



## Newsletter September 2022

### CONTENTS

**Page 1**

President's Report

**Page 2**

Images from August 12<sup>th</sup> Exhibition night  
COVID update  
Springwood Festival Report – Ted Szafraniec

**Page 3**

Sydney West Interclub Report – Robyn Cook  
Graham Cam – Upcoming Exhibition

**Page 4**

"Feathered Passions" – Graham Cam  
Buy, Sell, Swap  
Project of Passion = Blue Mountains Creative Art Prize  
– Jeannie McInness

**Page 5**

Bookmaking and Designing – Judy Thistleton-Martin

**Page 6**

New Members  
Image of the Year

**Page 7**

Photography Exhibitions – Ted Szafraniec

**Page 8**

Entering images into BMPG competitions

**Page 9**

**BMPG Program**

Did you Know? Robyn Cook

*September Contributions from, Robyn Cook, Judy Thistleton-Martin, Ted Szafraniec and Jeannie McInness*

### President's Report

It has been so lovely to be able to return to in person meetings in the Springwood Hall. Our numbers have been low – partly because we have had quite a few members travelling so we look forward to seeing some of their images when they join us again. I think the other reason we have had a few less attending is the fact that Covid is still with us and some members have at risk family and they do not feel comfortable attending in person. I know others have chosen to stay away if they are unwell. We appreciate this. I'd like to ask any members who are not able to join us in person at the moment, if there is anything else we can do to support your photography. Please send me an email if there is anything you need.

I visited Graham Cam's wonderful exhibition one rainy day in early October. Please make the time to go and see it if you haven't already. To see so much of Graham's stunning bird photography printed and framed on the walls was just joyous. Some of those birds jump out at you from the paper. Steve Treddinnick's paintings we also wonderful. I think perhaps the rainy day actually made the exhibition even better – soft light outside the windows at Everglades, and all I wanted to do was grab my camera and shoot through the glass. I did resist but then spent quite some time fascinated by images of the sculpture and reflections in the pool outside. Anyway – enough of my thoughts – if you haven't been yet, do try to go. It's on at Everglades until 23<sup>rd</sup> October – a few more days yet.

We only have 3 more meetings before the year is over. Our upcoming exhibition night on Monday 24<sup>th</sup> October, a presentation of the

POP projects that many have been working on Monday 14<sup>th</sup> November and our Image of the Year night is on Monday 28<sup>th</sup> November. Let's see if we can finish this mixed up year we have had (thanks Covid) on a high with lots of entries to our IOTY event. Len Metcalf is our judge and I know he will offer warm words about our work. It is a celebration for each and every one of us whether we receive one of the awards or not. I encourage you all to have a look back through your entries and find 6 that you love the most. Don't pay too much attention to the score that you received when you entered it previously, pay more attention to how much you value that image. We have many stories about images that receive the highest and the lowest possible scores by different judges. Peter Eastway wrote about this very fact recently in one of his articles.

Entries are open now – bring along your prints to either of the next 2 meetings or send digitals in. Just make sure if submitting digitals you note in the subject line that they are for IOTY.

I am attaching a special IOTY 2022 Entry form to this email. I will pop one on the website as well.

Shirley Steel

### COVID Update

Until further notice, all of our BMPG meetings in the hall will ask 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.

## CLUB EVENTS - REPORTS:

**BMPG PHOTO EXHIBITION ON SPRINGWOOD SPRING FESTIVAL** Held in the Springwood Presbyterian Church Hall on 3<sup>rd</sup> September, 2022

After almost a three-year absence, mainly due to the COVID pandemic outbreak and lockdowns, the renamed Springwood Foundation Day was back! Its last appearance was in April 2019 but in the meantime the one-day event was renamed the Springwood Spring Festival and moved to the first Saturday in September. This is a community event involving many local community groups and is always well patronised. So it was good to see it on again.

The BMPG photographic print exhibition has become a regular event during these annual community festivals and this year it was back in force. It shares the hall with the Presbyterian Church's refreshments setup for the day and is mutually beneficial. Unfortunately the day was showery and a bit chilly at times, and there were noticeably fewer stalls this year along Macquarie Street. But this did not seem to deter the young and old from attending in numbers and having fun. There was a good turnout too at the BMPG exhibition which was estimated to have over 200 attending during the day.

The exhibition seemed to be constantly crowded with people visiting the photographic display during the day and interacting with members. Just under a hundred prints by 15 members were on display with good selection of images covering a variety of genres. As usual in past years the popular Peoples' Choice award was run again and over 175 votes were received. The public winner is selected from the collection of votes obtained for the print on display receiving the most votes – then a winner is selected 'out of the hat' and receives a \$50 cash gift voucher. As usual there was a broad range of images receiving votes with at least half of them receiving at least one vote! This year's winning print was the stunning *The Kingfisher* by Graham Cam. Kim Toolin came second place with her *Torres del Paine* while in equal third place was Kim for *That Nevis Tree* and Graham with *WA Wave*. Congratulations to Graham and Kim. Other members doing well were Robyn Cook, Andy Georgou, John Mulquin, Robin Murray, Judy Thistleton-Martin and David Thomas. It is particularly gratifying

for BMPG members to see their images on public display and receive such encouraging feedback from the public about their images. The public winner of the Peoples' Choice was drawn last Monday and will be contacted soon. As always a lot goes into the planning and participation of these publicly displayed photographic exhibitions. So a big thank you to all BMPG members participating in putting the event together especially those putting it up on Friday afternoon, being rostered on the Saturday during the exhibition and its dismantling on the Saturday afternoon. A lot of time and effort goes into these exhibitions and the coordinators are owed an extra special thank you.

Finally, a big thank you to the festival committee who no doubt worked tirelessly to make the festival a success and for on put on the event. And also a big shout to those local businesses that were open, and for supporting the event and participating in the festivities.

Ted Szafranec



Photos provided by Ted Szafranec and Andy Georgiou

## SYDNEY WEST INTERCLUB held on the 25<sup>TH</sup> September, 2022 via ZOOM.

This year's event included The Upper Blue Mountains Camera Club, the Hawkesbury Camera Club and Blue Mountains Photography Club who hosted the event. Our judge was professional photographer Richard Bulley.

A good representation from all clubs with 90 images submitted with the following results:

POINTS	
<b>COLOUR</b>	
BMPG	113
<b>HCC</b>	<b>122</b>
<b>UBM</b>	<b>122</b>

<b>CREATIVE</b>	
BMPG	117
<b>HCC</b>	<b>134</b>
UBM	123

<b>MONO</b>	
BMPG	114
<b>HCC</b>	<b>115</b>
<b>UBM</b>	<b>115</b>

<b>OVERALL WINNING CLUB (Total point score)</b>	
BMPG	344
<b>HCC</b>	<b>371</b>
UBM	360

The 2023 Interclub will be hosted by the Hawkesbury Camera Club and the date will be included in our 2023 schedule.



Feat

**“Feathered Passions” Upcoming Exhibition with Graham Cam and Steve Tredinnick**  
at the Everglades from 1<sup>st</sup> to 23<sup>rd</sup> October, 2022

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”

**Feathered Passions Exhibition details**  
Exhibition open 11am – 3pm from **Saturday 1 – Sunday 23 October 2022.**  
<https://www.nationaltrust.org.au/event/feathered-passions/>

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”.



We have re-introduced a Buy, Sell, Swap and Free table whereby you have the opportunity to go through your camera equipment and either sell, swap or give away for free.

For the table: Please have your contact details available and a price if you want to sell or note that the item is available to swap or for free.

*We only request that if you bring along an item for the table, please check if it is still there at the end of the night and take it home with you so committee members don't have to do something with it.*

**PROJECT OF PASSION = BLUE MOUNTAINS CREATIVE ART PRIZE**

By Jeannie McInness

Inspiration for creativity can come from anywhere and lead you in many different directions. One way of probing these ideas is to work on a project, as this allows for research, experimentation, exploration and developing stories or techniques in a more comprehensive way than through individual images.

This year my POP has been stimulated by my regular morning walks. On a new area of pavement that began as a clean, fresh surface, I watched as leaves fell onto the concrete and released their tannins with the frequent falls of rain. Not only were there leaves, but their “shadows” and outlines left behind like memories on the path.

These intriguing patterns became subjects for photographs, but “straight” photos did not really explore them adequately, so I combined photos with other techniques. These included photography, digital manipulation, etching, calligraphy, mono printing, hand drawing, and these images were then combined into a hand bound book which collated the “Patterns on the Pathway” exploration.

I entered this book into the Blue Mountains Art Prize held at the Blue Mountains Creative Arts Centre in Glenbrook, and am delighted to say that it was awarded this year's prize.

This is not the end of exploring this theme, though. I plan to take some of these images further into etchings and larger photographs as well.

This is just one of this year's Projects of Passion. There are quite a few BMPG members exploring their own themes and all the work will be presented at club towards the end of the year. Make sure you're there to see where creative ideas can lead when they are developed into a project.

## **BOOK MAKING AND DESIGNING EVENING**

Monday evening saw us back in the Church Hall for the first time in a long while. Judy Thistleton-Martin and Anne Baker introduced the session and handouts were available. Members who bought along their own Photobooks were available to talk about the how's and why's. Below, is a list of Photobook providers which you may be interested in.

Photobook Australia  
Photobookshop  
Snapfish  
Memento  
Blurb  
Big W  
Click On Prints  
Albumworks  
Wollongong Uni Press

Please find below an article by Judy Thistleton-Martin which asks many relevant questions when considering a Photobook project.

## **BOOK MAKING AND DESIGNING**

By Judy Thistleton-Martin

My thinking focusses on the dilemma about what to do with all of those images lurking on my computer and external hard drives. The default "light bulb" solution was a photobook – even though they are only useful for documenting family and travel - aren't they? The answer is a definite no! So, after much research, a great deal of thinking, reflecting and writing, I came up with a series of

questions which took one of my photobooks, *Urban Squares*, beyond just record keeping.

## **My Urban Squares Focus Questions and Answers**

1. What is your photographic project?
  - Taking seemingly ordinary subjects/objects and making them worthy of notice.
  - Finding beauty in the most unlikely places.
  - Exploring urban back lanes and streets that act as the canvas for street art.
  - Street art that acts as the background for the ordinary, the discarded and the faded.
  -
2. Why do you want to create a photobook?
  - A way of bringing closure to a photographic project.
  - Documenting my vision.
  - An ideal way of sharing my project with others.
  - A permanent record – easily accessible, portable, bound collection of work, can be an "art work" in its own right.
3. What is the message you want your book to convey?
  - Everyday objects have the power to take on a new significance when part of a wider context.
  - Telling a visual story by using the fragmentary evidence left behind.
  - Uncelebrated and unique beauty in the back lanes and streets – not just the postcard and iconic images of a city.
  - Capturing "moments in time" – the transient nature of a city environment.
4. Who is the audience?
  - Other photographers, friends, family.
5. What viewer reaction do you want your book to create?
  - The viewer to bring something to the images – interpretation, curiosity, questions.
  - To really look at the images and wonder what it is, where it was taken and what it is about.
  - To draw the eye and engage the viewer – not just a catalogue of images.



6. What response do you want your book to inspire?

- Elevating the everyday and abandoned into objects of interest.
- Seeing the urban world through new eyes.
- Going beyond the pretty and the iconic to explore other city identities.

7. What format will you adopt? Why?

- Square
- A story within each frame.
- Contained, tight, able to stand alone yet not complete.

8. Is there a story? If yes, what is it?

- Yes
- Each frame has an individual story, but there is a connection across the frames in a double page spread.
- Can a sense of place be captured through the commonplace, the ordinary and the overlooked?
- What I decide to leave out and what is included influences the story.

9. What layout will you use?

- Title? Urban Squares
- Book size? 8" x 8"
- Number of images? Probably about 33.
- Image size? 7.5"
- Frame? ½" frame – no full bleed. Same throughout.
- Border? No
- Text? Last page only
- Font? Not sure.

10. Is there a theme? More than one?

- Exploring the identity of a city through the non-iconic.
- Signs
- Found objects
- Reflections
- Abstractions
- Parks
- Cranes
- Street lights
- Street art
- Cemeteries
- Architecture
- People

11. How will you sequence your images?

- By hand in a square album.
- By trial and error over time.
- Build up a broader picture by including a mixture of details, close ups and scene setters.

Rhythm and flow: What will make the viewer care enough to linger over the pages and think about what they are seeing?

- What one thing do I want to point out, to illustrate or raise questions about?
- In each theme? Overall? Is the message clear? Is it about place? Identity? Does it matter?
- What emotions, if any do I want to evoke?
- Will a story unfold? How?

12. Are your images the heroes?

I hope so!



As you are aware we are a small Club and our membership has been reduced dramatically during the last couple of years and as such we would like to ask if you could assist with recruiting some new members who are or maybe interested in photography.

The Committee has plans to place an article in the local newspaper.

Some suggestions:

- Ask someone
  - Bring a guest
  - Advertise in local social media (information can be provided)
  - Share our newsletter
  - Offer any recruitment ideas you may have (all gratefully accepted) to the Committee.
  - Refer people to our web site at <https://www.bmpg.org.au>
- Any questions people can email at [info@bmpg.org.au](mailto:info@bmpg.org.au)

## IMAGE OF THE YEAR

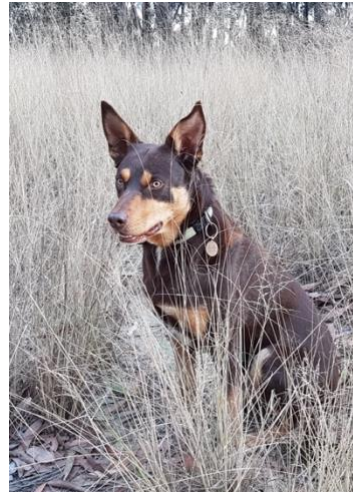
Will be held on the **28<sup>th</sup> November, 2022** and Len Metcalf has agreed to be our judge.

Closing date for receipt of prints is the **14 November** POP Presentation evening.

The Committee decided that 6 images may be submitted per person, in either print or digital format, regardless of what format they were presented during the year (your choice).

The deadline for digital images is the same date. Ideally the digitals will have been submitted to [digitals@bmpg.org.au](mailto:digitals@bmpg.org.au) by the Thursday midnight before this meeting but we will accept them by email up until Monday 14<sup>th</sup> November. Please ensure that you have sized and titled your digitals correctly. Prints need to be identified with the author's name and the image title on the back of the print.

As there are up to 6 images for this competition we have created a revised entry form for you to use.



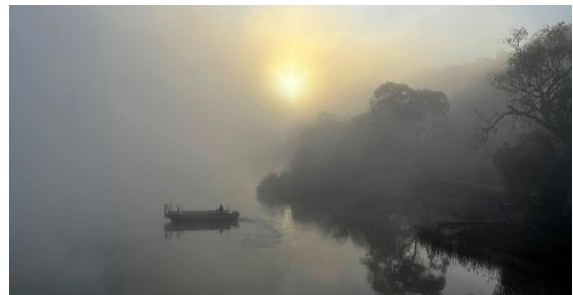
Ringo Schmingo – Kim Toolin



John Posing – Jeannie McInnes



The Boss – Ann Dent



Foggy Morn – Robyn Cook



Bundanoon – Margaret Taylor

## List of Photography Exhibitions

### September 2022

**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

**Sydney Snapshots.** A small display of early images reproduced from the NSW Government Printing Office (GPO) Photographic Branch. The exhibition spans the first half of 20<sup>th</sup>C. The GPO photographers documented the work of government involving roads, housing, health, education, immigration and tourism using dry glass-plate negatives. This technology provides incredibly detailed images that can be blown up to wall sized images and some are. Now historical rather than nostalgic but there is still an atmosphere to a lot of the images (a sense of loss?) The captions to the images do put them into a historical context. There is a wonderful shot of the Nepean River at Wallacia taken in June 1918 (on regional tourism). Other topics covered include the 1919 pandemic (still very topical) and shanty towns. It is a beautiful little exhibition that definitely provides “windows into history”. The collection contains thousands of

images and is now in the NSW State Archives Collection. *Museum of Sydney, L 2, cnr Phillip & Bridge Sts, Sydney*  
[www.sydneylivingmuseums.com.au/museum-of-sydney](http://www.sydneylivingmuseums.com.au/museum-of-sydney) Daily 10am-5pm. Until 05 Mar 2023. Free.

#### SHOWING ...

#### Feathered Passions [Graham Cam & Steve Treddinick].

Graham’s photos capture birds from Australia to the Antarctic then Costa Rica while Steve’s watercolours capture birds of the Blue Mountains.

*Everglades Gallery, Everglades Home & Gardens, 37 Everglades Ave Leura.*

[www.nationaltrust.org.au/places/everglades-house-gardens](http://www.nationaltrust.org.au/places/everglades-house-gardens) Opening days vary: open daily 01 Oct-02 Oct & open Wed – Sun 12 Oct – 23 Oct; opening hours 11am-3pm. Free entry to gallery.

#### Head On Photo Festival 2022.

A preview for the annual festival that has many exhibitions, events and awards. Due to open November. See <https://headon.com.au> Various venues.

#### Developing Sydney: Capturing Change 1900 to 1920.

Historic photos reproduced from the early Sydney Municipal Council documenting major changes occurring in Sydney in the early 20<sup>th</sup>C. Check out the [virtual tour](http://www.cityofsydney.nsw.gov.au/landmarks/customs-house). *Customs House Library, Levels 2 & 3, 31 Alfred Street Sydney.*

[www.cityofsydney.nsw.gov.au/landmarks/customs-house](http://www.cityofsydney.nsw.gov.au/landmarks/customs-house) Exhibition hours Mon-Fri 10am-6pm; Sat-Sun 10am-4pm. Until 27 Nov 2022. Free.

#### OUT OF TOWN ... ..

**Helmut Newton: In Focus.** Exploration of the work and life of German-born Australian photographer. He worked in Melbourne post WWII and then became a renowned international fashion photographer. *Jewish Museum of Australia, 26 Alma Rd St Kilda Vic.*  
[www.jewishmuseum.com.au](http://www.jewishmuseum.com.au) Tue-Fri 10am-5pm; Sun 10am-5pm. Until 29 Jan2023. Entry fee.

#### GOING, GOING, GOING ...

**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.bluemountainculturalcentre.com.au](http://www.bluemountainculturalcentre.com.au) Mon-Fri 10am-4pm; Sat & Sun 10am-4pm. Until 02 Oct 2022. Entry fee applies.*

Compiled by TS

## ENTRIES for EXHIBITION NIGHTS

### SIZE REQUIREMENTS

#### **PRINTS**

##### **MAXIMUM SIZE**

16 X 20 INCHES

40 X 50 CM

Must be matted or attached to a firm board for display

No framed prints

Open Section - Colour & Mono displayed separately

Theme Section - Colour & Mono mixed

1. Members download & complete an entry form. NB This is a pdf you can save on your computer. If you would prefer a copy in word to save and use, please email your request to [president@bmpg.org.au](mailto:president@bmpg.org.au) and we will provide. <https://static1.squarespace.com/static/623d443d00221d711feb5c72/t/62593537d62c2a6e07e36a9f/1650013496557/BMPG+ENTRY+FORM+April+2022.pdf>
2. At the meeting, choose a club number for each print from the box, display prints on stand with number. Complete entry form by adding relevant club number to each entry.
3. Write the results on your entry form as the judge scores.
4. At the end of night, hand the completed form to the scorer's table.

BRING PRINTS TO HALL ON CLUB NIGHT. MUST BE ON STAND BEFORE JUDGE STARTS.

#### **DIGITALS**

1024 wide 768 high

NB Must be Width and Height – NOT long side.

Save as jpeg

SRGB colour space

#### **FILE SIZE**

Maximum - no upper limit but try to keep about 1mb max.

Minimum – anything less than 100kb will look like a postage stamp when displayed. 300kb – 800kb works well.

MUST BE EMAILED TO

[digitals@bmpg.org.au](mailto:digitals@bmpg.org.au)

By midnight on the Thursday prior to exhibition.

#### **NAMING REQUIREMENTS**

##### **PRINTS**

Write title on the entry form and we advise that you also write the title and your name on the back of the image. Include an arrow that shows the correct way up.

##### **DIGITALS**

MUST BE as follows

OPEN

O\_TITLE\_SURNAMEINITIAL – no spaces

THEME

T\_TITLE\_SURNAMEINITIAL – no spaces

#### **BMPG Website**

BMPG has a new website and has updated. 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](http://www.bmpg.org.au)

## DID YOU KNOW?

Some of the most popular subjects of photography in the 1800s were corpses. Many famous individuals were famously photographed after their deaths, like the Clantons and McLaurys who died in the Gunfight at the O.K. Corral. But it wasn't only the famous who found themselves as posthumous models; regular people were often photographed after death also.



In this image, the dead girl on the left photographed with siblings.

photographers had to take time off from their work due to illness caused by exposure to the chemicals. Over time, prolonged contact with these chemicals and metals could lead to madness or even death. Photography before the digital age was serious, potentially life-threatening business!

And it wasn't just the chemicals from the developing solution that were dangerous. Early flash powder ingredients included Potassium chloride and aluminium which were mixed to create the flash for images. It was not uncommon for these to be mixed incorrectly and explode more violently than intended.

**TURN TO VICTOR**  
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**JAS. H. SMITH & SONS CO., 1229 S. Wabash Ave., Chicago**

Please Mention Camera Craft when Corresponding with Advertisers

The chemicals used in the development of photographs included mercury, silver nitrate, lye, and more. These chemicals were extremely dangerous and many

## BMPG 2022 Program & Coming Events

Monday 24/10/22	EXHIBITION	Open Competition	Springwood Hall 8pm start. Judge TBA
Monday 14/11/22	POP PRESENTATION	Participating members to talk about their work	Springwood Hall 8pm start
Monday 14/11/22	<i>Last night to receive IOTY prints</i>		
Monday 28/11/22	IMAGE OF THE YEAR	Judge Len Metcalf	Springwood Hall 8pm start

