



Vic's perspective

Welcome to the first edition of our 2020 newsletter.

I try to gather snippets of information about photography that I think will be of interest to members, but I would love you to help by providing details of any useful tips you come across.

An article in the Luminous Landscape about finding your voice in rendering a landscape using the power of metaphor struck a chord for me. See the link in the side bar on page 2

An oldie but well worth a revisit is on how to use curves layers to pull back on blown out and over saturated colours, particularly red because it happens a lot. Click on the red tab of a curves adjustment layer and click on the top right end of the diagonal and pull it down the side of the curves dialogue box and watch as the red area of the histogram retreats from the right hand side. See p.3 for examples.

Using the luminosity blend mode (see bottom of page 2) can also be used to protect colours from increased contrast or exposure adjustments using gradient masks in sunsets or sun rises for instance.

Another useful technique when applying blend modes is to use adjustment layers instead of duplicating the original layer. Not only does this avoid creating large files but it can be used to apply adjustments using the attributes of blend modes.

A word about the panorama presentation by Alan Purnell. I sense that it is a subject that appears technical and somewhat difficult. It is true that a good wide angle lens may do the job, but a pano is a handy way to get a wide angle shot without a wide angle lens. Turning the camera to portrait mode and shooting a number of over lapping images as you pan the camera is the answer. Portrait mode is used to get enough height in the image to create a useable aspect ratio. Please

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Coming Events

- ◆ Panorama presentation by Alan Purnell on 12 March
- ◆ "Anything musical" comp on 26 March

Be inspired

Fine art photography by Charlotte Gibb

[https://
www.charlottegibb.com/#/
page/home/](https://www.charlottegibb.com/#/page/home/)

Quote of the month:

"Its not the camera, but whose behind the camera". Anonymous.

take advantage of Alan's generous offer to use his considerable experience to demystify this valuable technique.

Our program for 2020 has included a unique feature, a presentation on 24 September by John Cooper on bird photography that might inspire you for next years nature comp. John is an Australian nature photographer of world renown and a Fellow of the Photographic Society of Australia.

In Review

We had two comps in February, Nature judged by Geoff Longford and an Open Comp judged by Peita Ward. Both judges gave us sage advice about faults and potential. The Nature comp featured a number of digital images that disqualified them from being considered for the Glennie Nature Salon and should have been screened out on receipt. Of course this meant that Geoff was too forgiving in scoring these images regardless. A lesson for next year!

Peita's judging was rich in observations about how the potential of an image could have been improved.

Despite the reservations we continue to have about the projector and digital projection it is evident that some images are processed in bright conditions. This means that your processing will tend to add contrast or in any case render darker images. When such images are projected in a darkened room they will be too dark and details in shadows will be lost.

Your processing should not be done with any light falling directly on the screen. Ideally you should be in a darkened room.

Useful websites

Go to our new website for help with training courses.

[https://
www.manlycameraclub.org
.au/useful-links/](https://www.manlycameraclub.org.au/useful-links/)

The Luminous Landscape:

Rediscover (your) voice in landscape

[https://luminous-
landscape.com/voice-in-a-
landscape/](https://luminous-landscape.com/voice-in-a-landscape/)

Know your camera?

Use your picture styles function to shoot in mono. Great for concentrating on the tones of your images by removing the distraction of colour.

This does not affect images shot in RAW. It does if shot in JPG.

The jpg playback to the LCD screen on your camera displays the chosen picture style. Check your camera's menu for the choice and to customize a style.

Quick tips for blend modes:

Overlay to increase global contrast and mood in a scene.

Luminosity for protecting colour when adding contrast or selectively reducing the exposure.

Multiply for a flat or washed out image to increase tones especially the blacks and whites.

Colour to modify colours without increasing contrast or luminance.

Add further control by using masks to apply the effect.

Rather than duplicate layers and double file size, to apply a blend mode, use an adjustment layer.

Image # 1—note red color blown out on the histogram right hand side



Image # 2—note change in shape of the histogram (circled) and the position of the curve diagonal end point positioned lower on the right hand scale (circled).

