



# FLARE

## Ballarat Camera Club

# NEWSLETTER

[ballaratcameraclub.org.au](http://ballaratcameraclub.org.au)

JULY 2017

## PRESIDENT'S REPORT

We were very fortunate to have Deb Gartland as our judge for the June meeting and I am sure all members who entered benefited from her detailed and constructive comments. Deb owns a photography gallery at Gellibrand and if you are heading that way it is well worth a visit.

Remember if you have entered the monthly competition and can't attend the meeting you can look up your score and the judges comments on our new uploading system.

I have previously stated that Jill was leaving the committee but she has changed her mind and is now going to stay on, but I still think it would be beneficial to have one new member as well so please see a committee member if you are interested. Our committee meetings generally last a maximum of two hours and are held in a friendly and relaxed atmosphere on the last Wednesday evening of the month.

The annual awards night is on Saturday the 29th of July at the Midlands Golf Club and is a presentation of our members best work for the past year. The judge this year is Jeremy Bannister who is a very experienced press photographer who has judged at Club and National level.

Our much anticipated outing to Full Flight birds of prey centre will finally go ahead on the 22nd of July. There are still a few spots vacant if you haven't booked and would like to come. We will be away so Jamie Walhouse will be the contact if you have any queries or need information about this event.

I am organising an outing to Mount Beckworth on Sunday the 24th of September where hopefully we can find some Native Orchids to photograph. More details to follow closer to the time.

Could you also note that we will be going to Serendip Sanctuary on Sunday the 22nd of October. We planned this trip last year but the weather was against us so hopefully we will have better luck this year. If you would like information about Serendip there is a website you can visit. Again I will send out details closer to the time.

In November we could visit Aradale Asylum in Ararat which I will organise if there is sufficient interest.

As you are reading this Betty and I will be some where a bit warmer on the way to Darwin. Good luck to everyone who has entered the Annuals and I look forward to seeing you all in the spring.

*Trevor Bibby (President)*



28 April 2017

VICTORIAN ASSOCIATION OF PHOTOGRAPHIC SOCIETIES Inc.  
PO Box 2172 Caulfield Junction 3161

**CLUB REPORT CARD**  
**VAPS 2017 INTERCLUB**  
**Ballarat Camera Club**

Section	Maker	Title	Score	Award
<b>EDPI</b>	Jamie Walhouse	The Motion of the Ocean	12	
	Gary Freestone	Whistling Kite	12	
	Greg Tale	Melbourne	9	
	Steve Demayo	Moon Bay	10	
	Gary Freestone	Catching Up	9	
	Greg Tale	Bradmill Factory	9	
	Lorraine Lees	Feather Flower	14	
	Jill Wharton	Skippers Canyon	10	
	Kate Both	The Pit	10	
	Steve Demayo	Into the Light	12	
	Chris Crossley	Glass	11	
	Rebecca Nicolandros	In Dad's Hands	11	
	Trevor Bibby	Rainbow Bee Eaters	14	
	Jamie Walhouse	BCM Building	10	
	Chris Crossley	Kada	12	
		<b>165</b>		
<b>Prints</b>	Chris Crossley	Frida	12	
	Judy McEachern	Lake Mokoan Sunrise	11	
	Chris Crossley	Dream of Angels	12	
	Jill Wharton	European Roller	10	
	Carol Hall	Hungry Bee	11	
	Lyn Fowler	Water Drop	12	
	Steve Demayo	Waiting for the Congregation	11	
	Kate Both	Hugh	11	
	Jill Wharton	Impalas in the Serengeti	9	
	Steve Demayo	By the Waterfront	9	
	Gary Freestone	Easy Ae	12	
	Judy Johnson	Sunburst	11	
	Trevor Bibby	Red Capped Robin	10	
	Betty Bibby	Old International	11	
Kate Both	Saved by the Fence	12		
		<b>164</b>		

## Kimberley Photo Workshop - Digger's Rest Station

May 21-28 2017

As a result of receiving a circular promoting a week's workshop - with two vacancies remaining - on a cattle station 40km south of Wyndham, my friend Meredith and I made a last minute decision to take up this opportunity. We flew to Kununurra and the following day



all 9 participants were picked up by the Perth-based workshop organisers and tutor in two 4WD vehicles. The station lies at the end of the King River road (dirt track) accessed from the bitumen Kununurra-Wyndham highway, and consists of 4000 acres running 800 Droughtmaster/ Hereford X cattle. Camping and horse trekking are offered by the station, and tourist accommodation consists of simple bush huts plus a couple of more

substantial rooms which boasted air conditioning – one of which Meredith and I shared. Since temperatures reached 33° by midday we were grateful for such facilities!

Our days usually began around 5 am so that we could photograph the boab trees in early morning light, or go to a billabong with views and reflections of the Cockburn Range. The horses were also being worked – schooled – in the nearby yards at this hour so they provided another source of subject matter as well as being an interesting activity to watch for those of us





with no experience of life on a station. Then after a hearty breakfast we might watch more horse activity; one morning a group of Aboriginal children from Wyndham came in for a couple of hours of horseriding as part of their curriculum and permitted us to photograph them, on condition that such photos would not be put online.

In the heat of the afternoon we had the opportunity for a siesta or time for processing sessions for those who brought laptops, and much tuition in Lightroom was given by our keen tutor.



On a couple of evenings we attempted Milky Way photography, using boab trees and a windmill as foreground, both in silhouette and painted with torchlight with varying results. The skies were crystal clear and I appreciated the comments made by Prof. Brian Cox in the ABC's astronomy program earlier this year that far more of the Milky Way is visible from



Australia and the southern hemisphere than from the UK and northern hemisphere – not something I had been conscious of when I grew up there. And it was amazing how many more stars appeared on the images than could be seen with the naked eye, such is the sensitivity of the digital camera ( a phenomenon I had noticed when photographing the Northern Lights 18 months previously).

Old machinery in the yards attracted some of our group, even a ride in an ancient jeep normally used for mustering! Mid-week we camped out for a night on another part of the property in one-man hike tents, enjoying the sounds of the bush, campfire and a sing-song, a swim in the nearby waterhole and the intention of more night shots, but this time we were defeated by encroaching cloud. On another evening we drove to a different area of the property where five of the various station workers had been organised to ride their horses towards us, kicking up dust in the gentle light against a background of open country backed by the scarp of the Cockburn Range which began to glow as the setting sun struck the rock.

We spent an afternoon and early evening in the vicinity of Wyndham; beginning with water-lilies in a billabong near the King River where some of us saw the uncommon Gouldian Finches drinking at a puddle on the track, we moved on to Parry Lagoon, a well-known wetland with considerable variety of birds: Brolga, Magpie Goose, Green Pygmy Goose, Wandering Whistling Duck, Jacana, Little Pied Cormorant, Jabiru, Great Egret, Pied Heron, Bar-breasted Honeyeater (which



balanced on water-lily flowers to obtain nectar). A really long lens would have been useful ! Fortunately I had brought binoculars.



Birds around the station had included Pied Butcherbird and Little Corellas, with Black and Whistling Kites very common overhead every day. Peaceful and Diamond Doves were always calling in the background. A Great Bowerbird had

built a bower next to the kitchen ! At Lake Kununurra Meredith and I had seen Crimson Finches and a Chestnut-breasted Manikin.

On Five Rivers Lookout overlooking Wyndham and Cambridge Gulf we supped champagne and nibbled nuts as the sun sank, leaving vivid orange colours along the horizon under a deep marine blue sky with a rising crescent moon. On the way back to the station in the dark we came across Owlet-nightjars sitting in the middle of the road, huge eyes facing us in their small faces as the headlights dazzled them. And as we crossed the remains of a creek there was a small (< 1metre) freshwater croc right in our path: the driver got out and chased it out of harm's way !



On being transferred back to Kununurra Meredith and I spent a relaxed day in the excellent art galleries in that town, followed by a half-day tour of the nearby section of the Ord River Irrigation Area, here mostly growing more and more sandalwood for export, mangoes and decreasing acreages of melons and pumpkins.

An interesting 10 days, especially as I had neither been to the Kimberley before, nor had a glimpse of life on a cattle station, albeit a relatively small one.

Carol Hall.

## Judge for July

Rebecca Nicolandos

Rebecca has been a professional photographer for 17 years, working primarily as a wedding, portrait and baby photographer. Initially trained as a candid wedding photographer, Rebecca enjoys capturing natural, fleeting moments during weddings and images of children 'at play.'

Rebecca operates under two Ballarat based business names including, Bibo Photography, which has been in operation for many years and Ballarat Newborn Photography which she opened when she moved to Ballarat in 2016.

You can follow her work on Facebook by searching for her business names, or via the websites: [www.bibophotography.com.au](http://www.bibophotography.com.au) and [www.ballaratnewbornphotography.com.au](http://www.ballaratnewbornphotography.com.au)



### **Please Take Note**

There will not be an informal imaging ( Digital) meeting for July. Instead we will be having an outing to le Gerche track in Creswick on Sunday morning 9th July.

We will meet at the Creswick Tourist information centre at 10 a.m.

There is an interesting forest walk, some old buildings and there should be some fungi. (Macro equipment and tripod for low light in the forest would be useful). Solid footwear and warm clothes will be needed and bring water and lunch .

Please let me know by email (and include mobile number)if you are going. ( if it is cancelled I will let everyone know.

*Hugh Lees* (Committee Member)



## UPCOMING EVENTS FOR YOUR DIARY

- July 9 **Informal Information Morning** 10am Creswick at Information Centre for photographic opportunities at
- July 12 **Competition Night** (Prints & EDPI) 7.30pm at 616 Barkly Street, Golden Point. SET TOPIC (for photo competition) Open/Set - 'Food'. Food readily recognisable as being suitable for human consumption. May be raw, cooked, unprepared or fully prepared. Could be a single food item to a complete meal. Images of food in its primary stage are not acceptable e.g. fruit on trees or cows in paddocks etc.
- July 26 **Committee Meeting** 7.30pm (at Stephen Moten's house, 37 Railway Rd, Newlyn
- July 29 **Annual Club Dinner and Competition** 6pm. Midlands Golf Club
- August 2 **Informal Information Night** 7.30pm (venue to be advised)
- August 9 **AGM and Competition Night** (Prints & EDPI) 7.30pm at 616 Barkly Street, Golden Point. SET TOPIC (for photo competition) Open/Creative - 'Conceptual art/mixed media Set - 'Triptych' Three images arranged with a plain border between them. The work may consist of separate images which are variants on a theme or may be one large image split into three.
- August 30 **Committee Meeting** 7.30pm (venue to be advised)
- September 4 **Informal Information Night** 7.30pm (venue to be advised)
- Sept 13 **Competition Night** (Prints & EDPI) 7.30pm at 616 Barkly Street, Golden Point. SET TOPIC (for photo competition) 'Winter in Ballarat'  
An image which depicts the season of winter. Image must be identifiable as being taken in the greater Ballarat area. Could include images of an iconic location, activity or celebration.
- Sept 27 **Committee Meeting** 7.30pm (venue to be advised)

## MONTHLY COMPETITION RESULTS

	Image Title	Maker	Score	Honour/Merit
Open (EDPI)	A shadow	Janette Richards	8	Acceptance
	Baby Blue	Rebecca Nicolandos	12	Merit
	Blue wren	Hugh Lees	10	Acceptance
	Casimir	Rebecca Nicolandos	14	Honour
	Catching a wave	Trevor Bibby	12	Merit
	Charlotte	Rebecca Nicolandos	12	Merit
	Chikara	Lorraine Lees	10	Acceptance
	Concentration	Judy Johnson	10	Acceptance
	Cool Blue Car	Betty Bibby	14	Honour

	De-Vine Seat	Steve Demeye	14	Honour
	Emu no.26	Hugh Lees	10	Acceptance
	Emu on alert	Betty Bibby	12	Merit
	Engrossed	Frank Carroll	10	Acceptance
	Fairy Garden Party	Lyn Fowler	10	Acceptance
	Fairy Wren at Fry's Flat	Betty Bibby	12	Merit
	Going Up?	Kate Both	10	Acceptance
	Good morning	Lorraine Lees	11	Merit
	I'm Quiet Now	Janette Richards	9	Acceptance
	Japanese Garden - Hobart	Kate Both	10	Acceptance
	Lal Lal Falls	Murray Mc Eachern	9	Acceptance
	Mini Rapids	Murray Mc Eachern	9	Acceptance
	Mist by the River	Judy McEachern	14	Honour
	Misty Dawn	Anne Wilson	15	Honour
	Moss	Murray Mc Eachern	10	Acceptance
	Mungo	Anne Wilson	12	Merit
	On The Move	Anne Wilson	9	Acceptance
	Deep Woods	Judy Johnson	12	Merit
	Sandhill	Judy Johnson	10	Acceptance
	Port Fairy Lighthouse	Steve Demeye	14	Honour
	Port Fairy Lighthouse	Trevor Bibby	9	Acceptance
	Re-purposed	Carol Hall	12	Merit
	River view	Hugh Lees	9	Acceptance
	Scarlet Robin	Jill Wharton	9	Acceptance
	Seagulls	Judy McEachern	15	Honour
	Seika	Rebecca Nicolandos	9	Acceptance
	Silhouette	Frank Carroll	14	Honour
	Stumpy Tail Lizard	Jill Wharton	13	Honour
	Tangled	Janette Richards	10	Acceptance
	The Pack	Judy Johnson	10	Acceptance
	Up or down	Lorraine Lees	10	Acceptance
	Walking the Dog	Jill Wharton	9	Acceptance
	Welcome to my World	Jill Wharton	13	Honour
Open (Large Print)				
	Birch Trees	Judy McEachern	12	Merit
	Cool Craggy Sunset	Betty Bibby	13	Honour
	Garden	Judy McEachern	14	Honour
	I'm the Boss	Jill Wharton	12	Merit
	Ice Mist	Murray Mc Eachern	12	Merit
	Looking for a Tenant	Steve Demeye	12	Merit
	New Zealand Colours 2	Jill Wharton	11	Merit
	Old 199	Judy Johnson	11	Merit
	River & Island	Murray Mc Eachern	14	Honour
	Rocky Sunset	Trevor Bibby	14	Honour
	The Branch	Judy Johnson	13	Honour
	The Crags	Steve Demeye	14	Honour



Set - "Night Photography" (EDPI)				
	Arch of victory	Brett Keating	12	Merit
	At Teddy's Lookout	Anne Carroll	10	Acceptance
	Aurora at Jokulsarlon, Iceland	Carol Hall	10	Acceptance
	Aurora borealis, Kvaloya, Norway	Carol Hall	9	Acceptance
	Aurora panorama Jokulsarlon Iceland	Carol Hall	10	Acceptance
	Camp Street	Anne Carroll	9	Acceptance
	Country night landscape	Brett Keating	9	Acceptance
	Flash	Kate Both	12	Merit
	Flinders Street Station	Judy McEachern	12	Merit
	Glamping	Anne Wilson	10	Acceptance
	Gove Cycles	Trevor Bibby	15	Honour
	Grand Pacific Hotel	Frank Carroll	10	Acceptance
	Green Glow	Anne Carroll	10	Acceptance
	Lamp parade	Lorraine Lees	9	Acceptance
	Looking Up Train Timetable	Greg Tate	12	Merit
	Man White Night	Greg Tate	13	Honour
	Milky Way over Lake Wendouree	Brett Keating	10	Acceptance
	Moyne River under Lights	Betty Bibby	14	Honour
	Mt Buninyong night sky	Brett Keating	10	Acceptance
	Night Crossing	Steve Demeye	14	Honour
	Night Crossing	Frank Carroll	14	Honour
	Northern Lights	Judy McEachern	14	Honour
	Palm cottage	Hugh Lees	9	Acceptance
	Pre dawn wreckage	Kate Both	9	Acceptance
	Ready to Roost	Murray Mc Eachern	12	Merit
	Slow Going	Anne Carroll	13	Honour
	Telephone Box	Lyn Fowler	11	Merit
	Texting Malcolm Turnbull	Greg Tate	12	Merit
	The Old Church	Janette Richards	9	Acceptance
	Under the Scaffolding	Lyn Fowler	9	Acceptance
	Universe-City	Steve Demeye	13	Honour
	View To Melbourne	Greg Tate	14	Honour
	Wood Pile	Lyn Fowler	12	Merit
Set - (Large Print)				
	Train And Wheel	Greg Tate	15	Honour
	Truck on Hume	Greg Tate	14	Honour
Set - (Small Print)				
	Lydiard Street	Trevor Bibby	15	Honour
	Modern Building	Trevor Bibby	13	Honour

## Blake's Must Have Pieces of Camera Gear

What are your three must haves!



### **My Top Three Favorite Camera Accessories!**

***For your awareness***, this is not an affiliate marketing post. I am sharing what I think are the essential products for your camera, and I am not endorsing any one brand for the sake of making money on link clicks.

I buy a lot of camera gear. Some call it an addiction, but I look at it as market research. It helps when you have a business centered around photography, for sure! Of all the gear I own though, there are three essential pieces I put on every camera I have.

I recently purchased a 665nm IR Converted Sony a7. She was beautiful when I took her out of the box, but then I noticed how naked she was. I couldn't let her go out in public like that so I ordered the three things that I just cannot live without anymore. These pieces of gear are not for looks and style though, they all serve a very important purpose, and I buy them for a reason.

[Try watching this video on www.youtube.com](http://www.youtube.com)

### **An L-Bracket**

This is first because it is the most important for my style of shooting and the pieces of gear that I own. I only purchase all Arca Swiss compatible items to ensure all my camera bodies will mount on the ball head that I am using. For those who may not be familiar with Arca Swiss, it is a style of tripod head adapter that is uniquely universal and not proprietary to any one company.

Last year I had a big Manfrotto head. I loved it. It was sturdy, it locked my camera in place like no other tripod head I had used in the past, and it was always reliable in any shooting conditions. However, it had one big limiting factor. It had a proprietary adapter that only worked with Manfrotto ball heads, and the extra plates weren't exactly cheap. I would find myself forgetting them at home when I needed to attach another camera body. I know that is a camera gear "first world problem" but when it happens to you enough, you get pretty irritated!

After a couple of frustrating outings, I decided to switch over all my tripod heads to Arca Swiss and purchase Arca Swiss compatible L Brackets for all my camera bodies. Now I don't worry about extra plates because the Arca-Swiss L-Bracket slides right into the tripod head. Oh, the things I wished I'd known when I first started shooting!

**Tip:** Don't go buying some \$180 L bracket, that is highway robbery and absolutely ludicrous. Amazon sells Neewer and Haoge L Brackets for nearly \$20 a piece no matter the body. Save that money for a good ball head. Just go to Amazon and type your Camera name + L Bracket and buy the cheapest one with the best reviews. Seriously, it's a stinkin' piece of metal; the \$180 version is no different!

## A Good Strap

A good camera strap is essential. I am not a fan of the straps that come with the Sony cameras. They are dainty, ugly, and are very painful after a long day of shooting. I prefer something a bit more comfy for hiking with versatility when shooting on a tripod.

I prefer the Peak Design Summit Edition strap. Their limited edition blue or red strap is very comfy with gel impregnated inside the webbing strap. They also have a unique quick disconnect system that is awesome for long exposure photography because you can remove it if it is windy as to avoid camera shake.

Furthermore, being a former FAA certified Master Parachute Rigger, I find their attention to detail incredible. From the unique quick disconnect design to the stitch patterns and hardware selection, they have my vote. I am a hard one to win over in that department.

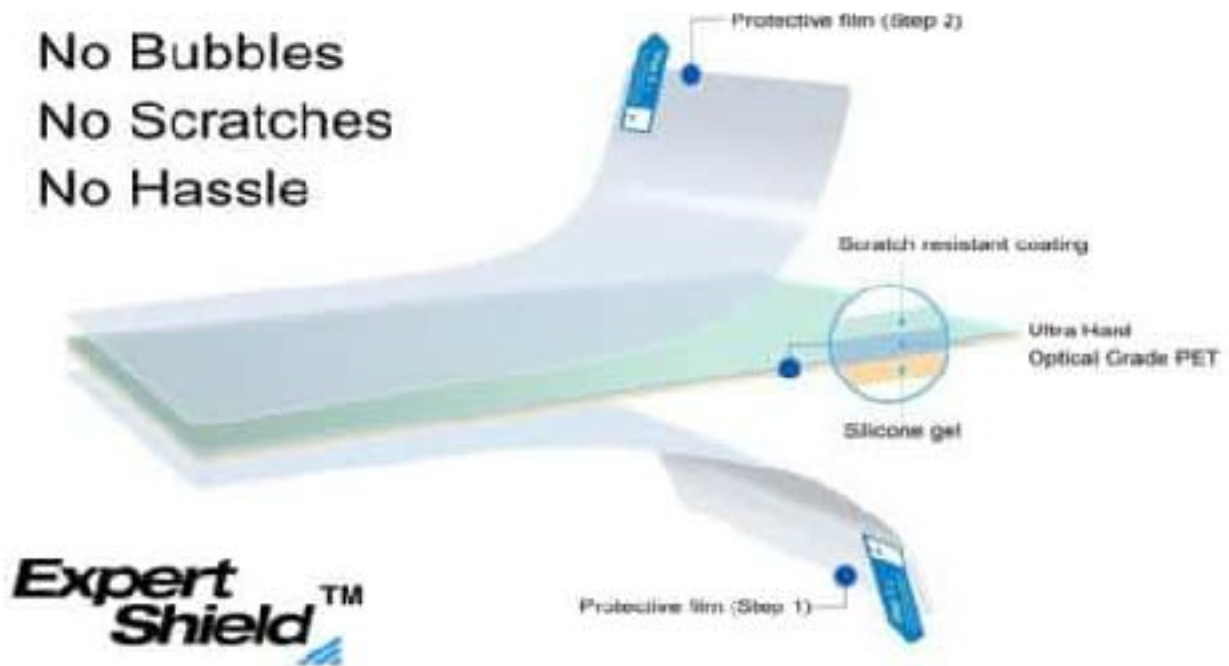
## A Screen Protector

I cannot tell you how important a good screen protector is. It doesn't have to be anything crazy and elaborate, but that little piece of plastic film will save you years of heartache. All it takes is one wrong move, and the LCD screen can get scratched, dinged, broken, or chipped. I have purchased many of these screen protectors, and I am glad I have. You should look for something clear.

You should look for something clear. Some of these say they are clear, but they have a dull matte finish that can make your LCD screen appear pixellated and fuzzy. Others are perfectly translucent and, if installed correctly, will install so seamlessly they look like the naked LCD.

I have purchased so many of these screen protectors from various companies that I cannot recommend any one brand that is better than the others, but I did snag this one for the a7 that you see in the video.





*Copied from f.64 Academy. He has some very interesting video tutorials usually posts a new one each week. (submitted by Betty Bibby)*

Ballarat Camera Club Committee

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