

U3A Photography Group

# Digitising Photographs

by **Stephen Jones**  
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PHOTO ONE HOUR

PRINT MONITOR

739-974



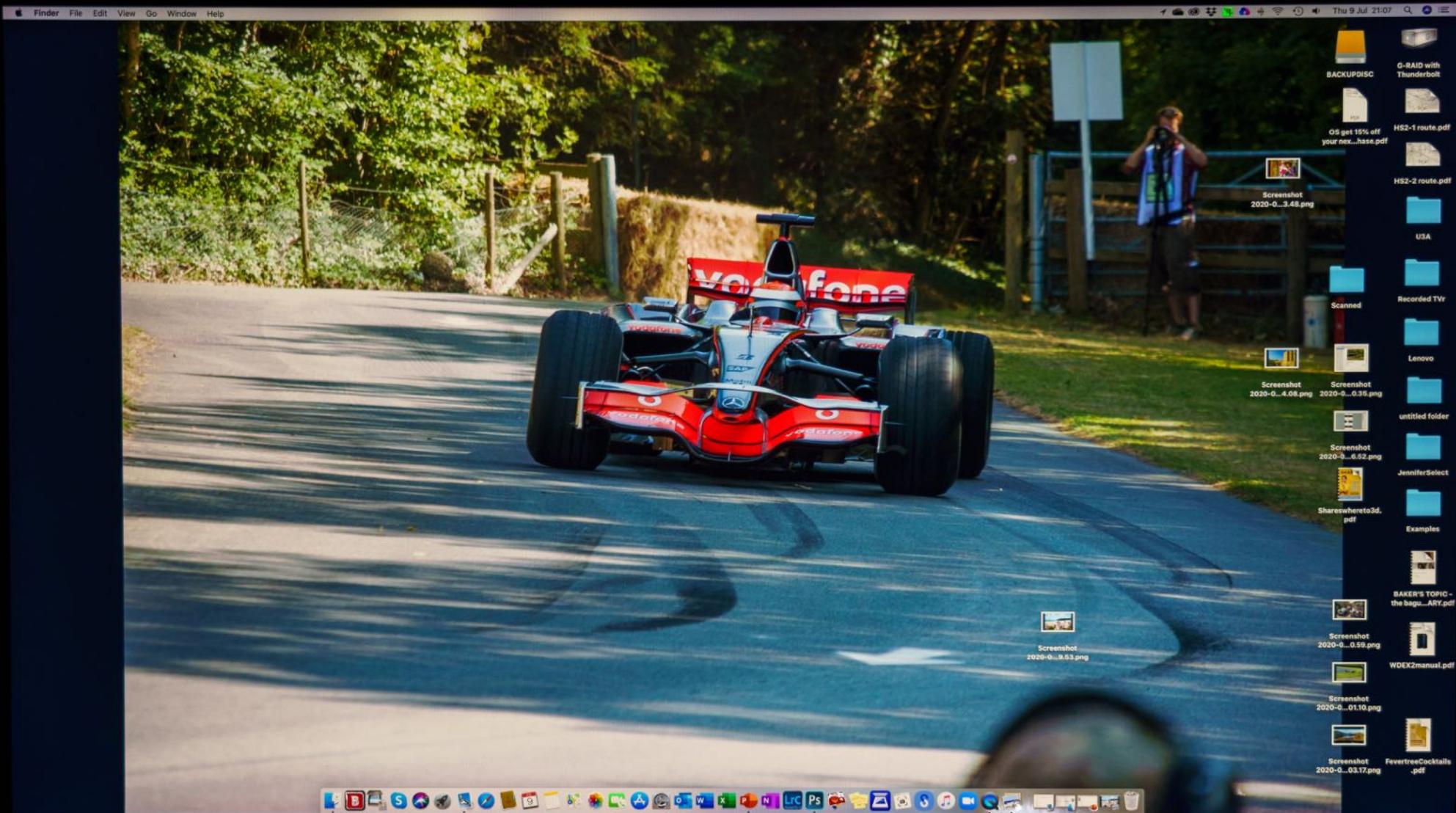
ARMANDO 1982

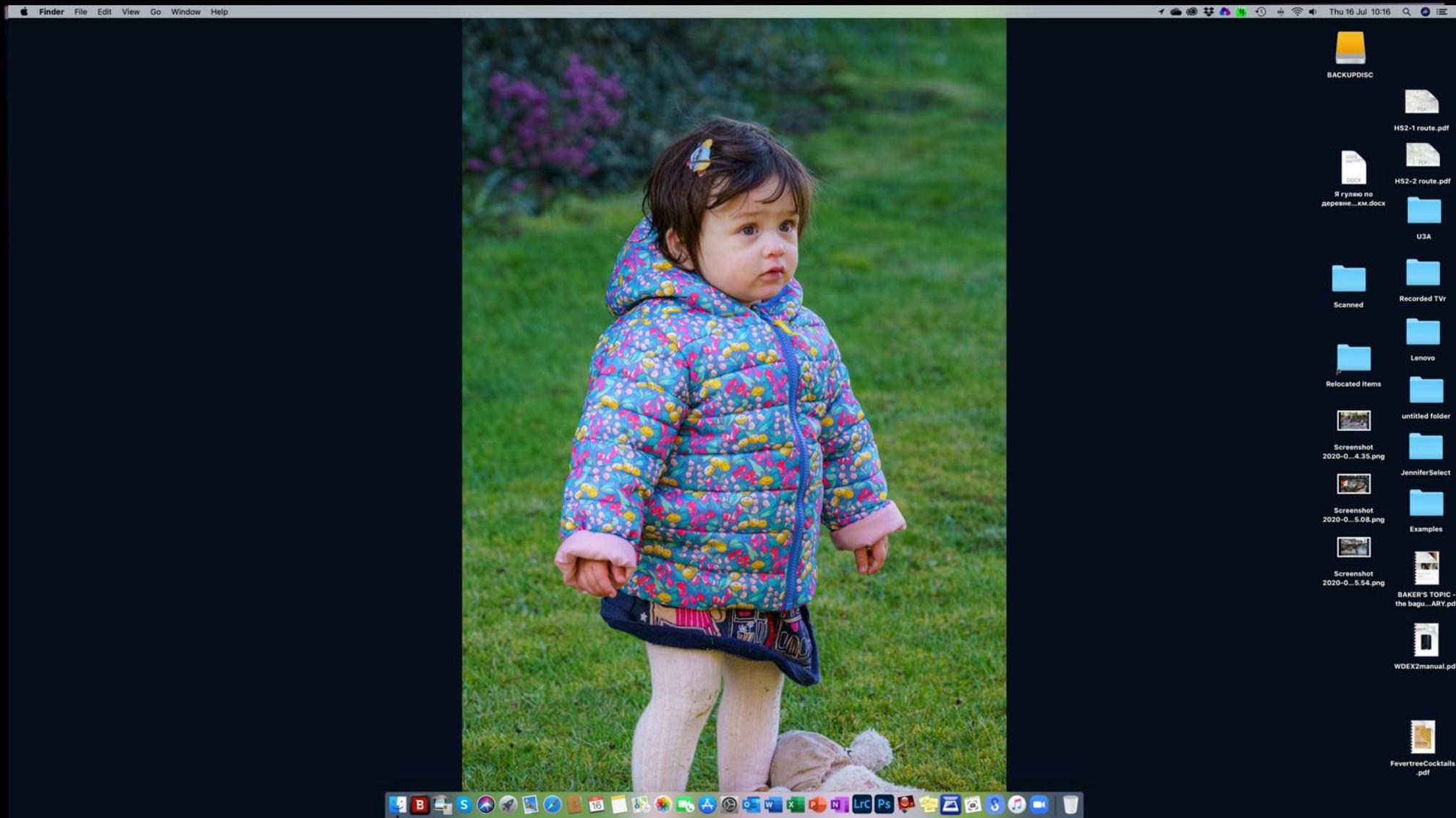


MICHEL (2006)

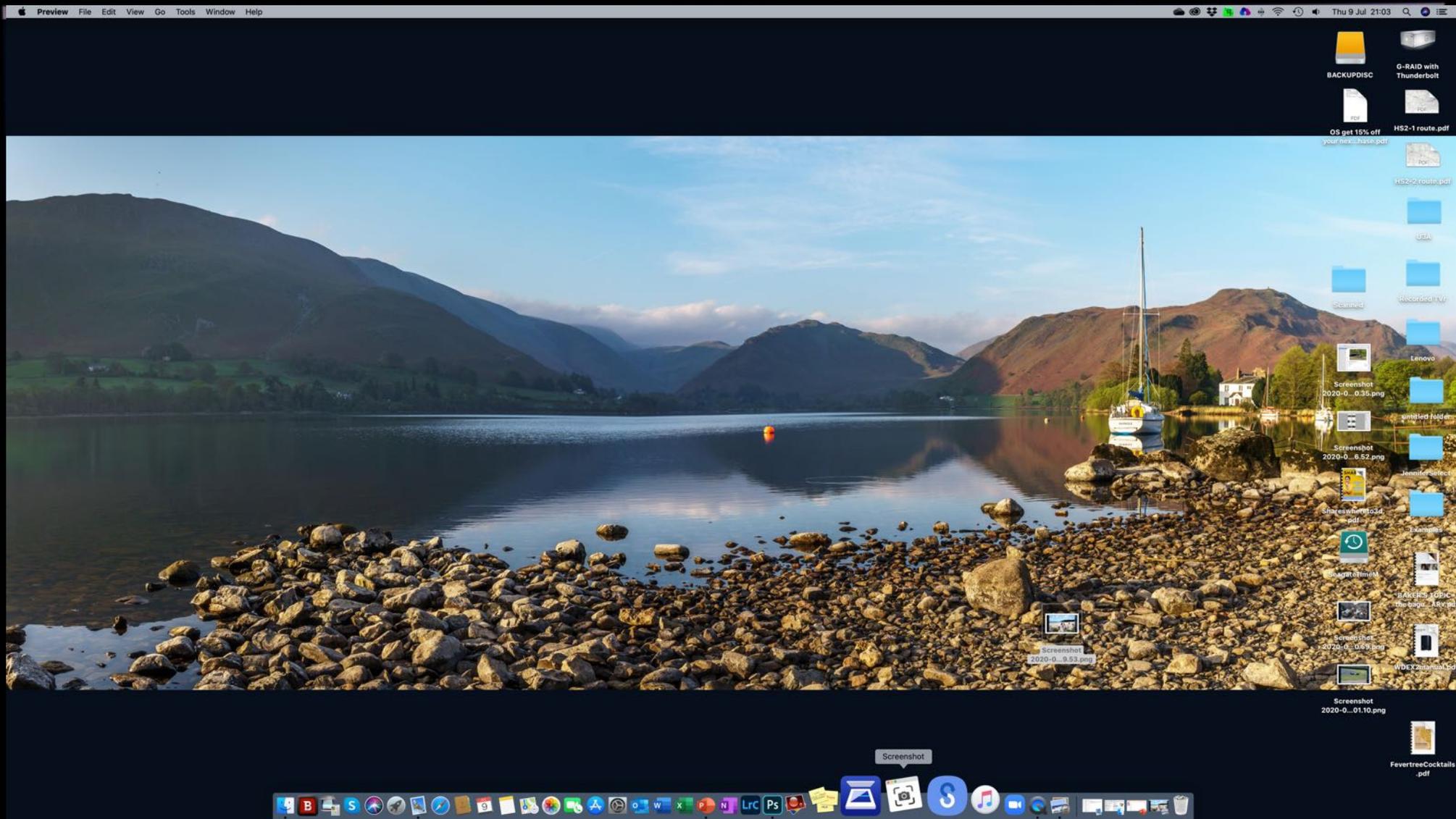
# What I do with my photos

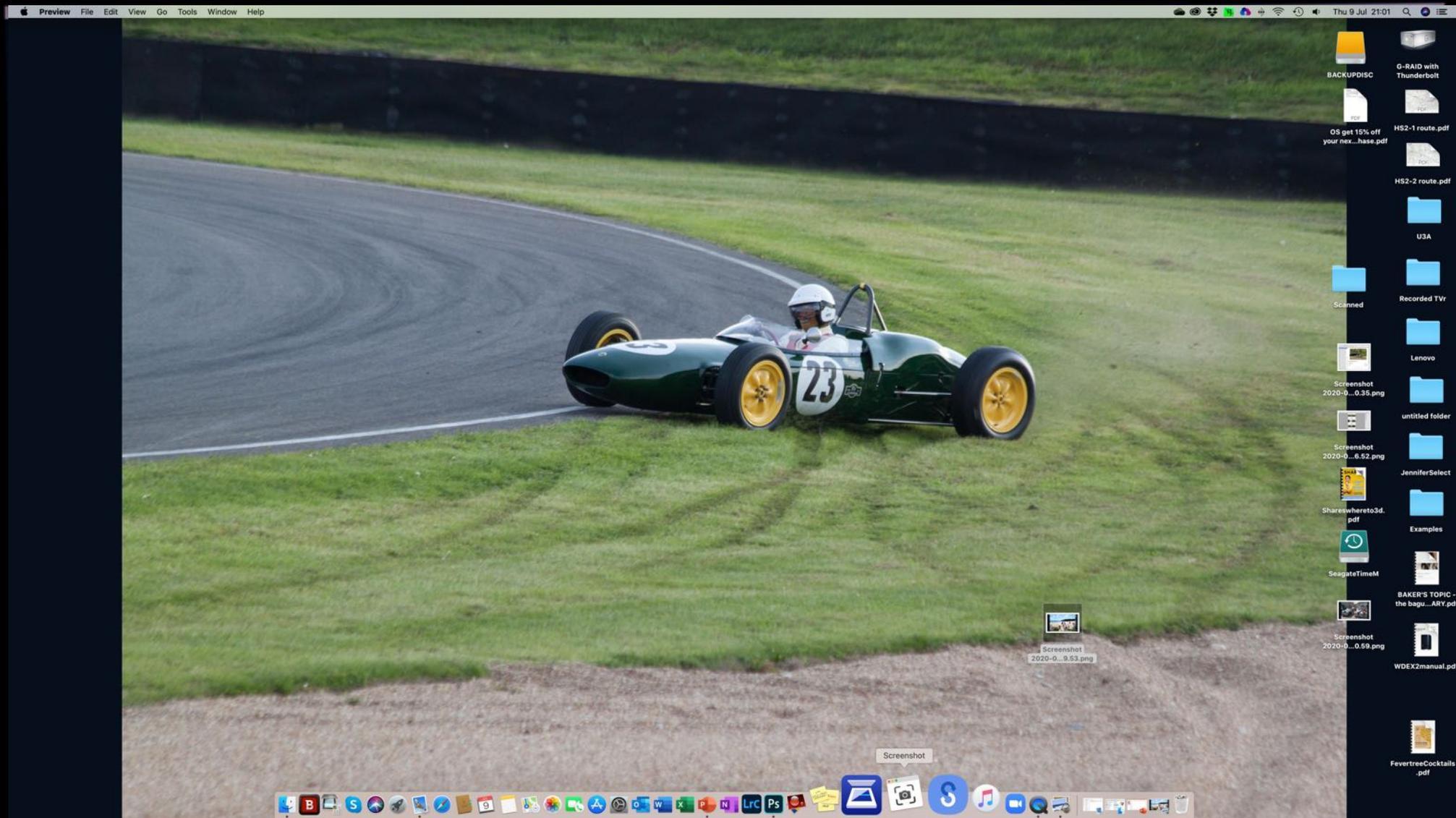
- I import all my original photos to a folder named “Negatives” in my computer and catalogue them using Lightroom Classic.
- Using LR, I export selected “negatives”, into JPG format to my “Pictures” folder.
- I have set my computer to select at random a photo from the pictures folder to display as a screen saver on my desktop. The picture changes every 5 seconds.















## How to digitise old photos ?



The easiest way is to use a copying company (plenty of online offers): you courier all your old photos (prints, negatives, slides) to the company, they digitise them and return the originals a week or so later complete with DVDs of high quality (check resolution being offered) copies of your photos.

Costs vary, but expect to pay 30p – 50p per image plus courier costs.



# What do you need to digitise old photos?

- Time
- Scanner(s)
- Even more time



# Scanners

*Digitising Photos*



# Scanners

*Digitising Photos*



## Scanner resolution

	Resolution	1200 dpi	2400 dpi	4800 dpi	9600 dpi
Colour transparency	Scan time	1 min	2 mins	4 mins	8 mins
	Image size: tiff	5 MB	20 MB	80 MB	320 MB
	Image size: jpg	560 KB	1.6 MB	4.7 MB	13.6 MB
B&W negative	Scan time	25 secs	70 secs	2 mins	8 mins
	Image size: jpg	360 KB	1.1 MB	3.2 MB	9.8 MB

(Above test results based on scanning 35 mm film on a Canoscan 9000F II connected to an iMac)

## Image software

- Spot/dust/scratch removal (colour images only).
- Fade correction, grain suppression.
- Exposure / backlight correction.



4800 dpi, no corrections

Photo taken in 1992





9600 dpi

Photo taken in 1966

# Scanner resolution and image software



9600 dpi



4800 dpi



2400 dpi



1200 dpi



## Scanning workflow

- Create/select folder where you will send scanned photos.
- Load scanner with film/transparencies & initiate low-res scan; select individual images for a full scan.
- Set scanner variables such as B&W/colour, negative/positive film and resolution 1200dpi/2400dpi/4800dpi, and image correction settings (e.g. retouching of spots/scratches, suppress grain, exposure etc.).

# Scanning workflow

The screenshot displays the Canon IJ Scan Utility software interface. The main window shows two rows of scanned photo strips. The top row contains five photos: a white negative, a group of people in a field, a person climbing a tree, a person climbing a tree, and a landscape with mountains and a lake. The bottom row contains five photos: a white negative, a yellow sports car, a person standing near a tent, a tent, and a black car parked in a field. On the right side, there is a settings panel with the following sections:

- Basic Mode / Advanced Mode** (switched to Advanced Mode)
- Favorite Settings**: User defined
- Input Settings**:
  - Select Source: Color Negative Film
  - Scan Area: Auto Detect
  - Color Mode: Color
  - Dimensions: 1.41 x 0.92 inches
- Output Settings**:
  - Output Resolution: 2400 dpi
  - Output Size: Flexible
  - Dimensions: 1.41 x 0.92 inches
  - Data Size: 21.55 MB
- Image Settings**:
  - Image Adjustment: Photo
  - Unsharp Mask: ON
  - Remove Dust and Scratches (FARE): Medium
  - Fading Correction: None
  - Grain Correction: Low
  - Backlight Correction: None
- Exposure/Tone Settings**:
  - Manual Exposure: 100 %
  - Apply the tone value to all crops: Apply
- High Quality**: ON

At the bottom right, there are buttons for **Preview**, **Scan**, **Executes preview**, and **Close**. The macOS dock is visible at the bottom of the screen.

# Scanning workflow

The screenshot displays the Canon IJ Scan Utility application window. The main area shows a grid of 8 photo thumbnails, each with a small checkbox below it. The first thumbnail (1) is checked. The thumbnails show various scenes: a yellow sports car, a tent at a campsite, a tent interior, a car at a campsite, people in a field, a group of people, a person on a wooden structure, and a landscape with mountains and a lake.

The right-hand side of the window contains a settings panel with the following sections:

- Basic Mode / Advanced Mode:** Switched to Basic Mode.
- Favorite Settings:** User defined.
- Input Settings:** Select Source: Color Negative Film; Film Size: 35mm Strip; Color Mode: Color; Dimensions: 1.41 x 0.92 inches.
- Output Settings:** Output Resolution: 2400 dpi; Output Size: Flexible; Dimensions: 1.41 x 0.92 inches; Data Size: 21.55 MB.
- Image Settings:** Image Adjustment: Photo; Unsharp Mask: ON; Remove Dust and Scratches (FARE): Medium; Fading Correction: None; Grain Correction: Low; Backlight Correction: None.
- Exposure/Tone Settings:** Manual Exposure: 100%; Apply the tone value to all frames: Apply; High Quality: ON.

At the bottom right of the settings panel, there are buttons for Zoom, Preview, Scan, Preferences..., and Close.

# Scanning workflow

The screenshot displays the Canon IJ Scan Utility software interface. The main window shows a scan of a photograph of three hikers in a rural landscape. The software is running on a Mac, as indicated by the top menu bar and the dock at the bottom. The interface includes a toolbar at the top with icons for file operations and a settings panel on the right side. The settings panel is currently in 'Basic Mode' and shows various options for input, output, and image adjustment. The scan of the photo is centered in the main window, with a white border around it. The photo shows three people with backpacks standing in a green field with trees and hills in the background. The software interface is in English and the system clock shows 'Wed 15 Jul 15:36'.

Canon IJ Scan Utility Edit Window

ScanGear

Basic Mode Advanced Mode

Favorite Settings User defined

**Input Settings**

Select Source : Color Negative Film

Film Size : 35mm Strip

Color Mode : Color

1.41 0.93 inches

**Output Settings**

Output Resolution : 2400 dpi

Output Size : Flexible

1.41 0.93 100 %

Data Size : 21.78 MB

**Image Settings**

Image Adjustment : Photo

Unsharp Mask : ON

Remove Dust and Scratches (FARE) : Medium

Fading Correction : None

Grain Correction : Low

Backlight Correction : None

**Exposure/Tone Settings**

Manual Exposure : 100 %

Apply the tone value to all frames : Apply

High Quality : ON

Custom Defaults

Undo

Preview Scan

Preferences... Close

5

1992

Dropbox Search

- IMG\_20200715\_0009.tif
- IMG\_20200715\_0010.tif
- IMG\_20200715\_0011.tif
- IMG\_20200715\_0012.tif
- IMG\_20200715\_0013.tif
- IMG\_20200715\_0014.tif**
- IMG\_20200715\_0015.tif
- IMG\_20200715\_0016.tif
- IMG\_20200715\_0017.tif
- IMG\_20200715\_0018.tif
- IMG\_20200715\_0019.tif
- IMG\_20200715\_0020.tif
- IMG\_20200715\_0021.tif
- IMG\_20200715\_0022.tif
- IMG\_20200715\_0023.tif
- IMG\_20200715\_0024.tif
- IMG\_20200715\_0025.tif
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- IMG\_20200715\_0028.tif
- IMG\_20200715\_0029.tif
- IMG\_20200715\_0030.tif
- IMG\_20200715\_0031.tif
- IMG\_20200715\_0032.tif
- IMG\_20200715\_0033.tif
- IMG\_20200715\_0034.tif
- IMG\_20200715\_0035.tif
- IMG\_20200715\_0036.tif
- IMG\_20200715\_0037.tif
- IMG\_20200715\_0038.tif
- IMG\_20200715\_0039.tif
- IMG\_20200715\_0040.tif



**IMG\_20200715\_0014.tif**  
TIFF image - 22.8 MB

**Information** [Show Less](#)

Created	Wednesday, 15 July 2020 at 15:45
Modified	Wednesday, 15 July 2020 at 15:47
Content created	Wednesday, 15 July 2020 at 15:45
Dimensions	3400×2240

Rotate Left Markup More...

## Scanning workflow

- Create/select folder where you will send scanned photos.
- Load scanner with film/transparencies & initiate low-res scan; select individual images for a full scan.
- Set scanner variables such as B&W/colour, negative/positive film and resolution 1200dpi/2400dpi/4800dpi, and image correction settings (e.g. retouching of spots/scratches, suppress grain, exposure etc.).
- Review scanned photos and move them to the permanent folder where you will store them.
- Import to LR and add Keywords as appropriate.
- Re-name the photos to something more appropriate consistent with your catalogue/filing system.
- The EXIF “creation date” will show the time the image was scanned and so finally I use LR to change this to the actual (or approximate) date at which the photo was actually taken.

# Scanning workflow

The screenshot displays the Adobe Lightroom Classic interface in Library Grid mode. The main workspace is a grid of 24 photo thumbnails, each with a checkmark in the top-left corner, indicating they are selected for import. The thumbnails show various outdoor scenes, including landscapes, tents, and people. The interface includes a left-hand 'Source' panel with a file tree showing folders from 1920 to 2020. At the top, a toolbar offers options like 'Copy as DNG', 'Copy', 'Move', and 'Add'. On the right, the 'File Handling' panel is open, showing settings for 'Build Previews' (Standard), 'Build Smart Previews', and 'Don't Import Suspected Duplicates'. The 'Apply During Import' section is also visible, with 'Develop Settings' set to 'BasicLensCamera' and 'Metadata' set to 'SGFJ'. The bottom status bar shows '55 photos / 1 GB' and 'Sort: Capture Time'. The macOS dock is visible at the bottom of the screen.

# Scanning workflow

The screenshot displays the Adobe Lightroom Classic interface. The main window shows a grid of 55 photos, with a dialog box titled "Rename 55 Photos" overlaid in the center. The dialog box contains the following fields and options:

- File Naming:** Custom Settings
- Custom Text:** 9205
- Start Number:** 1
- Example:** 9205-01.tif
- Buttons:** Cancel and OK

The background interface includes a top menu bar (File, Edit, Library, Photo, Metadata, View, Window, Help), a left sidebar with a Navigator, Catalog, and Folders panel, and a right sidebar with a Histogram and a location-based folder tree. The bottom of the screen shows a filmstrip of the selected photos and a system tray with various application icons.

# Scanning workflow

The screenshot displays the Adobe Lightroom Classic interface. The 'Metadata' menu is open, showing the 'Edit Capture Time...' option. A dialog box titled 'Edit Capture Time' is centered on the screen, allowing for time adjustments. The dialog includes a preview of the selected photo, a 'Type of Adjustment' section with three radio buttons, and a 'New Time' section with two time input fields. The 'Original Time' is 23/07/2020, 12:56:26, and the 'Corrected Time' is 01/05/1992, 12:56:26. A warning message states 'This operation cannot be undone.' and there are 'Cancel' and 'Change All' buttons. The background shows a grid of photo thumbnails and various interface panels like the Navigator, Catalog, and Histogram.

**Edit Capture Time**

Modify the capture time stored in the selected photos by entering the correct time adjustment for the photo displayed to the left. Other photos (but not videos) will be adjusted by the same amount of time.

Type of Adjustment

- Adjust to a specified date and time
- Shift by set number of hours (time zone adjust)
- Change to file creation date for each image

New Time

Original Time: 23/07/2020, 12:56:26

Corrected Time: 01/05/1992, 12:56:26

This operation cannot be undone. Cancel Change All

# Scanning workflow

The screenshot displays the Adobe Lightroom Classic interface. The main workspace shows a photograph of three hikers in a green landscape with mountains in the background, titled "9205-38.tif". The interface includes a Navigator panel on the left, a Catalog panel with a folder tree, and a right-hand panel with a Histogram, Keywording section, and EXIF/IPC/ Metadata section. The bottom of the screen shows a filmstrip of other photos and a Windows taskbar.

**Lightroom Classic** File Edit Library Photo Metadata View Window Help

Master-2c-2.lrcat - Adobe Photoshop Lightroom Classic - Library

Library | Develop | Map | Book | Slideshow | Print | Web

9205-38.tif

**Navigator** FIT PLL 1:1 41.5

**Catalog**

- All Photographs 78741
- All Synced Photographs 0
- Quick Collection +
- Previous Import 55

**Folders**

- Macintosh HD 1.7 / 3.1 TB
- Users 2549
  - sgfjones 2549
    - Desktop 4
    - Documents 2545
      - LR&Negatives 2545
        - 2020 2545
          - Q2, 2020 1882
          - Q3, 2020 663
- G-RAID with Thunderbolt 4.9 / 8 TB
- 1920-1959 25
  - 1960 3
  - 1963 41
  - 1964 50
  - 1965 205
  - 1966 134
  - 1967 288
  - 1968 13
  - 1967 4
  - 1992 90
  - 1998 105
  - 1999 1
  - 2001 384
  - 2002 414
  - 2003 697
  - 2004 1084
  - 2005 2884
  - 2006 1381
  - 2007 1675
  - 2008 1759

**Right Panel**

**Histogram**

Original Photo

Custom Quick Develop

**Keywording**

Keyword Tags Enter Keywords

Ashness, Richard Myers, Sam Myers, William

Keyword Suggestions

Keyword Set Custom

Keyword List

**EXIF and IPTC** Metadata

Preset: SGFJ

File Name: 9205-38.tif

Original Filename: IMG\_20200715\_0015.tif

Copy Name

Folder: 1992

File Size: 21.86 MB

File Type: TIFF

Metadata Status: Up to date

Metadata Date: 23/07/2020 14:33:10

Rating: ★★★★★

Label

Title

Caption

**EXIF**

Dimensions: 3408 x 2240

Cropped: 3408 x 2240

Date Time Original: 01/05/1992 12:56:28

Date Time: 01/05/1992 12:56:28

User Comment

Artist: Stephen G. F. Jones

GPS

Altitude

Direction

Contact

Creator: Stephen G. F. Jones

Job Title

Address

City

State / Province

Sync Sync Settings

Richard Myers, Sam Myers, William

Previous Import 55 photos / 1 selected / 9205-38.tif

Filter: No Filter

## Scanning workflow

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- Review scanned photos and move them to the permanent folder where you will store them.
- Import to LR and add Keywords as appropriate.
- Re-name the photos to something more appropriate consistent with your catalogue/filing system.
- The EXIF “creation date” will show the time the image was scanned and so finally I use LR to change this to the actual (or approximate) date at which the photo was actually taken.
- **At last - FINISHED.**