

August



Barry Beckham

Pom's in Aus

Well, here we are, it's August already. For my UK friends August is the height of summer. The time when you take the family out for the day on August Bank Holiday Monday and sit for a few hours in a motorway jam and then go home for Scones, jam and cream.

Well, something like that !

In Australia we are just approaching the end of winter. It's been a tough winter, with heavy



frosts and snow. Trying to sleep under heavy blankets and struggling to stay warm. Nah, not really. Winter is sunny days and cool nights for the most part. My Son has already been in the pool at 28C, so you can see that an Australian winter on the sunshine coast ain't that bad at all. The image below was taken at Noosa, soon after we arrived in Australia in 2009. 100iso F22 with a 15 second shutter speed. The lens was my trusted Canon 28-135mm set at 28mm

Below is a local image from Ely Cambridgeshire, just before we left for Australia and the contrast couldn't be more marked. The exposure info is 100 iso with a shutter speed of 80th @ f5.6.

The exposure compensation was used to give more exposure than the camera wished to give, because all that mist was about to fool my camera into an under exposure. The lens was the same trusted Canon 28-135mm set at 28mm



PicturesToExe 10 – Whats New Video - [YouTube or download](#)



PicturesToExe 10 has not yet been finally launched, but it's in the final stages of testing. This video isn't a comprehensive list, but it covers most of what's new apart from Themes, which we'll look at in a dedicated video later.

Video Optimization – No longer required

Separate Audio from Video

Split Audio Clip

Duplicate Audio Clip

View the Wave file in the Objects and Animation Screen

Trim Start of a Video

Jack Frost – Audio Visual

Jack frost is a slide show I made a few years ago, but when I made it, I allowed my enthusiasm to run away with me. Despite being fully aware that making a slide show too long is the biggest

error we can make. I still allowed my enthusiasm to overcome good sense and I made the original sequence over 8 minutes long. What was I thinking?



Watch any slide show you made over 10 years ago and you will spot the problems instantly as I did here.

I viewed this old show to see if it was worth updating or only fit for the bin.

I felt the slide show still had appeal, but not enough to last 8 minutes. So, the new presentation is just 3:40 seconds in length.

I was able to remove some images and lose

4 minutes from the original show and I think it's better for it. It's also now a full HD slideshow.

Another interesting point is that when I remade the sequence this time, I used full sized images straight from the camera, because I knew that my published option was going to be a HD 60p Mp4 Video. Under those circumstances I didn't need to resize the images at all and I used the settings solely within PicturesToExe 10 to prepare the images for the show.

This video I call [Executable or Mp4](#) may be worth viewing because it deals with this subject of whether we create an Executable file for our slide show or a video.

[The remake of Jack Frost can be found in full HD on YouTube HERE](#)

Slide Styles Demo and Download

Slide Styles within PicturesToExe are now well established and many people are making them.

Some Styles may appeal to us, others not so much, but we have to download the styles and apply them to see what is being offered. I think its far better if we can see what's on offer and then decide if the style is something that appeals or not.

On my Website, look for a page called [Slide Styles with Demos](#). You will see short HD videos that you can play right there in the web page, or jump to YouTube to view in full 60p HD quality.

Just below the video you will find the slide style download link. It will look like my screen grab below. Now you can see what the style does before you download and import it into PicturesToExe.



Folding Slide Styles – Check out our short demo above – [Download the style here](#)

Photoshop for Photographers – A complete course on this fabulous software



I often hear people say or write on a forum how they they cannot justify the cost Photoshop as a subsription based software program. I think those people are NUTS, but of course that is solely my own point of view. So what is my point of view?

What image editing software you choose will depend largely on your commitment to Photography. Those like me who have a lifetime interest in photography, then it really is a no brainer, but not everyone is so wrapped up in their photopgraphy.



I'm generalising here (exceptions accepted) but if you're into what some may call traditional photography, then it can be argued that Photoshop is not essential to you.



Incidentally, if you want to view my video on Lightroom v Photoshop. [You'll find it HERE.](#)

You'll also find [Photoshop for beginners](#) on the same page as Lightroom v Photoshop and that may be useful to view too.

If you want a comprehensive set of videos on how to get the best from Photoshop then you need to take a look at our comprehensive [Photoshop for Photographers videos](#). 60 videos, presented in 7 sections and all completely free, but I won't turn away a small donation to help my website costs.

Tasmania



This image took a long time to take, but the shutter was 2000th @ f5.6 with 200iso. It was taken in Tasmania and the reason it took so long was that everybody who visited the spot had to go right out to the rock and stand beside it for a selfie.

Never mind anyone else trying to grab a shot. It seems these days its all about me me me, and I will confess that I had some rather wicked thoughts at the time. Especially when the macho males walked precariously around the rock to demonstrate how brave they were standing close to the blow hole.

I can tell you now that wishing doesn't make it so, because I did wish that one would drop into the sea at the other side, just for my enjoyment. 😊