

CORELUNDER

bulletin

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Is Digital photography saving or losing our memories of the past? This was a question posed by one of our leading daily papers a few weeks ago, and got me thinking that it posed a very valid question.

As members of Corel Down Under we are using photographs in our graphics all the time. Many of our members are also keen photographers taking thousands of photos recording all manner of things around us. No doubt many of these photos are of our family and friends.

With the advent of digital photography, we are now all able to take untold amount of photos, but what is happening to them?

I remember when growing up on a farm in Queensland, my parents occasionally brought out the old Kodak Box Brownie, loaded it with a roll of 620 film, and would then take 'A' photo of us kids on our horse or in front of the house. It took up to a year for them to take the full roll of film and how exciting it was when they came back from town with an envelope from the chemist containing maybe twelve photos. Sure, some were out of focus, or blurry, but they were like gold. We still have all those photos, or should I say memories from my childhood.



Once I reached adulthood, married and had my own children, I became a keen photographer and filled an album every year with the photos from my 35mm reflex

cameras. My boys still love coming around and going through the albums.



Then, one day a digital camera came into our lives. Practically from that moment on, the photo album died. True, I was now taking thousands of photos a year, instead of the few hundred of the past, but they were no longer in an album for all to see.

Of course I was eventually getting around to burning them onto a CD, and it was a little like the old 'slide night' when we all sat around the TV to look at my digital photos. However, the TV is not a slide screen and the magic of the old slide projector whirring away was no longer there. It didn't take too long before we just didn't bother.

I think this is the real danger with digital photography. Yes, we are now able to take countless photos, many, many more than in the past. But are they now being saved? Are they ever being viewed and does anyone know where they were taken or when? It used to be so easy to write dates in the photo album.

So the question is, has digital photography enhanced our 'memories'?

Or is it true, that all these digital photos are hiding away on hard disks on computers, on USB sticks and CD's at the back of the cupboard?

Are many of them disappearing for ever with a press of the delete button or a corrupt disk?

The CDU Committee meets 1st Tuesday of each month.
7pm until 9.30pm - 8 Pamela Place, Ringwood North, 3135

Next CDU Meeting will be held on third
Tuesday in month - 18th October 2011

Oh No! The Photo is out of Focus!



Above: Emboss Tool, depth 10, level 100 in Grey.

How often does it happen? you have composed your photo, and quickly taken it on the run only to find that you've moved the camera. You now have a photo that is blurry or out of focus.

You could just delete the photo, *or* you could take it into CorelDraw and use some of the photo effects that Draw gives you.

You will find these effects under 'Bitmaps'. Not only can you 'rescue' your bad photo but you can make it into a work of art.

In my first example, I've used the 'emboss' tool, (Bitmaps/3D/Emboss). The second example is using the trace tool, (Bitmaps/Outline Trace/Line Art).

As you can see, the blurry photo has been rescued and turned into very interesting art images. Don't be too quick to delete that 'bad' photo. it may yet become a *Masterpiece!*



Above: Photo after being traced, with original photo still under it.

Below: Original photo removed leaving only the trace.



November Competition

It's time to put on your thinking caps and show your creativity! This year's competition, which will be once again judged at the November meeting, has been announced.

This year you can produce *anything* as long as it fits on a maximum size piece of paper no larger than A4, and of course has been produced using a Corel product.

This leaves the field wide open, so let's see some really creative work! More about this in next months newsletter!