



The Flare

May 2022
ballaratcameraclub.org.au

B A L L A R A T C A M E R A C L U B I N C .



Salt Encrusted Branch on the Lake - Mark Bevelander

Presidents Report

Mark Bevelander | President Ballarat Camera Club Inc.

DIARY ITEMS

Monthly Outing Saturday April 30, 9.30 am meet at Buninyong Tennis Courts for Serendip Sanctuary, at Lara

Next Club Meeting: May 11, 7.30 pm at the Hall

Hints on Bird Photography

1. **Shoot in Shutter Priority:** A rough rule of thumb is that you want at a very minimum a 1/100th of a second for still subjects. 1/800th of a second or higher will be more reliable, especially if the bird moves.
2. **Use Single-Point Focus, Spot Metering, and Auto ISO:** If you use a lot of focus points, you're just as likely to get a twig or branch near the bird in focus, rather than the bird itself.
3. **Take Advantage of Exposure Compensation:** This is a must for backlighting or other difficult lighting situations.
4. **Use Continuous Focus:** With this mode, if the bird moves, the focus tracks it. If you shoot in single-shot focus (AF-S), the focus point locks once it's been acquired, even for long bursts of shots, even if the bird moves.
5. **Shoot in Burst or Continuous Mode:** Increases your chance of one of those images being sharp.
6. **Make Sure the Bird's Eye Is Sharp:** If you get the eye in focus, your viewers will perceive it as a sharp shot. If the eye isn't clear, the claws or tail can be tack sharp but your picture usually won't be usable.
7. **Ignore the Sunny Side:** For an impressive, suitable-for-framing image, you usually want the light falling on the bird, rather than coming from behind it.
8. **Avoid Man-Made Objects:** After all, this is wildlife photography, and anything that makes the bird seem domestic or captive takes the allure of that away. Of course, if you encounter a great species that's on a fence or wire, go ahead and snap away.

May Outing - Saturday 30 April Serendip Sanctuary

Meet 9.30 am at the **Buninyong Tennis Courts** (Forest St, between Inglis and Cornish Sts) for car pooling to Lara. Distance 85 km taking 1 hour. Bring lunch and a thermos.

Wildlife at Serendip Sanctuary

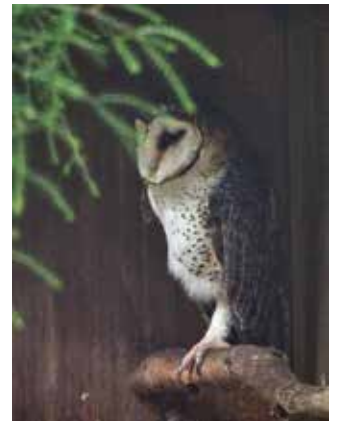


Serendip has more than 150 bird species common to the Western Plains of Victoria have been recorded at Serendip Sanctuary.

Look for Cape Barren Geese and Magpie Geese in the shallow, freshwater wetland, and many ducks, White-faced Heron, Nankeen Night Heron, Black Swans and grebes in and around the marshland.

Honeyeaters and wattle-birds feed on nectar and insects in the trees around Lake Serendip and Whistling and Black Kites soar up above looking for small prey on the ground.

Bring your zoom lens for some great opportunities for bird photography.



April Images - Judge: Adrian Smith

April 2022 Competition Judging Sheet 2022				
Image Title	Maker	Score	Honour /Merit	Judge Comment
Section Slide - Open (EDPI)				
Hulled up	Leo Ryan	11	Merit	An interesting structure standing out well against the background. Also standing out well against the overcast sky. Buildings help to put structure into its environment.
I'm watching you	Vera Paulin	10	Acceptance	I think you have done very well here but for me there are distractions to your main subject, being another cat in top left and two paws sneaking into top right. Would have been better to capture head and chest area here.
Lifeboat House	Frank Carroll	11	Merit	Your point of interest stands out well against sky with a strong warm light highlighting it well. Sun reflecting on water adds interest to your foreground. But is it too much.
Lillies on the pond	Sonia Bickley	12	Merit	Framed filled with the object of your image. The available light has added nicely to your composition and interest here. The light has produced highlights on the lily leaves giving shape and separation to each leaf. Its is however let down by the bright area top right. It needs work to improve yor story.
No more use	Vera Paulin	8	Acceptance	While you have a tight composition filling the frame with your subject which brings out textures it does not have for me a strong point of interest. Your eyes flash around scene but nowhere to rest.
Obscured view	Leo Ryan	12	Merit	Taken through the aptly named Webb Bridge your composition shows off the contemporary skyline we have in that art of our great city. Interesting shapes and patterns created by the bridge and architecture hiding behind it. The patterns broken up by a touch of red and a touch of blue on the main building on right. Well seen and captured.

On the beach	Ken Marsh	12	Merit	A great leading line leads the eye right to the shoreline and beyond. Very strong composition line. At the end we have a kite flyer which is a little difficult to identify at first. Golden and tones and the blue sky work together well to enhance the scene well. You have captured great textures in the timber fence and heads of bolts holding it together.
Polar Canola Field Panorama	Lyn Fowler	11	Merit	This image certainly has impact and you are drawn into it to see what its all about. Its a clever function we have in post processing and with the right imge as here it can be very effective. Colurs again work well together..
Queenscliff Pier	Anne Carroll	13	Honour	Now we have seen one of these buildings earlier but its back with a friend and its very interesting. Well placed in frame and supported by a number of additional elements o portray your story well. We have the additional building and the figure on the jetty giving a sense of scale, we have partly abstract reflection, a seagull and a further reflection of both buildings.
Rye Beach	Murray Mc Eachern	11	Merit	Interesting composition using bands of colour to portray your story here. The brown toning's of browns for your foreground, greens in the seawater band and completed with the blues of the sky. good textures captured in rocky foreground, spray from water in middle ground and finished with a strong cloudscape.
Southern Cross Station	Ken Marsh	13	Honour	Not and easy place to take images at Southern Cross station. Well captured here making good use of the available light which seems to have appeared just at the right tie for you. Its has been well placed to highlight both trains and station surroundings.

Standing Proud	Betty Bibby	10	Acceptance	Could it be the same fence we saw earlier? I feel it may be but compositionally its not as strong due to lacking more of an angle on the fence itself. its an image of th end post but would be improved moving to an angle showing more of the fence.
Stuck in the mud	Vera Paulin	11	Merit	Well captured of the elephants stuck in the mud. The bigger one on right is really stuck. I do love the textures of the skin on this one also which you have captured very well. The smaller one seems OK. I like the framing using grass in foreground to breakup the monochrome effect here too.
Two views of lettuce moth	Lyn Fowler	10	Acceptance	A different approach to a nature image here. The moth bottom left is well placed in frame. Have to admit not sure what you have used to frame second moth but it works quite well. However nither moth is as sharp as could be so let it down a little. Macro needs to be sharp.
What have I forgotten?	Ken Marsh	12	Merit	A good image for a Photojournalism subject. It works well featuring worker with sign in foreground. From him you are drawn into the laneway and on through. I particularly like the reflections on the glass was at left. Quite abstract and effective.

Section Slide - Set - Panorama (EDPI)				
Canola Field Panorama	Lyn Fowler	11	Merit	Once again using bands of colour to compose your image here starting with green foreground, the golden middle ground and then the blue cloudscape. The three trees in centre are the elements it needs to add a point of interest and complete you story.
Glen Helen Gorge	Betty Bibby	12	Merit	Shows the rich warm tones of our outback to best effect. Also have brought out great textures in the rich red rock. supported by the lesser tones of trees and grasses comleteing your story. All set against that magic ble sky.
Glendhu Bay	Carol Hall	14	Honour	A peaceful tranquil scene here. Well composed with just enough foreground for me which has wonderful reflections of the scene above. The varying tones of the lake scene work very well together and show a great depth in the image. Additional small element of the small boat just adds interest also.
Green and Gold	Trevor Bibby	13	Honour	Simple is best, well it is here. Using layers of colour here again works effectively once more. Green, Gold and sky is a winning formula and keep it simple. There appears to be a hut or platform nestled in the green and a small break of brown on left side of green.
Greenland Geology	Carol Hall	11	Merit	Strong composition using tertiary colours to highlight the patterns in the mountains well. The icebergs adding interesting elements here and there while gently breaking up the stronger colours. Conditions out of your control are lessening the overall impact.
Island Reflections	Murray Mc Eachern	10	Acceptance	The rich warm colours of the subject isolate it well from your background with no distractions to hinder your composition in any way. Well placed subject toward intersection of thirds so placing it well in frame.

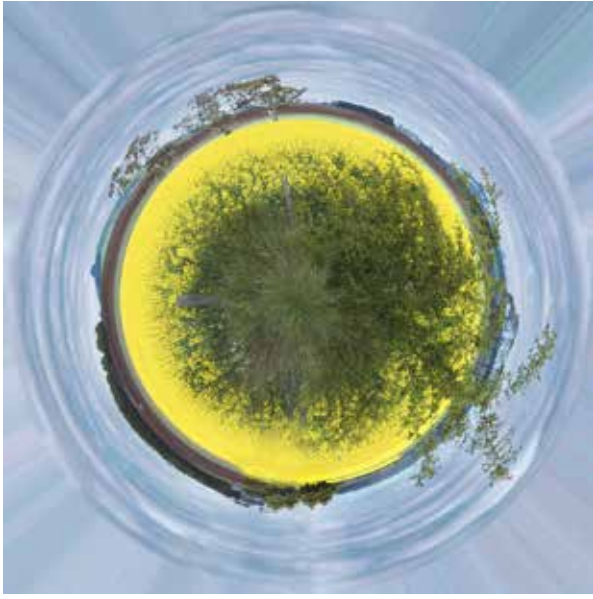
Lake Tyrrell	Judy McEachern	10	Acceptance	I like the bands of colour and the way you present them in composition. The dark foreground is just holding detail while the brighter middle ground is providing the light for the details and finally the sky at top finishing your story.
Mallee Fence	Murray Mc Eachern	12	Merit	Strong compositional lines created by fence wires and the foreground. The contrast created by the paddocks beyond the fence add to the overall story. The textures of the old fence post show its age and how it has weathered the test of time.
Melbourne Morning Glow	Gary Freestone	12	Merit	A further image using bands of colour to enhance compositional values here. The foreground here holds a lot of detail with the light coming from the bright middle ground before graduating to the darker sky at top.
Mist over the Snowy River	Betty Bibby	12	Merit	Well composed image highlighting the mist and reflection in the water in foreground. Detail has been held in trees at extreme right with highlights provided by tree trunks catching the light. The touch of brown bush at right and a lesser amount at left break up the green colouring. The bright top left corner is distracting.
Native Iris	Judy McEachern	10	Acceptance	A most unusual subject for a Panorama. Subject stands out well using its softness in front of strong background. Seems only part of flower that is sharp in the one mauve petal toward front and maybe a petal with a touch of yellow but it's not pin sharp.
Pink Hills	Trevor Bibby	12	Merit	Compositionally it is very strong and shows your skill well. Seems sharp all the way through showing good depth of field use also. Your pink hills well placed just between two small bushes. Good detail shows in the hills and finished with a strong clear sky.

River Banks	Sonia Bickley	11	Merit	I like your use of the light here, particularly the way it lights up the shoreline. The reflection is very strong and echoes the landscape formed in the top half. Small points of interest toward left side with the black tree sticking out of water is small but effective as are grasses in water bottom left corner.
Rugged Terrain	Trevor Bibby	13	Honour	Great use of the warming light available to you. Interest in golden foreground, leading up to the rocks at top. Along the way we have isolated some trees adding a touch of green against the rocks particularly the tree at extreme right against dark area. These add elements of interest.
Salt-encrusted branch on the lake	Mark Bevelander	14	Honour	Wow the sheer simplicity of the image its strength. Love the portioning of the scene. Foreground is at one third of image while the sky and cloudscape form the other two thirds. The clouds at left are very effective and are a contrast to the softer right side. Glad youve kept it natural not super saturated.
Sea of Cloud	Carol Hall	13	Honour	Lovely composition with strong lines for the eye to be drawn into your image. strong contrasting areas creating patterns also. The strong light really highlights the cloud areas to good purpose. In the dark area in foreground shos great detail so your skill shows out once more.
Storm Front	Judy McEachern	11	Merit	You've really captured the drama of the approaching storm. Angry dark clouds contrasting to your middle ground which has the mountain ranges showing well. Appears to be very heavy rain coming and you have also captured that well also.
The Afternoon Connection	Gary Freestone	11	Merit	The famous bridge at Ross in Tasmania is very well cared here. Showing the arches clearly and highlighting reflections in two of them. I like the placement up high in frame allowing you to complete your story using the foreground and its reflections.

The Pull of the Universe	Gary Freestone	12	Merit	A further image with a difference using the Panorama format. A great pattern is formed in your composition against a dark sky featuring the milky way. You have showed your god skill in taking this in such condition. Well done.
The Salt Mine	Mark Bevelander	11	Merit	An out of the ordinary subject for your panorama here. Quite and abstract foreground of loud reflections. The subject stands out well contrasting its bright white against the darker sky. Light hitting salt adds modelling and shapes to the salt stacks.
Windmill	Frank Carroll	13	Honour	Well composed drawing the eye from left to right and into he rocky scene at the right. On the way we have an element in the composition that stands out strongly from the scene. The windmill is almost silhouetted against the background. Lovely rich warm tones and textures in your foreground and finished with a soft cloudscape at top.
Winter sun on the boatsheds	Mark Bevelander	12	Merit	A real contrast to what we have just seen in its dark and eery light falling on your scene. The sun has been very kind and you have used to great effect as it highlight the boatsheds well for you. The break in the clouds just above the horizon adds to the overall story very well.

Section Slide - Set - Panorama (Large Print)				
Devils Cauldron	Murray Mc Eachern	11	Merit	Amazing colours in the sky graduating from yellow through to black. There appears to be objects silhouetted on the shoreline which may be people but give a sense of scale overall.
Fjord	Judy McEachern	12	Merit	I felt quite cold when it came upon my monitor. The wintry light and overall low light creating a monochrome effect until we see patches of colour well placed particularly in bottom left corner highlighting the reddish house and boat beside it. There are also patches of colour on right side bank that again breaks up the monochrome as well.
Lake Tyrell Water Platform	Betty Bibby	11	Merit	A strong and contrasty black n white image here. The foreground draws you out along the jetty to its circular end. Th light from a very dramatic cloudscape highlights the jetty well. The sun has been well used to shield the direct sun.
Mount Magnet Natural Amphitheater	Betty Bibby	12	Merit	Using colour to draw attention to your image works very well. Rich warm tone brings out detail and textures to the scene. The colours compliment each other very well. The trees at right adding elements of interest here being separated from the main subject f your story.
Mt Pinnibar	Judy McEachern	14	Honour	Beautiful toning's captured overall in your quite simple composition. It would be most restful framed on the wall and would give a lot of pleasure looking at it. Foreground is strong but does not dominate the scene. Middle formed by the elongated bushes and a contrasting cloudscape completes the story vey well.
Salt Mountain	Murray Mc Eachern	10	Acceptance	A strong composition highlights your subject here and is isolated against the sky. Good use of available light to enhance the shape and give more texture and detail.

April 2022 Monthly Competition Panoramas











Syllabus 2021 -2022

The 2021-2022 Syllabus for monthly competitions and Interclubs is now available for downloading via the club website at:

<https://www.ballaratcameraclub.org.au/information/syllabus>

Start planning now for fascinating themes such as: "Suspended in motion", "Low Key", "Trees"

Syllabus Companion

June Tree/Trees

Definition:

Can be part of a tree or a single tree or a forest. Must be recognisable as being a tree(s) or part thereof.

Suggestion:

Silhouette - This works great with trees, that show the detail of the tree when silhouetted. Expose for the sky, and aim towards the sky. The tree should naturally silhouette as long as you're photographing with the sun in front of you.

Another popular type of photo is the tree tunnel. These contain a strong leading line and an infinity point.

July Suspended in Motion

Definition:

An image that freezes the Movement of an object/subject but at the same time needs to portray that it is still in motion. Motion blur should be absent. (Technical)

Additional Information:

Capturing motion can take the form of freezing an action mid air and is achieved with a high shutter speed and burst mode. The key to freeze motion photography is to capture the movement and showcase a dramatic moment. Our eye naturally fills in the gaps and assigns a particular gesture to these kinds of shots.

August Monochrome

Definition:

Any photograph containing shades of one colour. If toning is carried out, it must be over the entire image - partial toning and/or the addition of another colour is not acceptable. (Artistic/Creative)

Additional Information:



Example of a monochrome with a colour tone



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