

PHOTOGROUP

What have we learned | Recent Events | Upcoming Events

August Newsletter

To be sent this newsletter please make sure you subscribe to have it delivered to your personal email.

Recent Events

We have met a number of times now since April and regularly have 10 or more in attendance. Thank you everyone for your support 😊

We have two sessions per month (camera or smartphone) which will usually be: one at a local outside venue, and one indoor session.

Upcoming Events

The next PHOTO session will be on Monday 31st August between 10:30 to 12:30.. This is the summer bank holiday. I appreciate that this means some will be unable to attend but as it is not possible to change to an alternative day and several people have confirmed attendance the session will go ahead.

The next indoor session will be Monday 14th September between 10:30 to 12:30 at Carpathia Grange care home in Hythe.



So what have we learned / discussed so far ...

Aspect Ratios

Whether we use a digital camera or a smartphone camera we can choose a number of different frames for the image we wish to take. These 'frames' are known as Aspect Ratios. Common sizes are 4:3, 3:4, 16:9, 1:1, 4:5. The first number is the width and the second number is the height, therefore 4:3 would be landscape orientation and 3:4 would be portrait. The image above is 4:3.

Choosing an appropriate aspect ratio for your image composition is important because it determines what content you can place in the image.

Many photographers find YouTube an invaluable source of information for learning photography. Have a look at the short video using the following link (by Adam Gibbs) to learn how important Aspect Ratios are

<https://photographylife.com/aspect-ratio>



Smartphone or Digital Camera

So in the age of the 'All singing and All dancing' mobile smartphone does a photographer still need a dedicated digital camera anymore?

Advantages

The convenience of the 'camera in your pocket'

Always with you

The ability to edit images straight away in a phone App and send via email or social media

Disadvantages

Limited creative control

Smaller sensor effects image quality

Difficult to zoom in to small distant subjects

The inability to recharge a smartphone away from an electric power system or vehicle electric system.

Difficult to view an image on the smartphone LCD in bright sunlight

Lets discuss these points?

Composition rules / guides

We talked about some of the rules and guides to aid the composition of an image. Eg. Rule of Thirds, Leading lines, Layering (foreground, middle ground, background) and how they can often improve the quality of an image._

Compositions can be very complex, very simple and every possible combination in between.

Once you learn about some of the rules and guidelines developed by competent photographers over the years , the only way to improve your skills and hopefully the final image is to practise. Take more images but think more about the process and slowly develop those skills. When you look at the images you have taken and self-analyse them, try to understand what you like about them or alternatively why they didn't work and what could possibly improve that?

The following link shows and explains some of the rules and guidelines that we have discussed. (Short video by Andy Mumford)

<https://youtu.be/68bPnr-c8Vc?is=ILrtQoFxFkqS0t66>

I hope you get chance to look at these short videos and that we get an opportunity to discuss their contents in our sessions. Anything that you find confusing or need clarifying?

Light and Shadow

In the last few sessions we have briefly discussed the importance of light and shadow in photography. Particularly in outdoor photography the 'type' of the light we have can have a dramatic effect on the quality of the image taken. Many landscape photographers choose for example to take their images at either sunset or sunrise because they prefer the quality of light often available at those times (known as 'Golden Hour').

Black & White photography

Otherwise known as Monochrome this genre of photography is arguably totally reliant on good light? Many thanks to **Barry** who gave an excellent presentation entitled **Simply Monochrome** at our recent session at Carpathia Grange.