



Reg. No. Aooo 4054F

Ballarat Camera Club



**October 2013**

**Monthly Competition Summary**

**August 2013**

**Subjects: Young Boys Fun**

Name	Small			Large						EDPI						
	Open			Set			Open			Set			Open			
	A	M	H	A	M	H	A	M	H	A	M	H	A	M	H	
Aggett, Keith	5	1														
Eldridge, Jenni							4	1	1							
Fowler, Lyn														2	1	
Hall, Carol														3	3	
Hillman, Brian					1					1	1			1	1	
Johnson, Judy									3						3	
Smith, Ken					2				4							
Wharton, Jill											1		1	2	2	

**Monthly Comp Summary September 13 – Judge - Liz Cocks**

**“Photography isn’t a competition...”**

Members might like to think about the value of competition in photography. I was prompted to think more about this when I read the article under this heading by David Ward in the August issue of the UK magazine *Outdoor Photography*.

I have taken photos since I was a teenager, and during my working life used many of them as a teaching aid for illustrating Geography lessons. I joined the camera club movement 15 years ago and in that time have progressed philosophically from being serious about my monthly entries, to mentally querying the comments by judges, and sometimes the competence of those judges, until now when I find I agree with many of David Ward’s comments, selections of which I quote here.

*Winning a competition might seem to be a definitive validation of your work... but the basic philosophical problem is that photography, like all art forms, cannot be judged in an absolute*

way...*There are no measurements that can be made to support unqualified claims of excellence. Judging photography is a matter of taste...A single photo by one great master, such as Ansel Adams, cannot be said to be better than that of another, such as Edward Weston. They are simply different.*

*It is obviously very satisfying to be patted on the back and told that one has done well.. a boost to our self-esteem...Self-criticism is a vital part of the artistic process but it is a tricky balancing act that can lead to us attacking our own work as worthless. So insightful external criticism from a judge might be valuable and could perhaps help us to achieve new heights both in our mood and in the quality of our work. The key factors here are the quality of the insight and the motive for the judgement.*

My own experience is that by entering competition and listening to the more widely experienced, more articulate judges I have learnt the basics of composition; I have gained a better understanding of colour; of camera techniques; the importance of impact in gaining the viewer's attention, and so on. Equally, by reading magazines such as the one I'm quoting from, I see examples of images I would love to emulate but which wouldn't necessarily do much good in club competition. However many of my photos now are pleasing to me regardless of what the camera club judge thinks – because a judge wasn't there "in the moment" – the experience of the particular surroundings, the emotional impact, the wonder of what I'm seeing. How can we separate ourselves from the sentiment involved? We can't – and so we may well disagree with the judge.

David goes on to say: *Photo competitions might be beneficial both personally and more widely: they may encourage the production of new, innovative work; might provide insights for the entrant; they will promote the work of the individual winner... and they could promote wider awareness of the art itself.*

This next comment by David is pretty much what I used to say, when I was President, to new members who are disappointed with their first results in monthly competition, namely that the scope of camera club competition photography is actually very narrow.

*Rather than being engines of innovation, photo competitions often act to normalise – constraining the boundaries of what is considered good rather than expanding them. This is nowhere more apparent than in camera society contests.*

How often have we heard a judge try to use objective criteria such as the rule of thirds, an uneven number of trees, a person in a red parka, etc? What happens when the subject of the photo is way outside the judge's own experience? Such formulaic photos can become boring to the club audience, and when I have judged more recently in this arena, I have stated that I am looking for something more interesting, something that shows the photographer is trying to extend his or herself.

Look at a collection of photos by acknowledged masters and ask yourself why, years after the photos were taken, they still resonate. Why are such people considered masters?

I encourage those members who are prepared to think outside the square to do so, and to take any critiques on board but without thinking that the night's judge is absolute and infallible. Art can only ever be subjective.

**Carol Hall**

## About Karen Newing



Image by Karen's Husband

My first week back at BCC put me on the spot twice. Once for being privileged to win the Annual Novice Image of the Year Bon Strange Trophy and next when our new president asked me to write a paragraph or two of who I am. I hope therefore that I do not waffle on too much and bore you to sleep.

This is my second year as a member of BCC the first year saw me attend a couple of meetings and unfortunately my work took precedence for the rest of the year. I am the Business Manager of ST Aerospace Academy where we train international pilots. So all those students walking up and down Learmonth Road to the airport belong to us. I have been lucky enough to be in a tandem flight photographing a PA44 in flight over Lake Wendouree and one of the photographs from that is now in the office of our local council, our Victorian Deputy Premier's office and many Chinese Airline offices as our company gift.

With a history of fine art, photography was a means to capture the landscapes to paint later until 2005 when I was given a D70s and started exploring macro, still life and architecture photography the love of those three have continued on to this day. I have since done a leap off a tall building into a very steep learning curve of a D800 and I am just starting to wrap my head around external flash having always been a natural light type of person.

When not at work or playing with f/stops I am at Fernwood (my husband has a new interest in baking and I have to work off the calories somehow). With work now more settled than last year I am looking forward to attending more meetings and look to putting my photos up for critique to help me improve. That's about as interesting as I get ladies and gentlemen but thank you for reading if you got this far and are not fast asleep with boredom.

Karen Newing

## Ballarat ~ YMCA Interclub

“A very successful Interclub competition was held with YMCA Camera Group on Wednesday 25th September. A band of helpers came to set up beforehand and we appreciated the extra space available in our new clubrooms. The evening was very convivial with a good turnout from both clubs and a lovely supper as usual.

Peter Kervarec was judge for the night and his presentation was excellent with many lighter moments. New president Ian attended and welcomed guests as his first official duty for the club.

Competition winners were:-

**Large Prints Open** - Carol Hall (BCC) with ‘We’re Looking at You’

**EDPI Open** - Trevor Bibby (BCC) with ‘Native Drone’

**Small Prints open** - Jill Wharton (BCC) with ‘Sunset Lake’

**Small Prints Set** - Doug Reid (YMCA) with ‘Two Blondes’

Ballarat Camera Club won a close competition with a score of 325 points to YMCA’s score of 312, so we’ll need to watch out next time.

As Interclub coordinator host for the first time I would like to thank members for their generous help – next time will be easier and I will make sure that we get some photos of the night!”

Jill Wharton

### Ballarat Camera Club - Ballarat YMCA Interclub Results 2013

No.	Title	Score	Entrant	Club
<b>LARGE PRINTS</b>				
1	New Holland Honey Eater	10	Noel Verlinden (78)	YMCA
2	Safe for Now	12	Jill Wharton	BCC
3	Reflected Shopping Strip	10	George Townsend (22)	YMCA
4	Dog Meet	H/C	Brian Hillman	BCC
5	Look At Me	10	Pam Dellaca (34)	YMCA
6	Pair of Horehound Bugs	11	Keith Aggett	BCC
7	Fog Over View Point	12	Bruce Fryer (41)	YMCA
8	Eagle Owl	12	Brian Hillman	BCC
9	Mortal Combat	12	Ken Smith (38)	YMCA
10	We're Looking at You	1st	Carol Hall	BCC
11	Vintage Time	9	George Townsend (22)	YMCA
12	Waterproof	12	Karen Newing	BCC
13	Crocodile Tears	3rd	Noel Verlinden (78)	YMCA
14	Long Legged Fly	12	Trevor Bibby	BCC
15	Sky and Stone	12	Judy Johnson (10)	YMCA
16	My Post	2nd	Jill Wharton	BCC
17	Give Us a Kiss	10	Pam Dellaca (34)	YMCA
18	Aerial Acrobat	H/C	Suzie Ward	BCC
19	The Cellist	12	Ken Smith (38)	YMCA

20	Bike Bank	12	Kate Both	BCC
	<b>YMCA Total</b>	<b>109</b>		
	<b>BCC Total</b>	<b>122</b>		

<b>E.D.P.I.</b>					
1	Determination	10	Judy Johnson (10)	YMCA	
2	Ballarat Icons	9	Kate Both	BCC	
3	Garden Fresh	10	Trevor Parry (13)	YMCA	
4	Chain Man	10	Trevor Bibby	BCC	
5	Sunset on the Irrawaddy	9	Mark Bevelander (25)	YMCA	
6	Water Dragon	10	Lorraine Lees	BCC	
7	Beach Alien	3rd	12	Marilyn Bradford (30)	YMCA
8	Closed Heart	11	Lyn Fowler	BCC	
9	Boat Shed	10	Neil Sinclair (33)	YMCA	
10	Native Drone	1st	13	Trevor Bibby	BCC
11	<b>Bee Eater</b>	<b>H/C</b>	12	Ken Smith (38)	YMCA
12	Seen Better Days	11	Carol Hall	BCC	
13	Blue Lacewing	10	Noel Verlinden (78)	YMCA	
14	Tuning Up	10	Katte Both	BCC	
15	Old Machinery House	10	Judy Johnson (10)	YMCA	
16	Purple Bonnets	2nd	12	Lyn Fowler	BCC
17	Enveloping Cloud	10	Mark Bevelander (25)	YMCA	
18	Foggy Lake	10	Jill Wharton	BCC	
19	White Sentinels in Approaching Storm	H/C	11	Noel Verlinden (78)	YMCA
20	Bathed in Light	9	Colleen Rieniets	BCC	
	<b>YMCA Total</b>	<b>107</b>			
	<b>BCC Total</b>	<b>102</b>			

No.	Title	Score	Entrant	Club	
<b>SMALL PRINTS - OPEN</b>					
1	Glass Entrance	9	George Townsend (22)	YMCA	
2	Sunset Lake	1st	13	Jill Wharton	BCC
3	Sunrise on the Seashore	3rd	11	Mark Bevelander (25)	YMCA
4	The More I See You	9	Jenni Eldridge	BCC	
5	Busy Hands	9	Anne Earnshaw (11)	YMCA	
6	Tower of Light	9	Colleen Rieniets	BCC	
7	The Buck Jumper	10	Ken Smith (38)	YMCA	
8	Bridge to Granite Island	H/C	11	Suzie Ward	BCC
9	Welcome Swallow	2nd	12	Noel Verlinden (78)	YMCA
10	Green Tachinidv Fly	10	Keith Aggett	BCC	
	<b>YMCA Total</b>	<b>51</b>			
	<b>BCC Total</b>	<b>52</b>			

<b>SMALL PRINTS - SHOES</b>					
1	Heading for the Shed	3rd	11	Noel Verlinden (78)	YMCA

2	Cowboy Kip	2nd	11	Brian Hillman	BCC
3	Two Blondes	1st	12	Doug Reed (20)	YMCA
4	Dave's Boots		9	Betty Bibby	BCC
5	Why?		9	Neil Sinclair (33)	YMCA
6	Shanti's Spats		10	Jill Wharton	BCC
7	Ballet Shoes		8	Pam Allen (19)	YMCA
8	Cruisers		8	Kate Both	BCC
9	Relaxing		8	Christine Thompson (84)	YMCA
10	Boots in Love		8	Keith Aggett	BCC
YMCA Total			48		
BCC Total			46		
Grand Total YMCA			312		
Grand Total BCC			325		

## Calendar of Upcoming Events

**Competition Night** - Prints & EDPI - **“Raptors”** - **October 9th** - Clubrooms from 7:30 pm.  
 Definition: - *“Raptors” Image featuring live raptor/s (Eagles, kites, hawks), either static or in flight.*

**Outing/Workshop** - **October 19th** - to be confirmed?

**Digital Night** - **November 4th** - to be confirmed?

**Committee Meeting** - **November 6th - 7:00 pm** - McDonalds - Sturt St.

**Competition Night** - Prints & EDPI - **November 13th** - Clubrooms from 7:30 pm. -  
**“Miniatures”** - Definition: *“Image of small object/s in a contrived or natural setting, ie, dolls house, train set”* and

**“Creative”** - Definition: *Entries can be computer enhanced, 2 or 3 dimensional, collage or montage. Image/s within entries must be photographically produced by the maker. This is the only section into which mixed media may be entered.*

**Outing/Workshop** - **November** - Date and location to be confirmed?