

MILTON ULLADULLA DISTRICT CAMERA CLUB
2020/21 COMPETITION THEMES – DEFINITIONS

The MUDCC Committee has developed a set of themes for the 2020/21 Competition Year to help develop your photographic skills while also enhancing your creativity.

Each theme is described below to provide members with guidance on its intention, along with any specific requirements or exclusions. Please use these theme definitions in conjunction with the rules that apply to all our Club competitions as outlined on our website <http://www.miltonulladullacameraclub.asn.au/>

The definitions also contain some hints on how you might approach each theme. Additionally, you will be able to draw on the monthly inspiration images provided on the Facebook page for ideas www.facebook.com/miltonulladullacameraclub/

Please ensure that all images entered in the theme category have been taken within twelve months of the competition date, and that all your images meet the size requirements. These too are set out on the Club's website.

Creativity in interpretation is always encouraged within the spirit of the theme. If you have any queries about a theme, please contact a member of the Committee via phone, the Club's email account or our Facebook page.

Lastly, this guidance is also provided to our judges. However, judges will always have discretion in interpreting monthly themes and the competition rules, and their selections are final.

Patterns

27 July 2020 – DPI Competition – Images Due 13 July 2020

Patterns are regularly repeated arrangements, often formed from lines, shapes or colours. We are surrounded by them in both our natural and manufactured environments, from the clothes we wear and the way we decorate spaces, through to the markings on a lizard or petals on a flower. Your images this month should unmistakably feature patterns, not merely contain them.

Macro

24 August 2020 – DPI Competition – Images Due 10 August 2020

In its purest form, macro photography is when the size of the subject in the photograph is bigger than it is in reality. In practice this usually involves close-up images of small subjects, thereby revealing detail that might not often be seen. Objects in nature are common subjects for macro photography, but you can take close-up photos of just about anything. A close-up photo of fabric might reveal an interesting weave, or taking the back off an old watch and getting in close can show the intricacies of its inner workings.

You may have a specialised macro lens that you can use on your interchangeable lens camera, or perhaps your fixed lens camera has a macro setting. Alternatively, you can use an app or macro lens on your phone. Even cheap clip-on phone lenses can produce good results if you have a steady hand, lean against something, or use a phone tripod.

Framed

28 September 2020 - DPI Competition – Images Due 14 September 2020

Framing is a key compositional technique. It involves drawing the viewer's eye to the subject of the image by concealing other parts of the image with something else in the scene. In this way you essentially create a frame within the frame. Framing can also give your subject context and add visual interest and/or depth.

Frames that are often used to accentuate the subject include: windows and other architectural elements like tunnels, stairwells and archways; mirrors, including household mirrors and car mirrors; and natural features such as tree trunks, foliage, caves and rocks. You can even bring things to your shoot to frame your subject, such as a pair of glasses.

This month you will need to be very conscious of your composition and - if your frame and subject are some distance apart - you will also need to carefully consider focus. Your frame doesn't have to be along the edges of the photograph; it may even be in the centre. But please ensure that your frame is part of the scene when you **take** the image, not something that is applied in-camera or by phone apps or computer software.

By The Sea

26 October 2020 – DPI Competition – Images Due 12 October 2020

You have a wonderful opportunity this month to showcase our beautiful coastal location or perhaps another seaside setting that is dear to your heart or has raised your creative pulse. The only stipulation for your 'By The Sea' theme images is that they literally need to be taken by the sea!

This doesn't mean that they need to feature water, although of course they can. Perhaps you can make your images stand out by depicting other seaside elements, such as harbours, jetties, sandcastles or even a game of beach cricket.

Shadows and Silhouettes

23 November 2020 – DPI Competition – Images Due 9 November 2020

Shadows and silhouettes are all about contours and an absence of surface detail.

A shadow is the shape created when an object stops light from reaching a surface. The intensity, form and size of the shadow changes depending on the distance, angle, and size of the light source. A silhouette is also a shape, but in this case it is the outline generally formed when a dark subject is viewed against a lighter background. Again, there are several factors that can change the intensity, form and size of the silhouette.

We encounter shadows and silhouettes all the time, and they can be found in many photographs, but your challenge here is for the shadow/s or silhouette/s to be the feature of your image, not just included within it. Think about subjects with interesting forms that might make striking silhouettes or shadows. And of course, if shooting outdoors, what times of the day might you find the most interesting or strongest shadows?

Christmas

December 2020 – Possible People's Choice

To be advised.