and your shots will brighten right up.

Even in decent light, boosting the ISO can be beneficial. You might need an ultra-fast shutter speed to capture a moving race car, yet raising the shutter speed lowers the exposure and can create a too-dark image. So instead of raising *just* the shutter speed, you increase the shutter speed (causing your image to darken) but also increase the ISO (counteracting the darkness by brightening the image).

When shooting race cars, the light might be good - but it pays to increase the ISO regardless.

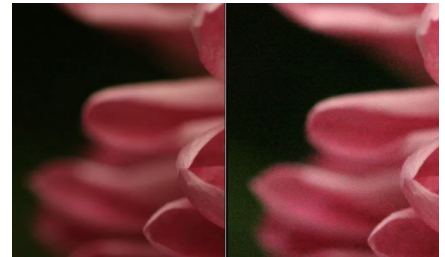


The problem with high ISOs: noise

Boosting the ISO is insanely useful. But it also comes at a serious cost:

The higher your ISO, the more noise or *grain* that will appear in your photos, which looks like speckles of colour and light randomly strewn across your image.

I'll illustrate this below with two enlargements of a flower photo. The image on the left was taken at ISO 100, and the image on the right was taken at ISO 3200.



The image in the left was shot at ISO100, and it's noise free. The image on the right was shot at ISO3200, and it's plagued with unwanted noise. Note that the exposures are identical.

Can you see the difference? Look at the middle few petals. The high-ISO photo (right) is full of unpleasant noise, whereas the low-ISO photo (left) is completely clean.

So, raising the ISO, while useful, is part of a trade-off. Yes, you get a brighter image, but you also get increased noise.

It's the reason you can't just shoot with a high ISO all the time. Instead, you keep the ISO low when you can, and you increase the ISO when you must.

That said, camera sensor technology is always improving. A decade ago, ISO 800 may have resulted in huge swathes of noise across your images (depending on your camera). But in 2021, you can shoot at ISO 1600 or 3200 and come away with nearly noise-free files, assuming you're using a full-frame camera with the latest sensor technology, and that you used good exposure technique.

How to use ISO for the best results

Boosting your ISO gives brighter images as well as noise. Keeping your ISO low maintains image quality but may result in an underexposed or blurry shot. So what do you do?

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Really, it all depends on the situation. I recommend leaving your ISO at its base value (probably ISO 50 or 100), except in three situations:

1. The light is low and you're struggling to get a well-exposed photo.
2. You need to freeze motion and/or you're struggling to get a sharp photo.
3. You're struggling to get a photo with adequate depth of field.

Let's take a closer look at each scenario:

The light is low and you're struggling to get a well-exposed photo

So, you raise the ISO to brighten up your shots.

Of course, ISO is just one of three exposure variables. If your shot is looking too dark, you can always widen the aperture or decrease the shutter speed instead. (And indeed, I recommend considering whether you can make aperture or shutter speed adjustments before you think about boosting the ISO.) But this isn't always feasible; widening the aperture will narrow the depth of field (see my discussion in the next two sections). And decreasing the shutter speed risks sacrificing sharpness unless you use a sturdy tripod and proper technique.

In the end, if you size up the situation and decide that you can't widen your aperture or drop your shutter speed, then there's no way around it: you should boost the ISO.

You need to freeze motion and/or you're struggling to get a sharp photo

If you're working with a fast-moving subject, you'll need a correspondingly fast shutter speed.

But if the light is limited, or you need an extremely high shutter speed (e.g., 1/4000s), then you'll often need to boost the ISO and raise the shutter speed together. (Why can't you just boost the shutter speed? Because your shots will turn out underexposed!).



Unless the light is very powerful, you'll often need to increase the ISO to photograph birds in flight.

As I mentioned in the previous section, widening the aperture is always an option. But again, it's not always feasible. Sometimes, you'll need to maintain a deep depth of field; other times, your aperture will already be at its widest.

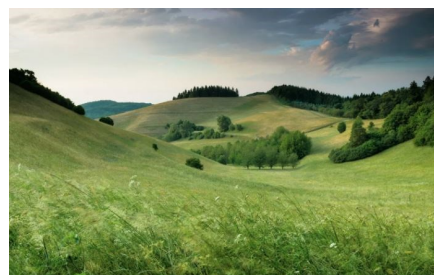
Bottom line: A sharp shot is better than a blurry shot, even if you need a high ISO to make it happen.

You're struggling to get a photo with adequate depth of field

If you're shooting a landscape or an architectural scene, you'll often aim for a deep depth of field - but depending on the situation, you may need an aperture of f/11, f/13, and beyond. In good light, you may struggle to capture a detailed exposure at f/11. In bad light, your shots will definitely turn out far, far too dark.

(Why? To produce a deep depth of field, you narrow the aperture. And narrowing the aperture darkens the exposure.)

That's where raising the ISO comes in handy. Instead of shooting at ISO 100, you can switch to ISO 200, 400, or even higher while maintaining your f/11 aperture. To avoid noise, you might consider



dropping the shutter speed instead of boosting the ISO. But if you do decide to go that route, make sure you get a tripod or use proper handholding technique.

Otherwise, you'll end up with a blurry image, which is counterproductive!

Setting your ISO: practical examples

In this next section, I'd like to share a few common photography scenarios when you'd need to raise or lower your ISO for the best photos.

When to raise the ISO

You should probably raise the ISO if:

- * You're shooting at an indoor sports event, especially if your subject is moving fast
- * You're shooting a landscape without a tripod and you need a deep depth of field
- * You're shooting a landscape at night (or doing astrophotography) and you need a reasonable shutter speed to freeze the stars
- * You're photographing portraits in a dark room or in the evening/night
- * You're shooting an event indoors with limited window light (such as a party)
- * You're photographing a dark concert
- * You're photographing an art gallery, a church, or a building interior (you might also consider using a tripod, but this is against the rules in a lot of spaces)
- * You're photographing wildlife in the early morning or evening (especially if you need a fast shutter speed)
- * You're photographing fast-moving subjects and you need an ultra-fast shutter speed

NB Dark parties can't be photographed without a high ISO.

When to keep the ISO low

Here are a few times when you should shoot at your camera's base ISO:

- * You're shooting motionless landscapes and your camera is mounted on a tripod

* You're photographing portraits in good light

* You're photographing an event, and you have plenty of window light or you're using flash

* You're photographing products with a powerful artificial lighting setup

A portrait in good light? Stick to your camera's base ISO.

Adapted from: Darren Rowse - Digital Photography

The Highest Mountain is the hardest to climb - but the view from the top is the Best

It was on impulse and influenced by the fact that we had nothing better to do, plus the weather here in Invers was custard that we decided to take a trip to Alex and suss out a possible venue for the Southern Regional.

Four of us squeezed into Val's 1300cc Kia and pattered our way towards Alex putting the world to rights as we tootled along. We discovered during a short break in the conversation that we were going to be hours early for our appointment with the Manager of a possible venue and needed something to fill in prior to it.

Under the mistaken impression that I know absolutely everything about where to go anywhere within coo-ee of Southland I was asked where we could go. Silly, silly people, I thought they knew me better than that. Heavens above I have all the signs of being an *Obsolete Child*. I wrongly assumed they wanted to live dangerously and who am I to deny anyone a bit of adventure.

I suggested the Obelisk - Maori name Te Kopuwai up on the Old Man Range. I brushed aside the hummphs and other mutterings about bad roads as after all I had taken my own car (a 1997 Toyota Corolla) up there twice within the last two years.

Numerous gates required opening and as I was riding shotgun that job fell to me as we ground our way up the ever steepening incline bumping alternately into and out of 4x4 wheel ruts. Something suddenly clicked in my feather brain "Um, Val, um have you ever done anything like this B4?" As she prised her left hand off the steering wheel to change gear Val managed to mutter from between

clenched teeth "NO!"

Ooopps, I forgot that not everyone harbours a gene compelling them to self destruct like me.

We ground to a halt as one wheel slipped into a deep 4x4 rut and sat skidding our wheels on the rocky surface of the steepest part we had encountered.....as yet. Out I get and direct the fast learning (it was either that or let me drive) Val on to an area of ground that held the suggestion of grip and immediately Val blasted off uphill at a fairly decent rate of knots. Not sure at this point whether it was my telling her to keep her revs up that made her stop **only** when she reached the top of the hill or a bit of deserved revenge at seeing me puff my way up behind them.

"How much further" was the cry (remember those days) and the reply from me was just as it had been all those years ago "Just around the next corner". Lots of helpful suggestions were given to Val which she took in good heart when in fact probably all she wanted to do was take the steering wheel and insert it in a certain part of my anatomy. The higher we climbed the windier it became, and the rougher the road the hard springs of the car faithfully transmitted every jolt in the road from wheels to seat to our backbones.

Eric at one point gently suggested that Val could perhaps keep a wee tad further to the right if at all possible. When an explanation was requested he did admit that he was looking down a sheer eleventy nine thousand foot drop to where a bleak grey blanket of cloud sat glowering over Roxburgh township and as he didn't really want to red-line his cardiovascular system it might be prudent for her to shift right. I would like to point out that I did on numerous occasions tell Val that at any time she wanted to turn and go back it was OK by us. I think the lack of reply stemmed from the fact there was nowhere much to turn the bl.....y vehicle, and to say so politely would be difficult without mentioning my suspect pedigree.

Eventually we made it to the top and the sight of the bleak conditions plus the fact that their bladders had been chucked around in the car for the last hour, two of our members felt the need to "kick a tussock". One mustn't laugh at others adversity, but when one is sitting snug and warm in a vehicle (which crouched panting and irritable at the summit) viewing others fighting to hold their clothing down while striding purposefully into an icy wind that screamed across the tops faster than a snake down a drainpipe it is hard to behave with

decorum. I can't anyway.

A couple of us were brave enough to venture out and take a piccy of the wee vehicle beside Te Kopuwai, in a wind that was more powerful than a harsh laxative, others tentatively wound down the window and grabbed a snapshot of the monolith B4 the open offside door with help from the wind took the arm off whoever was outside at the time.

Going down was much easier on both Val and the car, and as a first time "Difficulty" driver Val attained much in the way of how to dodge ruts in a short wheelbase, under powered, two wheel drive car on a "road" designed for the insane, suicidal and derring do type persons. Never have tarsealed roads looked so good.

My grapevine tells me that certain persons wonder what we raved about when we said "yeah, Old Man Range, Obelisk, etc cool! My friends, where is your sense of adventure, your devil may care attitude et al? Can I help it if you won't venture out into a Force 10 gale, stay upright and look around at the raw force and beauty of nature having a tantrum? Mind you on a decent day the views are spectacular believe me.

Since this trip I have been constantly reminding myself that not everyone wants to live life downhill without brakes, therefore I must restrain myself from making silly suggestions as to neat places to visit.

Oh, the planned meeting went ahead, and we decided to make the suggestion to the rest of the SPS Committee that Alexandra would be an excellent area for Southern Regional. Which it proved to be.

Dawn aka Screwloose

Thanks to Dawn Patterson for the above article!

*Be careful what you wish for.....
After being married for 44 years, I took a careful look at my wife one day and said, 'darling, 44 years ago we had a cheap apartment, a cheap car, slept on a sofa bed and watched a 10-inch black and white tv, but I got to sleep every night with a hot 25-year-old girl.
Now I have a \$1,500,000. home, a \$95,000.00 car, nice big bed and plasma screen tv, but I'm sleeping with a 65-year-old woman. It seems to me that you're not holding up your side of things.'
My wife is a very reasonable woman. She told me I should go out and find a hot 25-year-old girl, and she would make sure that I would once again be living in a cheap apartment, driving a cheap car, sleeping on a sofa bed and watching a 10-inch black and white tv.
Aren't older women great? They really know how to solve your mid-life crisis.*