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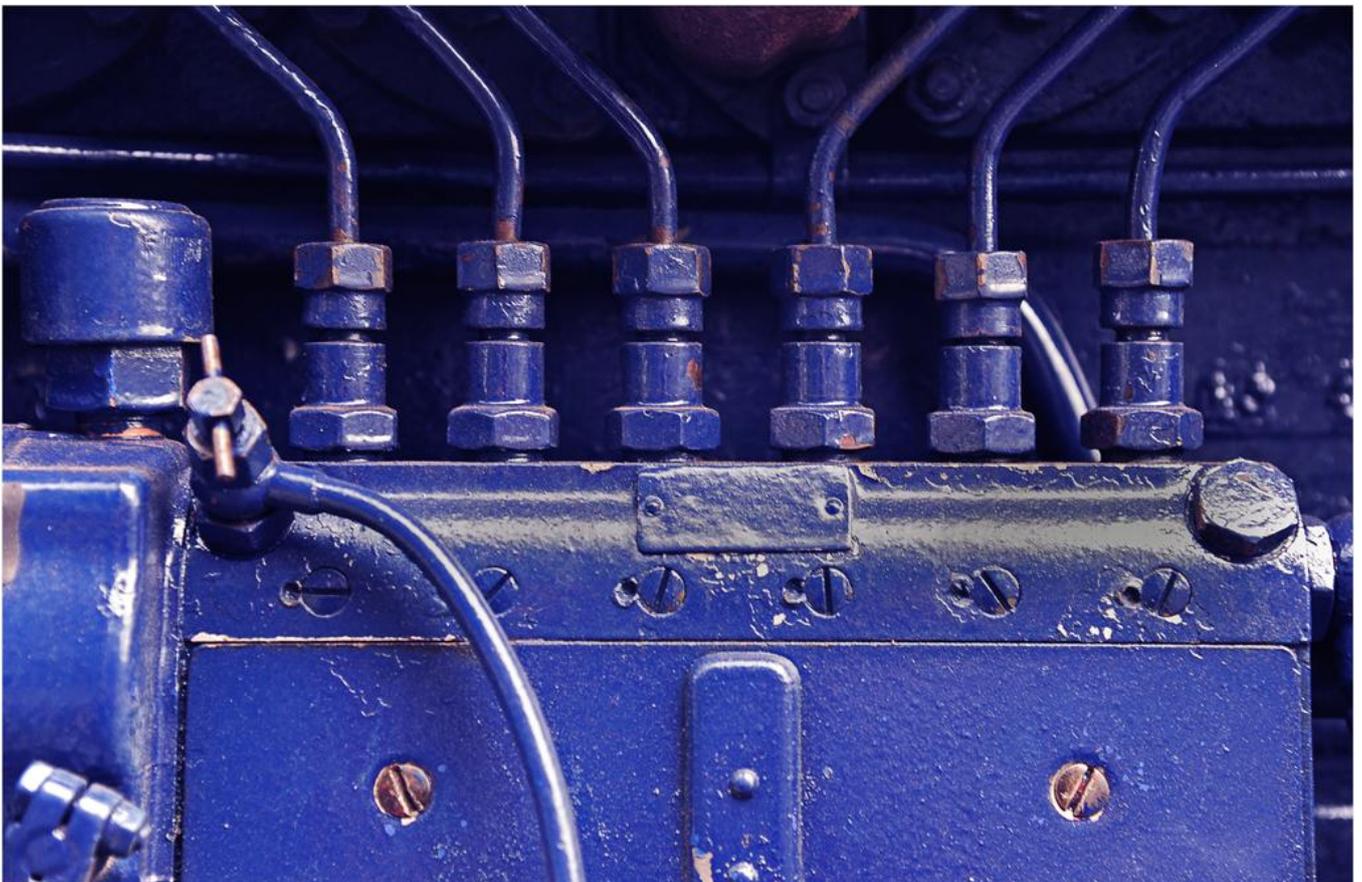
Ballarat Camera Club

FLARE



NEWSLETTER

May 2015



"Perkins Injector Pump"

Image by Murray McEachern

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Presidents Report

Welcome to all members. Our congratulation *must* go to Carol Hall on having her four entries in the Cheltenham International Photography Exhibition accepted with scores of 11, 12, 12 *and* 13. Well done Carol.

There were a few *members* who went to the Lake Goldsmith Steam Rally, we hope you had a good day and took lot of *photos*.

Nominations for the Committee will be needed soon, nomination forms will *also* be available soon *and* we need new blood on the committee to keep the club progressing, so please put your name forward to assist.

Thanks to Jamie and Betty for a good workshop on photo stacking at the Digital Group. We all learnt a lot, so should see some interesting photos coming through.

Peter Cocks

Ballarat Camera Club May 2015 Competition

Judge/s - Betty Bibby, Peter Cocks

Set Topic - "Long Exposure including Star Trails"

Large Prints Open			
Sky Reflection	Lorraine Harvey	9	
In Flight with Pelicans	Lorraine Harvey	8	
Red Gums	Judy Johnson	10	
Betty's Panorama	Lorraine Harvey	10	
Small Prints Open-			
Horror Movie	Brian Hillman	10	
Fog on Lydiard	Brian Hillman	10	
EDPI - Open			
Abstract Tidal Tree	Kate Both	11	Merit
Baby It's Cold Outside	Lyn Fowler	10	
Bandstand	Betty Bibby	11	Merit
Big Horse	Hugh Lees	10	
Kim & Josh	Jamie Walhouse	12	Merit
Gang-gang Cockatoos	Carol Hall	13	Honour
Black Rhinos	Jill Wharton	10	

Blue Car	Hugh Lees	11	Merit
Coming Out	Lorraine Lees	12	Merit
Kim & Josh 2	Jamie Walhouse	12	Merit
Corner Store	Betty Bibby	12	Merit
Eagle Rock	Hugh Lees	10	
Eastern Spinebill	Trevor Bibby	13	Honour
Fluffy Wattle	Lyn Fowler	11	Merit
Leopard in a Tree	Jill Wharton	12	Merit
Golden Glow	Carol Hall	13	Honour
Good Wood	Lorraine Lees	14	Honour
Ice Block	Kate Both	14	Honour
I'm Watching You	Lyn Fowler	12	Merit
Mating Lions	Jill Wharton	14	Honour
Mt Hotham Sunset	Carol Hall	10	
Kim & Josh 3	Jamie Walhouse	13	Honour
Lake Burrumbeet	Betty Bibby	12	Merit
Lake Burrumbeet Scene	Trevor Bibby	11	Merit
Lava Flow	Kate Both	10	
Lilac Breasted Roller	Jill Wharton	14	Honour
Icelandic Horse	Kate Both	12	Merit
Krystal & Doug	Jamie Walhouse	10	
Model Shoot	Judy Johnson	10	
Mt Cadillac Panorama	Carol Hall	13	Honour
Murchison Gap	Trevor Bibby	14	Honour
New Life	Lorraine Lees	14	Honour
Ocean View, Acadia	Carol Hall	13	Honour
Phototactic	Brian Hillman	10	
Pink Orchid	Judy Johnson	14	Honour
Pretty in Pink	Lyn Fowler	13	Honour
Purple Dress	Betty Bibby	10	
River Crossing	Jill Wharton	11	Merit
Roadside	Lorraine Lees	11	Merit
Masaai Ritual	Jill Wharton	11	Merit
Russel	Lorraine Lees	12	Merit
Sammi & Michael 2	Jamie Walhouse	14	Honour
Snaefellsness	Kate Both	14	Honour
Spider and Prey	Trevor Bibby	9	
Spring Colour	Lorraine Lees	11	Merit
Spring's Hawthorn Flower	Lyn Fowler	11	Merit
Sunset 57	Hugh Lees	12	Merit
The Pub with No Beer	Trevor Bibby	11	Merit
Sammi & Michael 1	Jamie Walhouse	10	
Thompson Dam	Betty Bibby	10	
View with Huckleberries	Carol Hall	12	Merit
Walhalla	Betty Bibby	10	

Lake Burrumbeet Rocks	Trevor Bibby	13	Honour
Gaze	Chris Crossley	14	Honour
Milk sinks Faster	Chris Crossley	15	Honour
Section Slide - Set Topic			
Falls in Otways	Judy Johnson	10	
Brighton Pier	Murray McEachern	13	Honour
Northern Lights Near Akureyri	Kate Both	10	
Ghost in the Tunnel	Judy McEachern	14	Honour
Molten Metal	Judy Johnson	10	
Morning Serenity	Murray McEachern	10	
Muddy Waters	Judy Johnson	14	Honour
The Stairs	Lyn Fowler	9	
Northern Lights	Judy McEachern	14	Honour
Maldon	Chris Crossley	11	Merit
el Wire Fun	Chris Crossley	14	Honour
Yarra 1	Chris Crossley	13	Honour

Digital Report

May 4th

Tonight twelve club members and one guest Hank, ventured up to Alfredton to Jamie and Jen's house to practice Focus Stacking. With the club's soft box and lights set up on the kitchen table it was time for a talk on the basics from Jamie.

With camera settings sorted, cameras and tripods at the ready there were a number of members waiting to try their skills. We began with a clear glass bowl of sweets which gave Judy plenty of focus spots to choose from. The different coloured wrapped sweets added interest to the image. Hank had brought three lovely artificial poppies. These were the highlight of the night. Subtle tones against the white background with different sections of the poppies to focus on.

After Jamie loaded the camera cards onto his laptop, which he had tethered to the TV screen we were all able to watch the process of focus stacking. Jamie then explained the technique used in Photoshop to auto align the images then focus stack the multiple images. The finished flattened image was then put back onto the card for the image maker to load onto their own computer.

Since then I have been researching focus stacking in Photoshop Elements. There are some interesting articles online. Lyn Fowler has trialed one of these successfully.

Hope to see some of you at the next digital night at our house.
Thank you once again, Jamie and Jen for hosting the evening at short notice.

Betty Bibby

Workshops/Outings

Murray's impressions of

OUTING TO LAKE GOLDSMITH STEAM RALLY

The *Bibby's* and I met at Trevor *Madin's* at the appointed time for the outing. Unfortunately Trevor couldn't join us, so the *Bibby's* and I set off. Stephen had arranged to meet us on location. Dreary weather and a rain shower on our way out. Not good photo light at all, I thought! Well, thankfully that was the only rain we had for the day, but the light didn't improve until after lunch.

Having not been to a Lake Goldsmith Rally before, I wondered what to expect. What photo opportunities would there be? Obviously working machinery, but what else? Would it be maniacal mechanics working monster machines or mechanical farming history buffs coaxing their pride & joy into life? Would the location be a farm paddock or well maintained exhibition area?

It was some of the above. The rally takes place in an area that resembles a collection of "men's sheds" which house various collections of old mainly steam powered or petroleum powered machines. Some are stationary, some on wheels. Condition is from fully restored to as found after being discarded by the previous owner. These are nurtured by people who are enthralled by all aspects of their chosen machine. There are also demonstration spots for earthmoving, sawmilling and farming.

So, how to photograph this? What are the subjects? I have more than a passing interest in the type of equipment that was in action at the rally, so I have my favourite aspects to shoot. These mainly involve moving parts. And that is what I mostly shot. However, because of the shed situation there were many cluttered backgrounds which proved challenging. I mentioned this to Stephen at lunch and he suggested to get in close. This is bleedin' obvious really – I guess I was too interested in the machine and not the photo. A change of approach after lunch along with the better light saw my photos improve considerably. Thanks for the tip Stephen.

What else was there to shoot?

There were portraits. And there were some great subjects. People that get all misty eyed about steam! Now, I am a poor portrait photographer. Mainly have trouble setting up the subject. I approached three separate prospects, engaged them in conversation and just about to ask them for a shot but on each occasion a "soul mate" came along and distracted them so the moment was lost. They had interesting faces and got quite passionate about their machine. Excellent portrait material! Ah well, there is always next time. Portrait shooters take note – I think you would find the trip to a future rally worthwhile. I ended up with a couple of happy snap candid environment portraits.

There is steam, *steam and* more steam. Steam emitted from whistles. Steam "seeping" out of machines. Steam expelled into the air. And smoke doing the same.

There is still life potential as there are many small photogenic objects on display and most owners welcome photography. And many will even allow some temporary re-arranging.

And then put the above in the different available lighting and compositions and you can see why most photographers get some good shots at such *rallies*.

What did I use? On arrival I had no real idea of what the Rally would be like. The weather looked gloomy so I elected to only take my D700 and 24-120mm F4 lens, a cleaning cloth (in case it rained) and return to the (nearby) car to get more gear if needed. As it turned out this was all I needed for the day's shoot. Our group separated once we entered the grounds, so I don't know what the others used. I would recommend to anyone shooting at this type of event to carry a lens cloth even in fine weather as there are considerable amounts of dust, soot and other contaminants in the air. Also an off camera flash, which I don't possess, may have been useful in some shots.

Thanks to the committee for suggesting and organizing the day. All participants thoroughly *enjoyed* themselves.



"At the Anvil"



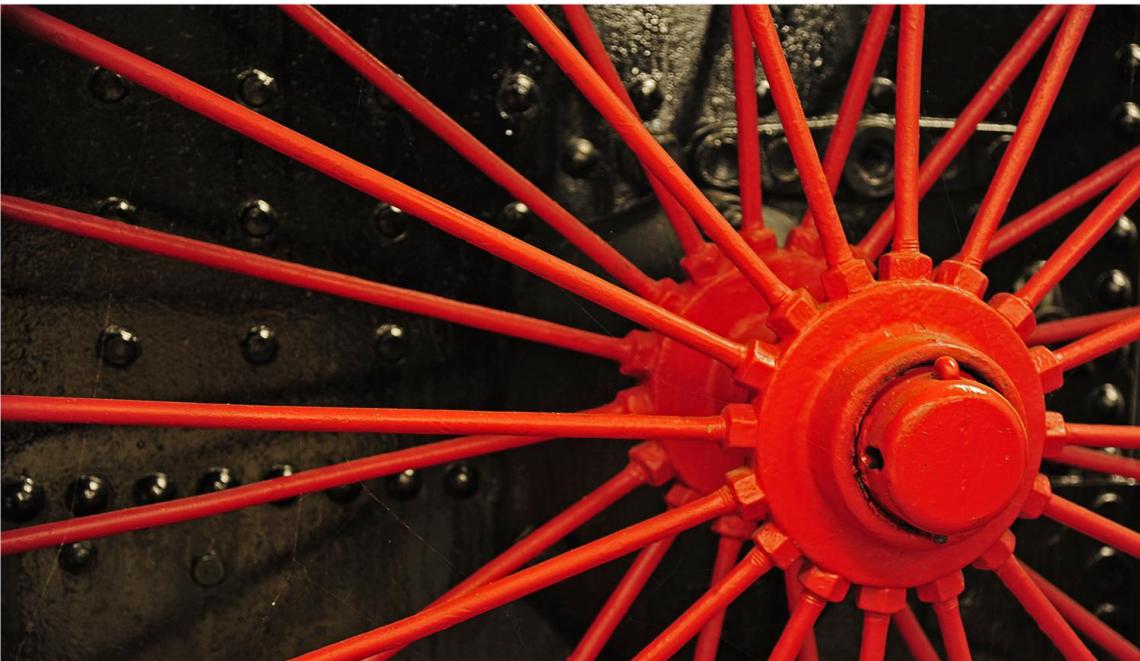
"In the Sandpit"



"Letting off Steam"



"The Vasey Lady"



"Red Spokes"



"The Fowler"

All images by Murray McEachern

Workshop/Outing for May?

It was suggested that the May Workshop/Outing should be the VAPS Convention being held in Bendigo between the 23rd and 25th as many members are going. The only problem is the registration expired on the 25th of April so unless you've registered you can't go. So in fairness we need an extra Workshop and/or Outing for those not going. We need a theme and a location (preferably out of the cold and the rain)....

Any suggestions?

Ed

Calender of Upcoming Events

Competition Night - Prints & EDPI - 7:30 pm Wednesday 13th May - at the Clubrooms - Set Topic - "Night Shot" including "Creative"

Also entries for "Mining" (This is also the YMCA set topic)

Definition: - "An image depicting an aspect of mining, past or present, in Ballarat or district"

VAPS Convention - Latrobe University Bendigo - May 23rd ~ 25th

Committee Meeting - 7:30 pm - Wednesday 27th May- at Peter's - 19 Bowden St. Wendouree

Digital Night - Monday 1st June - from 7:30 pm - To be confirmed.

We need your input -

- Contributions for the Flare
- Your suggestions for Outings & Workshops
- Do you have anything to sell (Photography related); we can include a small ad in next month's Flare (Free service to Members).

All details to Stephen Moten

flareeditor@ballaratcameraclub.org.au

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Trevor Bibby

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Colleen Rieniets

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