Flare
November 2026
ballaratcameraclub.org.au

From the Editor – November 2026

As we approach the end of another busy year at the Ballarat Camera Club, there's still plenty happening, with some exciting events ahead and plans already taking shape for 2027.



Our October outing to **Castlemaine** was another enjoyable photographic adventure, coinciding with the Castlemaine and District Festival of Gardens. Following the success of our Clunes outing, we again challenged members to look beyond the obvious with our Six-Photo Challenge. Castlemaine offered a wonderful variety of subjects, from historic streetscapes and architecture to gardens, textures and the smaller details that often make the most interesting photographs. It's always rewarding to see how differently photographers interpret the same location, and I hope you'll enjoy the selection of members' images featured in this edition.

November promises to be a particularly inspiring month. At our next Club meeting, acclaimed photographer **Mieke Boynton** will join us via Zoom to present *A Game of Tones: Black & White Photography*. This 90-minute presentation will explore the creative possibilities of monochrome photography and how thoughtful use of light, contrast and tonal range can transform an image. Whether you're already passionate about black and white photography or simply looking to develop another aspect of your skills, this promises to be an excellent evening.

Our **Annuals will be held on Saturday 21 November**, one of the highlights of the Club's photographic calendar. It's an opportunity to celebrate the creativity, achievements and photographic development of our members over the past year. We're also delighted to welcome **Ian Kemp** as our guest speaker, presenting *How I Make My Images*. I'm looking forward to hearing about his creative process and the thinking, techniques and decisions that go into producing his photographs.

Looking a little further ahead, our **End of Year BBQ will be held at Tom and Teresa's home at 459 Bells Road, Smythes Creek Vic 3351 on Wednesday 9 December**. It's a great opportunity to put the cameras aside for a few hours, enjoy some good company and

celebrate another year of photography, learning and friendship. I hope to see plenty of members there.

You'll also find in this edition a **proposed draft calendar of activities and outings for 2027**. We've been working on a program that offers a variety of photographic experiences, new locations and opportunities to develop our skills. The Executive will meet later this month to consider the proposals and confirm a number of next year's events. In the meantime, I encourage members to have a look at the draft calendar and share their ideas. The best Club activities are often those that grow from suggestions made by members.

As we head towards the end of 2026, I'd also like to thank everyone who has contributed to the Club throughout the year, whether by organising activities, helping behind the scenes, sharing their knowledge or simply coming along and getting involved. It's that enthusiasm and willingness to participate that makes our Club such an enjoyable photographic community.

There's still plenty to look forward to before we close out the year, so keep your cameras handy, enjoy the upcoming events and, above all, keep looking for that next great photograph.

Happy photographing!

Happy shooting,

Jerry
Editor



Jerry van Delft (2026)

IN THIS EDITION

IN THIS EDITION 3
MEETING INFORMATION: 3
2026 DATES TO REMEMBER 4
2027 DATES TO REMEMBER 4
NOVEMBER MEETING GUEST SPEAKER - Mieke BOYNTON 7
ANNUALS GUEST SPEAKER - IAN KEMP 8
Information about Canva and the addition of Affinity 9
2027 BALLARAT INTERNATIONAL FOTO BIENNALE 10
OCTOBER OUTING - Castlemaine – A Different Perspective 11
COMMITTEE MEMBERS 2026/2027 18

MEETING INFORMATION:

Club Meeting Venue Security Requirements

The Djila-tjarriu Community Centre requires us to lock the entrance to the building at 7:45pm during our meeting, to meet their security requirements.

- Members arriving after this time should phone Tom on 0407 535 420 or another member, to gain access.
- Members wishing to temporarily leave the building during the meeting, will need another attending member to open the door for reentry.

2026 DATES TO REMEMBER

DATE	EVENT	LOCATION	SYLLABUS
11/11/26	Meeting Night	Djila-tjarriu Community Hub	Activity Focus Mieke Boynton - A Game of Tones. A 90 minute presentation on how to improve you Black and White photography.
21/11/26	Annual Competition	Djila-tjarriu Community Hub	Special Guest - Ian Kemp - 'How I make my images.'
25/11/26	Executive Meeting	Boatshed Cafe	10:30. Agenda to be provided.
9/12/26	End of Year BBQ	Tom and Teresa's house - 459 Bells Road Smythes Creek Vic 3351	End of year BBQ - 6 pm start, byo everything.

2027 DATES TO REMEMBER

DATE	EVENT	LOCATION	SYLLABUS
20/01/2027	Start of year BBQ	Betty and Trevor's house 22 Butler St, Lucas	Let's start the year with a social get together. Reminder to bring your prints please. 6 pm start, byo everything
22/01/2027	COMP DUE - "Light Trails / Long Exposure"		
27/1/2027	Executive Meeting	Boatshed Cafe	10:30. Agenda to be provided.
10/02/2027	Meeting Night	Djila-tjarriu Community Hub	Club Meeting, COMP- "Light Trails / Long Exposure"
17/02/2027	PROPOSE SOCIAL OUTING -	Geelong Gallery	Eric Thake – Do You See What I See? Over 100 works examining visual humour in everyday life, including photography, printmaking and painting.
20/02/2027 (HOLD)	Monthly Outing	TBA	TBA
24/02/2027	Executive Meeting	Boatshed Cafe	10:30. Agenda to be provided.

03/03/2027	PROPOSE SOCIAL OUTING -	NGV	Passage: The Art of Atong Atem Vivid staged portrait photography exploring ancestry, identity, memory and performance.
10/03/2027	Meeting Night	Djila-tjarriu Community Hub	Club Meeting, Activity Focus “City at night” This will involve an outing to Ballarat CBD in the evening. More details to be provided closer to the outing.
12/03/2027	COMP DUE - "City at Night"		
12-14/03/2027	Camping Weekend	Port Campbell	
31/03/2027	Executive Meeting	Boatshed Cafe	10:30. Agenda to be provided.
7/04/2027	PROPOSE SOCIAL OUTING -	NGV	NGV Triennial 2026 International contemporary art and design projects providing ideas for composition and visual storytelling.
14/04/2027	Meeting Night	Djila-tjarriu Community Hub	Club Meeting, COMP - "City at Night"
17/04/2027 (HOLD)	Monthly Outing	TBA	TBA
28/04/2027	Executive Meeting	Boatshed Cafe	10:30. Agenda to be provided.
12/05/2027	Meeting Night	Djila-tjarriu Community Hub	Club Meeting, Activity Focus “Unusual Shadows”
14/05/2027	COMP DUE - "Unusual Shadows"		
15/05/2027 (HOLD)	Monthly Outing	TBA	TBA
26/05/2027	Executive Meeting	Boatshed Cafe	10:30. Agenda to be provided.
9/06/2027	Meeting Night	Djila-tjarriu Community Hub	Club Meeting, COMP - "Unusual Shadows"
19/06/2027 (HOLD)	Monthly Outing	TBA	TBA
30/06/2027	Executive Meeting	Boatshed Cafe	10:30. Agenda to be provided.
14/07/2027	Meeting Night	Djila-tjarriu Community Hub	Club Meeting, Activity Focus “Something Old”

16/07/2027	COMP DUE "Something Old"		
17/07/2027 (HOLD)	Monthly Outing	TBA	TBA
28/07/2027	Executive Meeting	Boatshed Cafe	10:30. Agenda to be provided.
11/08/2027	Meeting Night	Djila-tjarriu Community Hub	Club Meeting, COMP "Something Old"
21/08/2027 (HOLD)	Monthly Outing	TBA	TBA
21/08/2027 - 17/10/2027	Ballarat International Foto Biennale		
25/08/2027	Executive Meeting	Boatshed Cafe	10:30. Agenda to be provided.
8/09/2027	Meeting Night	Djila-tjarriu Community Hub	Club Meeting, Activity Focus “Subject will be based on the 2027-28 Syllabus”
18/09/2027	Monthly Outing	TBA	TBA
29/09/2027	Executive Meeting	Boatshed Cafe	10:30. Agenda to be provided.
13/10/2027	Meeting Night	Djila-tjarriu Community Hub	Club Meeting, COMP "Subject will be based on the 2027-28 Syllabus"
16/10/27	Monthly Outing	TBA	TBA
27/10/2027	Executive Meeting	Boatshed Cafe	10:30. Agenda to be provided.
10/11/27	Meeting Night	Djila-tjarriu Community Hub	Club Meeting, Activity Focus “Guest Speaker TBA”
24/11/2027	Executive Meeting	Boatshed Cafe	10:30. Agenda to be provided.
27/11/27	Annuals	Djila-tjarriu Community Hub	

NOVEMBER MEETING GUEST SPEAKER - Mieke BOYNTON



Topic / Title - A Game of Tones

BIO:

Mieke Boynton is a specialist landscape and aerial photographer who is passionate about capturing the beauty of nature. She has won more than 600 awards, including NZIPP Australian Landscape Photographer of the Year (2022, 2023, 2024, 2026), Australian In-Camera Artistry Photographer of the Year (2025) and World Photographic Cup Silver Medal (2025). She is an experienced judge, an engaging presenter, an outstanding educator, and an accomplished creator of fine art photographic prints. Together with her husband Matt Palmer, she owns and operates their “Alpine Light” fine art landscape photography gallery in Bright, Victoria.

Website: www.miekeboynton.com / www.alpinelight.com.au

Facebook: @MiekeBoyntonPhotography

Instagram: @miekeboyntonphotography

ANNUALS GUEST SPEAKER - IAN KEMP

Topic / Title - 'How I make my images.'



Ian Kemp is a Ballarat-based fine art photographer whose print and photogravure work explores solitude, impermanence, and the quiet beauty found in fleeting moments. It is central to his images, where he uses nature as his metaphor.

Ian has had major solo exhibitions including *Neverlasting* (Art Gallery of Ballarat, Horsham Art Gallery, Willaura Modern) and *In Solitude* (Yering Station Gallery, and the Central Goldfields Gallery) and *Print Works* at the Ross Creek Gallery. His work has also been featured in the Ballarat International Foto Biennale and publications such as *Inside Imaging* and *Beta: developments in photography.*

In 2025, Ian was named a finalist in the Flanagan Art Prize, and the Martin Kantor Prize, and he won the BIFB Best Local Photographer Award further cementing his reputation as a distinctive voice in contemporary Australian print works and photography. He and Ana Petidis were finalists in the Infuse Prize (2026).

Ian has also been invited to be part of the Baldessin Studio's 25th Anniversary Collection to exhibit an edition of photogravure work at the 2026 Sydney Contemporary, the Australian Print Gallery Melbourne and the State Library of Victoria.

Information about Canva and the addition of Affinity

John Spicer recently sent me this information regarding an alternative to Photoshop.

The following article is from [The Magazine for Photographers - Bite Size](), published on the 17 September 2026

Affinity 3.3 Is Here


THE GLOBAL PHOTOGRAPHY COMMUNITY

THE MAGAZINE FOR PHOTOGRAPHERS - BITE SIZE

DEAR READERS,

Welcome to the Bite Size version of The Magazine For Photographers, which comes out every Monday - Friday. The Bite Size version serves as a 2-5 minute catch-up of the latest news in the photography and creative industry during the week.

Every Sunday "The Magazine For Photographers" is published, it is the proper, big magazine issue that includes comprehensive articles, interviews with famous photographers, photography tips/techniques, equipment reviews and much more.

Canva's Photoshop competitor Affinity just received a new update, and photographers are getting quite a few new tools. Version 3.3 adds more control over curves, blending and masking, alongside a new Blend Tool for creating and adjusting repeated or transitioning elements. There is also a new scripting system that can automate repetitive pixel, vector and layout tasks, including parts of a photo-editing workflow.

The more interesting changes are happening inside RAW processing and colour editing. Affinity says it has substantially reworked its RAW development engine, particularly the way it handles exposure, highlights and shadows, with the goal of producing more natural tonal and colour transitions. Curves have been updated too and are now hue-preserving, so changing the brightness of different tonal ranges should have less of an unintended effect on colour. Affinity 3.3 also introduces separate Hue and Saturation curves, borrowing an approach that is already common in professional video colour grading software. New global presets have been added as well, including support for applying them across batches of photos.

Affinity now also has a dedicated Astrophotography Studio, giving astro photographers a separate workspace specifically for processing night-sky photos. Affinity itself remains free, although some of the AI-powered functionality connected to Canva requires a paid Canva subscription, which is $18 per month.

2027 BALLARAT INTERNATIONAL FOTO BIENNALE

Ballarat Camera Club Takes on the 2027 Foto Biennale!

An exciting opportunity to showcase our photography to a wider audience.

The Ballarat Camera Club is preparing to be part of one of Australia's most celebrated photographic events — the 2027 Ballarat International Foto Biennale!

This is an exciting opportunity for our members to share their photography beyond the club, celebrate the creativity within our membership and contribute to an event that brings photographers, artists and visitors from across Australia and beyond to Ballarat.

The Executive has agreed that the Club will participate, and a working group, headed by Grant, has been established to begin planning our exhibition. Its first task will be to scout for a suitable venue where we can present a collection of members' work to its best advantage.

An Exhibition That Celebrates Our Diversity

Rather than setting a specific theme, we want our exhibition to reflect the breadth of photographic interests, styles and creative approaches within the Club.

From landscapes, wildlife and portraits to street photography, architecture, macro, abstract and experimental images, we want to celebrate the many different ways our members see and interpret the world.

Every member will be invited to submit up to three photographs for consideration. Depending on the size and suitability of the venue we secure, the working group will curate the final exhibition, aiming to present a diverse, engaging and cohesive display that represents the creativity of our Club.

This is not about selecting only competition winners or technically perfect photographs. It is about bringing together images that capture attention, tell stories, inspire curiosity and demonstrate the individual vision of our members.

What Happens Next?

The working group will begin investigating potential venues and developing plans for the exhibition. The Executive will also vote this month on the proposal for the Club to cover the $440 participation fee.

Further details about image submissions, selection, presentation requirements and timelines will be shared as planning progresses.

Start Thinking About Your Images!

Although the Biennale is still some months away, now is the perfect time to start thinking about the photographs you might like to exhibit. Perhaps you already have a favourite image waiting to be seen, or perhaps this is the inspiration you need to create something new.

This is an opportunity for us to come together, celebrate our shared passion for photography and show the wider community what the Ballarat Camera Club can do.

Let's make our contribution to the 2027 Ballarat International Foto Biennale something we can all be proud of!

OCTOBER OUTING - Castlemaine – A Different Perspective

Spring was in full bloom as Ballarat Camera Club members ventured to Castlemaine on Saturday 24 October, cameras in hand and creativity at the ready. With the Castlemaine and District Festival of Gardens opening that weekend, it was the perfect opportunity to explore the colours, textures and hidden treasures of some beautiful gardens.

Beginning at the Castlemaine Botanical Gardens, the outing offered plenty of photographic inspiration, from sweeping garden scenes to the smallest details often overlooked.

Following the success of our Clunes outing, members were once again invited to take on the Six-Photo Challenge, with six photographic themes designed to encourage creativity and a fresh way of seeing the garden environment:

- Selective Focus – Isolate a flower, leaf or garden feature using a shallow depth of field to create a soft, blurred background.
- Creative Lighting – Use backlighting, shadows or filtered sunlight to bring out colour, texture or atmosphere.
- Hidden Details – Get close and discover something easily overlooked, such as patterns in leaves, insects, water droplets or interesting textures.
- Minimalism – Create a simple, uncluttered composition using a single subject, clean background or negative space.
- Garden Character – Capture a wider scene that conveys the design, history or distinctive atmosphere of the garden.
- Visual Storytelling – Create an image that tells a story about spring, the garden or the people enjoying it.

The challenge was non-competitive, encouraging members to experiment with different techniques and look beyond the obvious photograph. Members were invited to select their three favourite images from the day to share in FLARE.

The following photographs showcase some of the creative interpretations captured by members who joined us for the outing.



Tom Bates (2026)





John Spicer (2026)



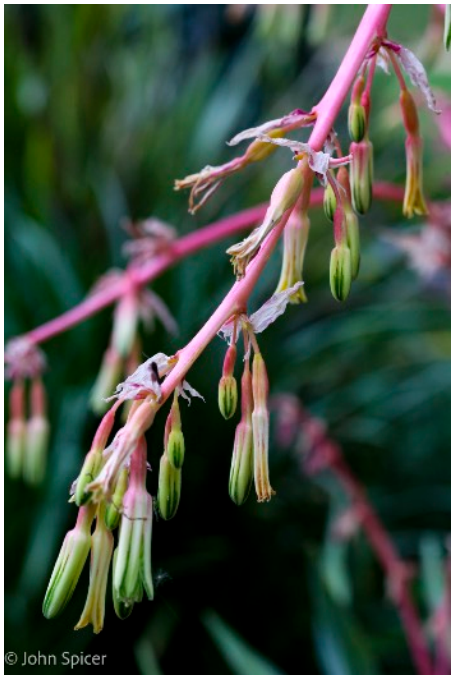


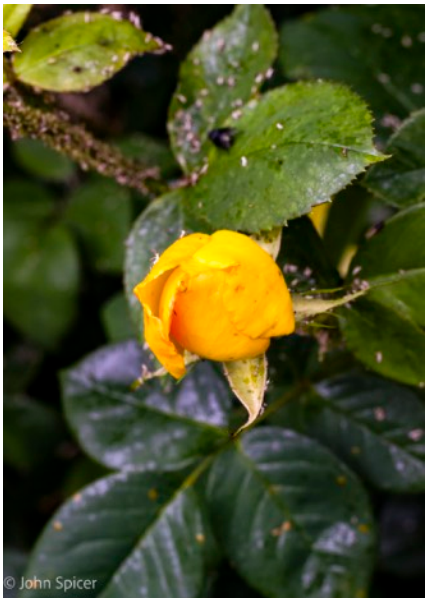




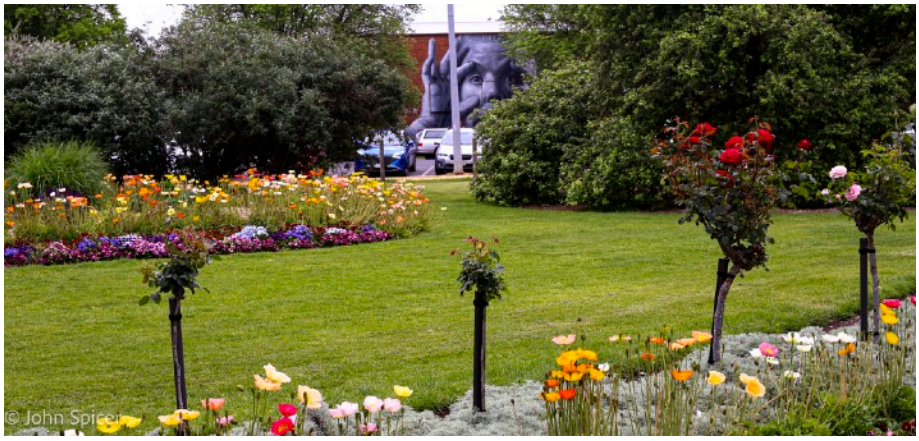








John Spicer (2026)





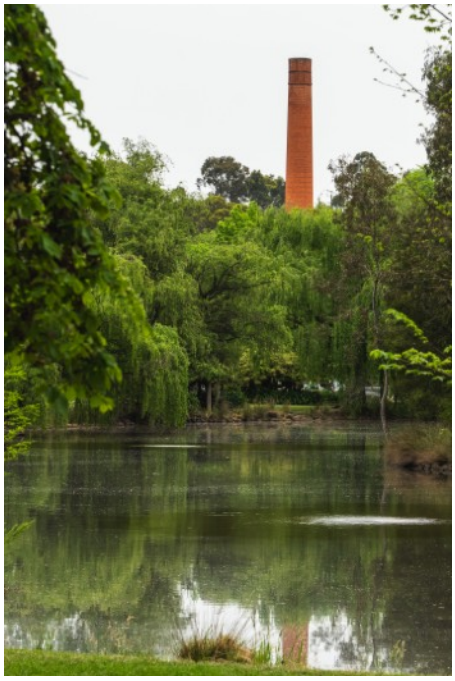


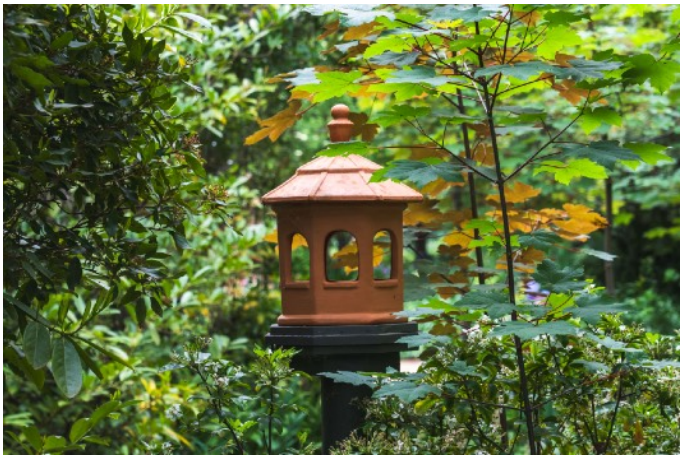
Teresa Bates (2026)





Jerry van Delft (2026)













Grant Robinson (2026)







COMMITTEE MEMBERS 2026/2027

To contact committee email: ballaratcameraclub@googlegroups.com

PRESIDENT	Jerry van Delft
VICE PRESIDENT	Vacant
IMAGE CO-ORDINATOR	Steve Demeye
SECRETARY	Anne Wilson
TREASURER	Betty Bibby
COMMITTEE MEMBERS	Grant Robinson Ralph Domino Sonia Bickley Trevor Parry Tom Bates
PRINT STEWARD	Sonia Bickley
WEB MASTER	Betty Bibby
FLARE EDITOR	Jerry van Delft

