



Coolendel (Shoalhaven River) Camping Weekend - 6, 17, 18 September, 2016 – Greg Ford (S.A.P.S.)

# Shire Amateur Photographers' Society

*'Our aim is not to compete against each other – rather, to learn from each other'*

Greg Ford 0415 412 244 (9528 3475)

Website: [www.sutherlandshirephotography.com.au](http://www.sutherlandshirephotography.com.au)

Email: [gphoto@optusnet.com.au](mailto:gphoto@optusnet.com.au)



S.A.P.S. (Shire Amateur Photographers' Society)



Shire Amateur Photographers' Society (SAPS)

Newsletter No. 164 (19/09/2016)



## STOP PRESS ...

**NEXT OUTING – Sunday (25<sup>th</sup> September) *Next Weekend***

### Manly to The Spit Harbour Foreshore Walk

A 10 km walk that takes in Fairlight, Balgowlah Heights, Sydney Harbour National Park, Grotto Point Lighthouse, before heading along Middle Harbour to The Spit via Clontarf.

It is a walk that you must enjoy when the weather allows you to appreciate what a beautiful harbour we have in Sydney, so if the weather does not look special, it will be postponed to Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> October.

**DATE:** Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> September

**TIME:** 7.40am at Jannali Station for the 7.54am train into the city (2<sup>nd</sup> carriage from front).

Then ferry to Manly, walk to The Spit, then bus into Wynyard, before catching the train home.

**BRING:** Lunch, snacks & water – No shops en route, but 3 toilet stops.

**#### Please check for CANCELLATION email or on Facebook, from 6.15am in case outing is affected by bad weather etc. You can always check by giving me a call (0415 412 244).**



## Coolendel Camping Weekend

Thanks to everybody who joined me in the Societies inaugural camping weekend at Coolendel (Upper Shoalhaven River), west of Nowra, about 2 ½ hours from Sydney, last weekend. What a great social weekend away, camp fire cooking, camping under the stars, melting marshmallows over an open fire, and mixing it with the local wildlife. From walking along the upper Shoalhaven River photographing the scenery and the rapids, to fossicking among the remnants of the old gold mining days. Looking out for the hungry peacocks, or watching you did not step on a wombat, all great memories, blessed with great weather.

Thanks again to those that went, and to those who will come to our next camping weekend away ...

Greg



## **‘Understanding Digital Photography Course’**

### ***STARTS second week in October***

The first of my photography courses, this 30 hour (10 Lesson/Workshop) course includes 4 practical Workshops (10 hours). A Landscape Workshop at Como Pleasure Grounds; A Long Exposure Night Photography Workshop at Cronulla beach; A Portraiture & Exposure Workshop at Camellia Gardens and a Still Life & Portraiture Studio Workshop.

This is where you can use your camera in a practical environment, and ask questions as you learn how to use and understand your camera, to take better images.

I have found this to be far more beneficial than a purely theory based course, and seen students achieving far better outcomes.

Send me an email ([gphoto@optusnet.com.au](mailto:gphoto@optusnet.com.au)) or give me a call 0415 412 244 to discuss the course, or have further info sent out.



## **‘Addition to NEW ‘Light & Composition Course’**

### **‘Abridged Course’ Option**

You can decide to do the **Abridged Light & Composition Course**, if you prefer.

The Abridged Course is the first half of this course, and includes the Introduction Night Class, the first three City Workshops (Botanic Gardens, Rocks Perimeter, and Twilight/Night China Town & Darling Harbour), then you submit your images, and attend the Review night for those 3 Workshops – 5 classes/workshops (15 hours) \$200.

You can enrol for this Abridged Light & Composition Course (which is the first half of the Light & Composition Course), then finish, or you might decide to continue with the course and finish the second half of the course, or even do the second half of the course in a following Term.

NOTE: This option is only available if Full Course does NOT fill, but a viable option re time and cost...

Interested ... please ring Greg (0415 412 244) or email [gphoto@optusnet.com.au](mailto:gphoto@optusnet.com.au)



## **‘NEW Understanding Light & Composition Course’**

### ***STARTS Monday 10<sup>th</sup> or Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> October***

‘You have a subject that motivates you to want to take its photo’

‘You have good photographic gear and generally know how to use it’

‘But when you take the image – something often seems to be missing ...

Well, it’s probably, an understanding of how to capture GOOD Light & Composition ...

I have always thought that good photographic images are made up of three important components ...

25% - Having the right gear, and knowing how to use it

25% - Enhancement

**50% - COMPOSITION**

But these three very important components don’t express the key element ... The one thing that without it, you cannot even create an image ... **LIGHT!**

***I have found, the more images I take, and the more experienced I've become, the more I have realised that understanding light & composition is more important than any other factor, technical or otherwise ...***

It's been a journey ...

We have got through the learning curve of understanding the camera, the settings, what to use when. We have upgraded our gear, become an enthusiast, and have a passion for photography, but sometimes we find that we lose our motivation ... same ... same ... Why?

Let's face it ... the technical part of photography is just the tool, to be used in conjunction with an understanding of light & composition. Using D of F, you can become lazy sometimes, by allowing yourself to avoid the need to look at some parts of the image, because you have made them unsharp. When everything in the frame is in focus, you cannot be lazy ... Early photographers did not have lenses that blurred parts of the frame, so they needed to have everything in its place – Good Composition ... and ... being B&W as well, did not have colour to distract or draw your attention, so they needed to appreciate light and how to use it. Both of these elements we tend to overlook ...

The frustration for a lot of us, is that, well, some people just seem to have a knack of being creative, and artistically minded ... It seems to come easy for them, but this does not mean that we can't learn to recognise opportunities when they appear, then use those opportunities combined with a better knowledge of light & composition, to BECOME more creative, and better photographers...

Over the past 12 months or so, I have changed the way I think about my photography – I feel I had the 'Bull by the Horns' ... I was looking for interesting subjects to photograph, more than the light that was falling on them. I now tend to look for good light, and find subject within that lighting opportunity ...

So my aim with this course is to teach you to seek out the light, then compose the subjects that you find in that light.

The duration of this course is 30 hours, focusing on its SIX, three hour City Workshops (4 daylight, 2 twilight to dark).

*Note: This course is unlike my other two courses. It does not follow on one Workshop after another. If you miss a Workshop then you won't miss an important element that affects the next Workshop. You will still be able to makeup, up to 2 missed workshops, in another Term.*

The course starts off with the **Introduction Night Class (#1)** discussing the important elements associated with Light & Composition. Introducing you to the diverse number of factors associated with Composition, and the realisation of how many things that can influence your images. We then look at an overview of images taken at the first three Workshop locations, discussing the possibilities associated with simplicity, cropping, light and composition.

At each Workshop, you will work in a different group of four. When we meet at Jannali Station, the groups for the Workshop will be allocated. A brief for the Workshop, a map, and compositional notes for that Workshop will be handed out, so that each group can discuss the Workshop on the way in on the train. It is intended that during the Workshop, your group will discuss opportunities, subjects, camera settings, and ideas, and develop a broader appreciation of the surrounding environment - To collectively think outside the square ...

With the morning Workshops, we will be meeting at Jannali Station at 7.20am, on a Saturday or Sunday morning (*weather permitting*). Twilight/Night Workshops times will be allocated subject to time of year.

We start our City Workshops by first visiting the '**Botanic Gardens' (#2)**, followed a week or so later - '**The Rocks Perimeter' (#3)**.

Our third of the first group of Workshops will be a Twilight/Night Workshop at '**China Town and Darling Harbour' (#4)**, starting at Central, and finishing at Town Hall.

The next time we meet is a **Class Review Night (#5)** looking at images taken at the first three Workshops. You will be asked to hand in your images using 'WeTransfer', a week before the lesson, so that they can be added to the presentation.

The review night will look at and discuss the images taken (anonymously) looking at the way the light has been used and captured, and how compositional elements have been used in the images submitted.

At this stage of our photographic journey, we need constructive feedback to make us aware of what we get right, and what we need to work on. Feedback from others in the course is encouraged. We will also look at other images that have been taken at the same Workshops previously, to get a better overview of opportunities that existed.

From here we do our next three City workshops, again meeting at Jannali Station at 7.20am, on a Saturday or Sunday morning (weather permitting), for a further two morning Workshops. Groups will be allocated as before. Our fourth Workshop will again visit **'The Rocks – Centre' (#6)**, but this time the Central area of the Rocks looking at different locations, lighting and therefore compositions. At this Workshop, there will be a limitation though. You will need to shoot wide angle, and an aperture of f11, with the intention of capturing EVERYTHING in focus. This is a Workshop to make you aware of composition and to eliminate distractions when shooting wide ...

The 5<sup>th</sup> Workshop will be **'Hyde Park & Surrounds' (#7)**, and then finally **'The Rocks Night Workshop' (#8)** where we will visit the Rocks at Twilight/Night, capturing the historic mystical light on the century past buildings and features. Images will be handed in again by 'WeTransfer', and we will have the second **'Class Review Night' (#9)** reviewing the images from the final 3 workshops as before.

The last night of the course is **'Enhancement & Cropping' (#10)**. What opportunities did we miss with our submissions from all six Workshops? We will also discuss camera settings, lenses used and the outcomes they produced.

We will also look at one other Task required to shoot during the three Rocks Workshops. That Task is to ONLY capture OLD in your images - No modern elements in the images. The images must be handed in as B&W or sepia, representing images of years past.

Well, that's it ... a way of motivating your photography into the future.

Our City is a magical place to create images - the parklands, the modern, and the historical Rocks prescient.

The cost of the 6 City Workshops and 4 Lesson **'Understanding Light & Composition Course'** is \$350.

*You can also decide to do the abridged course, which includes the Introduction Night Class, the first three Workshops, and the Review night for those Workshops – 3 x Workshops, 2 class nights (5 in total) \$200.  
You can enrol for this, then extend to do the full course if you wish.*

*NOTE: This option is only available if Full Course does NOT fill, but a viable option re time and cost... Please ask ...*

Interested, or have questions, give Greg a ring (0415 412 244) or email to: [gphoto@optusnet.com.au](mailto:gphoto@optusnet.com.au) to get an enrolment number, and I look forward to continuing our photographic journey together ...

**ENROLMENT FORM is at the end of this newsletter ...**

Interested ... Give me a ring to discuss (0415 4122 244) or 9528 3475 (Greg)

## **TASK to Photograph in September**

**Still plenty of time to take some shots and send them to me via 'WeTransfer' before the meeting on 6<sup>th</sup> October**

### **Daylight Zoom Blur** (submit up to 5 images)

- Task is to create images where part of the subject is blurred by zooming the lens while taking a slow exposure
- Pick a brightly coloured subject with central focal point, simple, uniform background. Contrast (light & dark helps)
- Tripod also helps to illuminate jittery images
- Slow shutter speed allows you to start zooming **THEN** depress the shutter **WHILE** zooming



- Shutter speeds of around 4 (¼ sec) seem to give the best results, but experiment
- How to get shutter speeds slow enough – Easiest is to set values on manual exposure mode (select 4 (1/4 sec), ISO at 100, then adjust aperture (larger number e.g. f22) to reduce light to give a correct exposure. If still overexposing, use polariser or ND filter to reduce light if required.
- Alternative, use 'Shutter Priority' and dial up 4 (1/4 sec) shutter speed. Use 100 ISO (camera will adjust aperture for correct exposure. Use polariser or ND filter if still overexposing
- Ensure that when you zoom the lens, the subject remains in the centre of the lens for the best effect
- Zoom in on your subject before starting. You can focus on subject then, and then turn off AF (to M). Remember when you change you subject, turn your focus back to AF
- You don't try to zoom the lens from one extreme to the other. A partial zoom works best ...
- You can also use Radial blur in Photoshop to create the effect if you wish. Search 'Using Radial Blur in Photoshop'

*Send your images through to me be WeTransfer, before 4<sup>th</sup> October, so we can look at them at the October meeting.  
Not sure about sending by WeTransfer – Give me a ring – it's easy ...*

## **MYSTERY TOURS in October**

Night and Day Mystery Tours will be held in October, 2016. Dates to be confirmed, but looks like:

15<sup>th</sup> October – NIGHT Mystery Tour

16<sup>th</sup> October – DAY Mystery Tour

Interested ... Email Greg or ring 0415 412 244 to add your name to the list

---

## **NEXT MEETING – Society Meeting 6<sup>th</sup> October**

---

## **Upcoming Society Activities**

### **SEPTEMBER 2016**

Sun 25<sup>th</sup> Manly to the Spit Walk

### **OCTOBER 2016**

Sun 2 <sup>nd</sup>	Wet Alt. (Manly to the Spit Walk)
Thur 6 <sup>th</sup>	Society Meeting - Club on East (SUS Club) 1 <sup>st</sup> floor, 7pm
Sat 15 <sup>th</sup>	NIGHT Mystery Tour
Sun 16 <sup>th</sup>	DAY Mystery Tour
Sun 29 <sup>th</sup>	Society Outing (Sculpture by the Sea)
Sun 30 <sup>th</sup>	(wet alt) Society Outing (Sculpture by the Sea)

### **NOVEMBER 2016**

Thur 3<sup>rd</sup> Society Meeting - Club on East (SUS Club) 1<sup>st</sup> floor, 7pm



Coolendel (Shoalhaven River) Camping Weekend -16, 17, 18 September, 2016 – Greg Ford (S.A.P.S.)

### **Participating in our Society**

- Membership (2016)                      \$20 (Calendar year)
- Meeting attendance                      \$ 5 (Visitors may attend 2 meetings before membership is required)
- Night Mystery Tours                      \$25 (Members only – Insurance Requirement)
- Day Mystery Tours                      \$35 (Members only – Insurance Requirement)
- Trips Away: (Members only – Insurance Requirement). Active members take precedence, but family and friends can go on waiting list, so that if additional numbers are required (closer to departure), they are welcome to fill the gaps. Note: All people going on Trips Away must be full members of the Society.
- Unofficial Outings/Activities: These events are not formally run by the Society. They are activities that some of the Society members, friends, and families may join in together as private activities. These events may be promoted though on the SAPS Facebook site for anybody interested.
- Anybody going on a Mystery Tour or Trip Away from 1/4/2016, will need to sign a Risk Warning, Release and Waiver form that will remain ongoing as long as you participate in Society activities. I had a Lawyer draw up this legal document to safeguard myself from possible legal action, thank you.

[www.sutherlandshirephotography.com.au](http://www.sutherlandshirephotography.com.au)

0415 412 244

[gphoto@optusnet.com.au](mailto:gphoto@optusnet.com.au)

supported by ...



See Tony or Patrick for all your photographic requirements – Bottom level, Shop 1098, Westfield Miranda (9589 5700)

<b>Sutherland Shire Photography</b> <b>ENROLMENT FORM</b> <b>Term 4, 2016 (Light &amp; Composition Course)</b> <i>(this page can be filled out electronically then emailed back)</i>						<div style="font-size: 48px; font-weight: bold; margin: 0;">C</div> <div style="color: gray; font-style: italic; margin-top: 5px;">(enrolment number)</div>		
<b>Name</b>								
<b>Email Address</b>								
<b>Mobile Phone</b>								
<b>Address</b>								
<b>Home Phone</b>								
<i>What camera do you use?</i>								
<i>What is the widest focal length you can get ...18mm?</i>								
<b>Office</b>	<i>Contact</i>	<i>Return email</i>	<i>Follow up</i>	<i>Confirmation</i>	<i>Paperwork Rec.</i>	<i>Payment Rec.</i>	<i>Payment (how)</i>	<i>Payment (amt)</i>

Please nominate options for which Course (full or abridged) and preference of night for hall classes, by entering 1 or 2 in boxes on left of your chosen course. Place N/A in box if not available on that night

<b>FULL COURSE</b> - 6 Workshops, 2 Review nights & 2 Class nights (30 hours) \$350		
	<b>Monday</b> <small>(night hall classes)</small>	<b>10<sup>th</sup> October – 4<sup>th</sup> December, 2016</b>
	<b>Tuesday</b> <small>(night hall classes)</small>	<b>11<sup>th</sup> October – 5<sup>th</sup> December, 2016</b>

<b>ABRIDGED COURSE</b> - 3 Workshops, 1 Review night & 1 Class night (15 hours) \$200		
	<b>Monday</b> <small>(night hall classes)</small>	<b>10<sup>th</sup> October – 8<sup>th</sup> November, 2016</b>
	<b>Tuesday</b> <small>(night hall classes)</small>	<b>11<sup>th</sup> October – 9<sup>th</sup> November, 2016</b>

Please note: Abridged Course **ONLY** runs if FULL course is NOT filled, also because of so many outside Workshops, weather could extend duration of course

<b>WORKSHOP Availability</b>						
Workshops will be held on a Saturday or Sunday's BUT if everybody enrolled in a course, is available on a mid-week day, then it could be a viable option for Workshops but only if it suits all enrolled?						
<b>Sat</b>	<b>Sun</b>	<b>Mon</b>	<b>Tues</b>	<b>Wed</b>	<b>Thur</b>	<b>Fri</b>
Please DELETE days NOT available						