



# Thru The Lens

The official newsletter of Parklands Photographic Club

## Our website

<http://members.optusnet.com.au/gizzi/ParklandsCameraClub/main.html>

April 2006

What a great turnout we had for our March meeting. Our guest judge for the night, Cyrus Barallon did a great job of judging on the night and gave a very interesting talk on Black and White Portraits. This led to a lot of questions and discussion about depth of field. To help answer some of the questions I have included a copy of a short paper on the topic that was prepared last year.

## 2006 Office Bearers

We are still looking for someone to take on the position of Secretary for 2006. So if you want to help out and take on the position speak to Orsola at the April meeting. Your help will be greatly appreciated.

## March Competition

The March competition was on the topic of Close Up and we had some very interesting interpretations. Cyrus had his work cut out for him judging that lot on the spot. Congratulations go to:

- **Adult Prints**

1 <sup>st</sup>	Theresa Clark	Close encounter of the hairy kind
=2 <sup>nd</sup>	Ian Logan	Hoya's
=2 <sup>nd</sup>	Theresa Clark	About to burst open
=2 <sup>nd</sup>	Theresa Clark	Eucalyptus Flower
3 <sup>rd</sup>	Vicky Barker	Water Baby
HC	Ian Logan	Hoya's from behind

## Up Coming Events and Dates to Remember

Our next meeting will be the **6<sup>th</sup> April** which will be an “Open” subject competition. Our lecture for the night will be on “Theatrical Photography”

All work for the May competition, the topic is “A little bit blue” must be handed in by the **23<sup>rd</sup> April**.

## Submission of Work

It is important to make sure that you submit your work for competitions by the due date. The preferred method is to bring your entries along to the meeting in the month prior to the next competition. Alternatively you may deliver your work to one of the following addresses:-

1. 46 Dorchester Street, Craigieburn. Ph No. 9308 3832
2. 91 East Street, Hadfield. (Mrs Joan Leahy.) Ph No. 9359 1038. Please ring to arrange delivery time
3. Level 1, 111 Thistlethwaite Street, South Melbourne. (Ask for Ian, if I'm unavailable leave work with the receptionist who will forward it to me)

## Exhibitions & Competitions

### **Ballarat National Photographic Exhibition**

Unfortunately it's too late to enter this competition but for all those interested in a great day out this exhibition is definitely worth a visit. It is being held at the Ballarat Fine Art Gallery, 40 Lydiard Street North, Ballarat. From 26<sup>th</sup> February to 16<sup>th</sup> April, 2006.

### **Pakenham National Photographic Exhibition**

The Pakenham Camera Club is holding it's 3<sup>rd</sup> annual National Photographic Exhibition. Entries have closed but the Exhibition is open to the public Friday 5<sup>th</sup> May to Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> May 2006 at the Cardinia Cultural Centre, Lakeside Blvd Pakenham (Melways ref: map 215 H-5)

### **VIGEX 2006. 14<sup>th</sup> International Salon of Photography**

It's now time to get your entries in for the VIGEX 2006 14<sup>th</sup> International salon. Entries close on the 31<sup>st</sup> March 2006. For details of entry conditions and an entry form go to [www.vigex.org.au](http://www.vigex.org.au) . Remember the VIGEX International salon is only held every two years so if you miss this one you will have to wait until 2008.

### **Commonwealth Photographic awards at the Immigration Museum**

An exhibition of photographs celebrating the Commonwealth Games and featuring the best of the Commonwealth Photographic Awards since 2000. This exhibition captures the spirit and diversity of the Commonwealth. The exhibition runs until the 30<sup>th</sup> of July 2006 and entry is free.

### **South Vietnam: Images from land, sea and air 1965 - 1972**

This photographic exhibition of around 70 coloured photographs has been compiled by Vietnam Veteran Steve Lewis. The exhibition runs until the 16<sup>th</sup> of April 2006, 10am-5pm at the Visitors Centre, Shrine of Remembrance.

### **1<sup>st</sup> Skipton Photographic Show**

This is the first photographic exhibition organised by the Skipton Progress Association and is open to all ages. There does not appear to be a listed closing date for entries so I would suggest that anyone interested in submitting an entry should have them in by the start of May. The exhibition runs on the 20<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup> of May 2006.

### **Photo Imaging World 2006**

This is a must for all those people interested in photography. This is the annual Photo Imaging Council Australia show and the Australian International Festival of Photography to be held at the Sydney Convention & Exhibition Centre on Darling Harbour. The event will be held on the 28<sup>th</sup> to the 30<sup>th</sup> April 2006. If you can't make the trip to Sydney you will have to wait until 2007 when the show hits Melbourne.

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### **Warragul National Photographic Exhibition**

The Warragul Camera Club is holding it's 34<sup>th</sup> annual National Photographic Exhibition and is now accepting entries. Entries close Friday 5<sup>th</sup> May 2006. The Exhibition is open to the public Friday 30<sup>th</sup> June, Saturday 1<sup>st</sup> and Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> July 2006 at the St Pauls' Grammar School Warragul. For entry forms or further information check their web site at [www.warragulcameraclub.org](http://www.warragulcameraclub.org)

### **VAPS Convention/Muster 2006**

This year VAPS have changed the format of the annual Convention and condensed it into a two day extravaganza of exhibition, lectures, workshops and field trips, and of course the annual dinner. This year the Muster is being held at **Kildare Campus of Lavalla Catholic College, Kosciusko Street Traralgon** and costs \$80 for full registration. The Muster is open to all Camera Club members around Victoria.

### **Bits and Pieces**

#### **Farewell Konica-Minolta**

Konica Minolta are calling it a day and completely pulling out of the consumer imaging market. It appears that management have decided that it's just too hard to remain competitive in today's market place. All production of all film, paper and camera's, both film and digital, has ceased. The only component of the business to survive is the D-SLR

production which has been taken over by Sony. For the full story and history of the companies read the March issue of CAMERA AUSTRALIA.

### Ilford Galerie

For all of you that are interested in printing your own images at home and don't want to compromise on quality then look for the Ilford Galerie range of professional inkjet photo papers which are available in major camera stores such as Michael's in Elizabeth Street. You can also buy online from Aim Digital Imaging at <http://www.ausmedia.com.au/>

## Depth of Field

Knowing what will appear to be in focus (and what will be out of focus) is one of the most basic considerations when making any photographic image. Although exact focus occurs only at the precise focusing distance, depending on the focal length of the lens, the lens aperture size and the focused distance, the apparent range of focus, or depth of field, can vary considerably.

Depth of field is the distance range between the nearest and farthest objects that appear in acceptably sharp focus in a photograph.

In simple terms we define depth of field as the zone of sharpest focus in front of, behind, and around the subject on which the lens is focused and depending on your cameras bells and whistles, it can be previewed in the camera - very handy for critical work. Generally, the closer the subject is to the camera, the more evenly distributed is the depth of field both in front and behind the subject. As subject distance grows, it extends more behind than in front of the subject.

The primary factors affecting depth of field are the size of the lens aperture, the distance of the subject focused on, and the focal length of the lens. Depth of field becomes greater as:

- The size of the lens opening decreases,
- The subject distance increases,
- Or the focal length of the lens decreases.



The general rule of thumb for selecting the right aperture for your desired depth of field is

1. Determine the closest object you want to appear sharp.
2. Multiply this distance by 2.
3. Set the focus of the lens at this "doubled" distance.

4. Find the aperture setting that aligns with the distance to the closest object you want sharp (1/2 the focused distance) - or slightly closer. This is the aperture setting you need.

Given the same object distance and the image size, bigger lens apertures (like f1.4, f2, f2.8, etc.) have a narrow band of depth of field which means critical focusing is essential, while on the other hand, if extended depth of field is required, choosing a smaller lens aperture like f8, f11, f16, f22 will make sure more plane of sharpness is generated.

Depth of field increases with distance. The farther you place the camera from your subject, the more depth of field you can obtain. Landscapes have great depth of field, while macro photographs tend to have very little depth of field because the subject is so close to the lens.

Control of depth of field is a critical aspect of photography that is often ignored. In part, this is due to today's auto focus cameras that successfully focus on the subject, but don't show you the range of the scene that will look sharp (depth of field)!

Few lenses made today have depth of field scales. Usually, this is because most photographers are using zoom lenses, and putting usable depth of field scales on zooms is not easy. Unfortunately, even many fixed focal length AF lenses don't have depth of field scales.

A depth of field preview (on those cameras that have it!) can be difficult to use, since the viewfinder can get quite dark when looking through small apertures.

Remember depth of field is a subjective quantity. Adequate depth of field for one situation or application may be unacceptable for another. It is all a matter of personal preference when trying to determine the depth of field required.

As you gain a sound understanding of depth of field through continued practice, you can use it as a very effective control for making better images.

Remember if you have an interesting story or a tip you want to share, want to buy or sell something or if there is something you want to know, drop me a line at [oldfart@people.net.au](mailto:oldfart@people.net.au) and we'll put it in the newsletter.

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