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From the Inside Looking Out



Jane Barnes

This is an excerpt from my presentation at the club in March.

Photography has been life changing for me, particularly in the last ten years. It has 'opened my eyes' and given me opportunities beyond my wildest dreams.

I have always been interested in photography, and in my 'previous life' as an Ophthalmic Assistant/Orthoptist, I frequently photographed the back of patient's eyes, the retina (1). But now my focus – sorry for the pun – is looking out, looking around me. Hence, the title of my presentation.



1 Patient Eye Exam

I had always had a burning desire to do more photographically. I did short courses at the CAE and a local Living and Learning Centre, but that had led to nothing ongoing. Then, in 2008, I enrolled in a photography course at Rosanna Camera Club. Here, my real journey began. I became a passionate member of the club and embraced its every aspect.

In 2009, I went to my first APSCON in Victor Harbour South Australia. There I joined the Australian Photographic Society as a beginner. The following year their conference was held in Roma,



2 Winner at Apscon

Queensland and I was eligible to enter a beginner's competition of images taken at the previous year's conference.

To my surprise I was awarded First and Second in print division but the truth was, I was the only entrant in this section (2).

This positive start, along with being nurtured, mentored and encouraged by my local club, led me to

competing in club competitions, then National and International competitions. To my utter delight, I achieved considerable success in many of these contests.

In 2013 I went on my First Photo-Tour to the USA with Ian Rolfe and Peter Walton (3). Until then I had been shooting jpeg, but I was keen to break into the

world of RAW in order to take full control of my images. I learnt the power of Photoshop which enabled me to create the images as I had pre-visualised them. It was after this trip that I joined Melbourne Camera Club.

Not long after returning from the USA, I decided I wanted to try something different in order to challenge myself. A friend at Rosanna Camera Club was shooting A-League soccer for the then, Melbourne Heart, now called Melbourne

City, and encouraged me to give this a try. I bought a ticket for the match but John got a ground pass for me. On the ground at AAMI stadium! I couldn't believe my good fortune (4).

It was a huge learning curve. I knew little about soccer, but I learnt quickly to predict play and where to shoot. Matches were held at various times of the day and so challenges included the mix of shade and bright sunlight on the ground in the afternoon and the low light in the evening

After each game, there was a debrief at McDonalds in

Clifton Hill. The images would be downloaded onto the laptop and a n a l y s e d . Th e constructive criticism was always done in a manner that was supportive and encouraging, and without question this helped me to improve my skills and technique.

At the end of the soccer season, I was asked to shoot V-League basketball. Of course, I



3 The Palouse

embraced this new opportunity, but it presented a new range of challenges, for example, inside the stadium the various types of lighting and the coloured walls affected skin tones. One thing I quickly learnt was not to sit behind the goal ring; my face and camera had an encounter with a high-speed basketball one night. It was not a pretty sight!



4 Soccer

In between basketball matches, some of the players agreed to participate in a portrait workshop. From fast-paced players in uniform, to models (5) with makeup and hairstyling, what incredible transformations I was able to photograph!

Then, through word of mouth, I was asked to photograph Japanese collectibles called Netsuke (6). They originated in the 17th century and are very small ornaments carved in wood, stone or ivory. They are worn on the sash of a kimono.

This was a new aspect of photography which I had not experienced.



5 Model



6 Netsuke Rabbit

But I was ready to take on another challenge with the support of a couple of friends from the camera club. I used a Studio Cubelite and a couple of strobes which I could position as necessary. This worked well, and I quickly learnt the skill of setting up for these still shots.



7 Mt Buffalo

Once the Netsuke was completed, I was asked to photograph lacquerware, pottery, jade, marble objects and paintings. In total I photographed nearly five hundred Japanese pieces. It was a big project and I learnt a great deal, including how to manage a client, quoting, preparation, lighting techniques and how to process images to the quality required to fulfil the brief.

After this assignment, I needed a total change of scenery. I longed for the outdoors! I love the beauty of what's out there, Nature. We take so many things for granted, but capturing the delights of the landscape, whether at our backdoor or



8 Zebras.

further afield, provides insight and time to connect with the world around us. In the outdoors there is an opportunity to relax and breathe with ease. I pause, I listen, my eyes soak up what surrounds me and I appreciate the simpler things in life. Trips to Mt Buffalo (7) and Strath Creek hold special memories for

In the last couple of years, I have had the opportunity to travel to a number of countries in different capacities. In 2015 I travelled to Africa on a World Expeditions Photo tour that Peter Walton was leading. An exhilarating Four

me.

Wheel Drive trip, seeing zebras and elephants in their natural habitat, and meeting the Himba and Herero people were an unforgettable experience (8).

In the following year,

Peter and I joined the N a t i o n a l Geographic Tour to Japan to experience the rich culture and the beauty of the country in

Autumn, and we were not d is a p p o i n t e d. We experienced the hustle and bustle of the big cities, the serene beauty of Shikoku Island, the history of the geisha, the lifestyle and hospitality at a Ryokan and a Shichi-Go-San ceremony (9).

2017 was an amazing year of opportunities, including photographing for the tour company Peregrine in Vietnam. This was followed by three trips for APT, which included Cape York, Kimberley coast and travelling on a small ship from Stockholm to London along the

Baltic coast, then continuing on to Barcelona (10).

The diversity of what we saw and experienced last year, I will never forget. Early this year, I a t t e n d e d a Cinematography course in Filmmaking at Melbourne University. So many aspects could be related to our still photography world whether it be a story board for an AV,



9 Japan

setting up lighting for a portrait or still life session, to the types of lighting and their effects. From in front of the camera to behind the scenes, I now have a new insight and huge appreciation of the intricacy of creating a cinema piece.

As a result of attending this course, I have been invited to be one of the stills photographer on a short movie being filmed in Melbourne. These still images will play a vital role promoting the film (11).

I have welcomed every opportunity photography has given me, sometimes



10 Barcelona

with apprehension. But I have had the chance to participate in a wide variety of events, meet interesting and inspiring people, travel extensively, learn and grow. I feel privileged and honoured.

In conclusion, I'd like to say 'what we see is temporary, what we feel is everlasting and I know with my photographic journey, the feeling will be EVERLASTING'.



11 Cinematography

Coffee in Jordan

Melissa Jane Cachia

l chose these two photographs not for the views, but for the coffee lovers out there!!

Coffee, or "Al-Qahwa" in Jordan, is more than a drink. It is surrounded by custom and reverence, it is a symbol of trust and hospitality, bringing people together. Here you get served coffee with enough force to keep you awake for a week, that was just what I needed actually. It also provides an opportunity to have a chat with the locals in their open air café, on top of a mountain overlooking Dana nature reserve.

This was by far one of my most memorable travel experiences that will always be hard to match.



MELBOURNE CAMERA CLUB EXHIBITIONS FOR THIS YEAR

Opening on Thursday, July 19th

The History and Archives Exhibition open for the following two weekends, 21/22 and 28/29 July.

Opening on Thursday, August 16th

Traditional Printmakers and Darkroom Group open for the following two weekends, 18/19 and 25/26 August

Opening on Thursday, September 6th

Shot in the City of Port Philip all members – open for the following two weekends, 8/9 and 15/16 September

On Bora Bora

Judi Mowlem

These images were shot in Bora Bora in 2015 while we were on a cruise around the islands of French Polynesia.

I went for a walk along the pier while waiting for the ferry to take us back to our cruise ship. When I came across these young men, they begged me to take pictures of them. How could I say no?

It was not the kind of situation where I could relocate the group to where the light was better because that spot did not exist, and moving them would have killed the moment, so what to do? Well, I decided to underexpose a lot and shoot pretty much straight into the sun. The result was blown highlights that can't quite be saved and noise where I've tried to open up the shadows.

But having said that, these pictures are a great reminder of the relaxing holiday we took to French Polynesia, and the chance meeting I had with such a lovely group of locals in Bora Bora.

When I look at these pictures I always smile remembering the moment.



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President's Report

Gary Richardson

There is a growing chill in the air as we move into winter, but what a great autumn it has been for the Club. Our Exhibition Coordinators, Sue Brunialti and Jim Weatherill, set themselves an ambitious program for 2018.

The International Women's Day and Members' Travel exhibitions have been outstanding successes with large numbers of visitors, and the very welcome addition to our finances through raffles and donations. While Sue and Jim have spearheaded the exhibitions, it would be extremely remiss of me not to thank all of the members who assisted with organization: cataloguing and hanging of the prints, promotion, manning the club rooms, as well as participating in and attending the exhibitions. Thank you one and all.

The next Members' Exhibition will be in September with the theme *Shot in the City of Port Phillip.* This will be an important exhibition for the Club. It will demonstrate our improving engagement with the local community, the City of Port Phillip, the Club's home. I would urge all members to participate in the photographic opportunities being organized in Port Phillip, and to participate in the exhibition.

Our growing engagement with the local community will be further fostered in July. The Club will open its doors on the weekend of 28/29 July as part of Open House Melbourne. The dedicated History and Archives group are preparing an appropriate exhibition, which will be open on 21/22 July as well as the weekend of Open House. I hope you can set time aside to help introduce the Club, and our building, to the visitors.

The improved visibility of the Club through promotion of activities via social media and the exhibitions is having the spin-off effect of attracting new members. While all clubs experience a churn of members (people not renewing memberships being replaced with new members), over the past 12 months we have experienced a surge in memberships. In June 2017 we had 199 financial members, today that number stands at 236. Over that period we have welcomed 78 new members, many who are younger (than retirement age), and many more women. To all our members, please make these new members feel welcome.

While the winter chill may now be upon us, there are still many opportunities for us to carry on our photographic pursuits. Have you thought of setting up a table top studio to photograph still life images, or macro? What about working on your processing skills to bring new life to your images – there is always something different to learn and try.

Finally, I am sure there will be many heading off on travels to warmer parts, safe travels and we will warmly welcome you back later in the year. If you are staying in Melbourne, we have some great speakers coming up, so come along to the Club where, at the end of the night, there is a warm cuppa and good conversation to be had.

The Melbourne Camera Club

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Women call the Shots



A warm evening in March and the room is full of members and guests for the opening of the exhibition

O n Thursday March 1, we embraced women in photography, and celebrated 2018 International Women's Day, by showcasing the work of 56

women photographers. This, our first Photography Exhibition for 2018, was coordinated, curated and managed by Exhibition our Coordinators, Sue Brunialti and Jim Weatherill.

The Opening night of our International Women's Day Photography Exhibition was a huge success. We welcomed over 165 visitors to the club. Australian Landscape Photographer, Mieke Boynton, and Portrait and Fine Art Photographer, Vicki Bell spoke to a full and over-

flowing gallery. Finally, the first woman Victorian Ombudsman, Deborah Glass OBE, officially opened our Photography Exhibition.

Photographers from Melbourne Camera Club, emerging professional and student photographers, local artists, and regional photographers and alternative process workers, were invited to exhibit,



Thanks to AKA Promotions for sponsoring our People's Choice Award with a double pass to BEAUTIFUL, The Carole King Musical. creating a diverse print exhibition. Our permanent collection was represented by 10 prints from our Archives, taking the total prints on display to 204.



Susan Brunialti, organiser and director won the 'People's Choice' award.

AKA Promotions sponsored our People's Choice Award with a double pass to *BEAUTIFUL*, The Carole King Musical. Visitors were asked to vote for their favourite print, this meant people took their time looking at the Exhibition

and considering their choice.

Participation rate was high, with individuals 348 voting in the People's Choice vote, representing 52% of visitors, voting for a total of 121 different images. The winner of the People's Choice Award was Sue Brunialti for her street photography image I See You.

We received great publicity and our social media channels were an



From the left: Vicki Bell, who spoke at the opening. Deborah Glass, Victorian Ombudsman who opened the exhibition. Mieke Boynton, speaker whose image was on the exhibition poster. Susan Brunialti, whose initiative and organisation created the event and the exhibition.

effective tool in advertising. We were fortunate to have an article published in Australia's Professional Photography Magazine, Capture Magazine, about our

Exhibition, which also encouraged visitors.

The Board worked swiftly in February to obtain a raffle permit to hold a major raffle for the entire month of March. First Prize was kindly donated bv Fujifilm, whilst second prize was donated by Sue Brunialti. The raffle to win a Fujifilm X-A3 Digital Camera with XC 16-50mm lens raised approx. \$1,200.

Many thanks to all our members who generously volunteered their time in executing this Exhibition and

supporting the Exhibition Coordinators in bringing our first Photography Exhibition for 2018 to life.

Susan Brunialti and Jim Weatherill MCC Exhibition Coordinators

The Melbourne Camera Club's Travel Exhibition

Another successful exhibition opened on Thursday 17th May this year. This time all members were invited to show their Travel prints and PDIs. 39 Club Members participated, with 145 prints and 125 digital images.

The Peoples' Choice was won this time by Jane Barnes with her image 'Dusty Ride'. The prize, a double pass to the movie 'Kodachrome' with associated merchandise, was donated by ICON Film Distribution. The 'lucky voter', Richard Faris, won an MCC Peak Cap.



Jane Barnes' dramatic image Dusty Ride was the People's Choice at the Travel Exhibition

Gail and Bob Morgan generously donated five nights' accommodation in Surfers Paradise as first prize for the Raffle. This was won by Leanne Thomson and the second prize, a double movie pass to 'Kodachrome' was won by Nick Tzanakos. Thanks again to ICON Film Distribution.

The attendances were very good. 70 members were there for the Thursday night where Justine Costigan, content editor for the

Royal Auto the RACV magazine, opened the exhibition. During the following weekend 214 people came to see our work. Friends and family of course, but there are neighbours and passers by who are showing interest in our activities, and social media is doing its work for us. A survey of the visitors showed that most people who came to the show had seen the material in *Royal Auto* followed by *Diversity*, the colour magazine of the City of Port Phillip.

We have a remarkable building in our care and it is very satisfying to be able to share it, and our work, with the community. We will be doing this again later this year, when we participate in the annual *Open House* weekend, 10am to 4pm, on Saturday 28 and Sunday 29 July 2018.

International Women's Day March 2018

Jane Barnes

Historically, photography has been seen as a male dominated field, and it is wonderful to see that women are now seen to be on an equal footing.

There is no question that we have some incredibly passionate and dedicated members at MCC. I would like to acknowledge the Exhibition Coordinators, Sue Brunialti and Jim Weatherill, for arranging an amazing exhibition for International Women's Day and Month in March this year.

Sue and Jim worked tirelessly to arrange the exhibition for the benefit of ALL club members and the community. To have had such a collection of styles and genres from a variety of women photographers, from both members and nonmembers, willing to contribute to the exhibition, is a credit to Sue and Jim.

On opening night, the upstairs room was filled to capacity, and overflowing. The calibre of guest speakers, and the large number of exhibitors, demonstrated the photographer's passion for such an event.

For the exhibition to be on show to the public for three weekends, required many club members to donate their time to support this event. Several items were available for the raffle, which was a huge success. Tickets to the show *Beautiful* were donated for a prize to be awarded to the "*People's Choice*", the favorite image of the many hundreds of people who attended. All these aspects speak loudly about the enthusiasm behind this noteworthy event.

As a contributor to this exhibition, I would like to acknowledge all of the contributors, sincerely thank Sue and Jim for their commitment to making this event so successful, and the club for providing the opportunity to host this very successful event.



May colour PDI of the month Alan Donald

My Bug



April colour print of the month Gary Richardson The Watchman

The photograph is of *The Watchman* in Zion National Park in Utah. This is a late afternoon shot, with the sun setting to the West hitting the rocks with a beautiful warm glow. The shot one typically sees of *The Watchman* is taken from a road bridge over the Virgin River. This view is taken further downstream, as the National Park Service had placed restrictions on where our workshop could go.



March mono print of the month Kadri Elcoat Nozawa White

2018 VAPS Convention Warrnambool

A number of Melbourne Camera Club members enjoyed a weekend away in Warrnambool on the weekend of $25 - 27^{\text{th}}$ May. The weather was kind and the venue very comfortable, with several opportunities for photography. There were the customary models in the gardens, and early morning shoots on the river, and on the dramatic coast, with President Ian Rolfe.

The speakers were varied and interesting. The Polar specialist Joshua Holko kept us interested in his images of Polar Fauna and tips about Nature photography, we will all remember his three Fs I'm sure. Glyn Lavender was everywhere, talking about finding the Image through Chaos and taking a special model shoot. Denis Smith inspired with the Art of Light Painting and a workshop on Sunday evening. Local photographer, Oat Vaiyaboon, talked about, and demonstrated, drone photography. While local historian Elizabeth O'Callaghan gave an interesting talk about the history of photography in the district.

The club dropped back a bit from last year's successes in AVs and Prints. We came 22^{nd} out of 68 in prints and 10^{th} out of 71 for PDIs.



However, Marg Huxtable got second place in the PDIs for her image *Double Trouble*, which graced our magazine cover last Autumn. Her image was also



May mono print of the month Susan Brunialti The Escherian Stairwell



April mono PDI of the month Jane Clancy A Tender Moment

chosen to represent Victoria in the colour PDI section of the AIPC national competition.

Jane Clancy's PDI *Viola Study* which won the Dr Geoffrey Smith Trophy at the end of year, was also chosen to represent Victoria as the Mono AIPC entry.

Robert Cutting received a Merit for his well-received Open AV, *At the Fall of the Hammer*.

Charles Kosina's *New Zealand Looking Down* also received a Merit in the 3.21 category.



MCC member Reuben Glass with his daughter Deborah, Victorian Ombudsman, who opened the International Women's Day Exhibition.



February mono PDI of the month

Ken Bretherton W

n Winterreise



February colour print of the month
Glacial River - PatagoniaKen Bretherton



March colour EDI of the month Kadri Elcoat Dragon Play



April colour PDI of the month

Ian Bock Water Lily



May colour print of the month Ken Bretherton

ton Warm Friendship



April mono print of the month Judi Mowlem Blue Mood



March mono PDI of the month Ray Papulis Lagoon



Mihonoseki Marg Huxtable

We were staying in a tiny fishing village called Mihonoseki, on the west coast of Honshu in Japan. The weather was inclement and dinner, followed by a flute concert, was arranged nearby in a very old Japanese ryokan inn. The architecture of the old ryokan, which was classified as a cultural asset, was very impressive. The dinner before the flute concert was a feast for our eyes, as well as our tummies. It was well worth the dash in the rain.



March colour print of the month

Suzanne Martin

Bunjil Place Narre Warren



February colour PDI of the month Jane Clancy Boats on Mull