



Ballarat Camera Club

**FLARE**



NEWSLETTER

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### **President's Report : Feb 2010**

Welcome back to a new year. I hope you all had a terrific festive season. This year we have had quite an extended break from our normal meetings, due mainly to the shift of our Ballarat National to later in the year. Normally Liz and Peter Cocks would have spent the holiday break, flat out collecting and then sorting parcels of photographs into their appropriate sections. Then entering them on the database, and then printing the appropriate labels. All this before the rest of us become involved in framing and helping on the judging day. I am quite sure that many of us, especially Liz and Peter, like this extended break and we look forward to the Ballarat National later in the year.

As we look forward to another year of activities, it is useful to reflect on the year just gone. In all respects it was quite a successful year. Activities organized by various members were excellent. We did not have our camp in November, but as we all know it would have been a complete washout. Otherwise I think we had quite a successful year. Especially pleasing to me is that we won both interclub competitions. The talent of our members was always there, but the best prints were not always available for selection. Last year they were, and the results speak for themselves. We won the Geelong / Ballarat interclub in November by 3 points. Not an awful lot and it was close all the way, but the Geelong camera club is and always has been, a very strong and talented club, acknowledged as such by other camera clubs around Australia. Thus winning this competition after 10 years was satisfying. Now winning interclub competitions is not everything, good interaction between all members of the club is much more important. Individually, some of our members were also quite successful, be it in Nationals or other endeavors. Herewith I would like to wish all our members an enjoyable and successful 2010.

Bill

## Digital Report:

We started the year with a very enthusiastic group of 16 members. The new light box has proved to be a success. Whilst club members cannot borrow it to take away they can use it at every Digital night. I will bring it along to the next club meeting to show the other members.

Ann in particular put it to good use photographing a small watch for the next club competition. We look forward to seeing the results.

Using the new projector and the club laptop we resized images ready for viewing on the projector . We intend to show some resized images at the general meeting after judging on Wednesday night. If there is enough time we could show how to resize images and how we would need them presented to the digital image coordinator via a flash stick. It is very difficult to know how much knowledge members have in doing these processes which in turn makes it hard for us to know if people need advice. If you want help perhaps it would be easiest if you approach someone to assist you. We can if needed provide written instruction of the process. Like all things to do with computers, Photoshop and Photoshop Elements there are many ways to arrival at the same destination. The way I go about resizing images can be different to another person's approach.

Betty

### Photos from the Club Break up BBQ

*Photos by Keith*



We had a good evening at Peter and Liz's house. We thank them again for their hospitality .

After a pleasant but cool BBQ we had a presentation of the new Digital Projector .

We started the year with an informal BBQ at Trevor & Betty's house and again the weather wasn't much warmer.

## David Grigg's Photographic Life.

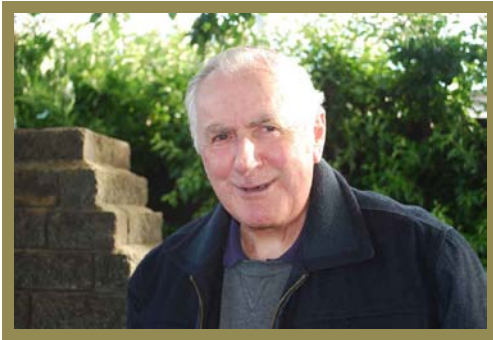


Photo by Keith taken at the club b.b.q

My interest in photography began at an early age, I bought my first camera, a Kodak Brownie 620 bellows camera when I was 15 years of age at a cost of 3 Pounds 12 shillings and 6 pence and used that camera for more than 10 years.

After seeing the beauty of colour slides I purchased a 35mm rangefinder camera and used that till just before I joined the Ballarat Camera Club in mid 1969, I was then using my trusty Minolta SRT101 35mm SLR camera, and over the years upgraded to two Minolta X700's which I still own, I also went to medium format 2,1/4 square starting with a Mamiya twin lens camera, then two Kowa 6's, these I used for general photography as well as wedding Photography which I did for over 20 years.

After seeing beautiful B&W prints created by some of the club members when I joined, I became really hooked on that medium, so was then doing both Colour Slides and B&W Prints, and entered my first National exhibition in 1971, and have been entering Nationals and some Internationals ever since, and found this a very rewarding experience.

I would like to pay tribute to Herb Richmond, Harold Cox, Harold Adair and Alan Hartup for the encouragement and guidance they gave me when I began doing B&W prints, unfortunately all these great men have long been deceased.

It has been my pleasure to judge many camera club photo competitions in Victoria and Interstate as well as many National and some International exhibitions, this has been a very rewarding experience.

In 1980, I was awarded the SSAPS medal and 1981 the SSAPS medal, these awards were nominated unbeknown to me and came as a great surprise, but my greatest surprise came in 1995 when I was made a Life Member of the Ballarat Camera Club, and it was a great honour to receive it. In 2001 I gained LAPS photographic honours, and in 2002 gained AAPS photographic honours, these are gained by many successes in National & International Exhibitions and I encourage all members to strive for these awards and I am pleased to see a few of our members have done so in recent years.

My main interests in subject matter have been Landscape, People, Nature & Photojournalism, and to me there is nothing better than a good B&W print that has the full tonal range, this can only be achieved by correctly exposed negatives, but luckily there is some latitude for error in negatives, but with colour slides exposure must be really correct.

Unfortunately over the last few years owing to severe water restrictions I have had to forgo my darkroom activities and change to a Digital camera, something I never thought I would do, but I must confess I am enjoying the experience, but I am sure I will never achieve what I did with film.

My collection of old cameras numbering about 90 and dating back to 1900 gives me great pleasure, pictured is my first camera the Kodak Brownie 620 with my smallest, a Coronet 16mm Midget, and my oldest and largest the Sanderson large Bellows camera circa about 1900.

It's great to see so many entries coming into our club competitions of such high standard, keep up the good work.

I have enjoyed every minute of my 40 years in the Ballarat Camera Club, to me it is the Camera club and I thank you all sincerely for your help and friendship over those years, it has been much appreciated.

David Grigg AAPS.

## From David's Collections



*Photos by David*

## From the Committee

### *Exciting changes in the future for the club's web page.*

Our clubs web designer (Jamie Walhouse) is intending to make a section where members can upload images via a secure section with a password. These images can be judged and scored for our monthly competition. This will in no way replace our existing print competition, it will be on a trial basis for at least this next competition year. We will be asking in time for members to supply images to test this out. If anyone has any queries or wishes to have any input into this could they please see any committee member.

***Borrowing the club equipment:*** It has been decided that members cannot borrow the club's equipment to take home with them and use for their personal use. This includes the Digital projector, the light box and the laptops. They will be available for use at club nights. The projector, for example has a limited lamp life and lamp replacement costs are about \$550.

### *What have you done this month.*

We would like to introduce a section in the Flare where members tell us what they have done photographically this month. Have you been fortunate enough to travel somewhere special, could you write a short article, add some photos and share with others?

David Grigg has started this year with a synopsis of his "Ballarat Camera Club life"

***Club Camp Reconvened:*** We hope to have the club camp at Lake Fyans on the weekend of the 17<sup>th</sup> April. We will ask for a show of hands for those who still wish to attend. Email me if you won't be at the next General Meeting.

### VAPS Pre selection NIGHT.

Images are needed to represent our club in the State wide competitions. Carol will be approaching members asking for those special images that have caught her eye during the year. We need both small prints (Novice only) and large prints, all are in the open section. These include images that have done well at Geelong and the YMCA inter clubs. These need to be given to Carol no later than the March meeting.

A novice is a member who has not had images that have received an acceptance or higher at a National Competition.

There will be a selection night at Carols' on Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> March. All members are welcome to attend to see how this process works.

If an image is selected to represent the club at VAPS, you are able to put it in next year's Annual Competition (2011), there is a clause in the Competition rules to cover this.

However for this year, the date to get these back from Melbourne coincides with the closing date for our club competition. You can submit your Annual Competition entry form and your other prints to Jenny, with a note on the entry form saying one of the prints is at VAPS. If your image is selected by VAPS to represent the State at the APSCON meeting it will be retained by VAPS until that date. If this happens you would need to replace this print with another for the Club's Annual Competition.

## Set Subject: Creative & Photojournalism

Name	Small						Large						Slides					
	Set			Open			Set			Open			Set			Open		
	A	M	H	A	M	H	A	M	H	A	M	H	A	M	H	A	M	H
Aggett, Keith	2c	1c		1	2													
Bibby, Betty								2	1			3						
Bibby, Trevor								3			1	2						
Buckland, D	1	1		1	1		1				1							
Grigg, David				2	1									1	2			
Hall, Carol							1	2			1	2						
Harvey, L				3						1	1	1						
Johnson, Judy				2	1													3
Lees, Hugh	1	2																
Lees, Lorraine	2	1			2	1												
Leith, Jenny								2	1c		1	2						
Pipkorn, Ann				1	1	1												
Pipkorn, Darryl		1																
Purcell, Kerrie				1	1				1c			1						
Wells, P		2c		2				1c		1	1							
Wharton, Jill					1			2			1	2						

### Photo Competitions.

#### **Millicent Photographic Art Show 2010**

Closing dates for entry forms 28<sup>th</sup> Feb.

Entry fee is \$22 per photograph

Entry forms can be downloaded from  
[www.wattlerange.sa.gov.au](http://www.wattlerange.sa.gov.au)

#### **Sovereign Hill**

As part of their 40<sup>th</sup> year celebrations there will be an online photography competition this will be launched through their site on Feb 6<sup>th</sup>

Go to [www.sovereignhill.com.au](http://www.sovereignhill.com.au) for more details Photos will be exhibited at the gold Museum in March and April

### **CLUB LOGO CLOTH BADGES**

Are available at \$8 each

See Carol if you would like one!

Look for them on the table at the next club night.

#### **Vigex 2010 16<sup>th</sup> International Photography Salon**

*Entry forms available from  
[www.vigex.org.au](http://www.vigex.org.au).*

*Closing dates June 12th*

### From Keith

Please remember your images must be mounted at 16 x 20 inches or 8 x 10 inches.  
No other sizes will be accepted from this month onwards.  
This is bring our work in to line with the VAPS sizing.  
It will also help stop images scratching each other.

*Mentors' please assist your new members with this ruling.*

**Remember they will definitely not be accepted.**

## *Ballarat National*

**NEW DATES** for 2010 will be :

Closing Date: Third week in October 2010  
Judging Date: End October or Early November 2010  
Exhibition Opening: Mid December 2010  
Exhibition ends: Late January 2011

Note that the Exhibition from 2010 on will be on display for six weeks over Summer.

An entry form will be in Newsbrief closer to the time.  
Further enquiries from Liz or Peter Cocks, Ph. (03) 5339 2650; email  
[info@ballaratcameraclub.org.au](mailto:info@ballaratcameraclub.org.au) or P O Box 1362, Bakery Hill Vic 3354.

We appreciate your understanding on this and look forward to receiving your entries before  
the Closing date for 2010.

## **Calendar of Upcoming Events**

**February Workshop:** Please enquire Wednesday night.

This was to be at the old cemetery on Wednesday 24th but it closes at 5pm. We would need to go there on the weekend between 9am and 5pm.

A notice will be placed on the front of the web page after Wednesday's meeting when a decision is made. This workshop was to tie in with the *Abandoned* set subject in April.

**Wednesday March 3<sup>rd</sup>** Committee Meeting at Ann Pipkorn's home at Cardigan Village.

**Wednesday March 10<sup>th</sup>**: General Meeting at the club room.

Images need to be entered for the April competition.

**April's Set subject:** Abandoned.

Something that has been given up, surrendered or forsaken.

**March 31<sup>st</sup>**: Work shop at Lorraine Harvey studio.

This has been altered from March 24<sup>th</sup> Possibilities include shooting subjects for the Bokeh and Close Portrait set subjects later on in the year.

## Hints: A selection of Freebies as listed in Australian Photography Dec 2009

**Rawtherapee** A very capable freeware RAW converter. To has very comprehensive options for conversion. Including noise reduction, white balance, exposure, sharpening .It even has a downloadable manual.

**Neat Image** is a thinking noise filter. Each photo is analysed. I find this a useful plug in for Photoshop There is also a standalone program.

**Polaroid Dust & Scratches** This is a good choice if your program doesn't have a dust & scratches filter. Files are saved as Jpeg, Tiff or Bitmap.

**The GIMP** is the heavyweight of the free graphics programs. Best at Victoria St Ballarat East run workshops on working with this program for a minimal cost.

**PaintNet** is a cheerful free replacement for the Paint Program that comes with windows. It runs on Windows 2000,XP or Vista.

**Smart Curve** fixes one of the great missing links in Photoshop Element-curves. It appears in the file menu and offers a very good Curves tool.

**Xpose** is another plug in designed to modify the overall contrast of the image, working with sliders.

You can download a good range of things yourself but remember to get your security, virus software to check them before you install them. Downloading plug-ins etc to the desktop is a good way to do this then you can run them to install them in the program. If you are not sure how to do this you could ask at the next digital meeting.

*Flare Editor Betty*

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Print/Slide night 7.30 pm. 2nd Wednesday of the month.  
Meetings held at - Basketball Archery building Prince of Wales Recreation Reserve Ballarat. (Near and behind the YMCA Aquatic Centre).  
Digital Meeting 7.30 pm. 1st Monday of the Month.  
Contact Publicity Officer for details.  
Workshop/Outings 4th Wednesday of the month or by arrangement.  
Contact Publicity Officer for details.

President – Bill Vermeend – 5332 3302  
Publicity Officer - Liz Cocks - 5339 2650  
Flare Editor – Betty Bibby 5332 1701  
Email [c/o:info@ballaratcameraclub.org.au](mailto:c/o:info@ballaratcameraclub.org.au)

*Contributions for the Flare to the Editor no later than the Sunday prior to the second Wednesday of the month. We really need your input, so please consider it.*