

## The Photo

What a beautiful photo. The colours, the clarity, the definition, it's just amazing. How can someone capture that moment in time so perfectly. Well! I can tell you now how it comes to be and it no mean task. It takes hard work and dedication. It is me, I am inside the camera, working away to allow you to see the best. My passion is painting, I love painting miniature art.

I suppose it all started because of my diminutive stature. I couldn't get a job because of my size, so I went self-employed and I hire myself out to be fitted inside cameras. I have a palette of 256 colours I work with, these give me all the shades I require and for the majority of my clients they are happy with JPEG Compression for their photos.

There are other clients that prefer the RAW format, I am getting too old to take out a palette of colour large enough for that format, let alone more brushes, so these clients are handled by my apprentice.

It's not easy having an apprentice these days. I have to pay him at least the minimum wage, teach him job specific skills, allow him time to go to college. I even had to finance his obtaining a certificate to work in confined spaces. Added to that I had to pay out for employer's liability insurance.

Anyway, let's get back to the way I do it, I'm sure you'll find it more interesting. I have to work fast, well nobody has time to wait these days do they? I usually have a prepared pad of started painting with skyline or coast. I only take with me the ones that I need as inside the camera there isn't too much space for storage.

The photo you see before you contains more fine detail that a first quick glance would give it credit for. Oh, the sky was easy as I already had one prepared that was close enough to be adapted. The buildings were not too bad as I have a good technique for working with hard edges. Wheels were a problem though. As you can see there are many of them, different shapes, set at different angles . Bicycles and a motorbike with spokes, cars without hubcaps and a coach with dual wheels. Mind, the bus was a bit grubby and I found that hard to get the right shading.

The verandahs with their wrought iron railings made me wish I had brought my drawing pens too.

The problem for me came with the water to wash my brushes with. I got so hot inside the camera that day and I had drunk most of the water in my jam jar. Luckily I had brought a bottle of apple juice with me, or was it apple juice? It doesn't matter as when I opened it the sweat from my hands made the bottle slip and I dropped it. The juice spilled onto the circuit board and when I tried to scan my painting onto the memory card nothing happened.

I could foresee that this was a job that I wouldn't get paid for. Well, as you can see there is a photo to be seen, so I am not as daft as you thought I was. You can also see from the photo that this is a hot country. While the owner of the camera was sitting quietly having dinner with the camera on the table I opened the battery door, this was to enable a warm breeze to filter through and dry out the circuit board.

Having finished his Fish Curry, he whisked up his camera and out fell the battery. I had to hang on to the memory card for dear life as I was having a doze in the warmth of the midday sun and slid off my chair and onto the floor of the camera.

Well, what can I say! I was stuffed in his suitcase and on the flight home before I knew where I was.

He found his beloved camera, minus its battery. He also removed me and all my art medium. He couldn't work out where the battery had gone and so he didn't know that the camera didn't work. Consequently he paid for the photos on the memory card and also my painting that hadn't been uploaded to the memory card.

I felt very fortunate as I paid his cheque into the bank.

It didn't last long, that fortunate feeling. Three months later the headlines in all the National papers ran with:

Queen Joins U3A

# The Daily Telegraph

Tuesday 21st March 2017

NEWSPAPER OF THE YEAR

## Miniature Painting sold for £3,000,000



### OAPs Shoe Allowance

The Government is to stop all Bus Passes for OAPs and replace it with a new shoe allowance. A Spokesman has said that this will enable Pensioners to become fitter.

**Don't use a big word  
when a singularly  
unloquacious and  
diminutive linguistic  
expression will  
satisfactorily  
accomplish the  
contemporary  
necessity.**