

# EXPOSURE



THE MELBOURNE  
CAMERA CLUB MAGAZINE

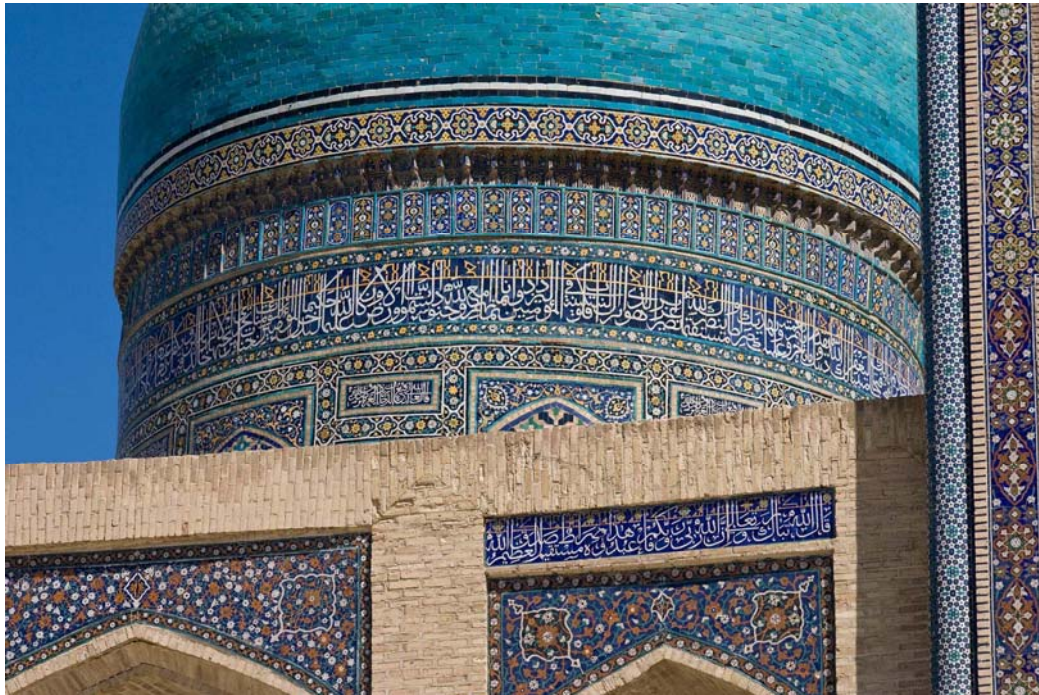
Uzbekistan with Geoff Muscutt  
More members' Biennale Photos  
President's Report  
Melbourne Steam Traction Engine Museum  
2011 Monthly Competition Results

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# UZBEKISTAN

Geoff Muscutt



*Tiled Splendour*

*There seem to be few countries in the world that Geoff, an MCC life member, has not visited. And it's a fair bet that no-one else in the club has been to Uzbekistan!*

Having visited close to 70 different countries, some of which no longer exist (remember Saarland?), I was looking for somewhere different to go. My wish list includes such diverse places as Angkor Wat and Alaska, but then I spotted a trip to Uzbekistan via Seoul with three days in Seoul on the way back. Having been to neither place a trip was soon booked. It was only the second trip the travel agent had arranged and health problems arose on the first trip in June to the extent that all participants in my trip were given the option of pulling out. No one did.

A visit to the doctor resolved that a polio booster was needed and he prescribed the anti-emetic metoclopramide rather than taking Imodium which can cause clogging of the system, like a blocked drain.

The usual questions came from friends: Why go there? Is it safe as it borders Afghanistan? What is there to see?

Feeling a bit apprehensive, all twenty of us landed in the capital Tashkent and were surprised to see a modern clean city with lots of locally built Daewoo cars, wide boulevards and lots of trees. The city was devastated by an earthquake in April

1966 and large areas were razed to create the new city.

The Russians built an underground railway system with some stations similar in style to the

elaborate Moscow system. They also dug huge channels for irrigation for cotton, and flows to the Aral Sea are now nil causing an environmental disaster.

Tourism is being promoted and cotton production being reduced by the current President Islam Karimov, (who was the Communist Party President and whose daughter is a pop star!), and the society is modelled more like Turkey as a secular society.

The major attractions are Muslim architectural wonders in the cities of Samarkand, Bukhara and Khiva. These cities were wealthy cities on the Silk Road and the populations became mixed race or enclaves of both eastern and western cultures. Samarkand was founded around 400-500 BC and was overrun by Alexander the Great, Western Turks, Persians, Mongolians and others before being destroyed by Mongolians under



*Bukhara blue pram*



Genghis Khan in 1220. Timur (Tamerlane) made Samarkand his capital and built a new city. It again declined and the Russians forced its surrender in 1868 linking it to the Russian empire with the Trans Caspian railway. It remained under Russia until independence in 1991. No doubt Sergei Prokudin-Gorskii used this railway for his stunning colour photos taken in Uzbekistan from 1909 to 1915 and now digitised by the US Library of Congress. Look him up on the web.

Lonely Planet has recently published a guide to Uzbekistan and the internet has some information. While it is possible to travel independently and is a cheap country to travel in (vodka \$4 a litre, coffee 50c a cup), it is more convenient on a

just prior to the trip from Ted's Camera with a free 5 year warranty as my better lenses are heavier and I need two lenses for the same coverage. GST was refunded at Sydney airport.

I also took my Fuji compact for the occasional video clip and close up snapshots as the Tamron zoom is restricted for close up shots. It all fitted in one small shoulder bag.



*Registan Samarkand*

In each city I got out before breakfast and got early morning light shots. Being a police state has its advantages as there is very little crime and it is pretty safe to walk alone. I also found that people were quite happy to have their photo taken.

The camera was set to f/8 most of the time as this should give best definition.

I shot in RAW mostly at ISO 200 and processed in Lightroom 2.2. I discovered that shooting in RAW gave a problem as thumbnails did not display the images when opening "My Pictures". However the free programme "Picassa" does and so does Lightroom. My method is to use Lightroom first for most editing. Images for further treatment if required are opened in CS3 direct from Lightroom or simply by dragging the thumbnail from Picassa. A further problem will be when I update my camera to the 600D model as Adobe Camera RAW won't work with

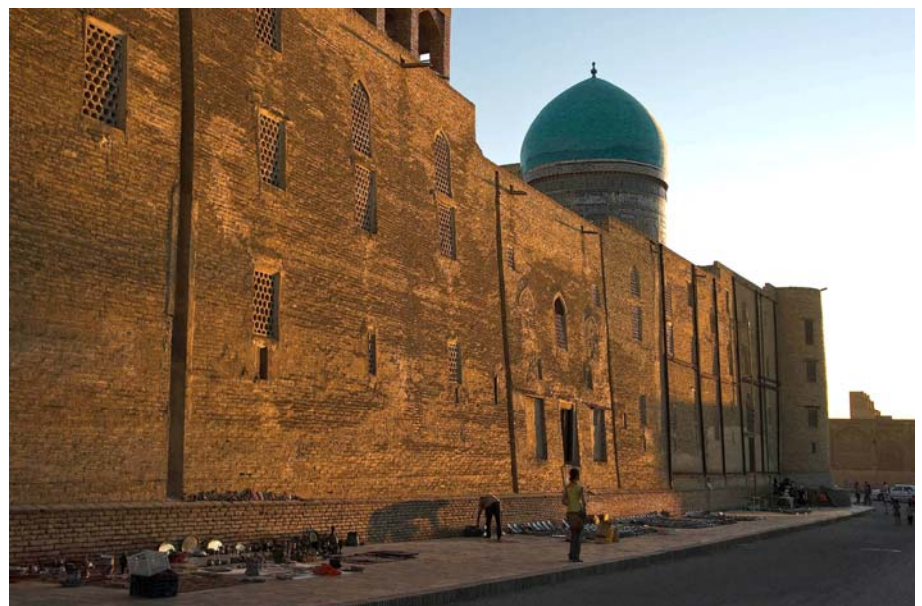


*Road to Khiva*

group tour. One example is that our bus was never stopped on entering each village or town whereas every car was stopped for identity checks. We were told the checks were because of drug and arms smuggling from Afghanistan. The road between Bukhara and Khiva is awful being a mixture of broken tar, sand and potholes making the 450km trip a 12 hr journey, not pleasant when Uzbek belly struck. Bushes and road stops are a long way apart!

### **Photography**

Not wanting to stand out too much I blackened the white lettering on my Canon DSLR shoulder strap. I took 3 spare CF cards to give 12GB total plus a small flash (never used), a gorilla pod and 2 spare batteries. My camera is a Canon 400D with the new Tamron 18 - 270 zoom. The zoom lens was bought



*Bukhara vendors*





*Bukhara fort*



*Uzbek lady*

CS3 for that model. I am looking at that problem and maybe converting CR2 files to DNG first will be the answer?

The Tamron lens performed very well most of the time but was slow to lock focus on things lacking contrast and barrel distortion is strong at the wide angle end requiring care in use and some correction in CS3. Anti shake was good and the small size and weight was great for travel shots.



*Tashkent earthquake memorial*



*Samarkand elder*

### Summary

Uzbekistan is well worth a visit but flat and dry except in the east. Don't expect great food (mostly BBQ meat, soup and salad). Hotels were better than expected. Still very hot in September at 35°C though this was unusual. US dollars are best changed in small quantities as you get forty 1000 cym notes for one \$20 US note filling up the wallet very quickly. Take a polarising filter (regrettably I did not) as the tiled buildings reflect a lot of highlights.



*Tashkent street sweepers*

## President's Report

**W**elcome fellow photographers, to the Summer edition of *Exposure*!

Isn't it amazing how quickly the year draws to a close? With Christmas rapidly approaching there remains for the MCC our busiest period of the year: the annual Spring clean and club working bee, beautifully co-ordinated by Director Tim Kohlman, the End of Year Competition and Exhibition, headed up by Director Gary Richardson, the Awards Night and Breakup Party, an extraordinary effort championed by Directors Ian Bock and Kim Thorogood...followed by a well-earned rest for us all!

Needless to say many more people have contributed their time and energy to make the end of year season complete for us all. John Spring, directors Peter Walton and David Purdue, Maggie Smith and team as well as everyone who has pitched in to make the working bee a success. Without these people, the club would be a much poorer place. Not to mention dirtier! Well done everyone!

In this edition of *Exposure*, I would like to make especial mention of the nominations for the Queenie Gatt award this year. Charles Gatt, son of Queenie and Edgar Gatt, and friend of the MCC, has generously decided to continue the award in honour of his parents. Our sincere thanks go to Charles for making the continuation of this award possible.

Nine individuals were nominated by the MCC community - A standout field compared with recent years - it is wonderful to see such dedicated and selfless contribution to club activities

being recognised by fellow club members. Many thanks go to those of you who took the time to nominate a member for their work. Even though only one person can win in the end, I feel all nominees were worthy recipients.

My whole-hearted congratulations go to Mal McKay, who was awarded the Queenie Gatt Award this year. The field was highly competitive and gave Directors pause for considerable thought. However, it was Mal's well thought out, self-directed work in mentoring new and prospective members, assisting in competition training and preparation, as well as network building, that has been ideal in helping new members transition to successful club participants that was extremely well regarded by MCC Club Directors. Congratulations Mal! We look forward to your continued positive contributions in member recruitment and retention.

My congratulations also, to all who entered our End of Year Competition. It was, as usual, a mammoth exercise with many fabulous photographs and audio-visuals displayed. I hope you all use the summer break to rest, recuperate and start again for the round of competitions next year, 2012! Have a wonderful Christmas all and see you in February, 2012. ☺

*JO BEILBY*  
*President*

*The Melbourne Camera Club*

## Seniors Festival Photographic Exhibition at the Clubrooms

**F**ollowing a request from the City of Port Phillip, the Board of Management of the club made the clubrooms available for a function held during the Seniors Festival Week. The event was the "Life in Port Phillip Old photographs Exhibition." held on the weekend of 15 and 16 October.

Photographs for the exhibition were provided by the Port Phillip City Collection, the St Kilda, Albert Park and Port Melbourne historical societies, as well as Luna Park, sporting clubs and many private individuals. A short history of our club provided by your archivist was also on display.

The event was organized by Sheridan Green assisted by several volunteers. The exhibition was hung on

Friday 14 October in the first floor gallery. On the Saturday a musical entertainment was given in the downstairs studio by The Louisiana Shakers trad jazz band.

Except for the fact that there is no lift to the first floor the clubrooms proved to be an ideal venue for the event. More than 200 people signed the visitors' book over the weekend. Many local residents expressed their interest in the clubrooms and were delighted at the opportunity of inspecting our historic building.

I was left with the impression that the event was well received by those who attended and that our club gained favourable publicity.

*Alan Elliott, Hon. Archivist*

## The Melbourne Camera Club

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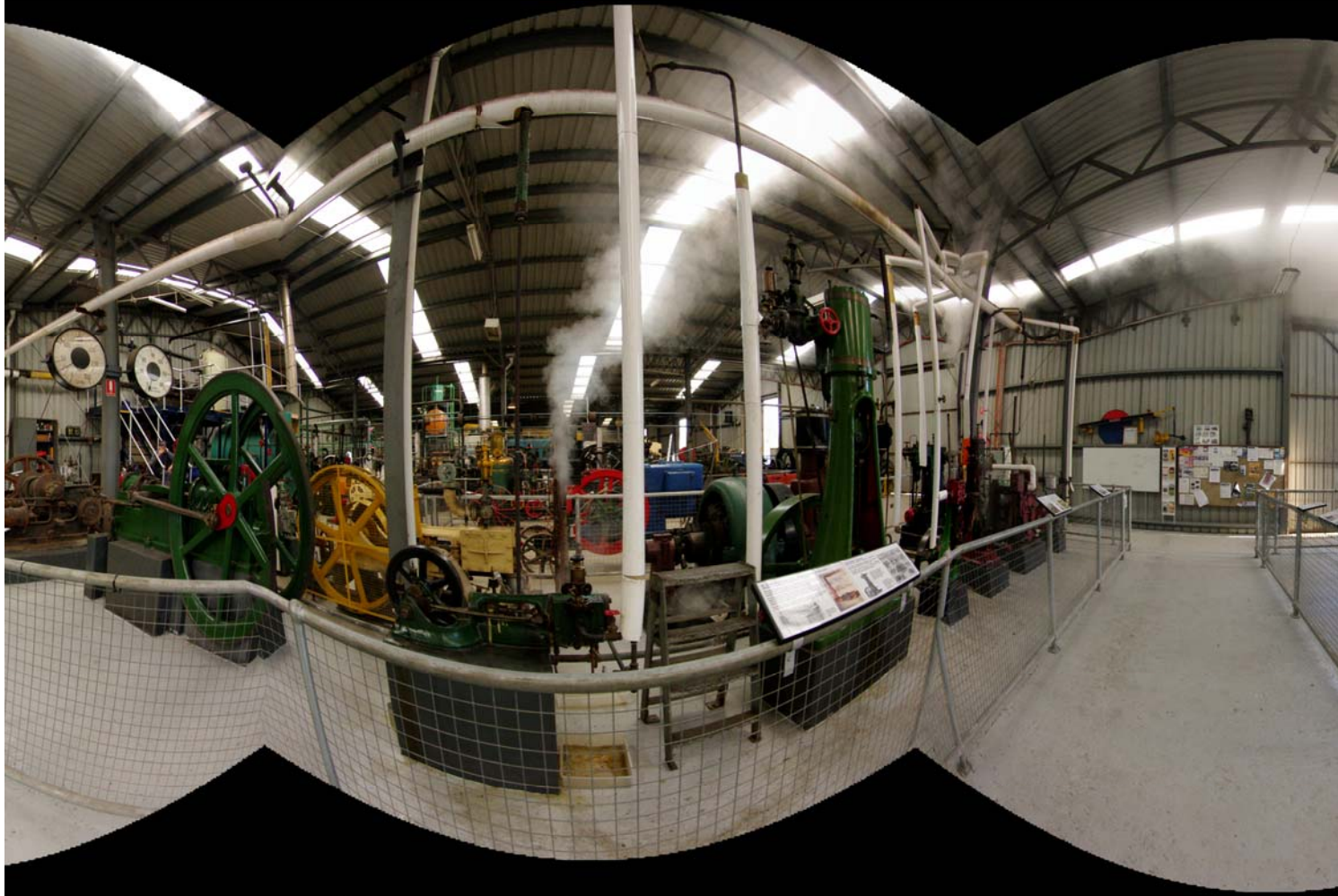
Website Photos - David Purdue

[mcc-photos@melbournephoto.org.au](mailto:mcc-photos@melbournephoto.org.au)



# Melbourne Steam Trac

Ian L



**T**he Melbourne Steam Traction Engine Club has use of a considerable property on Ferntree Gully Road immediately to the west of the East Link.

It is on the south side of the road, so if you are coming from the west or the city you must pass under East Link and do a U-turn when possible.

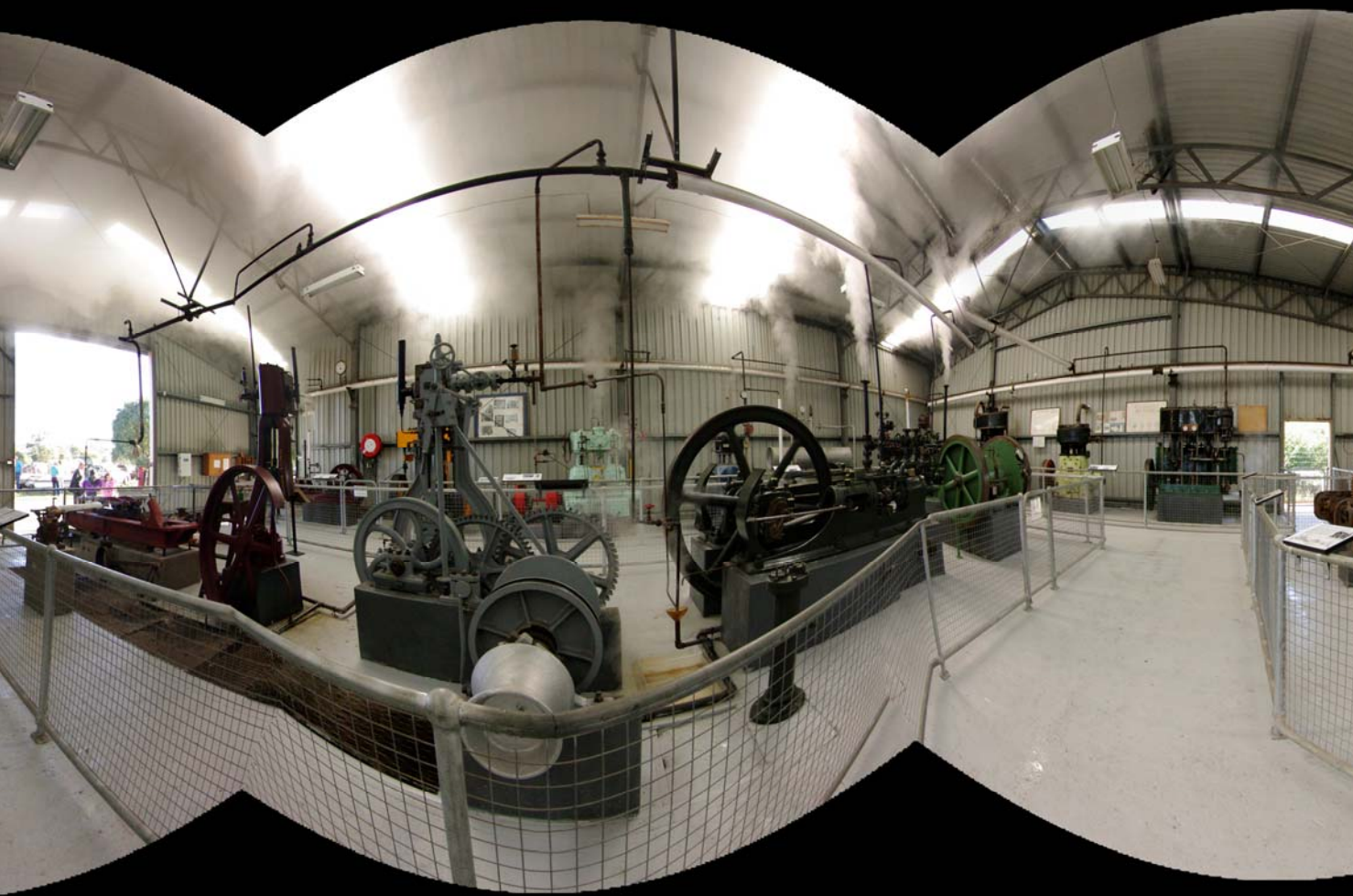
It is open most Sundays and parking and entry is free unless you have someone with you who insists on you paying two dollars so they can ride on the miniature steam train.

Steam is up on the last Sunday of each month and the stationary steam engines will be operating in the capacious sheds. Outside there will be various steam rollers or tractors operating and they make a good photo on a nice day.



# ction Engine Museum

Bock



Inside exposures will be about 1/30sec at f.8 and ISO 400, so I have usually succeeded with handholding but a monopod or tripod is useful if you want to show the engines in movement.

The 360° panorama above was made with four exposures using a fisheye lens, stitched together using Windows Live Photo Gallery.

See [www.melbournesteam.com.au](http://www.melbournesteam.com.au) for more detail.



## AGM Report on Introduction to Photography Courses, 2011

*This report was inadvertently omitted from the AGM group reports in the last issue. Our apologies to Robert Groom.*

The Melbourne Camera Club conducted two Introduction to Photography courses in 2011; the "summer" course in February/March and the "winter" course in August/September.

The class size for each course was limited to forty students and places were allocated on a first come, first served basis. Both courses were fully booked shortly after enrolments opened, months before the course commenced. Such an overwhelming response confirms that the MCC introductory course continues to be very highly regarded amongst the photographic community.

The course syllabus retained the same format that has proven successful in previous years: six lessons on Tuesday evenings and three practical workshops on Sunday

mornings, conducted over a six-week period. The lessons were presented by Peter Chapple, David Gilliver, Daryl Lynch and Robert Groom. The practical workshops were coordinated by Robert Groom with invaluable assistance from Peter Chapple and David Gilliver. Ian Bock, John Van Hirsell, Ken Robertson and John Spring also provided additional support during lessons and workshops.

Most people attending the course now use digital SLR cameras and the course content has been further refined taking this into account. All lessons are presented using the Club's digital projector and photographs made at practical workshops are downloaded, displayed and reviewed during the session. Comments from participants confirm that this approach has been particularly well received. Peter Chapple's *live* demonstrations of outdoor portrait photography and David Gilliver's lighting

demonstrations were frequently mentioned as the most beneficial – and entertaining – sessions of the course.

Although not all participants returned the evaluation forms distributed on the final night of each course, of those that did, 90% said that the pace of the course was "Just Right" and 75% gave the course an overall rating of "Very Good" (the highest ranking available). Most importantly, all respondents said that the course was both informative and enjoyable.

None of this would have been possible without the efforts of a small but dedicated group of Club members and so it is with pleasure that I thank them for contributing their time, knowledge and enthusiasm towards making the Introduction to Photography courses such a successful venture for The Melbourne Camera Club.

*Robert Q Groom*  
Coordinator, Introduction to



Darren Bennett    *Hush little baby*  
October Mono Print of the Month



# Members' Photos from MCC exhibition at the Ballarat International Foto Biennale

These are photos that did not fit into the last issue



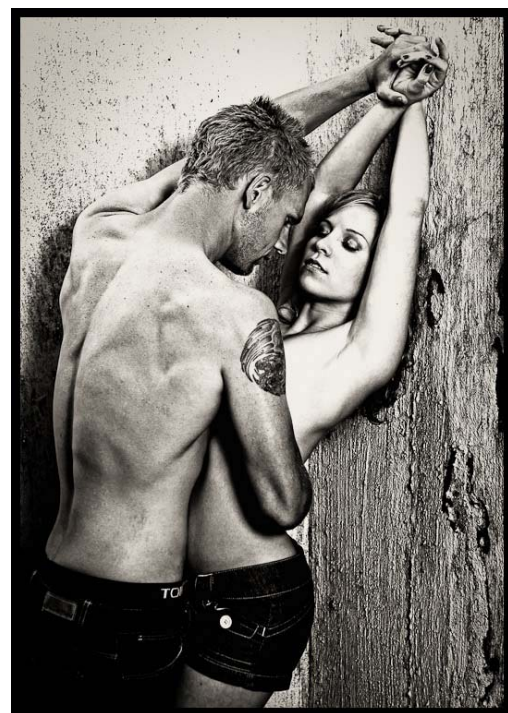
Amberlouse Hart - *Sakura*



Shane Booth - *Pretty valley storm*



Sheryl Opie - *Wagon wheels*



Daryl Lynch - *Departing lovers*



Chrissie Francis - *The waiting*



# Final Monthly Competition Scores for 2011

| EDI - A Grade          |     |       | EDI - Set Subject     |     |       | Prints - A Grade      |     |       | Prints - Set Subject                  |     |       |
|------------------------|-----|-------|-----------------------|-----|-------|-----------------------|-----|-------|---------------------------------------|-----|-------|
|                        | Oct | Total |                       | Oct | Total |                       | Oct | Total |                                       | Oct | Total |
| <b>Rob Featonby</b>    | eee | 60    | <b>Nicole Andrews</b> | h   | 23    | <b>Darren Bennett</b> | pcc | 79    | <b>Darren Bennett</b>                 | e   | 25    |
| Boaz Lahav             | eee | 57    | <b>Rob Featonby</b>   | c   | 23    | Norman Blaikie        | hce | 50    | Gary Richardson                       | p   | 23    |
| Marg Huxtable          | pee | 45    | Sandra Eichler        | e   | 19    | Judi Mowlem           | cee | 47    | Frances Egan                          | e   | 19    |
| Phil Marley            | eee | 45    | Charles Kosina        | e   | 17    | Ray Huntley           | eee | 47    | Leif Andersen                         |     | 16    |
| Darren Bennett         | ce  | 44    | Ian Bock              | e   | 16    | Gary Richardson       | cce | 46    | Judi Mowlem                           | e   | 15    |
| John Spring            | eee | 39    | John Meir             | e   | 16    | Ian Bock              | hce | 44    | Ian Bock                              | c   | 14    |
| Annette James          | eee | 38    | Marg Huxtable         | h   | 16    | Margaret Huxtable     | hhc | 41    | Greg Aumann                           | h   | 13    |
| Charles Kosina         | eee | 38    | Darren Bennett        |     | 12    | John Spring           | cee | 36    | John Spring                           | e   | 13    |
| Ian Bock               | eee | 38    | Greg Aumann           | h   | 12    | Charles Kosina        | cee | 35    | Eugene Putilice                       |     | 12    |
| John Meir              | eee | 38    | Mark Warrender        |     | 12    | Annette James         | eee | 25    | Robert Featonby                       |     | 12    |
| Sandra Eichler         | h   | 35    | David Jacobs          | e   | 11    | Leif Andersen         |     | 24    | Sandra Eichler                        |     | 12    |
| Ray Huntley            | hce | 34    | John Spring           | e   | 11    | Jim Weatherill        |     | 22    | Marg Huxtable                         | e   | 9     |
| Norman Blaikie         | eee | 33    | Joshua Reuveni        | e   | 11    | Rob Featonby          |     | 22    | Annette James                         | c   | 8     |
| Nicole Andrews         | eee | 28    | Leif Andersen         |     | 10    | Sandra Eichler        |     | 20    | John Meir                             |     | 7     |
| Leif Andersen          |     | 21    | Annette James         | e   | 8     | John Meir             |     | 19    | Steve Spencer                         |     | 7     |
| Rachel Ferris          | eee | 21    | Maggie Smith          |     | 8     | Avic McConnell        |     | 16    | Charles Kosina                        |     | 6     |
| David Jacobs           | eee | 17    | Simon Galbaly         |     | 8     | Maggie Smith          |     | 12    | Nicole Andrews                        | c   | 6     |
| Carolyn Buckley        |     | 14    | Robert Norman         | e   | 7     | Peter Walton          |     | 11    | Shelly Black                          | c   | 6     |
| Maggie Smith           |     | 10    | Barbara Butler        |     | 6     | Debashis Talukdar     |     | 10    | Ewen Wilson                           |     | 5     |
| Jim Weatherill         |     | 9     | Jim Weatherill        |     | 6     | Edgar Gatt            |     | 5     | Peter Walton                          |     | 5     |
| David Purdue           |     | 7     | Stephen Spencer       | c   | 6     | Nicole Andrews        |     | 4     | Robert Fairweather                    |     | 5     |
| Barbara Butler         |     | 6     | Perica Separovic      |     | 5     |                       |     |       | John Parkinson                        | h   | 5     |
| Debashis Talukdar      |     | 6     | Rachel Ferris         |     | 4     |                       |     |       | Debashis Talukdar                     |     | 4     |
| Ping Pan-Frew          |     | 5     | Robert Fairweather    |     | 4     |                       |     |       | Jim Weatherill                        |     | 4     |
| Joshua Reuveni         | eee | 3     | Ken Warburton         | c   | 3     |                       |     |       | Nick Psomiadis                        |     | 4     |
| Kei Ho                 |     | 3     | Nino Xerri            |     | 3     |                       |     |       | Ray Huntley                           |     | 4     |
| Judi Mowlem            |     | 2     | Ping Pan-Frew         |     | 3     |                       |     |       | Bubbles Segall                        |     | 3     |
| Robert Norman          | ee  | 2     | David Purdue          |     | 2     |                       |     |       | Christian Habisreutinger              |     | 3     |
|                        |     |       | Debashis Talukdar     |     | 2     |                       |     |       | David Dyett                           |     | 3     |
|                        |     |       | Ewen Wilson           |     | 2     |                       |     |       | Ian Holdsworth                        |     | 3     |
|                        |     |       | Frances Egan          |     | 2     |                       |     |       | John Mallett                          |     | 3     |
|                        |     |       | Kei Ho                |     | 2     |                       |     |       | Mark Warrender                        |     | 3     |
|                        |     |       | Nick Psomiadis        |     | 2     |                       |     |       | Avic McConnell                        |     | 2     |
|                        |     |       | Sheryl Opie           |     | 2     |                       |     |       | David Thompson                        | e   | 2     |
|                        |     |       | Judi Mowlem           |     | 1     |                       |     |       | Maggie Smith                          |     | 1     |
|                        |     |       | Ray Huntley           |     | 1     |                       |     |       | Selby Markham                         |     | 1     |
|                        |     |       | Robert Groom          | e   | 1     |                       |     |       | Shane Booth                           |     | 1     |
|                        |     |       | Vesna Devic           |     | 1     |                       |     |       |                                       |     |       |
| EDI - B Grade          |     |       | Prints - B Grade      |     |       | Prints - Novice Grade |     |       | Points Scoring System                 |     |       |
|                        | Oct | Total |                       | Oct | Total |                       | Oct | Total |                                       |     |       |
| <b>Stephen Spencer</b> | hce | 56    | <b>Ian Holdsworth</b> | cce | 65    | <b>Frances Egan</b>   | hcc | 75    | Entry (no award)                      | e   | 1     |
| Nino Xerri             | eee | 37    | Ray Farrugia          | hhc | 56    | Shelly Black          | ccc | 26    | Commended                             | c   | 3     |
| Sheryl Opie            | eee | 36    | Mal McKay             | hce | 53    | Bubbles Segall        |     | 21    | Highly commended                      | h   | 5     |
| Greg Aumann            | hee | 34    | Greg Aumann           | cee | 38    | David Thompson        | hcc | 21    | Print/EDI of the Month                | p   | 6     |
| Mark Warrender         |     | 32    | John Mallett          |     | 35    | Simon Beaven          |     | 17    | (5 for highly commended plus 1 extra) |     |       |
| Simon Galbally         |     | 32    | Nino Xerri            |     | 28    | Scott Heim            | ccc | 15    |                                       |     |       |
| Joshua Reuveni         |     | 28    | Tim Hughes            |     | 27    | Alice Low             | cc  | 12    |                                       |     |       |
| Robert Fairweather     |     | 20    | Eugene Putilice       |     | 23    | Ewan Wilson           |     | 11    |                                       |     |       |
| Donna Zempel           |     | 16    | Robert Fairweather    |     | 22    | Lucien Tran           | hcc | 11    |                                       |     |       |
| Robert Norman          |     | 12    | Steve Spencer         |     | 21    | Gary Leete            | hcc | 18    |                                       |     |       |
| Ewen Wilson            |     | 10    | Chris Habisreutinger  |     | 19    | Tim Kohlman           |     | 7     |                                       |     |       |
| Frances Egan           |     | 9     | Robert Norman         | ce  | 17    | Raelene Marshall      |     | 6     |                                       |     |       |
| Janina Nowak           | h   | 7     | Donna Zempel          |     | 14    | Vivian Sia            | cc  | 6     |                                       |     |       |
| Ken Warburton          | cce | 7     | John Parkinson        | ce  | 13    | Tarig Mahood          | cc  | 6     |                                       |     |       |
| Lucien Tran            | cce | 7     | Greg Hotson           |     | 9     | Edwin Tuazon          |     | 5     |                                       |     |       |
| Nick Psomiadis         |     | 7     | Daryl Lynch           |     | 8     | John Parkinson        |     | 5     |                                       |     |       |
| Perica Separovic       |     | 6     | Jameel Kaderbhai      |     | 8     | Nick Psomiadis        |     | 5     |                                       |     |       |
| Mal McKay              | cee | 5     | Simon Galbaly         |     | 6     | May Raguine           | h   | 5     |                                       |     |       |
| Chris Habisreutinger   |     | 3     | Selby Markam          |     | 5     | Kirsty Ryan           |     | 3     |                                       |     |       |
| Reuben Glass           |     | 3     | Rachel Ferris         |     | 2     | Peter Jessup          | c   | 3     |                                       |     |       |
| Vesna Devic            |     | 3     | Shane Booth           |     | 2     | Andrew Donaldson      | c   | 3     |                                       |     |       |
| John Parkinson         |     | 2     |                       |     |       | Daniel Fisher         | c   | 3     |                                       |     |       |
| Kei Ho                 |     | 2     |                       |     |       | Kei Ho                |     | 2     |                                       |     |       |
| Simon Beaven           |     | 1     |                       |     |       | Harry Ostipin         |     | 1     |                                       |     |       |
|                        |     |       |                       |     |       | Kathryn Hocking       |     | 1     |                                       |     |       |
|                        |     |       |                       |     |       | Mikaela Rodriguez     |     | 1     |                                       |     |       |







*Darren Bennett and Rob Featonby gave a very entertaining presentation of their images from Tasmania.*

*The image shown on the club's new 4 metre screen is a montage of images and text superimposed during post processing by the photographer, John Spring.*

*The ground floor studio was used by John Spring for recording Simon Galbally's voiceover for the Public Exhibition Audio Visual showing all the projected Electronic Digital Images entered into the 2011 End of Year EDI Competition.*

*Photo by John Spring*



*October's monthly Print competition judge, Gillian Turner awarded all 29 of the Novice Print grade entries. This was great encouragement for all Novice print makers to keep taking and entering prints for the 2012 competition year starting the second Thursday evening in February. Mal McKay must also receive credit for helping many of the new members with printing and matting their print entry images at MCC New member Orientation the previous evening. Many thanks Mal!*

*Photo by John Spring*





Gary Richardson      *The Game*  
October Colour Print of the Month



Marg Huxtable      *Daffodil duo*  
October EDI of the Month