



Blue Mountains Photography Group

AUGUST 2022

President's Report

Let me begin by apologising that this newsletter prepared by Robyn has not gone out earlier. Having started my additions, I put it aside and it completely slipped my mind. For this reason, I have taken the opportunity to amend some of the notes here to reflect the delay.

Thankyou Robyn for your work on this newsletter, getting us organised to manage the Springwood Festival and coordinating the upcoming Interclub.

We are approaching the last months of this year's club activities. A group of us are working towards our POP presentation in the hall on 14th November. That will be our 2nd last meeting of the year. We have been able to book Len Metcalf to judge our Image of the Year on Monday 28th November.

It's important we have a good range of prints as well as digitals for the IOTY event. With the mixed up programs we have had during the pandemic, we will again offer members the choice of entering any image from this year's exhibitions as either a print or a digital for IOTY. We will also encourage members to include any image from the POP in your 4 images for IOTY.

So please begin to reflect on the images you have entered this year and perhaps begin early and print some of the digitals as entries for IOTY.

Hopefully after this year we can return to majority of hall based meetings.

Shirley Steel

August Editor: R.Cook. Contributions from Graham Cam, Judy Thistleton-Martin and a big thankyou to Ted Szafraniec

MEMBERS CHOICE AUGUST



Tasman Sea, Robyn Cook

COVID Update

Until further notice, all of our BMPG meetings in the hall will require members and visitors to wear a mask. Chairs will be separated and will ensure appropriate space between. We are not able to serve supper or hot drinks until further notice.

UPCOMING CLUB EVENTS:



SYDNEY WEST INTERCLUB 25TH **September, 2022** via ZOOM.

Please save the day for approximately 2 hours in the afternoon. Time and zoom logins will be available closer to the date.

This event involves 3 clubs – the Upper Blue Mountains, Hawkesbury and BMPG. Our committee will select 10 images each of colour, mono and creative from the images we have collected through our zoom meetings during 2022.

Thankyou for all your help getting the extra images to us. Our interclub committee has selected the images and they have been submitted. A full list is include dlater.

Thanking you in advance, Robyn

SPRINGWOOD FESTIVAL Saturday 3rd September, 2022

The festival was held on the weekend and thanks to your support we finished up with more images than we could display so we allocated space for 6 prints per member. Ted and David watched over the event during the day and think that perhaps the rain helped our stand as people wandered in whenever the rain began. We had about double the number of entries in the favourite image competition.

Ted will let us know the name of the successful community member and we can record it here next time.

We also were able to talk about our little club during the day and a few locals have taken away membership forms.

I have already had contact with someone from the community who has expressed interest in joining.

Below is some background that Robyn provided beforehand.

Held at the Presbyterian Church Hall – 9am-4pm.

Every year (except for Covid) our club has participated in this event. We set up images on our stands and run a digital display. Each print image is numbered and shown in a catalogue.

Visitors will also be able to vote for “A People’s Choice Award”.

Thankyou to everyone who helped out in some way to make this a successful day.

BMPG Involvement in Springwood Festival



Springwood Foundation Day has been a community festival running for about 25 years or so and held on a Saturday in March or April depending on the fall of Easter. It was celebrated for the naming of Springwood by NSW Governor Macquarie and thousands of people attend. In 2020 it had a name change to Springwood Spring Festival and moved to September. However there was a 2 year hiatus due to the COVID pandemic and the festival was not held in 2020 or 2021.

During Foundation Day the main street in Springwood between Raymond Road and the Ferguson Street underpass is closed to traffic and a variety of food and market stalls, entertainment, street performers, entertainment rides, community groups and activities are held. A grand parade of various council dignitaries, government agencies, schools, bands, voluntary and community groups usually marks the end of the festival. BMPG held its exhibitions in the large Presbyterian Church hall in conjunction with the then ladies church auxiliary providing the much loved refreshments of tea/coffee, sandwiches, scones and Devonshire teas. It was a mutually beneficial arrangement as the exhibition (free entry) brought in visitors for the paid refreshments and vice versa. BMPG 'spruikers' along Macquarie Road handing out pamphlets and publicising the BMPG exhibition added to the friendly rivalry amongst the various community groups seeking visitors to their various stalls and promotional literature.

The BMPG exhibitions were quite large with the annual image displays often having over 100 photographic prints and hundreds of visitors. One popular addition to the exhibitions were the 'Popular Choice Awards' where the visitors selected the images they liked best. This often showed

that there was a wide range of selections but there always was an image that obtained the most votes. This all required good planning and logistics (such as display stands for the images were borrowed free from the NSW Federation of Camera Clubs) with many BMPG members being involved

It is unknown when the Blue Mountains Photographic Group (BMPG) started to join the Foundation Day festivities but it definitely had a presence from 2006 onwards as in that year the BMPG celebrated its 50th anniversary. A retrospective exhibition of past members' print work was celebrated during Foundation Day with some success as part of the Club's anniversary. From recollection BMPG actually had a presence at the festival before 2006 so the club has been involved at Foundation Day for at least half of the life of the festival.

For a while the festival was run by some members of the Springwood Chamber of Commerce but it seems it was always struggling to keep the event viable. Then a couple of years ago the organising committee decided to change the name of the festival to Springwood Spring Festival and hence the date in the year to September. So this year is the first time that it will be held in September and under the name Springwood Spring Festival since the COVID Lockdowns.

TS

Feathered Passions" Upcoming Exhibition with Graham Cam and Steve Tredinnick at the Everglades from 1st to 23rd October, 2022

"Feathered Passions is a stunning exhibition of works by photographer, Dr Graham Cam and watercolourist, Steve Tredinnick that showcase the remarkable world of birds. Graham's stunning photographs capture bird species stretching from Australia, to the Antarctic, and on to the jungles of Costa Rica. Steve's detailed watercolours depict birds primarily from the glorious Blue Mountains"



Images: Courtesy of Dr Graham Cam and SteveTredinnick

Feathered Passions Exhibition details

Exhibition open 11am – 3pm from **Saturday 1 – Sunday 23 October 2022.**

Opening days vary: Open daily from Saturday 1 – Sunday 9 October Open Wednesday – Sunday from Wednesday 12 – Sunday 23 October

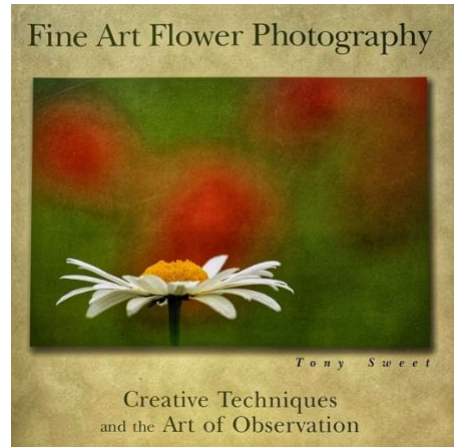
Because it is so busy during the Spring Festival, the site recommends booking [via Eventbrite](#) where possible, to guarantee a spot, but as Graham has mentioned “Whilst the link says buy a ticket, this is the Everglades encouraging people to view the gardens. If you ask at the ticket office to view just the gallery/exhibition, there is an entrance to the gallery through the carpark to the right of the ticket office and entry to the exhibition is free via this route”.

CHECK OUT THE LINK:

<https://www.nationaltrust.org.au/event/feathered-passions/>

Judy Thistleton-Martin: Books from my library that you might find inspiring.

Theme: Flowers in anticipation of an early Spring!



Sweet, Tony (2005). ***Fine Art Flower Photography. Creative Techniques and the Art of Observation.***

An “oldie but a goodie” – practical information, creative inspiration and easy to follow instructions.

Fischer, Richard (2018). ***A Tribute to Flowers. Plants Under Pressure.***

Stunning full-page images which also tap into endangered species.

Ewing, William A & Panchaud, Danae (2022). ***Flora Photographica.***

Features images by more than 120 photographers which explores the relationship between contemporary and traditional works.

Davis, Harold (2012). ***Photographing Flowers. Exploring Macro Worlds.***

Another very practical and inspiring book.

Beane, Christopher (photographs), Janson, Anthony (text 2008). ***Beane Flower.***

One of my favourite flower photographers. Beane captures the beauty and the bizarre of the botanical. He sees the details we often overlook.

Adam, Hans Christian (2008). ***Karl Blossfeldt. The Complete Published Work.***

An amazing mono photographer from the past (1865–1932). He took his photographs with a home-made wooden camera, but still managed to capture graphic details and symmetries.

List of Photography

Exhibitions

NOTE: Many galleries in Sydney and regional NSW are open but check for any COVID restrictions. Also many galleries (both Australian & overseas) have online exhibitions or even virtual tours of some of their exhibitions and collections that are worth looking at.

EXHIBITION REVIEWED

Developing Sydney: Capturing Change 1900 to 1920. Historic photos reprinted from the early Sydney Municipal Council documenting major changes occurring in Sydney in the early 20th century. The built landscape changed markedly during this time replaced with more modern buildings, sanitation, infrastructure and commerce largely by piecemeal demolitions and neighbourhood resumptions. The City Building Surveyor's Department used photography to document these changes. The photographs commissioned (mainly from professional photographers such as Charles Kent, Milton Kent and Thomas David Cleary) are from the City Building Surveyor 'Condemnation and Development Books'. The collection has nearly 5000 photographs and glass plate negatives held in the City of Sydney Archives. The photos also capture in some detail and clarity the life of mainly working class people being displaced by redevelopment. Check out the [virtual tour](#). *Customs House Library, Levels 2 & 3, 31 Alfred Street Sydney.* www.cityofsydney.nsw.gov.au/landmarks/customs-house Exhibition hours Mon-Fri 10am-6pm; Sat-Sun 10am-4pm. Until 02 Oct 2022. Free.

SHOWING ...

Yvette Hamilton: Space, Time, Light. A photographic installation drawing on astronomy and photography based on her research at Woodford Academy of the Transit of Venus observations in 1874 around the Woodford/Linden area. *Blue Mountains City Art Gallery, Blue Mountains Cultural Centre, 30 Parke Street Katoomba.* www.bluemountainsculturalcentre.com.au

Mon-Fri 10am-4pm; Sat & Sun 10am-4pm. Until 02 Oct 2022. Entry fee applies.

Sydney Snapshots. Small display of early images reproduced from the NSW Government Printing Office (GPO) Photographic Branch taken from dry glass-plate negatives. *Museum of Sydney, Level 2, cnr Phillip & Bridge Sts, Sydney* www.sydneylivingmuseums.com.au/museum-of-sydney Daily 10am-5pm. Until 05 Mar 2023. Free.

OUT OF TOWN

Return to Nature. Landscape has been an enduring subject for Australian photographers and this exhibition of over 40 photographers looks at now some iconic photographs together with a reassessment of landscape by a new generation of Australian photographers. *Monash Gallery of Art (MGA), 860 Ferntree Gully Road, Wheeler's Hill Victoria.* www.mga.org.au Tue-Fri 10am-5pm; Sat-Sun 12-5pm. Until 18 Sep 2022. Free entry.

Compiled by TS

Virtual Tours of Photographic Exhibitions and Collections

The outbreak of the COVID pandemic in 2020 resulted in people requiring to isolate, restrict travelling as well as lengthy periods of lockdowns and quarantine restrictions both within Australia and worldwide.

During this period many businesses, organisations and institutions were forced to close. Included were cultural institutions and businesses such as art galleries and museums. Most already had websites but the new restrictions further hastened the use of updated technologies and trying new approaches to reach out to the public such as developing online access to collections and exhibitions or providing virtual tours of collections and exhibitions.

Now many public and private art galleries (both Australian & overseas) include online access to their exhibitions. And more and more even have virtual tours of some of their exhibitions (and collections). These provide terrific access and are a fantastic resource

that are worth looking for and seeking out. Allowing browsing at leisure and almost as good as being there in person!

Two such virtual tours of current exhibitions in Sydney and Victoria are discussed briefly here with access provided. More information about these exhibitions is provided in the *List of Photographic Exhibitions* in this month's newsletter

Developing Sydney: Capturing Change 1900 to 1920. A large display of reproduced historic photos and associated information from the early Sydney Municipal Council documenting major changes occurring in Sydney in the early 20th century. It is part of the City of Sydney Archives collection that has nearly 5000 photographs and glass plate negatives. There is terrific clarity and detail inherent in these photographs making even digital workers envious! See the [virtual tour](#) of the exhibition now at the *Customs House Library, Sydney*.

Return to Nature. The landscape has been an enduring and persistent topic in Australian photography. This exhibition from the Monash Gallery of Art includes some now iconic Australian images and a new assessment of the Australian landscape by a another generation of photographers. This virtual tour of the exhibition at <https://my.matterport.com/show/?m=tGoeFLXuCZZ&help=1&dh=1> is offered by the *Monash Gallery of Art, Wheeler's Hill, Victoria*.

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Information for entering images into BMPG competitions

[How many images can I enter?](#)

On any exhibition meeting, each member may enter up to 4 images in total in any combination of categories. There is an entry form on the website.

[What are the categories for Images?](#)

There are 4 categories for images. Please check the program to see if there is a Theme category for that particular exhibition.

-MONOCHROME PRINTS
-COLOUR PRINTS
-MONO and COLOUR DIGITAL
-THEME (when on program) PRINT OR DIGITAL

[Sizing, Naming and simple Guide to Colour Space and Requirements](#) can be found on the BMPG website at www.bmpg.org.au

New BMPG Website

BMPG has a new website and has updated. Our president Shirley Steel and the Web Support person Greg Farmer, together with the input of Committee members have done a great job in getting it up and running. It is simpler to navigate and contains lots of information such as the **Program** for the year, the **By-Laws**, **Helpful Hints**, the **Constitution**, past **Newsletters** as well as great members' photographs in the new **Galleries** section. And there is more to come!

Check out the new website at www.bmpg.org.au

BMPG 2022 Program & Coming Events

Monday 12/09/22	Exhibition		Open & Theme Competition. Theme: Family, Friends and Pets – More than a Snapshot
Sunday 25/09/22	Sydney West Interclub Competition	Zoom with Richard Bulley	This event involves the Upper Blue Mountains, Hawkesbury and BMPG.
Monday 26/09/22	PRESENTATION		In the church hall

DID YOU KNOW?

The First Digital Camera was in 1975

In 1975, [Steven Sasson](#) invented the world's first [digital camera](#). He was working at Eastman Kodak at the time.

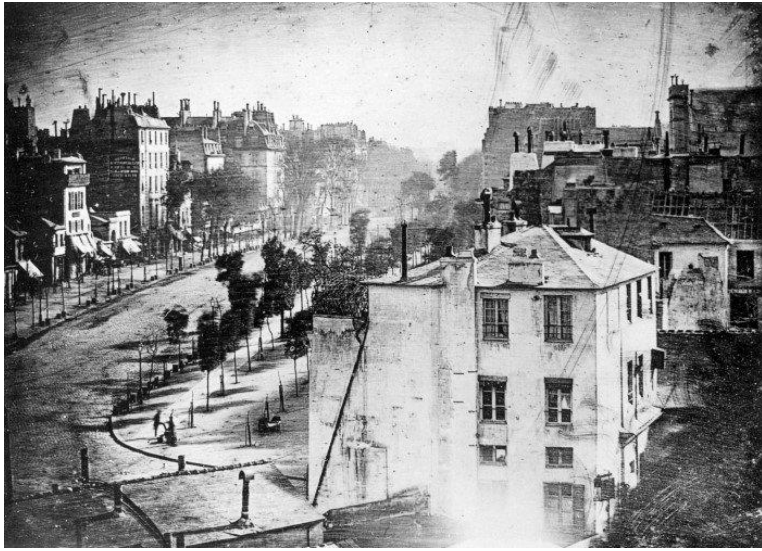
This first digital camera was only 0.01 Megapixel and weighed an incredible 8 pounds (3.6kg). It took the camera over 20 seconds to commit the image to tape.



Source: <http://www.internethistorypodcast.com/2016/07/inventor-of-the-first-digital-camera-steven-sasson/>

The First Photo of a Person Was Accidental

In 1828, Louis Daguerre took the first photo that captured a human being. His intention was to take a photo of the Boulevard du Temple in Paris. The man in his photo was standing in the street, getting his shoes polished. Since the exposure lasted for seven minutes, the man also got captured.



Source: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/File:Boulevard_du_Temple_by_Daguerre.jpg