



IN FOCUS

Newsletter of the Northside Creative Photography Club

AUGUST 2017

PRESIDENT'S LETTER

For three months now, I've been attending the St George Leagues Photographic Society 2017 Photographic Program. It's one whole day each month and is led by Professor Des Crawley. Presenters have covered a multitude of topics and we've viewed hundreds of outstanding images. The whole idea is for us to gain a better understanding of what photography is and does.

And, so far, I've managed to understand it all. 'Photography as Art'; I got that. 'Translating Ideas into Expressive Images' was insightful. 'Contemporary Photographic Practice' was fascinating. The program goes through until September and I'm looking forward to the rest of it.

But then Susan Buchanan drew my attention to the just-announced winner of the Olive Cotton award for photographic portraiture. [This link](#) will take you to the announcement page which then has a downloadable PDF of the award winners. Justine Varga won \$20,000 for her winning entry which many are suggesting is not even a photograph. Controversy has ensued with critics claiming that was the sole purpose behind judge Shaune Larkin's giving of the award. Just when I thought I was getting somewhere with my photographic appreciation comes this bewildering development.

The whole idea of what is fair and reasonable comes up often in photography. If you read our own club's history you will see that, back in the mid-60s, there were deep divides between colour and black and white workers. There were serious claims that 'the colour workers didn't contribute much to the club

anyway and that we should revert to being exclusively black and white'.

Sounds amusing, doesn't it? But it does serve to remind us that perspective is somewhat illusory. So many acceptable practices in today's society were frowned upon not that long ago. New light has been shone upon such topics and we now see them differently.

Right now, I'm struggling to see merit in Justine Varga's prize winner. To be fair, quite a few people support it although their rationales are a bit thin so far. Has Justine discovered a new genre? Has she redefined portraiture or even photography itself? I can't tell.

But I will keep my mind open because I learn nothing from my own opinion.



'FLYING PROUDLY'

*from outing to
Maritime Museum July 2017*

John Pettett

UPCOMING EVENTS

Wed 2 August

Meeting Meredith's Challenge

Wed 9 August

Committee Meeting

Wed 16 August

Presentation: From RAW to Riveting
by Steve Mullarkey

Sat 19 August

Workshop for Portfolio participants

Wed 6 Sept

Open Competition
Judge: Malcolm Fakender

See all details at:

www.ncp.org.au



CONTACTS

POST:
PO Box 192 Gordon
NSW 2072 Australia
WEB:
www.ncp.org.au

EMAIL:
For general enquiries:
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 Provincial Road)
On the 1st and 3rd Wednesday
of each month
at 7.30 for an 8pm start.

PRESIDENT:
John Pettett
(m) 0438 500 862
(h) 02 9410 1007

VICE PRESIDENT:
Jan Glover: 02 9498 3916

SECRETARY:
Chris Spraggon

TREASURER:
Doug Sinden

COMMITTEE:
Judith Bennett
Susan Buchanan
Hemant Kogekar
Alison Seccombe
Judy Watman

PUBLICITY:
Judy Watman
(m) 0402 419 489

WEBMASTER:
Hemant Kogekar

WHAT'S HAPPENING AT NCP?

On Wed 2nd August we will be hoping to meet Meredith Schofield's challenge of shooting 12 images only (without deleting) and producing a contact sheet. See the home page of the website for more information.

On Wed 16 August Steve Mullarkey will be showing a variety of techniques for processing images - see the details on page 3 of this newsletter.

In September we have our "Friendly Interclub" night with Mosman and Lane Cove Clubs. The topic for the challenge this year is "Atmosphere". We will be selecting prints over the next few weeks.

Wednesday 4th October - This is our annual creative night when you can go wild with your imagination. It's only a couple of months away, so it is time to start planning your entry. Up to 3 prints only - no projected images. Altered reality prints, traditional prints, collages, mixed media, installations - all are acceptable. More information soon.

PHOTO RALLY WINNER

Congratulations to Malcolm McKay, winner of our Photo Rally. The subject was "Railways" and Malcolm's image was taken at Trainworks at Thirlmere.



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 our newsletter goes out on time, please have any submissions emailed to the editor at ncp@ncp.org.au

MATERIAL DEADLINE: Fri 1st September or prior

From RAW to Riveting

A presentation by Steve Mullarkey - Wed 16 August 8pm at NCP

A presentation demonstrating a variety of techniques with both your camera and on your computer to give your images impact. These techniques will include :

- Exposure Bracketing & Blending (HDR Techniques)
- Long Exposures. - Effective with Moving Water
- Polarising Filters. - Skies, Leaves, Water, Reflections
- Change Perspective. - Wide Angle & Telephoto Lenses
- Optimising RAW Files in Lightroom and ACR (Adobe Camera Raw)
- The Clarity and Vibrance Sliders ~ Lightroom and ACR
- Structure and Local Contrast ~ Masking & Selective Use
- Nik Color Efex Filters ~ Free but Priceless
- High Key & Low Key
- Panoramas
- Monochrome versus Colour
- Split Toning

The evening will include :

- Audio-Visuals
- Keynote/Powerpoint with multiple image examples
- Practical Demonstrations



AV Challenge with Hornsby Heights CC Tuesday 5th September 7.30pm

The NCP submission to the AV Challenge with Hornsby Heights, Blacktown & Castle Hills clubs has been submitted for judging. There will be a presentation evening at Hornsby Heights Camera Club, Mt Colah Community Centre, Pierre Close, Mt Colah on Tuesday 5th September for a great night of entertainment.

The format for the evening will be:

We show each Audio Visual presentation in no particular order.

The judge will then critique each clubs AV and announce the winner.

We then show each clubs entry again

Finish off with a light supper. The evening goes for approx 1.5hrs.

If you wish to attend, can you please advise Doug Sinden via the contact form [here](#) as we need to inform Hornsby Heights club for catering puposes.

FOTO LIVE

Presentations by Australian Photography and Capture magazines. Sunday 20th August
SMC Conference and Function Centre, 66 Goulburn St Sydney.
Take your images to the next level – a photographer's masterclass

Morning session – from 9.00am. Includes morning tea.

In this special half-day event, you will hear from [Tony Hewitt](#), [Helen Whittle](#), [Mark Galer](#) and [Matthew Vandeputte](#) about what it takes to create truly powerful and memorable imagery.

With plenty of time for questions, some of the topics covered will include:

- How to capture key moments
- Composition and lighting techniques
- How to edit for maximum effect
- How to develop a unique style
- How to create images that will help you win competitions
- Hyperlapse and timelapse secrets.

Afternoon Session – Shoot for Success! An emerging photographer's masterclass.

More information and bookings at:

<http://www.australianphotography.com/live>

DARLING HARBOUR OUTING

A group of NCP members and a few friends headed to Darling Harbour last Sunday, July 23rd to see the World Wildlife Photographer of the Year Exhibition at the Maritime Museum. It was well worth the trip. We were treated to a feast of stunning photography as usual and were particularly impressed by the standard of work in the youth sections and the gear they were using. Hopefully this bodes well for the future of photography as an art form.



We were then free to wander around all the other exhibits in the Maritime Museum and visit the ships moored there. We regrouped for lunch at "Yots", a lovely little waterfront café, and socialised for a while. Judith had taken all our orders ahead of time so the food was ready and waiting for us when we arrived.

After lunch, we dispersed to the four corners of Darling Harbour to investigate the new infrastructure that has sprung up in the precinct and pursue that illusive perfect image. It was a perfect winters day, sunny and warm and Sydneysiders were out in force. There were opportunities for photography of all sorts.

The plan was to head to Barangaroo but I'm not sure how many people got that far. I didn't make it but I'm sure some of the more intrepid members of the group did.

It was a great outing and our thanks go to Judith Bennett for organising it with her usual efficiency.

Alison Seccombe



EXHIBITIONS

Art Gallery of NSW

Mervyn Bishop

A celebration of a central figure in Australian photography and his contribution to art and photojournalism over half a century.

This exhibition includes many of Mervyn Bishop's now-iconic images, spontaneous shots that derive from his career as a press photographer and intimate moments with his family and friends, all drawn from the Gallery's collection.

Until 8 Oct 2017

Archibald, Wynne and Sulman Prizes 2017

<https://www.artgallery.nsw.gov.au/whats-on/>

State Library of NSW

Beauty in Difference: The Street Photography of Jon Lewis

Lewis highlights our culturally diverse city through images of its people. Over the past two years he has walked the streets of inner Sydney every day, creating portraits in homage to the street photographs of the 1930s to 50s.

Until Sun 27 August 2017

<http://www.sl.nsw.gov.au/exhibitions/beauty-difference-street-photography-jon-lewis>

Moran Contemporary Photographic Prize Exhibition

Until Sunday 3 September 2017

Moran Gallery, 29 Sylvania Rd, Sylvania, 10-4pm daily.

COMPETITIONS

29th Sutherland Shire National Exhibition of Photography

Closes 12 August 2017

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

Sydney International Exhibition of Photography

Closes 28 August 2017

<http://siep.org.au/>

Better Photography Photo of the Year Competition 2017

Entries close 15 August 2017 (late entries to 21 August)

Categories:

Emotive Portraiture
Classic Landscapes
Creative Flair
Exotic Travel
Incredible Sport
Revealing Nature

<http://www.betterphotographyphoto-comp.com/>

Australian Photography Photographer of the Year

Early bird entries close 31 August 2017, late entries until 15 November.

The following categories are open to amateur photographers only:

- Black and White Photographer of the Year
- Landscape Photographer of the Year
- People and Portrait Photographer of the Year
- Photo of the Year
- Travel Photographer of the Year
- Wildlife and Animal Photographer of the Year
- Junior Photographer of the Year

Images must have been taken between 15 June 2016 and 14 November 2017.

<http://www.australianphotography.com/poty/terms-and-conditions>

WORKSHOP

The Fine Art of Inkjet Printing

Kayell Australia presents a Fine Art Printing Workshop.

Sunday 17 September 1-3pm.

30 Whiting St Artarmon.

Registrations essential

http://www.kayellaustralia.com.au/page/82/Short_Format_Fine_Art_Printing_Workshop.html

THE WHITE PASS and YUKON HISTORIC RAILROAD

by Jan Glover

On a very recent (July 2017) trip to Alaska, we were fortunate to experience a journey on the historic railway from Skagway to White Pass.

In the gold rush of 1897 tens of thousands of people arrived in Skagway to begin the 600 mile overland trek to the Klondike. Their route reached the Canadian border at White Pass, and those wishing to continue into Canada had to prove they were transporting at least a year's supply of food and essentials.

Construction of the railway began in 1898 and it was completed within 2 years. It climbs from Skagway to almost 3,000ft at the summit in just 20 miles. It is a narrow gauge (3ft) in order to cope with the tight curves of the terrain.

The railway was used to transport ore to Skagway until 1982 when it suspended operations, then in 1988 it re-opened as a tourist attraction. Several trains are in use, as demand for the journey is huge during the tourist (cruise ship) season. Two steam engines still operate, as well as diesel electric engines, and the coaches are either vintage or modern replicas. The train winds up to the Pass through magnificent scenery and places of historic interest such as Dead Horse Gulch where 3000 horses plunged to their death in 1898, and the Steel Bridge which was the tallest cantilever bridge in the world. Our journey took us as far as the U.S./Canada border at White Pass before our return journey to Skagway.

For train buffs more information can be found at:

<https://wpyr.com/>



Above: Our Alco diesel engine dates back to the 1960's. Here it is entering Tunnel Mountain

Below: There are 83 restored and replica passenger coaches



Below left: The U.S./Canada border at White Pass

Bottom left: The pride of the fleet Engine No. 73, a fully restored 1947 Baldwin 2-8-2 Mikado class steam locomotive



Below: Steel Bridge constructed in 1901, was the tallest cantilever bridge in the world. It was used until 1969

