

Blue Mountains Photography Group

November Newsletter 2021

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Dear Members

I have put together a smaller newsletter than usual for the end of our club year. It includes information about our Image of the Year results. I have decided to not include all the images at this stage but will see if we can have them uploaded to a gallery on our website at a later date when Greg has time.

As tends to happen at the end of a year, I have been reflecting on what our year has been. Over the coming weeks, we will come across a number of thoughtful writings online and in our newspapers about what this last year has meant to communities and organisations across the world. None of us can have felt it was business as usual. Some of our club members have had to deal with quite big changes in their lives because of the pandemic. For others of us it may have been the sense of loss being far from loved ones or even health issues.

So as our year finishes up, I hope that we have all valued the connection we have to our photography and the broader photographic community. Our little Blue Mountains club has been a part of that. We have welcomed a handful of new members and we have lost others. Those that remain, for the most part have been regular attendees of our new world of Zoom meetings. However, the joy of actually catching up at an in person meeting as we did earlier in the year and again last week for the Image of the Year night was palpable. Technology is great but nothing beats face to face contact.

I hope everyone has an opportunity to spend time with their loved ones over the coming festive season. Don't forget to take lots of photos. The program for next year will have an exhibition evening with family and friends' photos as a topic. So when you are gathered around the verandah or the BBQ, or catching up in the kitchen or enjoying a more formal sit down meal with your family; get your phone out, or pick up a camera ... don't forget to check the background and avoid distractions ... keep your eyes open for that magic window light on Xmas morning when presents are opened ... watch closely what the grandparents are doing with the younger family brood and get a shot in. In other words, enjoy the warmth and goodwill of people catching up and put your fabulous photography skills to use - your family and friends will be forever grateful.

I am heading over to Copenhagen to catch up with our son for Xmas. As I pack, I am appreciating that topic on photos from years gone by - I found so many I had forgotten about and have printed a small selection of our family to take with me. Sometimes our camera club really does come in handy.

Our End of Year Celebrations with our Annual Point score and our Image of the Year awards was a good night.

Mark Kelly from the Southern Highlands (<https://mkimages.com.au>) joined us as guest judge and his warm words of congratulations to many were good to hear.

I do need to thank Robyn Cook, Ann Dent, Anne Baker and Jeannie McInnes for their considerable work behind the scenes to make it work. I greatly appreciate the work that these women did for us. Thankyou!

Special Congratulations to Stephen Georgiou for his award of Image of the Year and to Robyn Cook who took out 1st place in our Annual Point Score Awards. Both of these members received well deserved recognition for their impressive photography in 2021. Stephen's awarded image appears later in the newsletter.

A full list of all award winners is listed below.

To all of our members who entered images this year, thank you! We saw so many fabulous images over the year and it was lovely to sit and be reminded of many of them on the screen as we ran through the IOTY entries.

2022 PROGRAM

We begin our 2022 program on Monday 14th February with an exhibition evening in the hall. A judge has not been finalised yet.

The 28th February is a presentation by Susan Buchanon on "Working on a Series or a Body of Work". Susan cancelled in 2021 when we were hit with Covid - she wants to be able to bring work along to share with you.

More program updates will be added to the website when they are finalised.

Thankyou to everyone who has helped make this little club of ours special.

Have a safe and restful holiday season.

Shirley

ANNUAL AWARDS RESULTS

POINT SCORE 2021

OPEN

1st	Anne Baker
2nd	Ann Dent
3rd	Robin Murray

THEME

1st	Jeannie McInnes
2nd	Robyn Cook
3rd	Kim Toolin

OVERALL POINT SCORE

1st	Robyn Cook
2nd	Anne Baker
3rd	Jeannie McInnes

IMAGE OF THE YEAR RESULTS - ALL DIGITAL

COLOUR

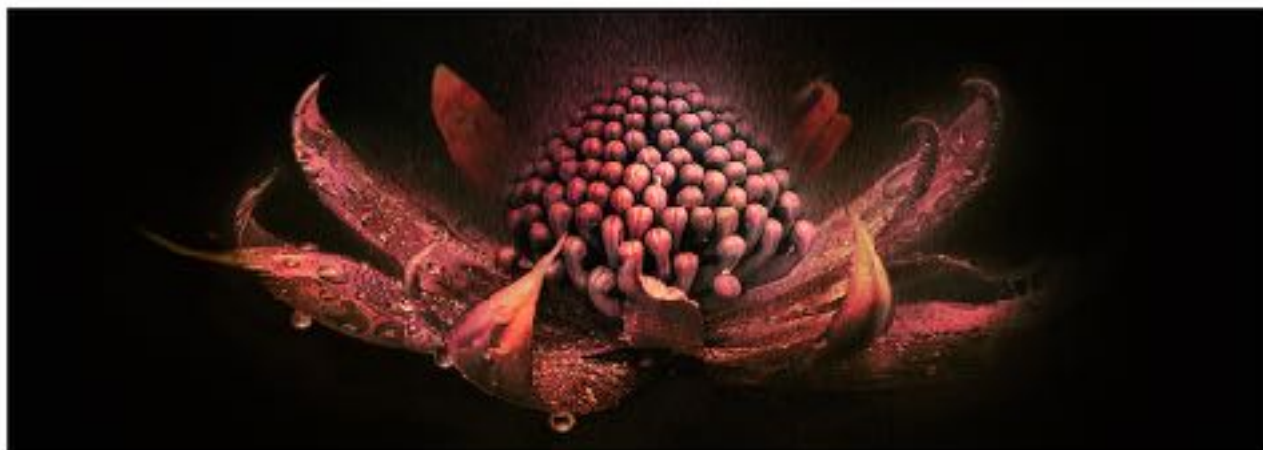
1st Stephen Georgiou
2nd Ann Dent
3rd Angela Mabee

MONO

1st Jeannie McInnes
2nd Anne Baker
3rd Anne Baker

THEME

1st Robyn Cook
2nd Kim Toolin
3rd Angela Mabee



OVERALL IMAGE OF THE YEAR 2021

"WARATAH IN THE RAIN" BY STEPHEN GEORGIOU

This wild Waratah was found on Kings Tableland Road New South Wales, Australia, Angela Mabee gave me a heads up that they were out that way in full bloom.

I took many photos but this one stood out to me. My wife Melissa held up a tea towel behind it and I did use a spray water bottle for the water droplets.

I edited it in Adobe Photoshop after darkening the background to isolate the subject. I can't wait to print this one large for my upcoming exhibition one day.

Nikon D810 Camera Nikkor 70-200mm lens

MEMBERS' CHOICE AWARD

Stephen Georgiou - Waratah in the Rain

Committee Awards

- ◆ Greg Farmer - In Appreciation of your support to the Club and monitoring the Web
- ◆ Jeannie McInnes - In Appreciation of your support to the Club and preparation of Digital images for Exhibition nights
- ◆ Wayne Spedding - In Appreciation for organising Club Outings –
- ◆ Ben Farmer - In Appreciation for assisting the Club meetings with any technical/sound issues
- ◆ Butterfly Award - Photography Award to Grow, Evolve and Transform
 - Robin Murray
 - Andy Georgiou
- ◆ New Member Award
 - Andrew Vreeken
 - Kim Toolin

LIST OF PHOTOGRAPHY EXHIBITIONS NOVEMBER/DECEMBER

Compiled by Ted Szafraniec

NOTE: *Many galleries in Sydney and NSW have reopened. Travel is also permitted into NSW regional areas as well as the ACT and Victoria but check for COVID restrictions. However many galleries (both Australian & overseas) have online exhibitions or virtual tours of some exhibitions.*

ONLINE AUSTRALIAN PHOTO FESTIVALS REVIEWED

Ballarat International Foto Festival. This festival is a biennial event and has been extended to January 2022. Check the **Program** tag at <https://ballaratfoto.org/prize-exhibition-gallery/> to see what is on. Also lectures, workshops, walks & other events. *Various Ballarat venues. Until 09 Jan 2022. <https://ballaratfoto.org> Some entry fees & free ticketed events*

Head On Photo Festival 2021. Annual exhibition with many exhibitions, events and Head On Awards. Main exhibitions at Paddington Reservoir Gardens and Bondi Beach venues. Festival highlights likely to stay online a while. Check out the program online <https://headon.com.au> *Various venues. From Friday 19 to Sunday 28 Nov 2021. Check for conditions of entry & COVID restrictions*

SHOWING ...

Wildlife Photographer of the Year. The 56th Photographer of the Year from the National History Museum, London has been extended. Can also check out some images online at www.sea.museum/whats-on/exhibitions/wildlife *Australian National Maritime Museum, 2 Murray Street, Darling Harbour Sydney. Opening up slowly towards 01 December 2021 so check entry availability. Until Jan 2022. www.sea.museum Entry fee to museum*

2021 Australian National Geographic Nature Photographer of the Year. Exhibition produced by the South Australian Museum in partnership with Australian Geographic. www.australian.museum *Australian Museum, 01 William St Sydney. Mon – Sun 10am-5pm. Until 30 Jan 2022. Entry fee to museum*

St Canices Primary School Outdoor Art Gallery [Katoomba]. An open air exhibition of photographs presumably by St Canices' Primary schoolchildren. A variety of subject matter and worth spending time looking. *St Canices Church & Primary School, Katoomba St Katoomba (along fenceline near the entry gates to the Church). As of 06 November 2021. Free*

OUT OF TOWN ONLINE

Living memory National Photographic Portrait Prize 2021. There were 79 finalist selected. The winner is *Drought Story* by Joel B. Pratley. Vote for the *Peoples Choice Award*. See all the finalists and their stories at <https://www.portrait.gov.au/nppp-images.php?show=all> *National Portrait Gallery, King Edward Terrace, Parkes ACT. Until 16 Jan 2021 & online. Free*

Snapped! Street photography in the Illawarra (Anne Zahalka with Sam St John and residents of the Illawarra). Recorded by early street photographers of the 1930s-60s of passers-by in candid postcards. Reimagined by Zahalka and local photographer Sam St John with similar contemporary photographs. *Wollongong Art Gallery, cnr Kembla & Burelli Sts Wollongong. www.wollongongartgallery.com Tue-Fri 10am-5pm; Sat-Sun 12-4pm. From 11 Dec 2021 - 20 Feb2022. Free*

OTHER VIRTUAL & ONLINE STUFF

From the archives: images of Australia by Mervyn Bishop – in pictures. Some of Bishop's mostly B&W photographs. Included is the famous colour photograph *Wattie Creek 16 August 1975* where PM Gough Whitlam poured a handful of soil into the hand of Vincent Lingiari. Still accessible online + more galleries available to browse at The Guardian. www.bit.ly/pr88ne5 (Courtesy Photo Review Magazine www.PhotoReview.com.au) *Free online*

Paris Photo Prize 2021. Winners of "Le Prix de la Photographie de Paris" announced online. The Paris Photo Prize presents its 14th annual curated winners exhibition. Check out all the 2021 Px3 winners online at <https://px3.fr/winners/px3/2021/> You can spend hours looking through these amazing images. *Online for 2021. <https://px3.fr> Free online*

Historic Photographer of the Year awards 2021. Awards celebrate amateur and professional photography of cultural and historic places around the world. While there check out the other 'Featured Galleries'. Go to The Guardian website at <https://www.theguardian.com/inpictures> and select the box *Historic Photographer of the Year awards 2021 in pictures. Free online*

To end our final newsletter for 2021, a few images taken on the IOTY evening by Anne Baker.....



A few of our award recipients with Mark Kelly who joined us as our IOTY judge,