

Flare



July 2023

ballaratcameraclub.org.au



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Mastercraft by Trevor Parry

○ May Outing Report – Woookarung National Park

○ June Competition Results

○ Inspiration - Mieke Boynton

○ Presidents Report

Dates to Remember

July 12th

Competition Night
Open/Set

Selective Focusing

An image in which the principal subject is in sharp focus and which is emphasised by the unsharpness of nearer or further subject matter. (Technical).

Aug 9th

Competition Night
Open/Creative/Set

Negative Space

An image which utilizes the use of negative space to emphasize the main subject. Negative Space photography is related to minimalist photography. It emphasizes not just the subject but the empty space around the subject.

November 8th

Mieke Boynton *to give us a presentation via Zoom on “Abstract Photography Styles”*

Article on pages 14 - 16

September 24th

Lambley Gardens & Nursery
395 Lesters Rd. Ascot

Presidents “Travel” Report – Betty Bibby

Hi everyone, I do hope some of you are somewhere warmer like we are. We are currently travelling in West Australia along the coastline and the Indian Ocean Drive. A route we have not taken previously. Lots of coastal banksias mostly in flower with their large orange blooms and many other smaller shrubs. We have visited the very popular and famous Pinnacles along the way.



The area we are in now is dotted with sections of white sand hills rising out of the bush.

This morning we went for a drive down to North Point near Jurien Bay along a 4 wheel drive sandy track. We eventually ran out of road and on the headland we were greeted with remnants of bunkers from the second world war.



Tomorrow we will travel out to Lesueur National Park.

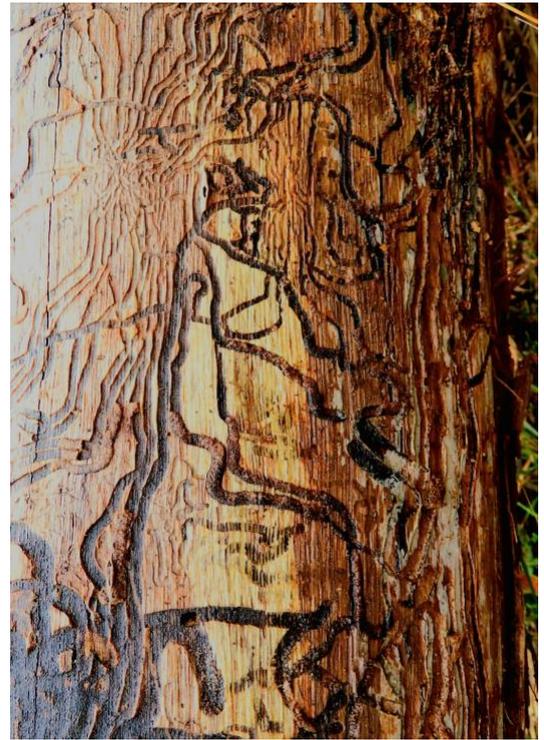
Soon we will head east out to central Wa looking for wild flowers and orchids, although with this colder than normal weather I feel we are a bit early.

So I hope you are making good use of your cameras be that inside or out. There are always plenty of still life techniques to explore.

You can follow our trip via Facebook, either under my name or via the club's site Photographers of Greater Ballarat. I also have been creating some reels on Facebook as well.

The absent president Betty

May Outing – Report Woowookarung National Park



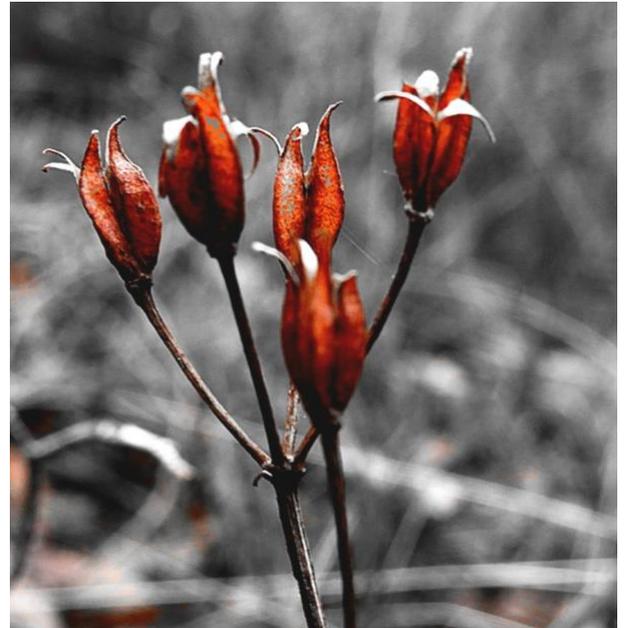
Sunday morning it did rain, but cleared by 10am for the five members that attended. Most put off by the rain we had earlier I guess.

Conditions were excellent to walk through the bush looking for fungi and other plants and creatures. Many good species were found within a fifty metre radius of where we parked. Specimens were shared and many photos were taken.

Included are a few of my photos.

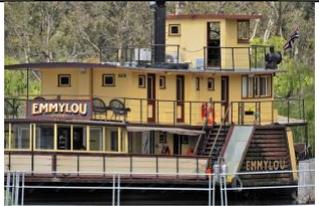
Trevor Parry





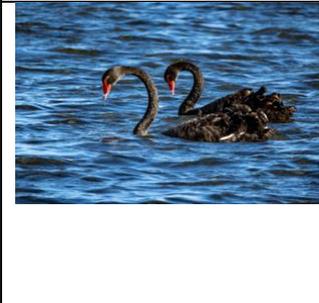
Ballarat Camera Club – Competition Results 2023 Judge – Mark Bevelander

EDPI Open

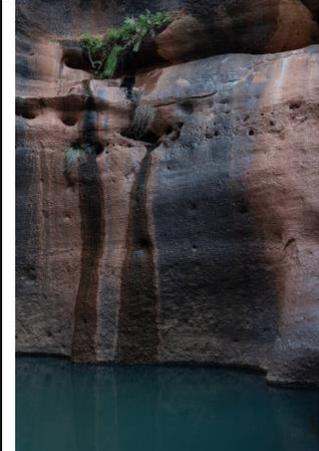
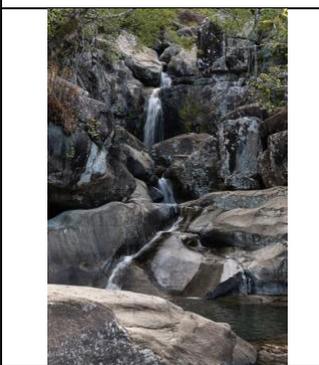
	<p>Bushfire Moon <i>Frank Carroll</i></p> <p>Score 10 <i>(Acceptance)</i></p>	<p>This image has significant impact and the silhouette of the mountains had considerable interest however half the moon being blown out takes away from the overall quality. Also as it's a dark photo over a long shutter speed there is a noticeable amount of noise.</p>
	<p>Chrysanthemum <i>Anne Carroll</i></p> <p>Score 11 <i>(Merit)</i></p>	<p>I like this image, particularly the reduced saturation as it adds impact. I'm wonder whether a squarer crop of the image would improve it.</p>
	<p>Early Morning Light at Cosy Corner <i>Anne Carroll</i></p> <p>Score 14 <i>(Honour)</i></p>	<p>This image has so much going for it. Firstly, the warm light on the rocks, which themselves have contrasting colours. Secondly the reflected colour on the sand (no footprints) with the watermark lines clearly showing. The trees and the ocean adds overall balance.</p>
	<p>Emmylou <i>Mario Gross</i></p> <p>Score 9 <i>(Acceptance)</i></p>	<p>This is certainly a shar picture of the well-known Emmy-Lou. I t does lack a point of interest for the eye to pick up on. A picture of the boat on the river with passengers and smoke from the chimney would have added context.</p>
	<p>Emmylou <i>Mario Gross</i></p> <p>Score 10 <i>(Acceptance)</i></p>	<p>This picture does present some context but having people leaning over the rails or sitting on the chairs would have lifted this image from a holiday pic.</p>

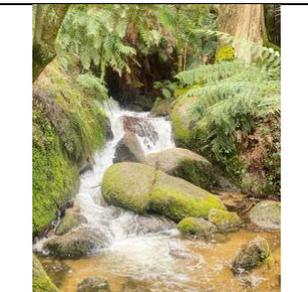
	<p>Family Squabble <i>Betty Bibby</i></p> <p>Score 12 <i>(Merit)</i></p>	<p>A great capture of these birds, in a very hectic situation. If this is a raw image, try lightening some of the shadow areas around the birds and reducing the noise areas also.</p>
	<p>Goodmorning <i>Trevor Parry</i></p> <p>Score 9 <i>(Acceptance)</i></p>	<p>Great capture of this bird sounding off. However try not to crop your image too much as a lot of detail gets lost. There seems to be some manipulation of background here, this is quite ok if it's not obvious which it is in this case.</p>
	<p>Into the Unknown <i>Anne Wilson</i></p> <p>Score 12 <i>(Merit)</i></p>	<p>The mist gives great effect here and complements the title. The light works well with the early morning sun beginning to penetrate the mist. I wonder if the image would be improved if the couple were facing the opposite way and coming towards the camera. This would add more personality to the overall story of the image.</p>
	<p>Lake Burrumbeet Vista <i>Trevor Bibby</i></p> <p>Score 11 <i>(Merit)</i></p>	<p>The panorama works well here by giving the landscape lots of room. I feel the image would have been improved by having a greater contrast between sky and land and between the reeds and the reflections. In the latter, this would provide a point of interest for the eye, particularly with the reeds and their reflections on the left of the image..</p>
	<p>Lake Fyans at Sunset <i>Lyn Fowler</i></p> <p>Score 9 <i>(Acceptance)</i></p>	<p>There are many elements of this image that could be improved. Firstly, less sky and more landscape, straightening the horizon, reducing the sharpening and the noise. Having said that the emotional impact is strong but is let down by the overall image quality.</p>

	<p>Let the Sun Shine In <i>Anne Carroll</i></p> <p>Score 14 <i>(Honour)</i></p>	<p>I love this image. The textures and colour variations of the bricks provide a warmth and promotes interest. The winner however is the sun shining through the bars of the window and lightening up the floorboards. I'm sure however, that the photographer did not realise that backpack was there which creates a point of annoyance. However some images are simple but great.</p>
	<p>Lunchtime <i>Ken Marsh</i></p> <p>Score 10 <i>(Acceptance)</i></p>	<p>There is a great human interest story here. The person is totally immersed in her mobile phone with her lunch in front. The viewer immediately wants to know her story. The light is beautiful, reflecting off the vines and flowers on the right. However, the image does seem to have been cropped in too much as the girl's figure has lost some detail and lack that sharpness that the viewer looks for.</p>
	<p>Master Craft <i>Trevor Parry</i></p> <p>Score 15 <i>(Honour)</i></p>	<p>This is a great image with many aspects to it including the various textures of the steel block and the shavings littered around, the implied action of the hammer onto the work and particularly the colour of the red-hot steel rod. The leather apron and the work-stained hand form a wonderful story.</p>
	<p>Natures Art <i>Trevor Parry</i></p> <p>Score 12 <i>(Merit)</i></p>	<p>This macro is a difficult shot as the as the DOF is so small. Because of this there are parts of this sundew which are out of focus. Consider focus stacking to bring all elements into sharp focus. The image would also be improved by providing a greater contrast with the background by reducing the green saturation there. Nevertheless a good capture.</p>
	<p>Once Used <i>Sonia Bickley</i></p> <p>Score 11 <i>(Merit)</i></p>	<p>The water tank is a great feature here because of its age and various textures on it. The image would have been improved by giving more room at the top. Also, the vegetation and palm tree do detract from the power of the image of the tank. It may have been improved by moving more to the left and include the shed more as a complement to the tank.</p>

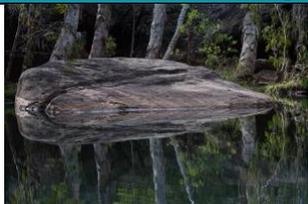
	<p>Splendid Fairy Wren <i>Betty Bibby</i></p> <p>Score 12 <i>(Merit)</i></p>	<p>It's incredibly difficult to capture these quick-moving fairy wrens. Maybe, because of the need to rapidly focus and capture the bird, there is a very slight blurring around the eye. When photographing birds, the eye is the key element that must be perfectly sharp.</p>
	<p>Stacks <i>Frank Carroll</i></p> <p>Score 15 <i>(Honour)</i></p>	<p>Beautiful landscape shot, coming out well in B&W. The slow shutter speed has worked well here both in the foreground and the background ocean having that silky appearance. The sun shining on the top provides another point of interest. An image that you can look at again and again.</p>
	<p>Syurt Desert Peas <i>Betty Bibby</i></p> <p>Score 12 <i>(Merit)</i></p>	<p>I wasn't quite sure here the disparity between the background and the flowers here, in that the background appears to have had movement and focus stacking has picked that up. However the Sturt Pea flowers are as sharp as a tack all the way through. The beads of moisture on the leaves on the left add interest.</p>
	<p>Take Off <i>Trevor Bibby</i></p> <p>Score 13 <i>(Honour)</i></p>	<p>A great capture of this kookaburra in flight. I wonder whether some cropping here would benefit the image as there's a lot of dead space here. Without wanting to be picky, the wing feathers have taken the focus resulting in a very slight drop in clarity on the eye. However it's a great image.</p>
	<p>The Foot of a Pioneer <i>Frank Carroll</i></p> <p>Score 12 <i>(Merit)</i></p>	<p>I like this as it's creative taking one aspect of a larger component, in this case the statue. Great sharpness and the bokeh background has sufficient detail to support the story.</p>
	<p>Twins <i>Trevor Bibby</i></p> <p>Score 10 <i>(Acceptance)</i></p>	<p>Two swans in synchrony in sunshine on the lake always make for an interesting image. It is important however for both swans to be sharp. This, admittedly is difficult to achieve but good to try with by closing down the aperture a few stops. This type of image does need some practice to get that right.</p>

	<p>Under Nimmons <i>Anne Wilson</i></p> <p>Score 12 <i>(Merit)</i></p>	<p>Great moody shot with the mist and the accentuated colours of the vegetation in the early morning sun. The angle here is always a challenge as the temptation is to adjust the water level which of course will put the centre brace of the bridge at an angle. I wonder whether a 'straight-on' view might have been better. Neverthe less a nice image.</p>
	<p>Waiting for a Tram <i>Ken Marsh</i></p> <p>Score 11 <i>(Merit)</i></p>	<p>Good mixture of stories here. However the viewer of this image would notice that everyone here has their back to the camera. The image would have been significantly improved if the angle had been changed to view the girl's face. Difficult I know.</p>
	<p>Your Shout <i>Ken Marsh</i></p> <p>Score 10 <i>(Acceptance)</i></p>	<p>This is interesting, however when there are signs of any sort in a photo the viewer always tries to read them and, if they are obscured it becomes annoying, as in this case. A good try however.</p>
EDPI – Set Subject – Enclosed Landscape		
	<p>Balanced Rocks <i>Judy McEachern</i></p> <p>Score 10 <i>(Acceptance)</i></p>	<p>The key point of interest here is the large crack in the bottom stone and this dominates the image. I would have liked to see something more to do with balancing to justify the title. With objects that have a multitude of textures and colours try for more light and contrast.</p>
	<p>Bryce Canyon <i>Carol Hall</i></p> <p>Score 12 <i>(Merit)</i></p>	<p>This is a beautiful image with lots of elements contributing to a common story. It does stretch the definition of the topic a little however with the very top appearing to include a short bit of a horizon. I would have given it a higher mark in a n open section.</p>
	<p>Bungles from Above <i>Vera Paulin</i></p> <p>Score 10 <i>(Acceptance)</i></p>	<p>This image certainly brings out the complexity of the landscape. However it lacks a fair bit of sharpness and I'm assuming that this image has been significantly cropped or perhaps the shutter speed wasn't fast enough when taking it from the helicopter?</p>

	<p>Cobbold Gorge <i>Murray McEachern</i></p> <p>Score 14 <i>(Honour)</i></p>	<p>Great mixture of elements here with water flowing down the cliff wall into the dark pond with the vegetation adding points of interest. Perhaps a little more saturation and light would have enhanced an already good image.</p>
	<p>Cool and Wet <i>Vera Paulin</i></p> <p>Score 13 <i>(Honour)</i></p>	<p>The silky look of the flowing water always forms the centre of an image. The combination of the rocks and lichen make for good contrast. The dense dead vegetation slightly takes away from the overall here, although hard to do anything about it.</p>
	<p>Copperfield Gorge <i>Murray McEachern</i></p> <p>Score 15 <i>(Honour)</i></p>	<p>I love this one, it has everything, the complexity of the rock and its reflection in the green coloured water. The variation of light causes the eye to move from the top down to the water. A striking image.</p>
	<p>Crystal Creek Falls <i>Murray McEachern</i></p> <p>Score 10 <i>(Acceptance)</i></p>	<p>The setting here is attractive with the water cascading down the rocks into the pool below. However the overall image is not sharp due to camera movement. Also the shutter speed has not sufficiently created that silky look.</p>
	<p>Feeling the Heat <i>Vera Paulin</i></p> <p>Score 9 <i>(Acceptance)</i></p>	<p>I like the simple composition here. Sometimes simple works really well. Unfortunately the shady part of the branch should be facing away from the camera as the detail of it is obscured due to the shadow.</p>

	<p>Flower Reflections <i>Lyn Fowler</i></p> <p>Score 10 <i>(Acceptance)</i></p>	<p>This is certainly a colourful scene. It is always good to consider the title of a photo in that, in this case, the reflections are overwhelmed by the plants and flowers. Cropping out the left of the image would highlight the reflections more. Also consider stopping down your aperture to ensure all parts of your scene are sharp.</p>
	<p>Hoodoo-Bryce Canyon <i>Judy McEachern</i></p> <p>Score 13 <i>(Honour)</i></p>	<p>This is an image of one of those 'wow' landscapes. I wonder whether incorporating the rule of thirds here would benefit the image by moving the camera to take the pillar to the left or right. A lovely vibrant scene however with great lighting.</p>
	<p>Horseshoe Falls <i>Frank Carroll</i></p> <p>Score 15 <i>(Honour)</i></p>	<p>It's hard to fault this image, the lighting throughout, in a difficult environment, is superb and the water flow is just at the right silky appearance. The eye moves smoothly, along the water, from the bottom left to the waterfalls. A great image.</p>
	<p>Icelandic Waterfall <i>Carol Hall</i></p> <p>Score 9 <i>(Acceptance)</i></p>	<p>The different water flows here make for an interesting view. Unfortunately there is water spot on your lens showing close to the center of the image. I would have liked to have seen it taken at a slower shutter speed, also a different time of day with a warmer light would make a difference here also.</p>
	<p>Outback Colour <i>Teresa Bates</i></p> <p>Score 14 <i>(Honour)</i></p>	<p>A striking image with great rock textures and colours and the shrub at the waterline creates rippled reflections providing a contrast to the browns of the rock.</p>
	<p>Refreshing <i>Sonia Bickley</i></p> <p>Score 10 <i>(Acceptance)</i></p>	<p>This image has a lot of promise with the balance of water, rocks and vegetation. Its main drawback however, is the flat lighting which ensures that there is little contrast between the various elements of the image. Some post processing might assist here.</p>
	<p>Sailors Falls <i>Judy McEachern</i></p> <p>Score 9 <i>(Acceptance)</i></p>	<p>There's a lot of promise here with the ribbon of water cascading down upon the rocks, however the falls are completely overpowered by the large tree on the left. It might require some clambering to get a different perspective but it would be worth it.</p>

	<p>The Forest Takes Over <i>Carol Hall</i></p> <p>Score 11 <i>(Merit)</i></p>	<p>This is such a difficult environment to take a photo and the end result could be too much noise in your photo. That may be the reason why the photo lacks all-round clarity or that a tripod wasn't used. The composition is great however.</p>
	<p>Tranquil Ponds <i>Tom Bates</i></p> <p>Score 12 <i>(Merit)</i></p>	<p>I love the different shapes of the trees and branches in this creek- bed. I would have liked to see the ponds more centre to the image by taking the photo more from the left. The lighting is good and everything is sharp.</p>
<p>Large Prints – Open</p>		
	<p>Heart of the Gerbera <i>Betty Bibby</i></p> <p>Score 13 <i>(Honour)</i></p>	<p>Beautiful flower and sharp throughout. The yellow colours in the centre add interest to the overall image.</p>
	<p>Lake Burrumbeet Sunset <i>Trevor Bibby</i></p> <p>Score 12 <i>(Merit)</i></p>	<p>The platinum paper almost gives this a 3D effect. Beautiful late- afternoon light. There are some distracting elements though, I would have liked the photographer to have zoomed out a bit more to catch all the reflections as they form an important part of the story here. The distant horizon adds context here but the different distances sometimes give the effect of the horizon not being straight. I do feel that a very small adjustment would make the LHS seem more straight. However composition.</p>
	<p>Sticks <i>Betty Bibby</i></p> <p>Score 10 <i>(Acceptance)</i></p>	<p>Great colour in the water and the ripples add a texture. The eye does wander across the image looking for a particular point of interest, some other element (like a bird or two) would lift this image.</p>
	<p>Sunrise Banksia <i>Judy McEachern</i></p> <p>Score 13 <i>(Honour)</i></p>	<p>Beautiful golden banksia with sun shining on it. Points of interest include the red tip and the filament rising from bottom to top. Bokeh is generally good although the large white spots are a little distracting.</p>

	<p>Sunrise Birds <i>Murray McEachern</i></p> <p>Score 12 <i>(Merit)</i></p>	<p>Lovely panorama shot here. Early morning light across the still lake with the corellas/cockatoos speckled around the trees in the distance. Again the title is important here because the main story here is not the birds, although they form part of it, it is the lake and the hills in the distance that form the main point of interest.</p>
<p>Large Prints _ Set Subject – Enclosed Landscape</p>		
	<p>Rock Reflection <i>Judy McEachern</i></p> <p>Score 10 <i>(Merit)</i></p>	<p>It took me a little while to work out what this image showed. The rock is certainly front and centre but the trees and their reflections compete strongly with it. I would have liked to see the rock from a different angle where it doesn't compete with the trees.</p>
	<p>Wallaman Falls <i>Murray Mceachern</i></p> <p>Score 13 <i>(Honour)</i></p>	<p>These falls are beautiful and it was just perfect to get the rainbow in at the bottom. I experimented here by covering the RHS and part of the LHS to change this to a portrait form and I think it works better that way as the rocks and cliffs tend to take some of the Falls magic away.</p>

Mieke Boynton
 Australian Landscape
 Photographer



I'm a specialist landscape and aerial photographer from beautiful Bright in the Alpine Valleys of North-East Victoria (Australia). My partner Matt Palmer and I opened our "[Alpine Light](#)" photographic art gallery here in my home town in December 2021.

I love being alone in Nature and photographing its stunning beauty. When I go out into the landscape, I try to clear my head of all the clutter and simply "listen." I try to immerse myself in the moment and be guided by the sounds and the atmosphere of that particular place. When I process my photos, I'm very careful about honouring the authentic reality of that moment.



Nature has always provided inspiration for artists, but only recently has aerial photography become a (relatively) affordable genre of photography, and even now, many of the best locations for abstract aeriols are completely inaccessible except via planes or helicopters. As a consequence, aerial photographers often experience the intoxicating feeling that we are capturing images of the Earth that are truly novel and unique.

Abstract art allows the artist to communicate in a more subtle way with the viewer, leaving certain elements open to interpretation whilst at the same time making other elements more pronounced. This is true of abstract aerial photography, where the overhead perspective and vagueness of scale allow the photographer to showcase the artistry of Nature in a more detailed way.



There is an all-encompassing sense of awe, and an urgent compulsion to do justice to the incredible beauty that I see below me.

What they all reveal is the beauty of Nature with its intimate attention to detail, intricate textures, perfect patterns and bold, vibrant colours



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