



March 2010

Newsletter of the Federation of Camera Clubs (NSW) Inc

Est. 1953 as The NSW Photographic Council
PO Box 9136, Harris Park NSW 2150
www.photographynsw.org.au

Competition

The competition from November produced a late entry. Thanks to Peter Thorpe of the Penrith RSL club for his images and to Meg Nurse for her image from the last competition on sorrow. Check the gallery page for Peter's images.

The next competition is based on **symbolism**. We have just celebrated Australia Day with the flag as a symbols of identity. Perhaps you have an image that is symbolic or contains symbols of some significance, not necessarily a flag. See page two!

Please submit a file of 500 kb. The winner will have their image displayed in f/stop.

I look forward to seeing your images.

AGM 2010

Sunday 2nd May.

At the Henry Lawson Club Ltd. Starts 1pm.

On Henry Lawson Avenue, Werrington County.

AGM minutes have been sent to president and secretary, also on website. Make sure delegates read the minutes please.

President

Alan Hitchell 9628 5675
fccpresident@photographynsw.org.au

Vice President

Roy Killen 4953 7043
fccvpres@photographynsw.org.au

Secretary

Luciano Vranich 4731 5898
fccsecretary@photographynsw.org.au

Treasurer

John Newton 9521 8061
fcc treasurer@photographynsw.org.au

Webmaster

Elsie Hall fccwebmaster@photographynsw.org.au

f/stop Editor

Luciano Vranich
fcceditor@photographynsw.org.au

Committee

Philip Ramsden 9953 3827
Richard Trousdale 9940 5597
Ray Finneran 9755 2995
Julie Watson 4397 2294
Gary Riley 9526 1089

The 2010 Northern NSW Zone Photographic Convention

8, 9 May 2010
Port Macquarie

Enjoy the hospitality and warmth of one of Australia's most picturesque and interesting photographic locations while listening to internationally recognised photographic craftsmen. Ron Willems from Christchurch,

Graham Burstow from Toowoomba and Ian Bock from Melbourne head up

The Convention includes presentations by eminent speakers, workshops, an interclub photographic competition and a river excursion aboard a Chinese junk.

Visit

www.portmacquariecameraclub.net

for more details



"Sorrow" by Meg Nurse
Ryde/Eastwood Leagues Club Camera

Mosman Camera Club

I am very pleased to advise that **Peter Eastway** has very kindly accepted our invitation to be the club's "**Patron**".

Hans Lignell

Australianscreensavers.com.au

Symbolism

Definition from Wikipedia: Symbolism is the systematic or creative use of arbitrary symbols as abstracted representations of concepts or objects and the distinct relationships in between, as they define both context and the narrower definition of terms. In a narrow context, "symbolism" is the applied use of any iconic representations which carry particular conventional meanings.

Christian symbolism is the use of actions or objects to represent the truths of the Christian faith, either as a reminder of those truths or as a way of spiritually connecting with the underlying truth or act.

Other Christian symbols include the dove (symbolic of the Holy Spirit), the sacrificial lamb (symbolic of Christ's sacrifice), the vine (symbolising the necessary connectedness of the Christian with Christ) and many others. These all derive from specific allegories in the Bible. Many are also used within Judaism.

A good example is the painting by Jan van Eyck, the Arnolfini Marriage. Google it.

Club Diary for March

Date	Club	Event
1	Pittwater	Travel Photography & Camera Raw : Dennis Jones
	Henry Lawson CC	Susan Buchanan: Northside Creative portfolio.
2	Castle Hill RSL CC	Travel Photography: Darran Leal
	North Sydney	Mark Tedeschi
3	Blacktown City	Presentation by PhotoArt –Paul Worsley
	Kiama Shellharbour	Studio Photography: David Miller
4	Inner West	Sports Action Photography: David Miller
5	Mosman CC	Slow & Fast Action : Dave Miller
8	Penrith RSL	Travel Photography: Malcolm Fackender
	Ryde Eastwood	Architecture: Gavin Roberts
9	Bay and Basin	Workshop : Digital Darkroom Technique part 1 - Di Coghlan
11	St George Leagues	Presentation: Nature
17	Belmont 16ft Sailing Club CC	4-6pm – Andrew Styan and others - “What do judges look for, and does it really matter?”
	Eastern Suburbs	Photoshop Basics : Elsie Hall
22	Blue Mountain Photo Group	Nature: Jim Crew
24	Belmont 16ft Sailing Club CC	Roy Killen “Processing techniques – turning good photographs into great photographs”
	Shoalhaven	Workshop: Use your camera manually—no auto setting allowed

Book Review by Luciano Vranich

The Complete Guide to Light

By Mark Cleghorn

Published by: Photographers' Institute Press, 2008

ISBN 978-1-86108-526-9.

The book as its title suggest covers many aspects in the use of ambient and studio light. This provides a good understanding of light, its qualities, direction and colour temperature and where they can be identified and used to obtain a good image. The book contains a good chapter on common problems with studio flash.

Some of his terminology are confusing: depth of focus is confused with depth of field.

“Creative” is associated with filters, showing a simplistic and meaningless use of the word.

This is similar with some authors who advocate distorted angles without referring back to the original idea that the distortion may inform.

He refers to “Sharpness of light”, and I have to admit that this term is new to me. Maybe he means hard light.

The book overall is useful and informative and well illustrated with many photos.

Vale: Eileen Menzies, LAPS SSAPS. Eileen Menzies passed away on Thursday, 7th January, 2010. Eileen joined Caringbah Camera Club (now known as Port Hacking Camera Club) about fifty years ago shortly after it's formation, serving in many committee positions, becoming a Life Member and continuing to participate until a fall at home limited her mobility in 2009. Eileen was a Life Member of the FCC. Eileen gave her time willingly, often at short notice, to pro-

vide assistance to camera clubs including judging, lecturing, presentations, manning of exhibitions or just plain old good advice. Eileen was also active outside camera clubs bringing joy and entertainment to many with her various community works, particularly for those who were unable, for various reasons, to participate themselves. For this, Eileen was recognised by the Australian Government during the Year of the Volunteer.

An Open Letter to all FCC Judges

At one of my Club's monthly competitions we were exposed to the most appalling display of judging I have experienced in a very long time. All of the old clichés were there - people must always be facing the camera, gates should always be open and every subject must be cropped so no supporting environment is to be seen, to state just a few. There was to be no exception to these dogmatic requirements. Coupled with this was a rejection of a particular subject category for no other reason than the judge did not like photographs of such a subject.

The judging included pretty well all of the standard sayings we have all heard so often and was presented with scarcely any constructive criticism. Any assessment of a photograph's communication or message was totally absent and all we heard about were photographic misdemeanors like patches of white or lack of pin sharp focus - all very technical stuff.

Camera club photography has no where to go and no room for development if we are going to continue with the same tired approach and clichéd comment that has been handed down from one judging generation to another. Unless judges are prepared to take a lead and bring into club photography a fresh approach that encompasses photography as a means of communication rather than a means of simply recording, club members and the FCC will continue to be done a great disservice.

A judge needs to be open minded, flexible, fair and honest in their evaluation. It is also of assistance if they can be contemporary in their photographic approach.

The FCC is trying hard to bring a fresh approach, as the judging course held last year will attest, but it is up to individual judges to lift their game and so help move club photography forward.

Jim Crew
FCC Judge

Gallery Page

featuring images from the November comp by Peter Thorpe



RECIPIENTS OF AWARDS

Des Crawley has been awarded the FCC ESA award. Thanks to the following groups for supplying information that assisted the committee in its determination.

Lane Cove CC

Exhibition at Penrith (L Vranich)

Mosman

Penrith RSL

Port Macquarie Panthers

Henry Lawson

Hawkesbury CC

Narooma CC

Inner West

Pittwater,

Manly,

Harbord

Southern Highlands

Belmont 16ft Sailing Club CC

Kiama Shell Harbour CC

Dooleys

Eastern Suburbs

North Side Creative

NEW AWARDS. The committee approved two new awards for excellence in image making. The awards are the Merit FCC and is the first award requiring 50 points and the second is the Excellence Merit FCC requiring 100 points. All the details are on the FCC website and an application form.

Some significant changes: an image can only be used once. Points can be gained from National, International comps, Topshot, FCC Interclub, end of year PASOTY, local interclubs, zone comps.

With regard to the portfolio - Importantly the intention was to provide members with another way of applying for an honour not based on the competition system. The portfolio and the competition have nothing in common other than excellence. The portfolio is not another way of using competition points. Clubs like Northside Creative are doing portfolios as part of their ongoing exploration of their skills and developing a different way for their members to express their ideas. Other clubs are also trying something along the same line. This will accommodate them.

In my job of providing exhibitions for Penrith Library I always try to find a unity in the collection of images provided to me in a maximum of 21 images.

The portfolio should be of the highest standard possible in terms of content, concept and presentation. Recycling old images from competitions is not appropriate.

Clubs still use set subjects, triptychs, etc. Portfolios are no different, just an extended version of them.

I don't expect that many people will opt for this portfolio method of gaining an honour but let there be a choice and a distinction between the two methods. Both are valid for the individual wanting the honour.

Luciano-Chairman Honours sub committee.

Shutterbug – Call for entries.

Shutterbug Photography Festival, now in its fourth year, is open for submissions from any photographer earning under \$20 000 per year. As well as a prize pool of \$10 000, 15 finalists will have their work shown on the big screen at the huge Shutterbug Projection night in July 2010. Submissions can be made online from January 1st until 30th May 2010.

All details for entry: www.shutterbug.org.au

NOTICES

Head On Portrait Prize - Call for Entries

**DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSION – Sunday
11pm (EDT), 14 March 2010**

Head on Foundation invites photographers to submit images to the 2010 photographic portrait competition.

Prizes will be awarded for the best 3 images. The selection of images will be done anonymously based on the power of the photograph rather than the celebrity of the subject or photographer. Further prizes will

be awarded to images selected for 'The Critic's Award' and for 'People's Choice'.

Finalists' work will be selected by National Gallery of Victoria Senior Photography Curator Isobel Crombie, Award winning Photographer Anthony Browell, picture editor and VU agent Isabelle Rouvillois and Head On curator Moshe Rosenzweig. The 'Critic's Prize' will be selected by photography critic Robert McFarlane.

Total value of prizes is approximately \$40,000.

More details www.headon.com.au

Amateur Photography Day.

I met with the representatives of Fairfax Community Newspapers. The organisation has papers in the following areas:

Blacktown
Camden
Castle Hill
Fairfield
Liverpool
Macarthur/Campbelltown
Parramatta
Penrith
Rouse Hill
St George
St Marys
Wollondilly

I had the following response:

"What we propose is the following:

1. That we help promote Topshot as it is already a recognised event by amateur photogra-

phers. This avoids any confusion of events if we introduce something new.

2. That the local advertising managers arrange for a feature page on photography for one week in early May to promote the exhibition.

3. That our editorial teams arrange for stories on local photographers and/or camera clubs to go with the advertising, with the possibility of follow-up stories on the entrants and winners.

4. That, if we need to, we can meet with your committee to help promote camera clubs through our newspapers.

We recognise that not all clubs will share the same commitment that you do so the response may be different in some areas but we will ensure that we manage the advertising and editorial areas with the same drive in all areas."

Please consider some activity for the month of May.

Luciano

Looking for a Plaubel Makina 6x7 folding camera. This is a model from the 1980s and I imagine anyone having one would not find much use for it and perhaps would like to sell it.

Please contact Ray Ward.

Email: raymondward@optusnet.com.au

Sydney Camera Market, 7th March, at the Ultimo Community Centre. The profits go to Karonga Public School Epping, for severely disabled children which is a registered charity. The next two meetings are on 25 July and 24 October.

DOOLEYS CAMERA CLUB ANNUAL EXHIBITION

The exhibition will open 1st April 2010 running for one month until the end of April. The exhibition will be held in the Level One foyer outside the Waratah Room at DOOLEYS.

The exhibition will feature 90 photographs taken

by Camera Club members. The works range across many subject categories – including portrait, landscape, nature and creative.

For enquiries about the exhibition, please contact Club Reception on 8745 6100 or the Dooleys Camera Club, Carol Ritchie 0432 834 044 or visit <http://dooleys.photographynsw.org.au>.