



The *Optic Nerve*

## Monthly Newsletter of the Wodonga Albury Camera Club

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### March 2018

#### Monica O'Connor

It is with sadness that we hear of the passing of Monica last week. Monica was a highly valued long-time member of our club leaving in 2015, due to illness. Monica was always a member to put her hand up when help was needed! Our sympathy goes out to her family.



#### Changes to our monthly meeting

Wodonga Albury Camera Club will trial a new meeting schedule to enable club members to participate in more hands on workshops and to learn different skills in photography.

For certain months of the year we will hold two club meetings, one meeting will be to view competition images whilst the other will be to run a series of workshops to upskill our club members in the art of photography. We envisage that the workshop meetings will enable club members to meet up with other photographers with similar interests and/or cameras and learn from each other in a friendly setting.

If you have any particular requests for a future workshop please don't hesitate to let a committee member know, and we will try our best to include this into our workshop program.

#### Diary Dates

**Monday 12<sup>th</sup> March 2018 @**

Boomerang Hotel  
**7:30pm** Judging – Profile  
Entries Due – Nature  
Guest Speaker:  
Neville Bartlett on  
"Equador"

**Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> March 2018**  
Committee Meeting **7:00pm**  
Venue TBA

**Monday 26<sup>th</sup> March 2018 @**  
Boomerang Hotel  
**7:00pm** Macro Workshop.

**Monday 9<sup>th</sup> April 2018 @**  
Boomerang Hotel  
**7:30pm** Judging – Open  
Entries Due – Image of  
the Year

**Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> April 2018** Albury  
under the Microscope  
Photographic Workshop  
**8:00am**. Further details to  
come.

## Abstract Photography for Beginners

Our set subject due in May is **Abstract**. Below are a few tips and tricks to help you capture the image.

**Look for lines and curves** - Line and curves are going to give your viewer something to base their new meaning on and add visual interest. Without these shapes, your eye wouldn't travel through and across the image. Instead, it would pull your eye to whatever element catches it first (usually the brightest or darkest part of the photo) and keep it there.

**Go macro** - Part of abstracting an item comes from compartmentalizing. One way to do just that is to use a macro lens to get up close and personal with the details of a person, place or thing. While this can be done with cropping in post processing, you'll lose some of the resolution and sharpness that comes with getting the shot in camera through proper composition.

**Shoot through another object** - Abstract photography often makes use of objects and turn them into filters. Shooting through a glass bottle, a rain splattered window, or even water might give you just the distortion or light refraction you need to create a really interesting and truly abstract image.

**Seek out texture and patterns** - Emphasizing patterns is one way to take a picture of a normal object that is composed abstractly. They are great tools to move your eye across the image in the intended direction and simply make your photograph more interesting in means of color, shape, or depth.

**Play in post** - Unlike other forms of photography where heavily doctoring something in post-production is frowned upon, abstract photography is one of the exceptions. Not only is playing in post acceptable, it is encouraged. Take this rare opportunity to distort, recolor, flip, turn and crop to your heart's content.

**REMEMBER** - If you are interested in abstract photography, the world is full of colors, shapes, patterns and details for you to capture and manipulate. Don't be afraid to go outside of your box. The only way to really train your eye to look for potential abstract subjects is to practice and keep trying techniques you aren't sure will actually work. Abstract photography is a lesson in seeing the world in a different light.

Tips sourced from <http://www.digital-photo-secrets.com/tip/3789/abstract-photography-beginners/>



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*Please Note: 10% of all sales from WACC Members goes back to the Club.*

## ARE YOU A NEW MEMBER?

It can often be scary joining a new club, particularly if you have come alone and don't know anyone. Wodonga Albury Camera Club offers a "buddy" program aimed at pairing you up with a buddy/mentor who has similar photographic interests to you, to help you along your photographic journey. For more information see **Phil Bell**.

### Future Club Competitions:

#### **April:**

Judging – Open  
Entries Due – Image of the  
Year

#### **May:**

Judging – Nature  
Entries Due - Abstract

### **Our Sponsors:**

*Kerry & Leighton Weymouth*

