

Practical introduction to digital photography workshop outline

09.30 - Meet at location as instructed

09.30 – 10.15, the digital camera - introduction:

- Camera/photo history.
- Aperture – example of how it works; example prints to illustrate aperture effect on images and relationship with lens.
- Shutter speed - example of how it works; example prints to illustrate aperture effect on images and relationship with lens.
- ISO – what used to be film speed but is now a gauge for sensitivity of photo-sensitive cell. Relate this to quality of image produced (grain/noise). Also show relationship between ISO, shutter speed and aperture.
- Focus - practical examples of fast and slow shutter. Also classic and technical examples as postcard sized prints. Relationship to aperture. Auto or manual? Spot or average?
- Lens (quality) length – focal length – how it affects image - how does it alters the image: practical example. Also use of classic and technical examples as postcard sized prints.
- Exposure – importance of correct exposure. Using the camera's viewer as a guide. Overcoming limitations of auto exposure. Spot vs average.

10.15 – 11.00, Prescriptive practical photography assignment to practice what has been learned: shutter speed, aperture, ISO, focus and exposure.

- Participants paired up to review images. Evaluation.

11.00 – 11.15, Over tea/coffee - Review of shoot:

- Look at examples of participants images on their view screens – demonstrate zooming in
- Look specifically for best practice and discuss where improvements can be made.

11.15 – 11.30, Setting up the camera for optimum quality:

- Computer imaging software, recommendations including free or open source software.
- Talk through the cameras own software which processes the image and how to turn these off; sharpness, contrast etc
- File types: jpeg (quality) tiff and raw
- Colour balance (auto or manual)
- File size – use for the image
- Media card
- ISO
- Exposure – or the effects of underexposure correction on a computer

11.30 – 11.45, picture making:

- Holding the camera
- Composition
- Slow shutter - Self timer and using a support
- Flash / fill-in
- Vertical and horizontal

11.45 – 12.30, practical photography assignment to practice what has been learned

12.30 – 12.45, review of 2nd shoot

12.45 – 13.00, Q&A plus a summary of what has been learned