

MARCH 2015

We certainly began the year on a high last month.

Our first exhibition theme of Street Photography saw a pleasing number of theme entries, along with those in open – 79 images in total. Geoff Beatty gave us very helpful appraisal of these images, and interestingly discussed the difference between photos (which show more intent) and snapshots (good record shots), suggesting that in the context of our exhibitions, we make our intent clear in our photographs.

After presenting our images, the second meeting of the year was a chance to learn and extend ourselves more formally, with three workshops covering a range of topics. A huge thank you to our three member presenters for sharing their knowledge and expertise – Ian Watson (black & white), Greg Farmer (basic camera skills) and Shirley Steel (getting started in Lightroom).

There are a number of special events coming up this year. The first of these is Springwood Foundation Day, where we mount a special exhibition of our images. This is always a fun event, with so much happening in the street to photography, and lots of people coming through our exhibition to talk to. Our space is half the hall, which we share with the refreshment area, so do come and spend time. It can be really helpful and interesting to hear what people think of our images.

There is also an outing planned for April – listen at club nights.

Dave Glazebrook (www.dgp.co), past member, professional photographer and multiple award winner, will be presenting a special session on macro photography. This will be a separate workshop to club nights and will need to be booked. More information to follow.

Finally, one for the diary – our club weekend away will be at Hawks Nest on the last weekend in August. This is a chance to concentrate on our image making for two whole days in a picturesque setting – taking, editing & talking about what we do.

WHAT'S ON THIS MONTH

Monday
9th Guest Speakers:
ALAN & MICHELLE HIND
Nature Photography

Saturday
14th SPRINGWOOD
FOUNDATION DAY
Display of Images

Monday
23rd Introductory session:
PROJECT OF PASSION
25 minutes starting at 7:30pm

Monday
23rd Exhibition Night:
NEGATIVE SPACE
Judge: Steve Mullarkey

& NEXT MONTH - APRIL

Monday
13th Exhibition Night:
BLACK & WHITE
Judge: Gavin Roberts

Monday
20th PROJECT OF PASSION
begins with Mentors:
Geoff Beatty & Dot Radley

Monday
27th Guest Speaker:
KATHRYN JOLLY



The Blue Mountains Photography Group aims to support our shared love of photography, by providing a forum in which to learn, develop skills, discuss images and encourage each other. Meetings are held on the second and fourth Monday nights each month at the Presbyterian Church hall, Macquarie Road, Springwood, 7.30 for 8pm. Visitors welcome.

EXHIBITION REVIEWED

Lemnos 1915: Then & Now. A project by Cheryl Ward and Bernard de Broglio involving matching photographs of Lemnos (an island near Greece and Turkey) from the SLNSW First World War Collection to their exact location now. The resulting composite images (a then and now series) produce a strangely evocative sense of history of a largely unreported aspect of Australian involvement in WWI. *Level 1, Macquarie St building, SLNSW, Macquarie Street Sydney. Weekdays 9am-5pm; Tue 9am-8pm; weekends 10am-5pm. Untill 24 May 2015. Free.*

SHOWING

The Green Desert. A spectacular travelling exhibition of photographs of Kati Thanda – Lake Eyre by Peter Elfes. Previously reviewed in this column when shown at Customs House Sydney a little while ago. Worth seeing again. *Blue Mountains City Art Gallery, 30 Parke St, Katoomba. Mon – Fri 10am-5pm; Sat & Sun 10am-4pm. Until 29 March. Entry fee.*

Shop Keepers of Newtown. Recent documentation of independent shopkeepers of Newtown in Sydney by Nic Bezzina. *Galleries, State Library of New South Wales, Macquarie Street Sydney. Weekdays 9am-5pm; Tue 9am-8pm; weekends 10am-5pm. Untill 10 May 2015. Free.*

African / Australians. Louise Whelan's new series on African communities in Australia. *Customs House, Ground Floor, Level 1 & 2, Circular Quay, Sydney. Mon – Fri 10am-7pm; Sat & Sun 11am-4pm. Until 22 March 2015. Free.*

Body Form. ACP launching its new Emerging Artist Program with Lin Wei's work on abstracted and distorted bodies using the nude. Also other exhibitions. *Australian Centre for Photography, 257 Oxford St Paddington NSW. Tue-Sat 10am-5pm; Sun noon-5pm. Until 22 March 2015. Free.*

A Further Shore: bombs, babes and sons of beaches. From Robert Dein's private collection of photographs from around the world depicting beach culture. *Manly Art gallery & Museum, West Esplanade, Manly. Tue-Sun 10am-5pm. Until 26 April 2015. Free.*

Mono no aware: The Poignancy of Things. A series of photographs by Australian architectural photographer Brett Boardman taken in Japan in 2011 and juxtaposing an imperial villa with the shelter of a homeless person living nearby. *The Japan Foundation Gallery, Level 4, Central at Central Park, 28 Broadway Chippendale. Mon – Sat 11am-4pm. Until 10 April. Free.*

OUT OF TOWN

Photography meets feminism: Australian Women Photographers 1970s-1980s. A Monash Gallery of Art Travelling exhibition. *Newcastle Art Gallery, 1 Laman St, Newcastle. Tue-Sun 10am-5pm. 07 March to 31 May 2015. Free.*

GOING

Chuck Close – Prints, Processes and Collaboration. An artist who uses photography to produce portraits in various media including some beautiful photogravure and woodbury prints (both are old photomechanical print processes). Outstanding! *Museum of Contemporary Art, Circular Quay West, Sydney. Daily 10am-5pm. Until 15 March 2015. Entry fee.*

Compiled by Ted Szafraniec

EXHIBITION THEMES:

“NEGATIVE SPACE” refers to the space around and between the subject (or positive space) of the image, and is important in the composition of images. It adds emphasis to the subject by drawing attention to it, and gives the eye a “place to rest” in the image. It is often the negative space that makes the image work, and it is as important as the positive part of the image.

There is a good photographic example at <http://fatmumslim.com.au/what-is-negative-space-and-why-on-earth-would-i-want-it/>, some clever design (not photographic) examples at <http://www.creativebloq.com/art/art-negative-space-8133765> and a simple 3 minute video explanation at <http://thevirtualinstructor.com/positive-and-negative-space.html>.

UPCOMING THEMES:

April – Black & White

May – Doors

June – From Above, From Below

Of course, every exhibition night also includes an open section for images of your own choice. The full list of theme definitions is being distributed and also available on our website. Thanks to Judy TM for this support material. Also, don't forget to check the website for the rules for exhibitions, such as image sizes, prints and digitals.

MACRO WORKSHOP:

Dave Glazebrook's macro session will be on Monday 3rd August. A booking sheet will be available soon.

OUTINGS:

Our first outing will be a morning start to **Mt Wilson followed by Mt Tomah**. The date is yet to be finalized, but will be on Sunday 12th or 19th.

SUPPORT / MENTORS:

A list is being compiled of members who will be happy to support or mentor newer members. This will be available by the next competition night.

MATS FOR DISPLAYING IMAGES:

Mats are being accessed and will be available on a regular basis at BMPG meetings. These will be initially free for new members and a small charge for others (around \$3-\$12), starting next Monday.

WEEKEND AWAY:

Following previous weekends away which were very successful and much appreciated by those who attended, it is proposed we have another this week – in the Hawks Nest / Myall Lakes area on weekend of 29-30 August. This will be a chance to practice our photography, work with others, enjoy the variety of sea / landscapes, still crisp enough for morning mist. Vacancies still exist for this event – see Shirley.

MEMBERSHIP:

Membership fees are due this month for the year. They remain \$60 for adults, \$30 for juniors 18 & under. Please pay treasurer Anne Baker at your earliest convenience.

Your BMPG Committee are:

President – Shirley Steel

Vice President – Robyn Cook

Secretary – Mandy Ferretti

Treasurer – Anne Baker

Public Officer – Ted Szafraniec

Member – David Jenkins

Member – Jeannie McInnes

Member – Ann Wharton

Committee Meetings held 1st Monday evening of the month.

BMPG
WE ARE:

**Blue Mountains
Photography Group**

The Secretary

BMPG

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articles, information, photos
are very welcome.