



<https://www.bmpg.org.au>

BMPG Newsletter - March 2021

by Stephen Georgiou

President Report

We have now had 2 really good club evenings in the hall. Our first exhibition in person with Susan Buchanan was a special moment. I felt the buzz in the room as we all met up again. Last night at our IOTY presentation, John Mulquin shared with me that he had a similar reaction. So, it's a real welcome back to catching up and sharing our passion for photography in our covid safe space. Let's hope it can continue.

Last night's IOTY was a really enjoyable session. Special thanks to Robyn Cook, Jan Forrester, Jeannie McInnes and Ann Dent who sorted all the behind the scenes bits and pieces and Anne Baker for photographing the awards.

Nicola Read, our judge mentioned more than once that her task has been probably the most difficult she has had. We had less entries than usual but they were all of a very high standard. What I enjoy on evenings like this is revisiting and remembering images from the last year. I am always impressed to see the broad body of work we create. Landscapes and Macro used to be our thing but it is difficult now to identify a dominant genre.

A special congratulations to the overall winner - Stephen Georgiou for his beautiful B&W print "Wentworth Falls Jetty".

The full list of awards is included later in the newsletter.

Club Weekend Away - Friday 27 August - Monday 30 August

We have chosen Kiama for our next weekend away. It's not too far and gives us a broad range of shooting locations. Andy Georgiou is our organiser and after checking out what is available he has arranged for us to stay at Kiama Harbour Cabins. <https://www.kiamacoast.com.au/kiama-harbour-cabins/>

Covid is still with us so we have reserved some extra cabins in case we need to limit rooms to one person (couples excepted). We have arranged to hold these until the beginning of June. We have held some 3 bedroom cabins and several 2 bedroom cabins. At least one of the bedrooms in each cabin will have bunk beds. The others have queens and doubles.

If we have to be Covid safe it may mean prices are a little higher. What Kiama Cabins is offering us is that when we pay for Friday and Saturday night, we can have Sunday night for no charge. They are very accommodating for camera clubs.

Here is what you need to do if you want to join us - and we hope you do come along as the weekend away is always fantastic.

1. You need to contact the park and book your own cabin.
2. We suggest you get together with others and work out a cabin group.
3. If you are new or not sure who is going, ask Andy or speak with me and we will let you know where there might be a spare room.
4. Let Andy know when you have booked so he can do his planning.

5. If you prefer to find some other accommodation to suit your needs, please do. You will be welcome to join us for dinners at the cabins.

Costs

Rough costs - worst case scenario if Covid restricts us to one person per room.

The 3 bedroom cabins are in total \$833 for the 2 or 3 nights.

The 2 bedroom cabins are \$660 in total for 2 or 3 nights.

If the vaccine rollout is on track we are hopeful we will be able to increase the numbers in each cabin.

There are also one bedroom cabins available but we haven't held any.

Andy and Shirley have a list of bedding options in each cabin - just ask and we can send it.

Club Outings

Thank you to Wayne Speddings who has volunteered to help get our club outings rolling. Our next one is this Tuesday 13th April over at Mt Wilson for Autumn Colour. More Info soon.

Image of the Year Awardees 2020

2020 IMAGE OF THE YEAR COLOUR PRINT

1 st Place Colour	Greg Farmer - Eric Island
2 nd Place Colour Print	Shirley Steel - Crowded House
3 rd Place Colour Print	Greg Fisher - Bygone Beauty

2020 IMAGE OF THE YEAR MONO PRINT

1 st Place Mono Print	Stephen Georgiou - Wentworth Falls Jetty
2 nd Place Mono Print	Robyn Cook - Sailing
3 RD Place Mono Print	Ann Dent - Rock Art

2020 IMAGE OF THE YEAR DIGITAL

1 st Place Digital	Robyn Cook - The Cat
2 ND Place Digital	Margaret Taylor - Sea Eagle
3 RD Place Digital	Margaret Taylor - Kookaburra

2020 Point Score (includes Print point score from February 2020)

OPEN

3 rd Place	Stephen Georgiou
2 nd Place	Ann Wharton
1 st Place	Anne Baker

THEME

3 rd Place	Andy Georgiou
2 nd Place	Robyn Cook
1 st Place	Jeannie McInness

OVERALL POINT SCORE

3 rd Place	Jeannie McInness
2 nd Place	Stephen Georgiou
1 st Place	Robyn Cook

Shirley Steel BMPG President

2020 Image of the Year - Overall Winner



“Wentworth Falls Jetty” by Stephen Georgiou

<http://www.stephengeorgiou.com>

In isolation last year, I was aiming for a new style of image focusing on ‘Minimalism’.
Taken before sunrise on a freezing cold day last year.
A long exposure using a Neutral Density filter to smooth out the water.
I used a Nikon D810 Camera with a 18-35 mm Nikkor lens.
6 photos stitched together with a panoramic tripod head attachment on my tripod.
Edited in Adobe Photoshop into a Monochrome image.
My aim was to produce a fine art print in a large frame for an upcoming exhibition

2020 Image of the Year - Colour Print Awardees

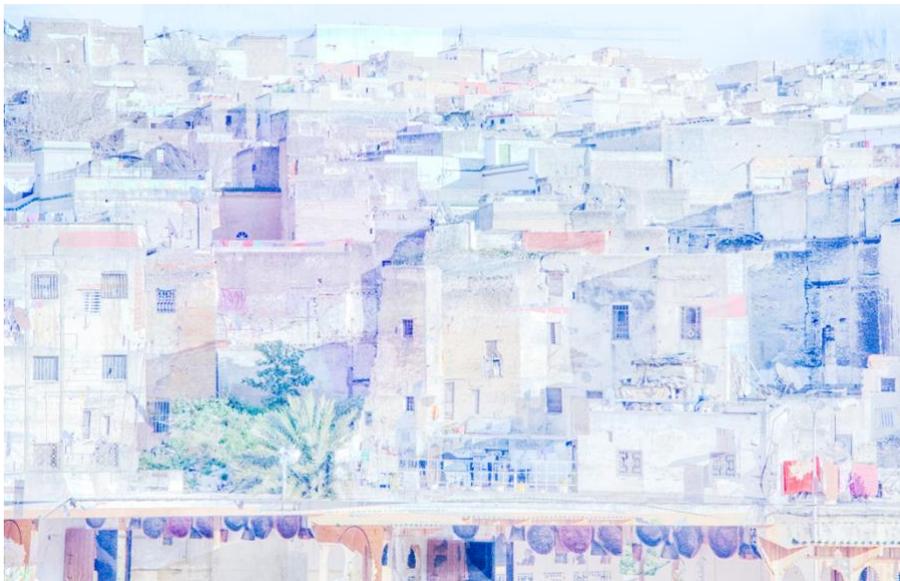
1st Place Colour Print



“Eric Island” by Greg Farmer

I took a tourist flight over Lake Eyre in July 2019 - at the height of the “flood”. This image is of Eric Island. I was attracted to the colour of the water and the way the island protruded into the scene. Many of the shots from the day have window reflections... This one had none thankfully.

2nd Place Colour Print



“Crowded House” by Shirley Steel

3rd Place Colour Print



“Bygone Beauty” by Greg Fisher

I was visiting the Australian Village at Wilberforce. I walked into a hut where I saw the young lady sitting in the corner, it was very dark. I quickly changed the ISO to 2000, Aperture Priority F4 and 1/320 sec. 24 - 70 lens. I took a few shots and then outside discovered they were very underexposed. But the moment was over so no chance for a second go. Thanks to the magic of Photoshop I was able to rectify the shot and print it on Fine Art Paper.

2020 Image of the Year - Monochrome Print Awardees

1st Place Monochrome Print

“Wentworth Falls Jetty” by Stephen Georgiou

See image and description in IOTY Overall Winner

2nd Place Monochrome Print



“Sailing” by Robyn Cook

3rd Place Monochrome Print



“Rock Art” by Ann Dent

2020 Image of the Year - Digital Images

1st Place Digital



“The Cat” by Robyn Cook

2nd Place Digital



“Sea Eagle” by Margaret Taylor

3rd Place Digital



“Kookaburra” by Margaret Taylor

Special thanks to our IOTY Judge Nicola Read. <http://www.nicolaread.com.au>



Exhibitions to check out

NOTE: COVID safe restrictions are still in place so you need to contact galleries for information about opening times and visitation requirements.

Also, many galleries (both Australian & overseas) now have online exhibitions or virtual tours of some exhibitions as well as some of their collections - they are worth visiting online.

EXHIBITION REVIEWED

Photos 1440. More than 200 images by photographers who work on The Sydney Morning Herald newspaper taken during the past year are on display. As would be expected the pictures that dominate are related to the 2019/2020 bushfires and COVID. The imagery is compelling and exceptional, and it is interesting to look back in retrospect at the events which of course is what photography is very good at. In addition, there is a selection of images in a 10 year retrospective of 1440 exhibitions since this year is the 10th anniversary of these yearly events. Definitely worth seeing. Exhibition Galleries, State Library of NSW, Macquarie St Sydney. Mon-Thu 10am-8pm; Sat & Sun 10am 5pm. Until 25 Apr 2021. www.sl.nsw.gov.au Free

SHOWING

The Business of Photography: The 19th century studio in NSW. “The inaugural exhibition in the Chau Chak Wing Museum’s photography gallery examines the first photographic studios in NSW and the characters who ran them.” The Museum is a new public museum at the University of Sydney which consolidates a number of previously existing museums including the old Macleay Museum that were spread throughout the campus. The University of Sydney, Chau Chak Wing Museum, Photography Gallery Level 1, University Place (off Parramatta Rd), Camperdown. Mon-Fri 10am-5pm; Thu 10am-9pm; Sat & Sun 12pm-4pm. Until Aug 2021. www.sydney.edu.au/museum Free.

OUT OF TOWN

Natural Visions: the camera and conservation in Tasmania. ‘Documents development of Tasmanian landscape and nature photography from its earliest days to the present.’ Queen Victoria Museum, 2 Invermay Rd, Inveresk (Launceston) Tasmania. Daily 10am-4pm. Until 28 Mar 2021. www.qvmag.tas.gov.au Free.

GOING

VIRTUAL

Photo festivals in Australia during 2021.

This year there are three photo festivals scheduled in Australia: Photo2021 in Melbourne www.photo.org.au happening now until 07 March 2021; Ballarat International Photo Biennale (9th) in Ballarat Victoria www.ballaratfoto.org from 28 Aug - 24 Oct 2021; hEAd oN photo festival in Sydney www.headon.com.au in November 2021. All have exhibitions (off and on line), talks, workshops & events.

All worth visiting and check them out online.

Compiled by Ted Szafraniec

Links to Check Out

- Blue Mtns Photography Group - Facebook page (invite only ask Shirley Steel) <https://www.facebook.com/shirley.steel.90>
- Federation of Camera Clubs - <http://www.photographynsw.org.au/>
- Australian Institute of Professional Photography - <https://www.aipp.com.au/>
- Learn Photoshop with Adam Williams Creative <https://www.easywayphotography.com.au/>
- Len Metcalf -- <https://www.lensschool.com/>
- Gary P Hayes -- <https://garyphayes.photography/>
- Ted Forbes to follow on youtube - <https://www.youtube.com/c/theartofphotography/Videos>
- Fstoppers -- <https://fstoppers.com/>
- The Mono Awards -- <https://www.themonoawards.com.au/>
- Epson Pano Awards -- <https://thepanoawards.com/>
- Image of the year photos - 2020, on our Blue Mtns Photography Group Facebook Page <https://www.facebook.com/groups/605723959587664>
- Better Photography <https://www.betterphotography.com>

Featured Photographer for March is Adam Wolnicki



“A picture is worth a thousand words” by Adam Wolnicki

I have always believed pictures tell stories. I always wanted to capture and freeze in time that special moment, that second of time when it is there and then - gone.

I walk the streets and see people. Happy, sad, laughing, shouting, lost in their thoughts, always changing, never the same. Moments in life we will never live again.

Street photography is challenging but can be very rewarding as well. Knowing my rights is one thing and being respectful is another. Often, I stop and talk to people. I make friends.

Most of the times I walk with nothing else but my little Canon M3 and a tiny 20mm pancake lens.

There are times when I feel very anxious and I have to fight myself, force myself to point the camera and take the photo.

I never use the viewfinder. I always look down on the live view screen. Often people don't even know I am taking photos. Sometimes they get cranky and tell me off. It never comes easy, but I love it. Maybe one day I will try still life.

I don't like the term “street photography”. I like to call it “urban landscape”. What I am interested in is the relation we have with the built environment.

I always look for that special moment. Often, I find the spot or place, compose my picture and wait for the decisive moment that happens only once in a lifetime.

I was in Sydney one day walking with my camera when I found myself near the MCA. I saw a yellow arrow in the concrete wall and two men arguing there. I composed the picture and waited. I thought it would be nice to get them with the arrow. And then: there it was! I pressed the shutter button.

Here is my picture. “At the museum”

Not often I keep these street photos in colour. This one was different. The concrete walls turned up blue! I decided to keep it as it was.

Featured Photographer for February is Angela Mabee



“The Fallen by Angela Mabee

“The Fallen” is an image I captured while in Bright two years ago. Mieke’s presentation last month showing her images of the Buckland Valley inspired me to revisit this set of shots. The area is well known for its colourful Autumn show, a bit like the Blue Mountains, so with my image I wanted to convey something other than just colour. I tried to capture the movement created by wind. I have a large collection of trees and leaves blowing across the frame but I liked this one because of how the leaf is silhouetted by the cloud. I have adjusted the contrast and vibrancy a little in post-processing and added some texture to the sky.