



# IN FOCUS

Newsletter of the Northside Creative Photography Club

Newsletter  
August 2009

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Photo: Lake Jindabyne, Susan Buchanan.

### FROM THE PRESIDENT

Thank you to everyone who expressed to me their delight in the David Malin presentation. It was wonderful to have such an entertaining and informative gentleman guide us through Galileo's Legacy. As an added bonus, I would like to turn this message over to David and his answer to my question: "I would like to follow up on the conversation we had regarding a small article for our newsletter on what equipment an amateur photographer may use to do night sky photography?"

David: "All that is needed for photography of the night sky is a modest camera, (film or digital), a decent tripod (you can't have too much tripod) and enough imagination to photograph what you cannot see.

For film buffs and general commentary visit <http://www.twanight.org/newtwan/article.asp?ArticleID=3003&page=1>

I'm a consultant to this group, and exploring their

web page will show you what can be done. Most of the people listed here are photographers, not astronomers; they are all amateurs, and their underlying interest is to use the night sky as a creative backdrop to their photographs. The end result is both stunning and inspirational, not least because they show how one of nature's greatest spectacles, the dark night sky, is compromised by our relentless use of fossil fuels to light every nook and cranny of the globe, whether it needs it or not. There's an overwhelming amount of info on the web about using digital SLRs at night and getting the best out of them.

Many of the TWAN photographers have web sites that show off their work and provide links to their methods."

Good luck in the Winter competition on Wednesday.

**Susan Buchanan**

President, Northside Creative Photography

Quote: I don't try to overintellectualize my concepts of people. In fact, the ideas I have, if you talk about them, they seem extremely corny and it's only in their execution that people can enjoy them...It's something I've learned to trust: The stupider it is, the better it looks. - Annie Leibovitz



## CONTACTS

**POST:**  
PO Box 192, Gordon, NSW 2072, Australia

**WEB:**  
[www.ncp.org.au](http://www.ncp.org.au)

**EMAIL:**  
Contact via email is available from the 'Contact Details' page on our Website.

**THE CLUB MEETS AT:**  
St David's Uniting Church Hall,  
Pacific Highway,  
Lindfield.  
(Corner Provincial Road.)  
On the 1st and 3rd Wednesday  
of each month at 7.30 for an 8pm start.

**PRESIDENT:**  
Susan Buchanan: 0428 446 495

**VICE PRESIDENT:**  
Jan Glover: 02 9498 3916

**SECRETARY:**  
Peter Sambell

**TREASURER:**  
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## **AUGUST OUTING: MUOGAMARRA NATURE RESERVE, SUNDAY 23RD**

Meet at Gordon Station at 9.00 am to car pool to Muogamarra. At Muogamarra we can all catch up with each other by meeting outside the large corrugated iron shed. The reserve closes at 4.30 PM so it is imperative we leave by say 4.00 PM - (otherwise we will share the next week with the local wildlife, in which case don't forget the telephoto lens).

Cost: Entrance fee is Adult \$6, (no concessions) children \$3. Family \$15 (2 adults and 3 children).

What to bring: The usual requisites for a days bush walking: sturdy foot wear; plenty of water (not available there); sunscreen and hat, sunglasses; jumper, rain jacket as appropriate; food for the day, (tea and coffee available there).

About Muogamarra: The reserve is noted for its wildflowers so the macro lens is a must. There are also some very good opportunities for landscape shots over the Hawkesbury River. Muogamarra Nature Reserve is situated on land originally owned by John Tipper in the 1930s. He was a great nature lover and used it as a retreat, leaving it to the state on his death so it may be enjoyed by others. The old road from Sydney passes through the reserve and you can see where it has been cut through the sandstone. For those with a botanical bent you will see *Micromyrtus blakelyi* which is found only in Muogamarra and Maroota areas. There are spectacular views over the Hawkesbury River, and plenty of walks available for all levels of fitness.

The Point Loop track runs around the main visitor area and is fairly level. The track to Lloyd trig and Deerubbin lookout are a bit longer and have a few more climbs. The longest is to Pete's Crater and would be a full days walk with photography. This would need to be timed to turn around in time to get back.

Ask at the car park for information on wildflowers which are out or where you may find a particular species.

Directions: The entrance to the reserve is 3-4 km north of Cowan railway station on the left hand side of the OLD Pacific Highway and a little over 1/2 km past Austral Watergardens. It is opposite Pie in the Sky. (Excellent pies). You need to have your wits about you because the entrance is just around a corner and can catch you by surprise.

Anyone wanting to know any more may contact Don Gould on 9449 4451 or Email [donald.gould@bigpond.com](mailto:donald.gould@bigpond.com).

This is a wonderful place and a good day is assured whatever your interests

## **STEP BY STEP NATURE PHOTOGRAPHY BOOK**

Esther Beaton, a nature photographer whose work regularly features in Australian Geographic, has launched her new book "The Nature Photography Cookbook – 60 Easy Step by Step Recipes to Get You Shooting like a Pro." The book has step by step instruction with examples for a variety of different techniques. Check out a sample of the recipes on her website. <http://thenaturephotographycookbook.com/>

## **THE PHOTO ALBUM SHOP**

The Photo Album Shop is now at Unit 15, 12-14 Beaumont Rd, Mt Kuring-gai and the phone number is 9457 7322. They offer a 10% discount to NCP members, which is available both in the showroom and online, by using promotional code NCP29 in the checkout.

Their archival binders are particularly useful for storing negatives or slides. The binders also take a variety of archival plastic sleeves in various sizes, suitable for different sized prints. [www.photoalbumshop.com.au](http://www.photoalbumshop.com.au)

## **NEWSLETTER SUBMISSIONS:**

We invite you to contribute to InFocus. If you have images you would like to see appear or a story with or without accompanying images, we would like to hear from you.

To ensure our newsletter goes out on time, please have any submissions emailed to Jan Glover at [editor@ncp.org.au](mailto:editor@ncp.org.au)

**MATERIAL DEADLINE: 28th August 2009 or prior.**

# Aerial Photography

A recent Bill Peach Great Australian Aircruise gave me the opportunity to try some aerial photography. I didn't aspire to fly upside down in a tiger moth like Jackie Ranken, or even to emulate the feats of aerial specialists such as Richard Woldendorp or Yann Arthus Bertrand. Instead I sat comfortably in a window seat of our Dash 8, my elderly mother having relinquished her window seat on more than one occasion on our 12 day trip. Our itinerary was Sydney – Longreach – Katherine – Kakadu – Darwin – Kununurra – Broome – Uluru – Alice Springs – Birdsville – Sydney.

In fact I had not even thought about Yann Arthus Bertrand and aerial photography until my return when I decided to have a look at his website – and to my excitement, discovered that we had taken photographs in many of the same locations – Gosses Bluff Crater, Argyle Diamond Mine, Ranger Uranium mine, Bungle Bungles and Buccaneer Archipelago. His photographs can be seen on his website [www.yannarthusbertrand2.org](http://www.yannarthusbertrand2.org) (Photos can be viewed according to country). Some of my aerial shots can be seen on my website [www.glover.id.au](http://www.glover.id.au)

My compact Canon IXUS850 was most convenient to use for photographing, the display making it easy to frame the photo from my seat. Better results were obtained with the Canon 5D, but it is difficult to frame the shot through the viewfinder, and one has a tendency to collide with the window. Shots were all adjusted in Photoshop with Auto Contrast. I ended each day of the journey with my head twisted to one side, according to which side of the plane I was sitting on. The patterns of the earth below varied constantly, with the most spectacular being the flight over the Kimberley coast. I was also fortunate have my turn in the jump seat in the cockpit for take off over Uluru and Kata Tjuta. Our pilot was a very sweet young girl, only 27 with long blond hair. She flew around Uluru a second time so I could get a good photo!!!!!!

## Jan Glover



Photos: Jan Glover

## July Outing: Bobbin Head.

Sunday the 19th of July was a delightful warm sunny day for our outing to Bobbin Head and the surrounding bushland. All twenty one participants had a great day of photography and socialising. The scenery was a good challenge for a photographer with very few postcard scenes but lots of treasures camouflaged in the mud, mangroves and scrub. There were people everywhere and lots of opportunities for the "street photographer". We even had a party of tourists traipsing through the bush headed by the leader carrying a hoisted two metre high national flag. Then there was the waterway itself with countless boats and rows of Sunday afternoon fishermen lining the shores. Two plovers valiantly defended their ground nest just 25 cm from the road and amid large numbers of picnickers crisscrossing the area in every direction. Sydney was light-years away.

**Wal Lamberth**



Photo: Elegant Plovers guarding the nest, Wal Lamberth.

## Overall winner of Topshot 2009 - Jan Glover.

This is a competition for members of clubs affiliated with the Federation of Camera Clubs (FCC). The print entries were on display at the PMA Imaging Exhibition at Darling Harbour at the end of May, and were seen by thousands of visitors. Jan Glover won the Overall Topshot Award for "Collaroy Beach" and also received 3rd place in the Digital Creative section. Congratulations also to Kerry Boytell who obtained 3rd place in both Nature prints and Digital Australian Landscape sections; to Carol Makeham – Highly Commended in Nature Prints; and to Chris Barlow – Highly Commended in Digital Creative. The electronic entries were shown at the award presentation at the Castle Hill RSL Club, when Ken Duncan OAM was the guest speaker and presented the trophies.



# Tours, workshops and talks.

## VIETNAM PHOTOGRAPHIC TOURS

17 day North Vietnam tour – departs 2nd October 2010.  
24 day Vietnam tour – departs 19th March 2010  
For more information visit [www.spotlightonasia.com](http://www.spotlightonasia.com)  
or email [mfackender@spotlightonasia.com](mailto:mfackender@spotlightonasia.com)  
The tours are run by Dooleys Camera Club President, Malcolm Fackender.

## Ballarat International Foto Biennale

Running from September 4 to October 4, 2009, the BIFB will see more than 150 photographic events in a month of exhibitions, seminars and workshops in Ballarat, Victoria. The Core Exhibition Program will feature a selection of some of the best contemporary photography from around the world including Australian Photographers Gary Steer and Robert Billington. <http://www.ballaratfoto.org>

## The Sky's the Limit

Celebrate the 400th anniversary of Galileo's Star Messenger by star-gazing in the Gardens with astronomer Prof Fred Watson and Dr Brett Summerell as they unlock Galileo's and Darwin's revolutionary discoveries.

Time: 6:00pm-9:00pm Aug 22 Cost: \$15/\$13.50 incl refreshments. Venue: Maiden Theatre, Royal Botanic Gardens, Sydney. Bookings: Royal Botanic Gardens [www.rbg Syd.nsw.gov.au](http://www.rbg Syd.nsw.gov.au) 02 9231 8134

## John Ogden: Portraits from a Land without People

Film-maker and photographer John Ogden talks about Portraits from a Land Without People, his pictorial history of Indigenous Australians compiled from the first photographs by Douglas T Kilburn in 1847 through to the Prime Minister's apology in 2008.

Time: 6:00pm-7:30pm Aug 07 Cost: \$5/ Members Free incl refreshments

Venue: function room, Surry Hills Library, 405 Crown St., Surry Hills. Bookings: City of Sydney Library [www.cityofsydney.nsw.gov.au/Library](http://www.cityofsydney.nsw.gov.au/Library) (02) 8374 6230

## 3D X-Ray: Microscopic Wonder

Dr Allan S Jones of the Australian Key Centre for Microscopy and Microanalysis uses techniques from animation, photography and microscopy for a magical journey in 3D and shows how microscopes are becoming more sophisticated. Time: 1:00pm-2:00pm Aug 16 Cost: Free

Venue: Macleay Museum, Macleay Building, Gosper Lane, off Science Rd, University of Sydney  
Bookings: Sydney University Museums [www.usyd.edu.au/museums/whatson/public\\_e..](http://www.usyd.edu.au/museums/whatson/public_e..) (02) 9036 5253

## Walking Tasmania – A Photographer's Dream

14-23 October 2009

Cradle Mountain Overland Track and the Bay of Fires with Grenville Turner, one of Australia's leading landscape photographers. For more information visit go to the Study Tours section at [www.cce.usyd.edu.au](http://www.cce.usyd.edu.au)

## The Smile Photography Competition

Would \$10,000 make you Smile? For your chance to win \$10,000 cash or one of 59 Nikon Coolpix digital cameras\* valued at \$599, simply enter a photo you've taken that makes you smile. It might be your children laughing, a furry friend or a magic moment. You don't need to be a professional photographer to enter, give us your best shot! Snap up an entry form at your local participating shopping centre or visit [www.smilephotos.com.au](http://www.smilephotos.com.au)

Entries close 3pm, Thursday 13 August 2009. For full competition details and to view terms and conditions, visit [www.smilephotos.com.au](http://www.smilephotos.com.au)

## Monuments of Syria

If you are planning to visit Syria, and I thoroughly recommend the experience, a new website will give you an insight to some of the fabulous historic monuments across the country. In 2007 I had the privilege of travelling with the author of "Monuments Of Syria", Ross Burns, as he was preparing to revise the book for the 2009 edition. "Monuments" is not a Lonely Planet style of guide. More correctly it is a gazetteer. The book details sites, giving relevant history, maps and walking guides to larger more complex sites. Now Ross has launched a website that has a photo gallery of some of the more important sites and information that could not be included in the book. These are practical images but they do give you an idea of the fabulous photographic opportunities from the famous Krak des Chevaliers to the beautiful monastery Deir Mar Musa. The site is under construction but if you are planning a visit to Syria check it out. <http://monumentsofsyria.com>



# Competitions and Exhibitions

## **Ku-ring-gai Council Festival of Wildflowers**

Reconnect with Nature- Photo Competition

The competition is now open and closes at 5pm Friday 14 August 2009.

There are five categories in which you can enter:

- \* Native plants
- \* Native animals
- \* Nature in my garden
- \* People and nature
- \* Landscape

Images must be taken within the Ku-ring-gai local government area

For further information visit the website

[www.kmc.nsw.gov.au/www/html/3357-reconnect-with-nature--photo-competition.asp?intSiteID=1](http://www.kmc.nsw.gov.au/www/html/3357-reconnect-with-nature--photo-competition.asp?intSiteID=1)

For further information contact Valerie Close on 9424 0352

## **Photo Art Gallery.com "Magic Hour"**

Enter your three best images of the renowned "Magic Hour" - the wonderful light that appears around dawn and dusk each day. Entry is free, worldwide, and copyright belongs to the photographer. Comp opens July 30th and closes 8am August 31st.

1st prize: A brilliant photographic accessories pack from Digital Camera Warehouse valued at over A\$1700.

2nd. Prize: A voucher for the photographer to create their own coffee table photo book with blurb.com to the value of A\$300.

3rd. Prize: A limited edition photographic art print from the Photo Art Gallery Collectors' Gallery to the value of A\$200.

Members' Choice Award: A highly sort after, and down right collectable Photo Art Gallery TShirt cost value 60 bucks.. kudos value priceless :) For more information head to <http://www.photoartgallery.com/competition>

## **STATE LIBRARY OF NSW – MITCHELL GALLERIES**

**20 June 2009 – 31 January 2010**

### **Vaniman Panorama**

American adventurer Melvin Vaniman (1866 – 1912) arrived in Sydney in February 1903 and spent a year, on and off, photographing the city and harbour. His distinctive panoramas were nearly always taken from high above the ground and if a nearby building or ship's mast was not at hand he erected his own thirty-metre pole to achieve a bird's-eye view.

Vaniman Panorama features enlargements of twelve of the sixty to seventy panoramas produced by Vaniman during his time in Australia.

## **australian centre for photography**

**Friday 17 July to Saturday 22 August**

**Tue - Fri: 12.00 - 7.00pm, Sat & Sun 10.00am - 6.00pm**

**257 Oxford Street, Paddington NSW 2021**

**Three concurrent exhibitions:**

**Edward Burtynsky:** Australian Minescapes - A travelling exhibition from the Western Australian Museum

Edward Burtynsky is one of the world's leading contemporary landscape photographers. This series of images, taken in the eastern goldfields and the Pilbara of Western Australia, continues Edward Burtynsky's examination of natural landscapes modified by mankind in the pursuit of the raw materials required for our modern society.

**Christopher Ireland:** Breathe

Breathe is a collection of portraits of women who have lost their husbands to asbestos-related diseases.

**Francesca Rosa:** Interior Disaster

Interior Disaster is a record of a decomposing household approximately eleven months after Cyclone Larry destroyed it.

**Woodstock: 3 Days of Peace & Music celebrating the 40th Anniversary of Woodstock 1969**

**Blender Gallery, 16 Elizabeth Street Paddington**

**Friday 7th August until Tuesday 25th August**

**Gallery hours: Tuesday-Saturday: 10am - 6pm.**

This exhibition will feature more than 30 of the most famous and evocative images from the three days historic festival of 1969.

From August 15, 1969, an estimated 400,000 people battled through epic traffic jams to reach Max Yasgur's dairy farm near Bethel, New York State, which had a population of about 3,000.

There they spent three era-defining days sitting around waiting for technical hitches to be sorted out, rolling around in the endless mud and taking myriad forms of recreational drugs before Jimi Hendrix closed the festival by inimitably mangling The Star Spangled Banner into an anti-war protest, some time after nine o'clock on the Monday morning.

The Photographers featured in the exhibition are Henry Diltz, Elliott Landy, Amalie R. Rothschild and Burk Uzzle.

Upcoming Events : August 2009

Wed 5th August : Competition: Winter - Judge: Janie News

Wed 19th August : Presentation: Daniel Linnet

Sun 23rd August: Outing: Muogamarra Nature Reserve

Wed 26th August : Committee meeting

