

November 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

## 3 November

**Speaker: Dakota Brown**

**Set Subject AV - Steps**

**Feedback from Documentary Sets**

## 26 November

**Annual Awards Night  
At Club Southland**

**Please complete Jot Form  
for attendance**

## 6 October

We started the evening with Natural History Digital & Print results. Not many prints, but plenty of great Digital images entered.

Then we had some more of Annie's AV on 'Why Black and White' by Cole Thompson - see next page for the link to this AV - thanks, Annie for that.

Annie followed by talking and giving examples on Naming Images.

Then we had a recap of the key points of Graham's Workshop. That sounded like a good event to be at - as always!

You will have seen in an email sent out that the SPS Meeting on the 20th October has been cancelled.

*A bloke starts his new job at the zoo and is given three tasks.*

*First is to clear the exotic fish pool of weeds.*

*As he does this huge fish jumps out and bites him.*

*To show who is boss, he beats it to death with a spade.*

*Realizing his employer won't be best pleased he disposes of the fish by feeding it to the lions, as lions will eat anything.*

*Moving on to the second job of clearing out the Chimp house, he is attacked by the chimps who pelt him with coconuts.*

*He swipes at two chimps with a spade killing them both..*

*What can he do? Feed them to the lions, he says to himself, because lions eat anything...*

*He hurls the corpses into the lion enclosure.*

*He moves on to the last job which is to collect honey from the South American Bees.*

*As soon as he starts, he is attacked by the bees. He grabs the spade and smashes the bees to a pulp.*

*By now he knows what to do and shovels them into the lions cage because lions eat anything.*

*Later that day a new lion arrives at the zoo.*

*He wanders up to another lion and says 'What's the food like here?'*

*The lions say: 'Absolutely brilliant, today we had Fish and Chimps with Mushy Bees'.*

*Today is the oldest you've ever been, yet the youngest you'll ever be, so enjoy this day while it lasts.*

*Ladies, if a man says he'll fix it, he will. There is no need to remind him every six months about it!*

*It is funny when my wife gives me the 'silent treatment'. She thinks it is a punishment.*

*One morning, a husband returns the boat to their lakeside cottage after several hours of fishing and decides to take a nap. Although not familiar with the lake, his wife decides to take the boat out. She motors out a short distance, anchors, puts her feet up, and begins to read her book. The peace and solitude are magnificent. Along comes a Fish and Game Warden in his boat. He pulls up alongside the woman and says, 'Good morning, Ma'am. What are you doing?'*

*'Reading a book,' she replies, (thinking, 'Isn't that obvious?')*

*'You're in a Restricted Fishing Area,' he informs her.*

*'I'm sorry, officer, but I'm not fishing. I'm reading.'*

*'Yes, but I see you have all the equipment. For all I know you could start at any moment. I'll have to take you in and write you up.'*

*'If you do that, I'll have to charge you with sexual assault,' says the woman.*

*'But I haven't even touched you,' says the Game Warden.*

*'That's true, but you have all the equipment.. For all I know you could start at any moment.'*

*'Have a nice day ma'am,' and he left.*

Patron: Graham Dainty

Office Bearers:

President: Vas Wardell

Immediate Past President:

Secretary: Liz Collett

Treasurer: Gillian Maclean

Committee Members:

Graham Dobbs - Publicity  
Cheryl McMath - NH & PJ Print  
Competition Secretary  
Dave Rodgers - NH & PJ Competition  
Secretary

Other Roles

Ian Smith - Open Print Secretary  
Stephanie Forrester - Open Digital  
Competition Secretary

Newsletter:

Rosemary McGeachie

Webpage

Stephanie Forrester

## Results

### Natural History(4) Digital

#### A Grade

- Annie Carmichael  
'Bracket Fungi' - Accepted  
'Kea in full flight' - Merit
- Barbara Lee  
'Kea' - Accepted  
'Lichen- Placopsis spp fruiting bodies' - Accepted
- Gillian Maclean  
'Royal Spoonbill' - Accepted  
'Damsel fly (kekewai)' - Merit
- Sandra Stevens  
'South Island Robin' - Accepted  
'Tui' - Accepted
- Anna Stewart  
'Nidula niveotomentosa (2)' - Accepted  
'Slater Colony' - Merit
- Chris Watson  
'Kotuku, White heron' - Honours  
'Nidula niveotomentosa (1)' - Honours

#### B Grade

- Sonia Kennard  
'Paradise shelduck' - Accepted  
'kekeno' - Accepted
- Dave Rogers  
'Silvereye-Tauhou and chick (Zosterops lateralis)' - Merit  
'Female South Island Tomtit, Ngirungiru' - Honours

#### C Grade

- Vicki Finday  
'Australasian Crested Grebe' - Accepted  
'NZ Sea Lion' - Accepted
- Robyn Kelly  
'Purakaunui Falls' - Accepted  
'Daylily Stamens & Stigma' - Honours
- Liz Newell  
'Fantail' - Merit
- Sharon Rogers  
'Black Swan, Cygnus atratus' - Merit  
'NZ Fur seal pups, Arctocephalus forsteri' - Merit

#### Prints

##### A Grade

No entries

##### B Grade

- Sandra Stevens  
'Female Sea lion' - Accepted  
'Monarch Butterflies' - Honours

##### C Grade

No entries

---

*Class assignment in Criminology - going downstairs is a condescending case descending.*

*I hope your carers have longevity that the first day bank employee who got fired. A woman asked him to check her balance, so he pushed her over.*

*I've been feeling really stressed lately, so my doctor advised that before going to bed I should drink to glasses of red wine, after a hot bath, but to be honest, it's not really helping at all - I can't even finish drinking the hot bath water.*

*As I hurtled through space, one thought kept crossing my mind - every part of this rocket was supplied by the lowest bidder - John Glenn*

*I'm not a paranoid, deranged millionaire. Actually, I'm a billionaire - Howard Hugh*

*After the game, the King and the pawn go into the same box. Old Italian proverb.*

*America is the only country where a significant proportion of the population believes that professional wrestling is real, but the moon landing was faked. David Letterman*

*Home cooking. Where many a man thinks his wife is - Jimmy Durante*

*Men are like linoleum floors. Lay 'em right the first time and you can walk all over them for thirty years - Betsy Selkind*

*Why would a farmer make a good photographer? They know how to handle the crop.*

*Why did the photographer have to take a 5-day break after he took 2 flights home from the shutter convention? He was suffering from shutter lag.*

*What happened when the woman put a backup camera in the front of her vehicle? She never looked back.*

*Why did the photographer fail an assignment where he had to recreate the same photo twice? There was too much contrast between the two photos.*

*Three boys are in the playground bragging about their fathers. The first boy says, 'My Dad scribbles a few words on a piece of paper, he calls it a poem, and they give him \$50.' The second boy says, 'That's nothing. My Dad scribbles a few words on piece of paper, he calls it a song, and they give him \$100.'*

*The third boy says, 'I got you both beat. My Dad scribbles a few words on a piece of paper, he calls it a sermon, and it takes eight people to collect all the money!'*

Here is the link to Annie's 'Why Black and White' by Cole Thompson - part of which we saw at the Club Meeting on 6 October

<https://youtu.be/L3iq9H PWf0>

To Open file:

For PCs, hold CTR +Click

For Apple, hold Command and click

*One day an Irishman goes into a Pharmacy, reaches into his pocket and takes out a small bottle and a teaspoon. He pours some liquid onto the teaspoon and says to the Chemist 'could you taste this for me, please?'*

*The Chemist takes the teaspoon, puts it in his mouth, swills the liquid around and swallows it.*

*'Does that taste sweet to you?' says Paddy.*

*'No, not at all,' says the Chemist.*

*'Oh that's a relief,' says Paddy.*

*'My doctor told me to come here and get my urine tested for sugar.'*

*A very prestigious Cardiologist died and was given a very elaborate funeral by the hospital he worked for most of his life... Covered in flowers, a huge heart, stood behind the casket during the service as all the doctors from the hospital sat in awe. Following the eulogy, the heart opened, the casket rolled inside, then the heart closed, sealing the doctor in the beautiful heart forever.*

*At that point, one of the mourners just burst into laughter. When all eyes stared at him, he said, 'I'm so sorry... I was just thinking of my own funeral...'*

*'I'm a gynaecologist!'*

*The priest fainted!.....*

*Five surgeons are discussing who were the best patients to operate on.*

*The first surgeon says: 'I like to see Accountants on my operating table because when you open them up, everything inside is numbered.'*

*The second responds, 'Yeah, but you should try Electricians! Everything inside them is colour coded.'*

*The third surgeon says, 'No, I really think Librarians are the best; everything inside them is in alphabetical order.'*

*The fourth surgeon chimes in, 'You know I like Construction Workers. Those guys always understand when you have a few parts left over at the end, and when the job takes longer than you said it would.' But the fifth surgeon shut them all up when he observed, 'You're all wrong. Politicians are the easiest to operate on. There's no guts, no heart, no balls, no brains, and no spine, and there are only two moving parts - the mouth and the anus - and they are interchangeable'*

*I once knew a stand-up comedian who was born with no legs.*

*He was fired for sitting down on the job. He argued with the Boss but got nowhere, so he went to an Employment Lawyer. No joy there either, the Lawyer said he didn't have a leg to stand on.....*

## 5 Tips for Gorgeous Nature Portraits

I love photographing in nature - and in this article, I'm going to share my top five tips for beautiful nature portraits.

I explain:

How to work with colours to create breath-taking compositions

Creative techniques to level up your photos

How to use props to produce creative effects

Much more!

### 1. Look for complementary colours



Nature is full of beautiful colours: red flowers, green leaves, orange fruits, yellow grasses...

And while these colours can certainly enhance your portraits on their own, you'll get the best results if you *match* colours in nature to colours on your subject.

You may notice that your subject's hair, eyes, lips, or clothing go well with some floral blooms, leaves, or rocks. So pose your subject in front of the harmonious colours, and make sure that your portrait compositions include *both* the colours on your subject and the colours of nature.

It helps to always keep an eye out for different colours when working with your subject. I'd also encourage you to spend some time studying colours theory. Look at a colour wheel and memorize opposite (also known as *complementary*) colours; these go well together and will create plenty of contrast.

You should also memorize colours next to one another on the wheel, known as *analogous* colours, which provide compositions with a peaceful, balanced feeling. For instance, if my subject has

startling blue eyes, I'll search for teal water or green leaves to create a beautiful effect. You can get a similar result by combining multiple shades of the same colour, as I did here:



### 2. Don't be afraid to blur your subjects

This tip will get you more *creative* nature portraits.

You see, while most photographers spend lots of time trying to keep their subjects sharp, you can actually capture gorgeous shots if you embrace a blur effect!

Here's how it works:

First, find a nice foreground subject, something that's reasonably attractive but won't draw the eye away from your subject. Flowers, leaves, trees, and grasses work great for this.

Second, make sure that your subject is reasonably far behind the foreground subject. Ask them to strike a meaningful pose; I think the results look best if the scene seems *private*: a kiss, for instance, or a mother holding her new-born baby. Pro tip: You want the effect to look like it was done purposely, not like you accidentally missed the focus on your subjects, so make sure your subjects really sell the pose!

Third, dial in a wide aperture (I recommend working at f/2.8 and beyond). And focus on the foreground subject. If your camera tries to focus on the background subject (i.e., the people), you can always switch over to a single-point AF area mode and select a focus point over your foreground subject. Alternatively, you can turn off your lens's autofocus and manually set the point of focus in the right place.

Finally, take your photo, then check the result on your camera LCD. If your subjects look a little too sharp, widen the aperture further or ask them to back up. Alternatively, if your subjects are too blurry, bring them closer to the foreground or narrow that aperture.

### 3. Ask your subjects to interact with nature

Standard nature portraits are nice, but after a while, they can get a little boring - for both the subject and the viewer.

So why not mix things up with a prop or two? While you could always work with standard props (e.g., umbrellas, baskets, and fairy lights), I'd encourage you to incorporate natural props into each composition. These props will feel more realistic, plus they'll create a beautiful connection between your subject and nature.

Here are a few props ideas to help you out:

Logs, rocks, and branches (as perches)

Leaves or snow (your subject can blow these out of their hand or throw them in the air)

Streams and lakes (for your subject to walk in)

Flowers (for your subject to hold, smell, or tuck in their hair).



Be kind to nature around you and try to leave everything the same or better than you found it. Remember that if everyone broke branches, picked a bouquet of wildflowers, or stomped on untouched fragile foliage, there would be nothing left to enjoy. So tread lightly, pick up any trash, and don't leave a trace.

### 4. Combine natural and artificial elements

Once you've mastered the art of incorporating natural props into your nature portraits, I'd encourage you to add artificial elements to the natural landscape.

For instance, you might place a bench or a couch in a field, or you might bring along a retro typewriter or a bundle of balloons.

### 5. Take wider portraits

Close-up portraits look amazing, and they often do a great job of capturing a subject's personality.

But if you're looking to capture more creative images, consider approaching the scene from a distance - by taking several steps backward or using a wide-angle lens. Try to include your surround your subject with natural features so that they're a small (but important!) part of the overall composition.

This environmental portrait approach adds scale, and it also produces memorable images that incorporate a strong sense of place:



Rather than creating a portrait of a human subject *in* nature, the wider approach lets you capture nature *with* a human subject.

The toughest part is finding surrounding scenes that work. I'd recommend looking for beautiful areas that make pretty photos on their own, then simply adding the subject to the shot. (It can be helpful to scout locations ahead of time.)

Bonus: These environmental portraits look great when blown up and printed!

Adapted from: Melinda Smith - Digital Photography School

*Paddy replies 'no tanks, I've only got a small garden.'*  
*Paddy and Mick found 3 hand grenades and decided to take them to the police station.*  
*Mick 'What if one explodes before we get there?'*  
*Paddy: 'We'll lie and say we only found two!'*

*A senior citizen in Louisiana was overheard saying ... 'When the end of the world comes, I hope to be in Louisiana.'*  
*When asked why, he replied, 'I'd rather be in Louisiana 'cause everythang happens in Louisiana 20 years later than in the rest of the world.'*

*After being married for thirty years, a wife asked her husband to describe her. He looked at her for a while ... then said, 'You're A, B, C, D, E, F, G, H, I, J, K.'*  
*She asks ... 'What does that mean?'*  
*He said, 'Adorable, Beautiful, Cute, Delightful, Elegant, Foxy, Gorgeous, Hot. She smiled happily and said ... 'Oh, that's so lovely ... What about I, J, K?'*  
*He said, 'I'm Just Kidding!'*  
*The swelling in his eye is going down, and the doctor is fairly optimistic about saving his testicles.*

## Ever heard of the '600 Rule'?

There are a lot of rules in the world of photography. I'm sure you know a few.

From composition rules like the rule of thirds or using leading lines, the reciprocal rule, etc...

You might think that absolutes generally have no place in the creative realms. And you would be right to think so.

But there is one rule that can be especially useful when shooting on a starry night, especially if you want to include the Milky Way in your composition.

This rule can enable you to shoot images like this one for example:



Nope, that's not some Photoshop trickery. This can all be done right in-camera.

The rule I'm referring to is called the **600 Rule**.

It's based on motion as it relates to time and becomes very useful for long exposure night photography when the stars become part of your composition.

You may have heard of the '500 Rule' as well, which is simply another take on it. This is an approximation after all, so your mileage may vary.

The 600 Rule allows you to quickly calculate the maximum exposure time that you can employ without producing noticeable star trails at any given focal length.

*Note that the formula is for full-frame cameras (and we assume you use a tripod). If you use a crop-sensor camera, you'd need to adjust the formula to take that into account. For example, if your camera has a 1.5x crop factor, try replacing '600' with '400'. A 1.6x crop factor would mean going from '600' to '375'.*

So, the formula goes like this:

**600 / focal length of your lens in mm = shutter time in seconds**

If you are shooting at a 100mm focal length, then your maximum shutter time would be:

**600 / 100mm = 6 seconds until star trails**

For a 12mm focal length, it becomes:

**600 / 12mm = 50 seconds until star trails**

At 50mm, the formula states:

**600 / 50mm = 12 seconds until star trails**

You get the idea.

Simply take 600 and divide it by your selected focal length (in full-frame equivalent) to get the approximate exposure time.

The 600 Rule becomes extremely useful for images where you want to include the Milky Way or other fixed astral subjects as part of your image.

It allows you to quickly get an ISO and aperture based on an acceptably precise shutter speed. This gives you the ability to use your lowest ISO setting which reduces image noise and also gives you relative control of the effects of astral motion.

It's not a big deal, really. You're just compensating for the movement of an entire planet.

Adapted from: DailyPhotoTips

*On a train from London to Manchester, an American was berating the Englishman sitting across from him in the compartment.*

*'You English are too stuffy. You set yourselves apart too much. You think your stiff upper lips put you above the rest of us. Look at me...I'm ME. I have Italian blood, French blood, a little Indian blood, and some Swedish blood. What do you say to that?'*  
*The Englishman replied, 'Awfully sporting of your mother, old chap !!!!!'*

*An utterly ruthless Hollywood producer is visited by Satan. Satan says 'I can get you any star male or female any time you want, and always you will get the best scripts and best directors to work for you at cheap rates. I can make all your films be blockbusters'. The producer says 'In return what do you want? 'Satan says 'your immortal soul'.*  
*The producer strokes his goatee looking puzzled, then says after a while 'OK but what's the catch?'*

*Bloke at a horse race whispers to Paddy next to him, 'do you want the winner of the next race?'*  
*Paddy replies 'no tanks, I've only got a small garden.'*