



Upper Blue Mountains Camera Club Inc.

# Newsletter

Competition is like exercise. You don't jog to jog; you jog so you get healthier and stronger. Tim Walden, M.Photos.Cr., F-ASP

## Camera Modes

One question that is often asked is about what shooting mode to choose for what subject. So . . . in this quick overview of the different shooting modes, we're going to share with you just when to use each of the different modes, for what type of subjects, and why. Hopefully, this will help you select the most appropriate camera mode in any situation.

### Aperture Priority Mode (A/Av)

This is the mode that is used the most often. In Aperture Priority Mode you select the aperture you want to use, so you control the amount of the photo that will be in sharp focus (depth of field). This mode is best used for stationary objects, ones that are not moving. Shoot in this mode when you're walking around shooting hand-held and more than likely both travel and street photography.

**Shutter Priority Mode (S/Tv)** In Shutter Priority Mode you select the shutter speed you want to use, so you can control motion in the photo. What that means is . . . if there's anything moving in the scene . . . by selecting the shutter speed you decide if you want that object blurred or frozen and sharp. A slower shutter speed will blur moving objects, or possibly cause camera shake if it's too slow, and a fast one will freeze motion. This mode is rarely used unless you're doing panning.

**Manual Mode (M)** In Manual Mode, you must select both

the aperture and the shutter speed, along with the ISO, that way you control all aspects of the image. Contrary to what many photographers or pros may say . . . this is NOT the mode that is recommended to use all the time. "They", and it has been written, that you aren't a "real photographer" if you don't shoot in Manual. Hogwash to that! It should be said that you use Manual Mode at very specific times . . . usually when the camera is mounted on a tripod and there is time to adjust and play with the settings. So that means when you're out doing night photography, making long exposures, shooting panoramas for stitching, shooting bracketed shots for HDR, macro photography, and for when you're creating a portrait and the subject is not moving.

Something to remember and it bears repeating . . . it is 100% okay NOT to shoot in Manual Mode!

Give yourself permission to use the camera's ability to help you get a good exposure in the other semi-automatic modes. It is also okay to use Program mode or . . . and heaven forbid . . . full Automatic Mode. If you aren't ready to use these other modes, or the scene in front of you is changing too fast for you to get the shot - use the mode you're most comfortable with and get the shot. Then when you have time . . . learn about the other modes.



*Pictured above: Camera mode dial on a Nikon camera. Canon or another brand it may look slightly different.*

## 2017 Inter-Club Competition — Final Scores

	Colour	Mono	Digital	Total
Blue Mountains Photography Club	131	133	122	386
Blacktown City Photography Club	123	118	118	359
Hawkesbury Camera Club	120	121	125	366
Upper Blue Mountains Camera Club	127	132	121	380

Judge's  
Choice  
Awards

Colour Upper Blue Mountains Camera Club  
Mono Blue Mountains Photography Group  
Digital Hawkesbury Camera Club

Alan Daniel  
David Thomas  
Jenelle Gavin

"Slim Chance"  
"Shanghai Hotel"  
"Rainbow Feathers"



## COLOUR PRINT OF THE MONTH



### *"The Lone Candle"* – David Mansfield

On a road trip from Dover to Lands' End, a detour to the famous Canterbury Cathedral seemed the thing to do. The Cathedral is often described as 'England in stone' as its history is intrinsically linked to the country's history. There's no amount of information that can prepare you for the enormity and the absolute grandeur of the building. The "ground level" consists of three massive areas for commoners through to the highest order, where this photograph was taken.

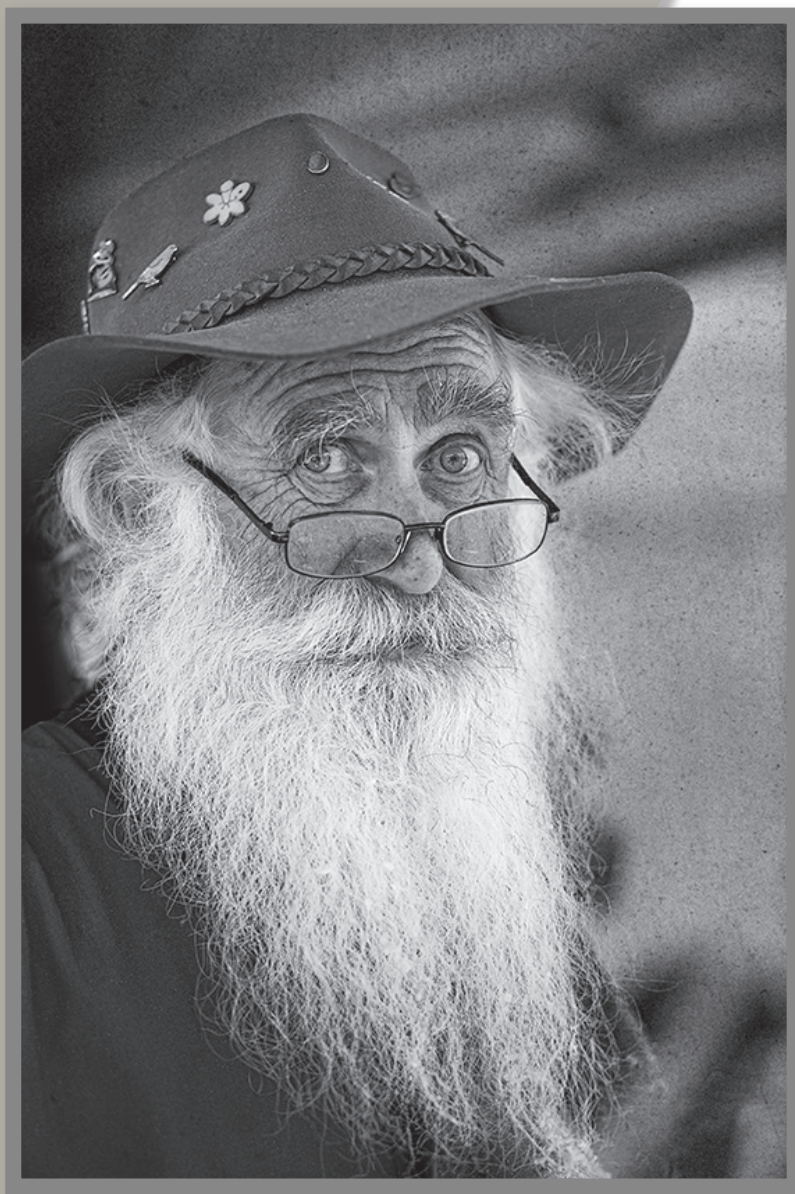
Downstairs a choir was singing in a magnificent vaulted crypt the size of an Australian house block.

I took lots of shots, enough to fill an album of its own! Today, the Cathedral stands as a place where prayer to God has been offered daily for over 1,400 years; nearly 2,000 Services are held each year, as well as countless private prayers from individuals. The Cathedral offers a warm welcome to all visitors.

Lone Candle – f3.8 1/10 sec ISO 400 hand-held.

*One just stands in awe . . . Canterbury Cathedral's history is as rich as it comes.*

## MONOCHROME PRINT OF THE MONTH



*"Errol"* – Greg Fisher

Greg writes . . . "I was at the Springwood Foundation Day, it was in the early afternoon and in the harsh sunlight, and me, with camera in hand, spotted this gentleman inside a tent doing a wood turning demonstration.

Soft light - great – I took advantage of the situation and of a great subject for a portrait.

I waited and took several shots and chose this one for printing.

Some work has been in Photoshop to removing the background distractions.

The gentleman had a similar looking face to a work colleague of mine from a long time ago, his name was Errol, so hence the title of the picture."



## DIGITAL PRINT OF THE MONTH



*"Sunset Silhouette"* – Harley Rustin

When photographing in the desert, it's tempting to always just photograph the landscape. The dramatic sand dunes are usually what wow us when we look at pictures taken in the desert. But it's also worth capturing images that can tell a story, as this one does. While deserts can make for very dramatic and beautiful landscapes they can also be challenging to avoid the photos appearing to be flat and uninteresting. It's no secret that photographing in the early morning or late afternoon provides a wonderfully soft light for our images which helps avoid making them look flat – and as we can see the desert is no exception. The soft

light can give the sky a beautiful glow and in the above photo, the red late afternoon light has been utilised ideally and has reproduced the shadows and shapes most effectively. However one of the main challenges of photographing the desert is to avoid the images looking uninteresting. After all, just photographing endless sand isn't going to make your images stand out. Instead, as Harley has done, he's found a point of interest to incorporate in it. Harley's image above might not have looked anywhere near as special had it not had the young fellow with the ubiquitous device as a point of interest incorporated in it.



One of the challenges photographers always face is how to capture images that look diverse and unusual. Sometimes this happens by luck but the majority of the time you have to be prepared to pre-visualise the shot and work for it.

Well done Harley, and well done Greg and David too, the quality and diversity of images never ceases to amaze.

## Using Drones in National Parks – Information for recreational users

Drones – also called remotely piloted aircraft – are small aircraft covered by civil aviation laws.

When using a drone in a national park, visitors must follow these rules and comply with the NPWS Drones in Parks Policy.

Drones can dangerously interfere with park operations, such as fire management and other aviation activities. Drones can also disturb wildlife and also intrude on visitor privacy. It's up to the operator of a drone to make sure that it is airworthy and is flown safely.

If visitors wish to use a drone in a park they must check with the park manager if it is allowed and adhere to the following rules.

Make sure that you don't fly your drone where it will annoy park visitors, be a nuisance to wildlife, or interfere with park management operations.

Check the Alerts page of the NPWS visitor website ([www.nationalparks.nsw.gov.au/alerts/Alerts-list](http://www.nationalparks.nsw.gov.au/alerts/Alerts-list)) for the latest advice about fires and floods affecting parks and parks closures. Access to parks may be restricted or prohibited on days when fire danger rating is 'Very High' or above.

Make sure you know and follow CASA's Flying your drone for fun ([www.casa.gov.au](http://www.casa.gov.au)) rules for recreational drone users.



You must operate the aircraft in your line-of-sight during daylight hours only.

Don't let the drone get too far away from you.

You must not fly closer than 30 meters to vehicles, boats, buildings or people.

You must not fly over any crowded area, such as beaches, heavily populated parks, or sports ovals where there is a game in progress. In national parks this includes picnic, camping and visitor areas.

You should not fly higher than 400 feet. (120 meters).

You must not fly within 5.5 kilometers of an airfield or helicopter landing site. This restriction covers many urban and coastal national parks.

Do not fly your drone over or near an area where emergency operations are underway. This includes bush fires, vehicle accidents, police operations, and search and rescue activities.

Park manager's consent, and compliance with CASA's rules, are required if you wish to fly your drone for filming or other commercial purposes, or if you wish to fly outside these rules (including if you have CASA exemptions).

Find out more at [www.environment.nsw.gov.au/policies/parks-drones-policy.htm](http://www.environment.nsw.gov.au/policies/parks-drones-policy.htm)

**Entries are open for the Sydney Rides photo competition, which may be of interest . . .**

**Open to professional and amateur photographers, they're looking for images inspired by the bike and the people who ride.**

**The image must show a reference to a bike, bike rider or cycling infrastructure. References can be either subtly or in a more obvious manner.**

**Twenty images will be featured in an outdoor gallery at Paddington Reservoir Gardens in October and the photographer will also receive a \$200 bike shop voucher.**

*More information and entry details can be found at <http://www.sydneycycleways.net/events/sydney-rides-photo-competition/>*





## Gem Show Sat/Sun 19/20 August 2017

8:00am to 4pm daily  
Displays and Sales of lapidary work, gems, rocks, minerals, jewelry, beads and gemstones  
Refreshments available

Entry: Adults \$3, Children \$1

**Glenbrook Community Hall**  
Great Western Highway, Glenbrook, NSW  
(Next to Glenbrook Theatre)



## MOUNT WILSON SPRING BLOSSOM *festival*

23 & 24 SEPTEMBER 2017 10AM TO 4PM  
*Discover the Beauty*

- OPEN GARDENS, BUSHLAND AND RAINFOREST •
- BLOSSOM, BULBS AND SPRING FLOWERS •
- EXHIBITION AND SALE OF PHOTOGRAPHY, ART AND SCULPTURE •
- GIFT SHOP • CASH ONLY CAFE AND SAUSAGE SIZZLE •

All proceeds benefit the Mt Wilson / Mt Irvine Rural Fire Brigade

Information: [www.mtwilson.com.au](http://www.mtwilson.com.au)

Booking details and prices: <https://www.trybooking.com/pcyw>

For exhibition enquiries contact: [bevwoodman46@gmail.com](mailto:bevwoodman46@gmail.com)

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## AUSTRALIAN GEOGRAPHIC NATURE PHOTOGRAPHER OF THE YEAR — 2017

Coming  
Soon

Discover over 100 extraordinary images

#australianmuseum

11 August - 10 December

MAJOR PARTNER



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EXHIBITION ORGANISER



SUPPORTING PARTNERS







## A "Captcha" Comment Better Composition:

To create a successful composition, arrange the elements to produce balance and simplicity. Don't simply raise the camera to your eye and press the shutter. Look for distractions that may live in a corner, create a better balance, examine the composition so the background doesn't merge with the main subject, or try to move to your right or left, or get higher or lower to piece everything together. Before pressing the shutter, **STUDY** the entire viewfinder. Press the shutter and then look at the image on the LCD—you'll be surprised at how much you didn't notice looking through the finder!



The 150 Years of Rail Celebration brought out the photographers for the arrival of the 3642 Steam Train. Here we have photographers taking photographs of photographers waiting to take photographs of the train!



Great pictures for a caption competition