

August 2022

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

Supper Duty

No supper in the meantime - due to COVID

4 August

Close-off: Open(4) A,B & C

Results: NHx(3) & PJ(3)

Practical/ Interactive exercise

Learning snippet - Why Black & White

18 August

Close-off: NHx(4)

Results: Tyree Bros

Set Subject-Symetry

Speaker: Paul Byrne

Poles Apart.....

Two engineers were standing at the base of a flagpole, looking at its top. A woman walked by and asked what they were doing. 'We're supposed to find the height of this flagpole,' said Sven, 'but we don't have a ladder. The woman took a spanner from her purse, loosened a couple of bolts, and laid the pole down on the ground. Then she took a tape measure from her purse, took a measurement, announced, '6.5 metres,' and walked away. One engineer shook his head and laughed, 'A lot of good that does us. We ask for the height and she gives us the length!' Both engineers have since quit their engineering jobs and work for Waka Kotahi reducing highways from 100km to 80km.

SPS Meetings at Age Concern will recommence in person on 4 August.

Please note that masks are required and there will be no supper in the meantime.

It will be good to see you all in person soon!

7 July

The evening started with a splendid presentation by Ester Bunning. She is an award winning photographer from Wairarapa. She showed us various examples of her work and how it has evolved.

This was followed up with the results of Open(3) B& Grades, and then the Set Subject - Joy.

A great night.

21 July

We started the evening with a presentation by Noelle Bennett. Noelle came to New Zealand from the UK and is presently living in Twizel .

She says that her favoured genre is ICM, and the topic of her presentation was 'Textures, Layers and Blending'. An inspiring presentation.

Then we moved on to viewing the results of Open(3) A Grade - very enjoyable.

Harry a lawyer, who had a wife and 12 children, needed to move because his rental agreement was terminated by the owner who wanted to reoccupy the home. But Harry was having a lot of difficulty finding a new house. When Harry mentioned that he had 12 children. No one would rent a home to him because they felt that the children would destroy the place.

Harry couldn't say he had no children, because he couldn't lie. We all know lawyers cannot and do not lie. So, Harry sent his wife for a walk to the cemetery with 11 of their kids. He took the remaining one with him to see rental homes with the real estate agent.

Harry loved one of the homes and the price was right -- the agent asked, 'How many children do you have?'

He answered: 'Twelve.'

The agent asked, 'Where are the others?'

The lawyer, with his best courtroom sad look answered 'They're in the cemetery with their mother!!!'

MORAL: It's not necessary to lie, one only has to choose the right words...

and this is how half-truth is presented to us every day by news channels.

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Results

Open (3)

Digital

A Grade

- Annie Carmichael
‘Ghost Feet’ - Accepted
‘Mountain Daisy’ - Honours
- Stephanie Forrester
‘The Rose’ - Merit
‘Looking into the Past’ - Honours
- Barbara Lee
‘Within the flax’ - Honours
‘Thistledown Dance’ - Honours
- Rosalie Lindsay
‘Autumn Snow’ - Merit
‘Who Pulled the Plug out’ – Merit
- Ian Smith
‘Lindis Pass’ - Accepted
‘Autumn Colours Benmore Dam’ - Merit
- Tania Mackie
‘Touched by light’ - Accepted
‘A force of nature’ - Honours
- Gillian Maclean
‘Classic’ - Merit
‘Winter Bare’ Honours
‘A force of nature’ - Honours
- Debbie Main-Tose
‘The Morning After’ - Merit
‘All by Myself’ - Honours
- Dawn Patterson
‘Remembered in Stone’ - Accepted
‘The New Boys’ - Honours
- Anna Stewart
‘Days gone by’ - Merit
‘Fortification’ - Honours
- Shane Todd
‘Orepuki cliffs’ - Accepted
‘Stormy Seas’ - Merit
- Dave Tose
‘Fading to Dusk’ - Merit
‘Lost’ - Merit
- Chris Watson
‘Macro World’ - Merit
‘Airborn’ - Honours
- Val Wardell
‘Serenity’ - Accepted
‘Autumn Flyby’ - Merit

B Grade

- David Clearwater
‘Rustic Barn’ - Merit
‘Piering into the night’ - Honours
- Liz Collett
‘Bones’ - Merit
‘Show off!’ - Honours
- Sally Dobbs
‘Lake Pukaki’ - Merit
‘The rebirth of a city’ - Merit
- John Grant
‘Old Wharf, Bluff’ - Merit

- ‘Queens Park at night’ - Honours
- Sonia Kennard
‘Church of the Good Shepherd’ - Merit
‘Land and Sea’ - Honours
- Cheryl McMath
‘It Was Once So Busy’ - Accepted
‘Sunset Otago Harbour’ - Merit
- Sandra Stevens
‘All alone’ - Merit
‘Wow Bubbles’ - Merit

C Grade

- Allan Collett
‘Last of the season’ - Accepted
- Elaine Forde
‘Bumble bee gathering pollen’ - Accepted
‘Lake Te Anau’ - Accepted
- Liz Newell
‘Lake Gunn’ - Accepted
‘Redundant’ - Merit
- Vicki Finlay
‘Hokitika Sunset’ - Merit
‘The Aster and the Jewel’ - Honours
- Dave Rodgers
‘Lake Mapourika’ - Merit
- Sharon Rodgers
‘Watched by the light’ - Accepted
‘Taranaki twilight’ - Accepted
- Monica Toretto
‘Beachaneer’ - Merit
- Adam Vosloo
‘Through the Forest’ - Accepted

Prints

A Grade

- Barbara Lee
‘Autumn’s last hurrah’ - Merit
‘Pause for Thought’ - Merit
- Rosalie Lindsay
‘Colours of Glenorchy’ - Merit
‘Glenorchy Wharf’ - Honours
- Anna Stewart
‘Nevis Sunset’ - Merit
‘Mt Cook Sunset’ - Honours
- Val Wardell
‘The Art Of Nature’ - Accepted
‘Vineyard Tardis’ - Accepted

B Grade

- David Clearwater
‘Closed for renovation’ - Merit
‘The Cosmic Digger’ - Honours
- Gillian Maclean
‘Elle’ - Accepted
‘Up and Away’ - Honours
- Cheryl McMath
‘The Pontoon, the Bouy and the Shag’ - Merit
‘Wakatipu Dusk’ - Merit

C Grade

No entries

A little boy goes to his father and asks, ‘Daddy, how was I born?’ The father answers, ‘well son, I guess one day you will need to find out anyway! Your Mum and I first got together in a chatroom on Yahoo. Then I set up a date via E-mail with your Mum, and we met at a Cyber Cafe. We sneaked into a secluded room and googled each other. There your mother agreed to a download from my hard drive. As soon as I was ready to upload, we discovered that neither one of us had used a firewall, and since it was too late to hit the delete button, nine months later a little Pop-Up appeared that said, ‘You’ve got male!’

A Doctor can't find a job in a Hospital, so he opens a clinic and puts a sign outside: 'GET TREATMENT FOR \$20 - IF NOT CURED GET BACK \$100.'
A lawyer thinks this is a great opportunity to earn \$100 and goes to the clinic.
Lawyer: 'I have lost my sense of taste.'
Doc: 'Nurse, bring medicine from box No. 22 and put 3 drops in patient's mouth.'
Lawyer: 'Ugh. this is kerosene.'
Doc: 'Chur, your sense of taste is restored. Give me \$20.'
The annoyed lawyer goes back after a few days to recover his money.
Lawyer: 'I have lost my memory. I cannot remember anything.'
Doc: 'Nurse, bring medicine from box no. 22 and put 3 drops in his mouth.'
Lawyer (annoyed): 'This is kerosene. You gave this to me last time for restoring my taste.'
Doc: 'Chuuur. You got your memory back. Give me \$20.'
The fuming lawyer pays him, and then comes back a week later determined to get back \$100.
Lawyer: 'My eyesight has become very weak I can't see at all.'
Doc: 'oh well, I don't have any medicine for that, so take this \$100.'
Lawyer (staring at the note): 'But this is \$20, not \$100!'
Doc: 'Chuuuur, your eyesight is restored. Give me \$20'

An Australian tourist visits New Zealand. He decides to go a small town to take in the lush, rural landscape.
He sees a New Zealand farmer walking down the street, carrying a sheep under his arm. Curious the Australian asks, 'Are you going to shear that sheep?'
The Kiwi farmer responds in a heavy New Zealand accent, 'No, I won't shear this sheep with you. Get your own. Three New Zealanders and three Australians are at a train station... The Aussies notice that the Kiwis only bought 1 train ticket between the three of them.
"How exactly do you three plan on travelling with one ticket?" one asked.
"None of your business, mate" said one of the Kiwis.
Sceptical, the Aussies watched them as they boarded the train, to see the three of them walk into the toilet and shut the door.
The ticket collector came into the carriage and seeing the closed bathroom door, started knocking impatiently.
Out came a single hand holding the ticket. The Aussies watched, impressed, as he continued into the next carriage.
The very next morning, the three kiwis noticed the Aussies had arrived first, and stood on the edge of the platform eagerly, with just one ticket.
"Thanks for the trick, mate!" sneered one of them.
"Happy to help mate! We thought of a new trick, we're going to get to work without even buying one ticket!"
The Aussies shook their heads in dismissal, hopped on the train, and immediately rushed into the toilet.
"Well, what are we going to do now" asked one of the other Kiwis,
"Don't worry, just follow me" said the one who had spoken to the Aussies
He strolled on to the train, walked over to the closed bathroom door and started knocking.

Golden Hour Photography: A Complete Guide (+10 Tips)

The Golden hour is a special time for photographers. The sun is low in the sky, and the light looks soft, warm, and absolutely *magical*. By combining proper photographic technique with golden hour lighting, you're practically guaranteed to capture stunning images.

What is the golden hour in photography?

The golden hour refers to (roughly) the first hour after sunrise and the last hour before sunset. It's a time that's great for photography; hence, the golden hour is also referred to as the *magic hour*.

During the golden hour, the sun hits the world at a lower angle - and because the light must travel a greater distance to reach the earth, it looks softer, more flattering, and redder. (Compare this to sunny midday lighting, which beams down from directly overhead to produce hard, generally unflattering illumination.)

Really, if you're serious about taking advantage of beautiful golden hour light, I'd just recommend paying careful attention to the sun for a few days. Ask yourself: When does it rise? When does it set? When does the light start to get warm and soft in the evening? And when does the light start to get hard in the morning? While you can calculate exact golden hour times using astronomical charts, it's often best to simply observe the light; pretty soon, you'll be very attuned to the sun's changes, and you'll know when you can (and can't) expect magic-hour lighting.

Why is the golden hour so special?

I've already emphasized the low, soft, warm light produced by a magic-hour sun - but what makes it so great for photography?

Well, generally speaking, soft light is a photographer's best friend. It doesn't create harsh shadows and it tends to decrease the dynamic range of a scene, so

the resulting images don't feature dark shadows or bright highlights.

Plus, the warm colour temperature produced by the golden hours can look beautiful and flattering. And a low sun hits the subject more directly, so there are fewer shadows produced under subjects' eyes, noses, and chins.

While portrait photographers, wildlife photographers, and landscape photographers love magic-hour light, street photographers generally prefer to shoot around midday, when the hard light of the sun produces lots of crunchy contrast and shadows. And many macro photographers prefer to shoot when the sky is overcast; that way, they can capture saturated colours and lots of detail.

The golden hours vs the blue hour

While the golden hour is the hour after sunrise and the hour before sunset, the blue hour is the opposite: It's the hour before sunrise and the hour after sunset.

In other words, the blue hour refers to the time when the sun is just below the horizon. During the blue hour, the sky turns beautiful cool colours - blues and purples - which look great in landscape and even portrait photos.

Five key lighting techniques for golden hour photography

The golden hour offers five powerful lighting techniques:

Front light

Front lighting is when your subject faces directly into the sun:



During the golden hours, front light offers a warm, flattering effect that's perfect for photographing people, wildlife, and birds. (And because the sun isn't too bright, portrait subjects won't need to squint!)

Just point your shadow at your subject, let the sun fall over your shoulder, and have fun shooting.

Backlight

Backlight occurs when the sun is behind your subject. And during the golden hours, backlight creates a soft, warm, hazy, glowing effect, like this:



Golden hour backlight works well, but you need to be careful; it's easy to accidentally underexpose your subject and end up with a partial silhouette. To avoid this problem, make sure to meter off your subject, *not* the background.

Rim light

Rim lighting is when the sun creates a halo around your subject:



(This halo will be especially prevalent when your subject is positioned against a dark background.)

While you can create rim lighting with backlight, the sun doesn't need to sit directly behind your subject. The background just needs to be (relatively) dark, and the sun just needs to come from (roughly) a back angle. You'll have to move around until you find a sweet spot, though getting down low is a good start.

Sun flare

When stray light hits your lens, you'll often get a sun flare effect, like this:

Continued on Page 4



And during the golden hour, the sun is at the optimal height for beautiful flare.

How does it work? Simply angle your camera and lens so that your subject is partially covering the sun. Then move around (sometimes you only need to move an inch or two left or right) until you can see flare coming out from around your subject:



(Another way to achieve a flare is to position your lens and camera so the sun is just outside of the frame.)

Silhouette

A silhouette is created when your subject is rendered black against a bright background:



10 golden hour photography tips

1. Observe the sky the day before your photoshoot
2. Plan your shoot in advance
3. Watch out for clouds!
4. Set your white balance to *Cloudy* or *Shade*
5. Shoot with a wide aperture
6. Don't stop photographing - the light is changing all the time

7. Subtly underexpose to add more vibrance
8. Explore HDR photography
9. Experiment in post-processing

Adapted from: Anabel DFlux - digital-photography-school.com

Photography Quotes

'In photography there is a reality so subtle that it becomes more real than reality.'

- Alfred Steiglitz

'We are making photographs to understand what our lives mean to us.'

- Ralph Hattersley

'A photograph is about a secret. The more it tells you, the less you know.'

- Diane Arbus

'The best thing about a picture is that it never changes, even when the people in it do.'

- Andy Warhol

'Which of my photographs is my favourite? The one I am going to take tomorrow.'

- Imogen Cunningham

'Today everything exists to end in a photograph.'

- Susan Sontag

'Taking pictures is savouring life intensely, every hundredth of a second.'

- Mark Riboud

'If I could tell the story in words, I wouldn't have to lug around the camera.'

- Lewis Hine

'The camera is much more than a recording apparatus, it is a medium via which messages reach us from another world.'

- Orson Welles

'To me, photography is an art of observation. It's about finding something interesting in an ordinary place...'

- Elliott Erwitt

'It's amazing how photography can capture just a split second of something exquisite.'

- Kiera Cass

'My camera is my passport.'

- Steve McCurry

'The camera is an excuse to be someplace you otherwise don't belong. It gives me both a point of connection and a point of separation.'

- Susan Meiselas

'All photographs are accurate. None of them is the truth.'

- Richard Avadon

'Most things in life are moments of pleasure and a lifetime of embarrassment; photography is a moment of embarrassment and a lifetime of pleasure.'

- Tony Benn

'It is more important to click with people than to click the shutter.'

- Alfred Eisenstaedt

'Photography is an itch that won't go away. No matter how much you scratch it.'

- Dara McGrath

'Life is like a camera. Just focus on what's important and capture the good times, develop from the negatives, and if things don't work out, just take another shot.'

- Anon

'Photography takes an instant out of time, altering life by holding it still.'

- Dorothea Lange

'With photography, a new language has been created. Now, for the first time, it is possible to express reality by reality. We can look at an impression as long as we wish, we can delve into it and, so to speak, renew past experiences at will.'

- Ernst Haas

'I have always been fascinated by the poetic condition of twilight. By its transformative quality. Its power of turning the ordinary into something magical and otherworldly.'

- Gregory Crewdson

'A photograph is like a recipe - the memory is the finished dish.'

- Carrie Latet

'I have always been fascinated by the poetic condition of twilight. By its transformative quality. Its power of turning the ordinary into something magical and otherworldly.'

- Gregory Crewdson

Shooting beautiful and striking black & white images

We live in a world of beautiful colour - why would you ever take black and white images?

But while it's true that the advent of colour photography has brought us a world of amazing colour photos, there's still something to be said about a beautiful and striking black and white image.

Black and white photos exude charm and elegance and timeless, classic beauty that's not easily replicated with their colour counterparts.

With this in mind, let's look at how you can create black and white images that are truly remarkable

1. Consider Your Composition



Think about your composition. Is it best suited to black and white, or colour? While some situations call for colour - for example, a breath-taking sunset; at other times a composition may be better served by black-and-white.

Any time colour is distracting from the main focal point or taking away from the message that you're trying to convey, removing colour from the equation can help.

2. Look for contrast



When composing your shots, look for tonal contrast - dark shades

that contrast against lighter tones.

Contrast is your best friend when it comes to black and white photography because, generally speaking, if a black and white image has very low contrast, it's going to look a bit muddy.

3. Watch the Lighting



Typically, when you head out with your camera, you're hoping for stellar light.

But the great thing about black and white photography is that it can be a bit more forgiving.

The flat, dull light on a dark, overcast day may mute bright colours, but it won't matter as much for black and white images - making it the perfect time to go black and white.

Bright sunny days are also great for black and white photography since direct sun produces bold shadows - and plenty of high-contrast situations that look great as black and white images.

Adapted from: DailyPhotoTips

I just watched an Aussie cooking show and the audience cheered when the chef made meringue. I was surprised ... Usually Aussies boo meringue.

A 'society' woman in Auckland decided to prepare her Will and make her final arrangements. She told her Priest she had two final requests. First, she wanted to be cremated, and second, she wanted her ashes scattered all over the roof of Smith & Caugheys. 'Why Smith & Caugheys?' asked the Priest. 'Then I'll be sure my daughters will visit me twice a week.'

Economics is not that difficult if we have the right examples:

Interviewer:

'What is Recession?'

Candidate:

'When 'Wine & Women' get replaced by 'Water & Wife', that critical phase of life is called Recession.'

*I met a bloke from Australia who worked in I.T
I asked him 'Do you come from a LAN down under?'*

Wife to her Accountant husband:

'What is inflation?'

Husband:

'Earlier you were 36-24-36. But now you are 48-40-48. Though you have everything bigger than before, your value has become less than before. This is INFLATION'

It's the Rugby World Cup Final, and a man makes his way to his seat right next to the field. He sits down, noticing that the seat next to him is empty. He leans over and asks his neighbour if someone will be sitting there. 'No,' says the neighbour. 'The seat is empty.' 'This is incredible,' said the man. 'Who in their right mind would have a seat like this for the Final and not use it?' The neighbour says, 'Well actually the seat belongs to me. I was supposed to come with my wife, but she passed away. This is the first World Cup Final we haven't been to together since we got married.' 'Oh, I'm so sorry to hear that. That's terrible... But couldn't you find someone else, a friend, relative or even a neighbour to take her seat?' The man shakes his head. 'No,' he says. 'They're all at the funeral.'

1. Home is where you hang your @.
2. The email of the species is more deadly than the mail.
3. A journey of a thousand sites begins with a single click.
4. You can't teach a new mouse old clicks.
5. Great groups from little icons grow.
6. Speak softly and carry a cellular phone.
7. In some places, C: is the root of all directories.
8. Oh, what a tangled Website we weave when first we practice.
9. Pentium wise, pen and paper foolish.
10. The modem is the message.
11. Too many clicks spoil the browse.
12. The geek shall inherit the earth.
13. Don't byte off more than you can view.
14. Fax is stranger than fiction.
15. What boots up must come down.
16. Windows will never cease.
17. Virtual reality is its own reward.
18. Modulation in all things.
19. Give a man a fish and you feed him for a day, teach him to use the Net and he won't bother you for weeks.
20. There's no place like your homepage.

Sizing & Other Info for Competition

1. For Digital Files, Horizontal width must be no more than 1920 pixels.

Vertical height must be no more than 1080 pixels.

PLEASE NOTE: You may NOT swap these dimensions around.