



Monthly Newsletter of the Wodonga Albury Camera Club

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A Whale of a Time

During a recent trip to Sydney I visited the Australian National Maritime Museum and was transfixed by an exhibition of life-size photography entitled "Beautiful Whale".

The photographer, Bryant Austin, waits for weeks, sometimes months, snorkelling or remaining motionless in the water so that the whales become used to him as a familiar being in their environment.

Eventually, the whales approach, coming as close as two metres to him. Austin, using a 50-megapixel Hasselblad camera, then takes up to 300 images of the whale in five-foot, vertical sections. From these images, he selects 15-20 to create composite, life-size portraits.

The results are compelling.



Minke Whale Composite One (Bryant Austin)

Bird Man

In our club we have a few very capable bird photographers. One of them, David Woolcock, captured the following image, *Mein Nein*, in the Green Hill Road Dam area about ten minutes away from the Honeyeater Picnic Area in Chiltern-Mt Pilot National Park.

Many readers will remember this area from a wildflower shoot in October last year.

David explains "When I arrived I observed that there were many Fuscous and Yellow-tufted Honeyeaters having a territorial dispute, chasing each other through the low shrubs. I had restricted views of the action so opted to walk to the other side of the dam and settled-in to wait.

Diary Dates

Monday 10th February 2015

@ Boomerang Hotel

7:30pm General Meeting

Judging – Open

Entries due – Open

Sunday 22nd February

7:00am Photo walk – details available at February meeting

Thursday 28th February

7:00pm Committee Meeting @ Zimmer residence

Monday 10th March 2015

@ Boomerang Hotel

7:30pm General Meeting

Judging – Creative

Entries due - Nature

Roster

March

Vicki Cain &

Jean-Maree Christenson

Classifieds

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Mein – Nein (David Woolcock)

Details

Camera:

Canon 1D Mark IV

Lens:

Canon 400mm f2.8 IS
USM II + Canon 1.4x III
Extender @ 560mm,
1/200sec @ f9.

Monopod with a
Wimberley WH200
Gibal Tripod Head.

Subject distance:

approx. 40 metres

It took about 15 minutes for the arguments and chases to restart. Suddenly two birds tumbled out of the top part of a shrub, landed on a branch in the open below and began their argument. I quickly focussed on the larger of the two birds and started firing. This camera body is capable of burts of up to 40 shots at 10 frames per second. Luckily, I was using a monopd as there was low light from an overcast sky and handheld at 1/200 sec would not have allowed such a sharp shot. It was comical as the birds began to voice their objections to each other – this image shows both birds beak-to-beak, the human equivalent of yelling at each other.

Club Competitions

The rules regarding **nature photography**, entries for which are due at our March meeting, are very strict; in essence, there should be no evidence of the hand of man.

Additionally, any manipulation or modification to the original image is limited to only minor retouching of blemishes and must not alter the content of the original scene.

WACC follow the rules for Nature Photography as set out by the Australian Photography Society. A full reading of the rules, what is allowed and what is not, can be found on the WACC website, or if you are still uncertain, contact one of the club mentors.

Future Competitions:

March

Judging: Creative

Entries Due: Nature

April

Judging: Open

Entries Due: Image of the Year



Hume Weir (Garry Pearce)

Happy Photography!

Garry

Our Sponsors: *Kerry & Leighton Weymouth*

