



## PRESIDENT'S LETTER

I went to see the 'Sea Fever' exhibition at Art Space in the Chatswood Concourse the other day. It features the work of Jan Glover, Alison Seccombe and Susan Buchanan. It really is a credit to all three of them and I hope you have managed to see it as well. It also reminded me of how satisfying such projects are for the author. Those of us who are doing, or have done, a portfolio will also know that feeling.

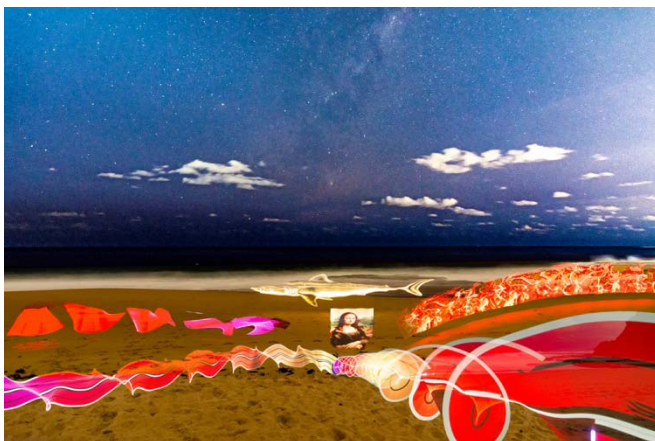
But, you'll also know the strain of almost overwhelming work and really tough creative challenges that are part and parcel of such projects. There's a bit of a dichotomy; great satisfaction when you've finished but strain and pain getting there. Even so, it made me wonder if we should be doing more of this kind of work in our club activities. And, if so, how and when and how often. Our standard club comps don't really lend themselves to themed work. Each image in a comp stands alone and it's not really possible to develop a theme such as 'Sea Fever' for example. I even recall Michael Smyth recommending not to do two similar images for a comp because the judge will always prefer one and discard the other.

The other thing that's been running around in my mind for a while now is that most members don't seem to like the monthly comps. Yes, it's true. In 2016, more than half of our members never entered a club comp. And, of those who did, more than half of them only entered a handful of images over the year. Are comps a bit intimidating? Do some of us need help with printing or some other aspect of preparing for a comp? Maybe. It is also getting more difficult to find good judges; especially those with solid creative understanding. These are some of the reasons we've been adding in more review nights. But, they too have their limitations.

One thing I think most of us seem to like is a learning opportunity. Our workshops are well attended and the extended presentations we're doing with people like Alfonso Calero and Luke Tscharke and Meredith Schofield add a dimension that most seem to enjoy.

So, where is all this thinking taking me you may ask. Well, to answer that I need your input. We'll be adding in another one or two workshops this year. But what else? Have a think about it. Chat to other members. Send me an email.

*John Pettett*



'Parts of the Sum'  
Astrophotography Outing, May 2017

## UPCOMING EVENTS

Tues 6 June  
Upload or email EDI entries  
for Alfonso Challenge by 8pm

Wed 7 June  
Image Review Night:  
Alfonso Calero Challenge

Sat 10 June  
New Members' Meeting

Wed 14 June  
Committee Meeting

Wed 21 June  
Presentation: Meredith Schofield  
'Hybrid Shooting. Workflow and  
Challenge'

Sun 25 June  
Late afternoon/evening  
Outing: Circular Quay,  
Opera House, The Rocks

See all details at:  
[www.ncp.org.au](http://www.ncp.org.au)

## Generous grant from Ku-ring-gai Council

In August last year our previous Treasurer Mike Shephard put in a lot of work applying for a grant from Ku-ring-gai Council to buy a new projector and screen for NCP. All our projection equipment was very old and no longer adequate. Mike's work was rewarded and last December we received a grant of \$1,500 from the Council.

The new projector's incredible brightness, vibrant colour and full high definition resolution of 1920x1080 pixels offers two and half times the detail of the old projector and delivers a much greater capacity to provide technical workshops to our members. The new screen will further enhance the quality of projected photos, enabling more accurate image assessment and helping members to evaluate and improve their photographic technique.

NCP members are most grateful to Ku-ring-gai Council for enabling us to purchase this equipment.

## 7<sup>th</sup> June Image Review Night We respond to Alfonso's Challenge

In April, photographer Alfonso Calero set us a Challenge based on his 'Environmental Portraiture' presentation. He will be back with us on Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> June to evaluate our images in response to his challenge.

Alfonso gave us many illustrations of environmental portraits which demonstrated just how flexible the topic can be. It can be any portrait taken in the person's usual environment such as their home, place of leisure or work, or dressed in a way that demonstrates something about their life, such as a uniform or style of clothing.

**The rules:** For the challenge, you can bring up to four images. Diptychs and triptychs will count as one image. You may enter them in any of the usual categories – EDI, Mono or Colour – and in any combination. That is, you could have 4 EDIs, or 1 Mono and 3 Colours and so on. Of course, you may submit just one or two images if you prefer. The images should be linked to each other in some way.

EDIs should have the same specifications as for a competition and Hemant has adjusted the system to allow for up to four EDIs. Since it is not a competition, there is **no need to register your images**. Just bring prints on the night and upload your EDIs by 8pm on Tues June 6.

You may put captions on your images if you like, and Alfonso would like you to talk for 30 secs to 1 minute on when and why you took your photos of that particular person.



## Refresh your memory about changes to competition entries

New EDI upload system

New file sizes for EDI competitions and Image Review Nights

Click [here](#) to check the details

## NEWSLETTER SUBMISSIONS

We invite you to contribute to In Focus. If you have images you would like to see appear or a story with or without accompanying images, we would like to hear from you. As a guide, photographs should be saved as high quality .jpg, 1024 pixels wide. To ensure that our newsletter goes out on time, please have submissions emailed to the editor at [publicity@ncp.org.au](mailto:publicity@ncp.org.au)

MATERIAL DEADLINE: Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> June or earlier



## CONTACTS

### POST:

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### WEB:

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### EMAIL:

For general enquiries

[ncp@ncp.org.au](mailto:ncp@ncp.org.au)

To contact individual members of the committee, use the "Contact Details" page on our website.

### THE CLUB MEETS AT:

Lindfield Uniting Church Hall,  
Pacific Highway, Lindfield.  
(Corner of Provincial Road)  
Meetings are on the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup>  
Wednesday of each month  
at 7.30 for an 8pm start.

### PRESIDENT

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Hemant Kogekar

**Presentation Wednesday 21st June**  
**Meredith Schofield**  
**'Hybrid Shooting, Work Flow and Challenge'**

Meredith Schofield is a freelance photographer based in Sydney and has extensive experience in both still and film photography. She has a background in social work and combines her photography with community arts work, tutoring people with intellectual and physical disabilities. Meredith enjoys working with creative people and strongly believes in the power of photography as a tool for self expression, communication and social change.

Specialising in reportage, lifestyle, travel and portrait photography, her passion is in telling stories and capturing images that evoke a response – visually, emotionally, intellectually or otherwise.

*"If I'm not telling a story or creating a connection through my images then I'm not doing justice to that subject."*

Meredith uses multiple mediums to create these stories. She uses her extensive experience in film photography to get the look she wants and enhance her work, as well as embracing the digital world. This gives her work a distinctive style which is instantly identifiable and full of impact.

Meredith's presentation will be on Hybrid Shooting. She considers herself a Hybrid shooter as she photographs in 35mm film, medium format film, digital capture and video. She brings analog technology into the digital space, to allow for a faster workflow when shooting on film and ease of sharing online and with clients. Meredith will talk about why she chooses to shoot predominantly on film, how it defines her style and her work flow. She will also talk about the pros and cons to both the film and digital medium. She will set us a follow-up Challenge for our meeting on 2<sup>nd</sup> August.

Meredith has been an excellent and entertaining judge for us in the past and her presentation will certainly spark our interest. You can look at her work on <http://www.meredithschofield.com/>



© Meredith Schofield





## Portfolio 2017

Portfolio meetings are well under way with a wonderful range of ideas. Many people have chosen challenging themes which are taxing their creativity – which, of course, is the point of doing a portfolio. Others are feeling a bit stumped, but are drawing inspiration from the meetings.

Discussions are lively with encouragement and useful suggestions coming from members of the group and especially from Susan, who is a most thoughtful and experienced mentor.

Finished Portfolios will be exhibited at the NCP meeting on 15th November.

## Facebook Reminder

If you would like your Special Merit and Merit images put on Facebook, please give permission to Hemant or use the special upload form on the [Outings](#) link on the webpage.

## Week away at Mystery Bay, 22-29 October

For our week away together this year, we are planning to explore the South Coast of NSW. If you are interested in this trip, please register your interest [here](#) so that we can determine how to proceed with our accommodation booking. Further email correspondence will be directed to those who have registered.

More information is on the website

<http://www.ncp.org.au/index.php/forums/>



## Outing: Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> June 2017. Circular Quay, Opera House, The Rocks

There will be many photographic opportunities around the Opera House, Circular Quay, Dawes Point & The Rocks lanes. Let's each make it our personal challenge to do something different. Remember what Des Crawley said about records, documentaries and concepts? We'll definitely be able to get some great record and documentary shots, but the challenge will be to see if our new way of seeing and thinking will bring us some great concepts.

**Getting there:** Meet in second last carriage of train departing Hornsby 2.30, Gordon 2.44, Chatswood 2.54. Change at Wynyard. Arrive At Circular Quay 3.27pm

**Meet:** For coffee at Quay Cafe at entrance to Wharf 6 at 3.30pm

**Photograph:** Around Eastern Quay and Opera House area until about 5.00pm, then Western Quay and Dawes Point until about 6.00pm

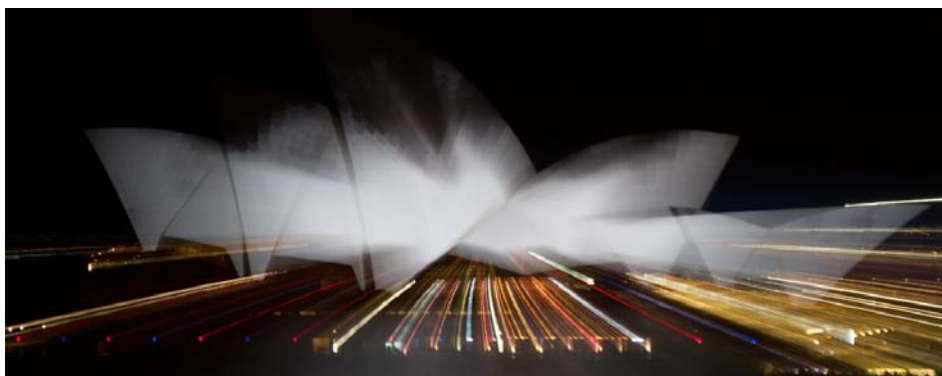
**Dinner:** Ribs & Burgers at The Rocks 6.30-7.20pm. Menu: <http://ribsandburgers.com/au/the-menu/food/>

**Photograph again:** The Rocks laneways etc until 8:30pm or later

### A few tips for the outing

- \* We'll be walking or on our feet for several hours so wear comfortable shoes.
- \* Dress accordingly; it will get cold in the evening.
- \* We'll be shooting in daylight and in street light conditions, so you may want to bring a tripod if you want to use slow shutter speeds.
- \* Bring water and snacks to keep up your energy while you walk around.
- \* Do some research for shot ideas. Even if you think you know these areas well, you'll be surprised at the range of possibilities. You can be guaranteed of coming across things you either didn't know about or had forgotten.

**If you wish to join this outing** please add your name to the sheet at the entrance desk at the next meeting or email Doug Sinden [sindend@tig.com.au](mailto:sindend@tig.com.au) We need to know numbers for finalising the dinner booking.



John Pettett

## Trainworks Outing 30th April

16 club members and friends drove to Thirlmere for a visit to Trainworks. It was a crisp morning and coffee was the first priority. We just qualified for a group discount to enter the museum and quickly dispersed to photograph the wide variety of exhibits.

Inside the main hall was a presentation of the history of railways in NSW, with exhibits covering everything from tickets and uniforms to steam locomotives, royal carriages and a prison van. In the adjacent covered sheds were locomotives and rolling stock from the very early days of railway up to our living memory. It was a trip down memory lane to walk through the 'red rattlers' and buffet cars, and to twirl the station names on the old information boards. There were special-purpose carriages for mail sorting, transportation of Arnotts Biscuits, instruction of railway engineers, animal transport, many industrial applications, and delivery of wages to staff along the line. In the Roundhouse, volunteers continue to restore and maintain steam and diesel engines so that they can provide weekend rides to visitors and participate in steam festivals around the State.

Across the railway line from Trainworks is the historic Thirlmere Station. Many of the group took a ride in an old motor coach (pictured) from Thirlmere to Buxton. This was not a particularly scenic trip but was a different travel experience.

We all met at Trainworks Cafe for lunch. Some of the group carried on into the afternoon looking for that elusive 'topshot'. My friend and I decided to revisit Thirlmere Lakes National Park on the way home, and were outraged to discover that the lakes are covered in reeds and have almost disappeared as a result of coal mining in the area.

*Judith Bennett*



### REMEMBER:

The Photo Rally on the subject of "Railways" continued through May. The presentation and judging will be on 19th July.

And a few more Trainworks photos:



## Astrophotography Outing 22<sup>nd</sup> May

We were prepared for the vagaries of the weather, we came rugged up and we'd revised everything Luke Tscharke had told us at his earlier presentation. BUT, we didn't count on AJ's Eatery moving to Winter hours. A dozen or more of us got there at 5, but they weren't going to open until 5:30. Mild panic at first, but it ended well. Just up the road was an unprepossessing Chinese restaurant and he was open. Better still his food was great. And fast. Fish and Chips were popular, so too hamburgers and Thai Beef Curry and Chicken and Corn soup.

So, well fed and content, we trooped up to Turimetta only a few hundred metres further for the night's events. Luke and his off-sider, Jay, were very helpful with camera settings and direction. 'But, where is the Milky Way?' was the common thread. 'See those three stars', 'er..um, yes,' 'and then the stars curl into the scorpion's tail,' 'Oh..ah..yes.' 'Well, it's just above there'. 'Oh'.

Funny thing was that the camera could see the MW better than we could. As Luke and Jay explained, the usual post-processing should bring it out; especially the de-haze tool in ACR or Lightroom. And that's how it turned out. Not great; that's for sure. But now we know.

What we also learned is why avid Astrophotographers go out so often and for so long. The clouds drift in and then away. The Earth is turning too, of course, so the MW is not in the same place from one hour to the next. Then there's marine mists and haze and light pollution coming mostly from sports fields and seaside swimming pools with their bright lighting.

As the evening progressed, about half of us went down from the road level to the darker beach. Sadly, the clouds and mists pretty well put paid to sightings of the MW by then. But Luke had come prepared. Using a Pixel stick, he treated us to a most amazing light painting show. Apparently, you can load any image you like. Then you hold the stick aloft and walk slowly in front of the cameras. As we watched him, all you see is a stick with some lights changing colours. But, when you look at the image preview, there's a shark or the Mona Lisa or an amazing colour mosaic.

But back to Astrophotography. If you're going to get into this genre, you'll definitely need to master one of the predictive apps like PhotoPills. I got one and it needs a fair bit of time to get your head around it all. But it will tell you exactly where the stars will be at any time and at any point on the planet. It even has a virtual reality mode so you could stand at your chosen point, say, at lunchtime and it will show you what you will see at 9:00pm for example.

Except for those darn clouds, and lights and mists.

*John Pettett*



*Photos by John Pettett*



## COMPETITIONS, WORKSHOPS, EXHIBITIONS

### MALCOLM FACKENDER PHOTOGRAPHY TOURS

Malcolm is celebrating his 10th year of photographic tours and is offering generous discounts on selected tours.

Tours for the second half of 2017 and two in 2018 include

East Africa, North Vietnam, India, Myanmar, Namibia, Iceland.

[https://mail.google.com/mail/u/0/?ui=2&ik=6aca337552&view=att&th=15c18b0fa112c5ed&attid=0.1&disp=safe&realattid=ad0b462fd66457f\\_0.1&zw](https://mail.google.com/mail/u/0/?ui=2&ik=6aca337552&view=att&th=15c18b0fa112c5ed&attid=0.1&disp=safe&realattid=ad0b462fd66457f_0.1&zw)

<http://www.spotlightonasia.com/>

### WILD ISLAND TASMANIA

Wild Island is a gallery in Salamanca Place at Hobart and they are conducting a range of events including workshops, talks and field trips.

If you love Tasmania, sign up for their newsletter.

<http://www.wildislandtas.com.au>

Tasman Peninsula Wildlife and Landscape Photography Workshop – Nov 3-5.

<http://www.wildislandtas.com.au/event/s/tag/workshop/>

### HORNSBY COMMUNITY COLLEGE

Courses for 2017 in Introductory Photography, Intermediate Photography.

<http://www.hkcc.nsw.edu.au/>

### FCC NEWSLETTER

The May 2017 issue of f/stop is now available

<http://www.photographynsw.org.au/>

### 2017 EPSON INTERNATIONAL PANO AWARDS

Entries open now. Judging during August & September with results announced in October. Over \$US50,000 prizes

<https://thepanoawards.com/>

### ETHIOPIA NORTH AND SOUTH WITH VALERIE MARTIN

October 23 – November 8 2017

Special tour with CANON

Ethiopia is an amazing destination with incredible scenery, friendly photogenic people, wildlife (Gelada baboons) and tourism in the early stages.

Cost US\$6500 single supplement US\$810

The cost includes 5 internal flights, new coaster bus, entrance fees to churches, porters tips etc, quality hotels including some boutique hotels, all breakfasts and dinners and a couple of picnic lunches, photographic tutoring.

For those of you who are really interested, please let me know and I will send you details on paying a deposit which will be due before Christmas.

This will give me a better idea of numbers for the tour.

Valerie Martin

0410 166 329

<http://www.valerie-martin-photography.com>

### AUSTRALIAN CENTRE FOR PHOTOGRAPHY

Runs regular workshops throughout the year. <https://acp.org.au>

### PHOTOTUTOR WORKSHOPS

Phototutor is designed for photographers of all abilities who want to improve their skills. Workshop dates for the second half of 2017 are now available.

For access to tutorials, please go to the [tutorials](#) page; workshops go to [workshops](#) page

And to see some of their work please visit the [galleries](#) page.

<http://www.phototutor.com.au/>

### WEA

Courses for 2017 include Basic Photography; Creative Street Photography; Photobook for Travellers; one-day courses in Photoshop Elements for Beginners; Photography Weekend Workshop; Creative Night Photography; Photography – Intermediate and Creative Series.

<http://www.weasydney.com.au/>

### PHOTOGRAPHY BOOK: 'TIMELESS'

Fine art, black and white photography of Venice, by artist Rafael Rojas, Master Hasselblad 2014 photographer.

The photographs tackle the subject matter from an artistic and strongly personal point of view. They are subtle, sometimes minimalistic, highly atmospheric and filled with a sense of silence, calm and timeless character.

<http://www.platinumpresseditions.com/timeless-book/> Free shipping.

## Invitation to Pieter de Vries Presentation, Thurs 1<sup>st</sup> June

Mosman Camera Club has invited NCP members to this presentation on 'How to Give Images Maximum Impact - Stills and Video'. Pieter is one of the most successful documentary cinematographers in the world. Using photographs and movie segments, he will talk about the techniques he uses and the approach that he takes that enable him to create images that will give maximum impact – on the big screen or as a photograph. You'll see some extraordinary footage of his work on the wreck of the Titanic, and his many trips to China, Bhutan, India, South Georgia Island and Antarctica.

Mosman RSL Club, 719 Military Rd Mosman, 7.30pm. Entry via a gold coin donation.

## Invitation to Peter Eastway Presentation, Thurs 15<sup>th</sup> June

Lane Cove Creative Photography have invited NCP members to a presentation on 'My Style of Photography' by photographer Peter Eastway at The Congregational Hall, Cnr Ferdinand and Alexandra Streets, Hunters Hill, commencing at 8pm.