



Reg. No. Aooo 4054F

Ballarat Camera Club



## February 2014

### BCC BBQ

On a cooler summer evening, seventeen members and two guests attended the January BBQ.

Our two guests, Ros and David Plunkett from UBC Design are the couple who generously host the Ballarat Camera Club web site at no expense to the club.

Following a BBQ and some apple and quince crumble and cream some members headed home. Others ventured inside away from the cool. Many general discussions of member's trips, family holidays and photography related matters followed.

Some members supplied images for the February competition and the Geelong - Ballarat inter club as requested by Jill Wharton.

Thank you all for coming,  
Trevor and Betty Bibby

### Congratulations

Congratulations to Bill Llewellyn, member of Ballarat YMCA Camera Group, on being awarded the OAM on Australia Day.

Also. A great achievement for Suzie Ward on having one of her Australia Day fireworks photos printed in The Courier.

Kerry

## **From the Committee**

Welcome back to official camera club activities for 2014!

### **DIGITAL NIGHT**

It was wonderful to have so many people turn out to the digital club held Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> February. Hopefully it is a sign of things to come with participation this year. The team of people present selected the images to go for judging in the Interclub competition between Geelong and ourselves, which will be held Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> March, beginning at 8pm in our clubrooms. The top 15 prints and 15 EDPI from that night will be used as our entries into the VAPS interclub.

Thank you Betty and Trevor Bibby for hosting the digital/selection night.

### **SYLLABUS 2014-15**

We are looking forward to this year and have been working on the syllabus for May 2014 – April 2015. Thank you to all who submitted ideas for monthly competition topics. We had a good discussion at the committee meeting held on Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> February and chose a range of topics which we hope stimulate some creative thought. The competition document is still in draft and we will get it to you as soon as it is completed.

Workshop topics were also discussed and we will try to integrate competition topics, workshops and digital nights so that members will have the chance to learn more about photography, practice their knowledge and receive feedback on their work. If you have any ideas on what you would like to achieve in your photography, please write it down and give it to a member of the committee or email to [secretary@ballaratcameraclub.org.au](mailto:secretary@ballaratcameraclub.org.au)

### **NATIONAL COMPETITION**

Thank you to all members who helped out with the Ballarat National Competition over the past eight months. All but one entry has now made its way home and my house is no longer looking like a dockland!

### **CLUB CONSTITUTION**

The committee is pleased to announce that the changes to the constitution have been accepted by the Department of Justice and became effective from 17 January 2014. You can read the Constitution in full on the Club's Website.

### **WEBSITE**

Thank you to Betty Bibby has put in many hours work uploading images from the 2013 Annual Competition, 2013 National Competition and Club competition nights on the Club website. Please have a look at the fantastic job Betty has done to help promote our club!

KEITH AGGETT

Many of you would be aware that Keith was taken to the Alfred Hospital with serious health problems in January. I am pleased to let you know that he is at home

recovering from open heart surgery and a bout of pneumonia. Keith wanted me to pass on his heartfelt thanks to those who have shown their concern and given best wishes.

### **FLARE NEWSLETTER**

The Flare Newsletter is produced by Stephen for the members of the Ballarat Camera Club. The committee is aware of the time and effort it takes Stephen to produce a meaningful document. The committee therefore need your help in supporting Stephen's bid to put out an informative and exciting document. We are asking you to let us know what you want to see included in the Flare Newsletter. Please either send an email to [flareeditor@ballaratcameraclub.org.au](mailto:flareeditor@ballaratcameraclub.org.au) or [secretary@ballaratcameraclub.org.au](mailto:secretary@ballaratcameraclub.org.au) You could jot down your ideas and hand it to a committee member at Wednesday's general meeting. I will have some paper available at this coming general meeting so you can write down ideas then.

Kate

### **NEWS ITEM from the Stawell Camera Club**

Due to the closure of some of the walks and lookouts in the Central and Northern Grampians, Halls Gap Tourism has decided to put a shuttle service in place from the Mount William Car-park to the summit of Mount William

This is a PERFECT opportunity for people to go and enjoy the spectacular views from the top of an otherwise not so easy to reach lookout!

The shuttle will drive daily (until further notice) between 10am and 2pm. There will be no shuttle service available during Days of Total Fire Ban.

For more details please contact the Halls Gap Visitor Information Centre; (03) 5356 4295

Kerry

# Monthly Competition Results

Subjects: Miniature/s

Name	Small			Large			EDPI									
	Open			Creative			Set			Open			Creative			
	A	M	H	A	M	H	A	M	H	A	M	H	A	M	H	
Aggett, Keith	3	1	2													
Bibby, Betty										5		1				
Bibby Trevor										4	1	1				
Fowler Lyn							2			4						
Hall Carol										3	2	1				
Hillman Brian					1				2	1	1					1
Newing Karen										3						
Rieniets Colleen																
Smith Ken										3		3				
Wharton Jill										4	2					

November 2013 – Judge - Murray Howard-Brooks

**VICTORIAN INTERCLUB  
PHOTOGRAPHIC EXHIBITION  
AND V.A.P.S CONVENTION**

**2014**

**GEELONG**

**MAY 24<sup>TH</sup> TO 25<sup>TH</sup>**

THE ANNUAL CONVENTION AND INTERCLUB EXHIBITION WILL BE HELD AT THE MERCURE HOTEL IN GEELONG ALONG WITH SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS AND ACTIVITIES TO HELP CELEBRATE GEELONG CAMERA CLUBS 125<sup>th</sup> YEAR.

MANY OPPORTUNITIES WILL BE PROVIDED FOR PARTICIPANTS TO GET OUT AND ABOUT GEELONG AND THE BELLARINE PENINSULAR AND TAKE ADVANTAGE OF THE MANY PHOTOGRAPHIC OPPORTUNITIES THAT THIS AREA HAS TO OFFER.

KEEP MAY 24<sup>TH</sup> AND 25<sup>TH</sup> IN YOUR DAIRIES FOR THIS IMPORTANT EVENT.

PLEASE CIRCULATE THIS MESSAGE TO YOUR MEMBERS NOW.

REGISTRATION FORMS AND PROGRAMME DETAILS WILL BE RELEASED THROUGH VAPS NEWSBRIEF AND WEBSITE LATER IN THE YEAR

COME JOIN YOUR FRIENDS AND PHOTOGRAPHERS IN GEELONG IN 2014 FOR AN OUTSTANDING WEEKEND OF LEARNING, FUN AND PHOTOGRAPHY

## ***What did you do during January ?***

Following a couple of test messages between Jamie and I " wondering why we weren't out taking photos of the brilliant sunset during the recent extreme heat wave". It only took one of us to consider the lightening that had been present the previous evening and a text to say "I'm game if you are?" Jamie had the ideal spot in mind at Mount Hollowback. It just goes to show you need your cameras charge and ready at all times. Half an hour later saw us up the top of the mountain checking out the views over Ballarat as dusk settled. The lightening proved to be intermittent and moving back and forth between Ballarat and over Creswick way. With our camera firmly mounted on tripods, set on manual, cable releases in hand it was a waiting and a game of luck to capture the lightning strikes with a thirty second exposure. This proved to be the correct exposure time this was worked out by the failure rate at other exposure times. Some thirty two shots later I had four lightening strikes recorded and a lot of black photos. The rain saw us scuttle back to try safety of the four wheel drive and head for home. Jamie did comment on the good electric conductivity of the gate and the rain after he closed it on our way out. I was just pleased to be driving. The results, well you'll see these over the coming competition nights.



The next evening saw us out again and Trevor despite his sore back couldn't resist. So back up the mount we head for sunset shots. *Mmm*, not very inspiring and lacking foreground interest. So we stayed for star trail photography, remembering all the settings and adjustments you need to make on your camera as dusk settled in. Yes we started taking photos too early. I settled on the old method of leaving the camera shutter open for a thirty minute exposure but the ambient light from Ballarat over exposed this too much. I turned my attention to the telecommunication towers

behind as foreground interest and focused on those using a torch. The results are pleasing enough but very noisy.

*Communication Towers Mount Hollowback.*



*The steers wanting their track back.*

Next evening saw us out at Lake Learmonth, using the lake as foreground interest. You defiantly need a compass to determine magnetic south if you want circular star trails, either a phone app or a true compass like what we keep in the car glove box is ideal. A torch also is handy, especially a smaller torch for guiding yourself along dark tracks, although you need to be very careful where you point it. Guaranteed you will growl at if you don't. This time we all used the short exposures method and planned to stack our images in a freeware stacking program later on. Camera setting was as follows. Manual, lowest f stop possible f2.8, f4.5 and f5.6 lens were sigma 10-20 mm and a 28 a70 mm. Cameras were tripod mounted with cable releases attached. Lenses were set on the infinity settings. Test shot were taken at dusk to gauge exposure time and ISO settings of 400 chosen. The aim is to let in the maximum amount of light to show the stars without overexposing the image. We all opened our lenses, set the cable releases to take continuous thirty second exposures, crept off the landing jetty and sat down on the park bench and waited for one hour and ten minutes. A thermos of tea, apples and talk followed as we watched the cameras write images and the green lights flash on the back of the cameras. Make sure you turn your cable release off and let the camera create the thumbnails before turning your camera off. Otherwise would the images be written, I not sure. We were also entertained by the people coming and going to the caravan park. A t 11 pm we called it quits and headed home. After loading starttraxs we exported our JPEG images from Lightroom into the program and watched it load and create the start trail Images. It reminded me of watching an image emerge from the emulsion in the darkroom, only less smelly. A pleasing result but we need more exposure time to obtain a greater circles of stars and more colours.





*Lake Learmonth 1hour and 10 minute Exposure.*

While the moon is still in the New moon quarter and not rising till 4 am the next trial will be a two hour exposure, some 240 images. At least while the weather is so hot it's pleasant to be outside at such an hour and we don't need to worry about condensation on the lenses and be freezing ourselves. A few nights later we ventured to the old Church at Blampied. A great place for all sorts of photography, especially moody foggy wintery mornings. There is plenty of space to spread out with due south being away from the roadside. The traffic proved to be problematic with a constant stream of cars till about 11pm. Keep a eye out for Jamie's masterpiece at club competition shortly.

Anyone wishing to join us is welcome if you are game enough, after all some change in conversation would be good.

Betty, Trevor and Jamie.

<i>President:</i>	<i>Ian Andrew</i>
<i>Secretary/ Annuals Coordinator/ Exhibition Coordinator:</i>	<i>Kate Both</i>
<i>Treasurer:</i>	<i>Colleen Rieniets</i>
<i>EDPI Coordinator:</i>	<i>Keith Aggett</i>
<i>Flare Editor/ Workshop &amp; Outings Coordinator:</i>	<i>Stephen Moten</i>
<i>Interclub Coordinator:</i>	<i>Jill Wharton</i>
<i>Committee Member</i>	<i>Trevor Bibby</i>
<i>Publicity &amp; Information:</i>	<i>Liz Cocks</i>
<i>Webmaster:</i>	<i>Jamie Walhouse</i>