



f22: Southside Camera Club Newsletter

December 2014

Club Meeting – 7:30 pm on Wednesday 10 December 2014
at the Burns Club, 8 Kett Street, Kambah

Events

Final Monthly Meeting topics for 2014

Meeting Date	Topic	Presenter
10 December	Annual General Meeting. Show and tell for your best photos of the year.	Warren Hicks to Chair

November Meeting Report

Warren displayed the top entries for each state in the recent AIPC. Members commented on the fact that portraits seemed to be disproportionately represented amongst the top photos. If some of the photos displayed are a guide, it would appear that very heavily processed portraits are currently in favour with some of the judges at least.

A very gritty look appears to be the current fashion for one genre of male portraits. While I personally quite like the results of this style of post processing treatment, there is a risk that it could start to become a cliché.

In other discussions, mention was made of the club's Facebook page. One of its functions could be as a means for interstate members to keep in touch. If you are on Facebook just do a search for – Canberra Southside Camera Club – which will

bring up the club page and then click on the 'Join' button. The direct URL is:
<https://www.facebook.com/groups/470954196380232/>.

Treasurer's Report

Iain Cole reported that at the end of October, the club had \$3,187 in its bank account.

In discussions about how some of the club's funds could be utilised, someone suggested that a light box may be a useful addition to our equipment. Iain volunteered to research what is available.

Monthly Excursions for 2015

Now is the time to start thinking about our club activities for 2015. Why not put your bid in to help arrange an excursion to one of your favourite locations, or alternatively, to somewhere you have been meaning to visit, but so far have not done so.

Walkabout Group

meeting, apart from electing office bearers for 2015, everyone has the opportunity to put their hand up to help in some way.

Walkabout Group Calendar 2015

Date	Location	Organiser
February 2015	ANU	Laurie Westcott

Walkabouts for 2015

So far only one walkabout is scheduled for 2015, but now is the time for everyone to start thinking about interesting locations, suitable both for photography and for the social gathering afterwards.

The relatively large number of members who are retired can easily contribute to our club activities by volunteering to convene a walkabout at one of their favourite locations. This is not an onerous task: just scout out the parking, meeting place and local beverage options, then let other members know. At our next club

Excursion Reports

November Excursion

Unfortunately there was no excursion in November, however a mid-week walkabout to Gordon Pond was ably led by Denis Walsh and Bev Bayley's report and photographs are below.

November Walkabout

SCC – Point Hut Pond, Gordon -20/11/2014 – by Bev Bayley

Thursday 20th was a beautiful day as 16 club members met in the car park at the end of Scully Street, by Point Hut Pond in Gordon. This pond was developed in the 1980's to allow water run-off from the streets to be naturally treated before being released into the Murrumbidgee River.

There was a slight breeze which disrupted good reflections, but was quite pleasant. There was enough bird life there to create some interesting shots. Coots were the most prevalent, and these were swimming in the open, and hiding amongst the tall plant life growing near the edge. As we set off toward the north end, we were joined by 3 expectant Waterfowl, or Eastern Swamphen. It appeared they must have been used to some sort of handout, but we couldn't help them.

At the north end, where a shallow concrete drain enters the Ponds, a group of small fish were evident. We were trying to decide if they were a native variety or not. We hoped so. They may have been baby carp. A lone pelican could be seen on the lake. As some of the members were using tripods, focusing on a dead tree at that end, a heron flew

into the picture, stalked through the shallows to the tree, and flew onto a branch a metre above the water, posing for us nicely. He obliged by staying there for quite a while. You can be lucky sometimes.

There was what we decided was a fantail singing in a tree on the West side of the Pond. He sat on a branch until we were nearly ready to take the shot, then flew off. Laurie managed to get an action shot as he was singing.



Most of the west side of the Ponds is much less photogenic, but the South end has more to offer. Shady trees invite a stroll beneath, and a group of swans were stationed at that end, near the bridge, including six almost full-grown young from last year's hatching.



Continuing back to the car park, we passed the children's playground, which is equipped to accommodate quite a number of children. I imagine this would be a very popular area for picnics, as the whole Pond is a lovely setting, with cement path right round the perimeter, making it easy for people with strollers.

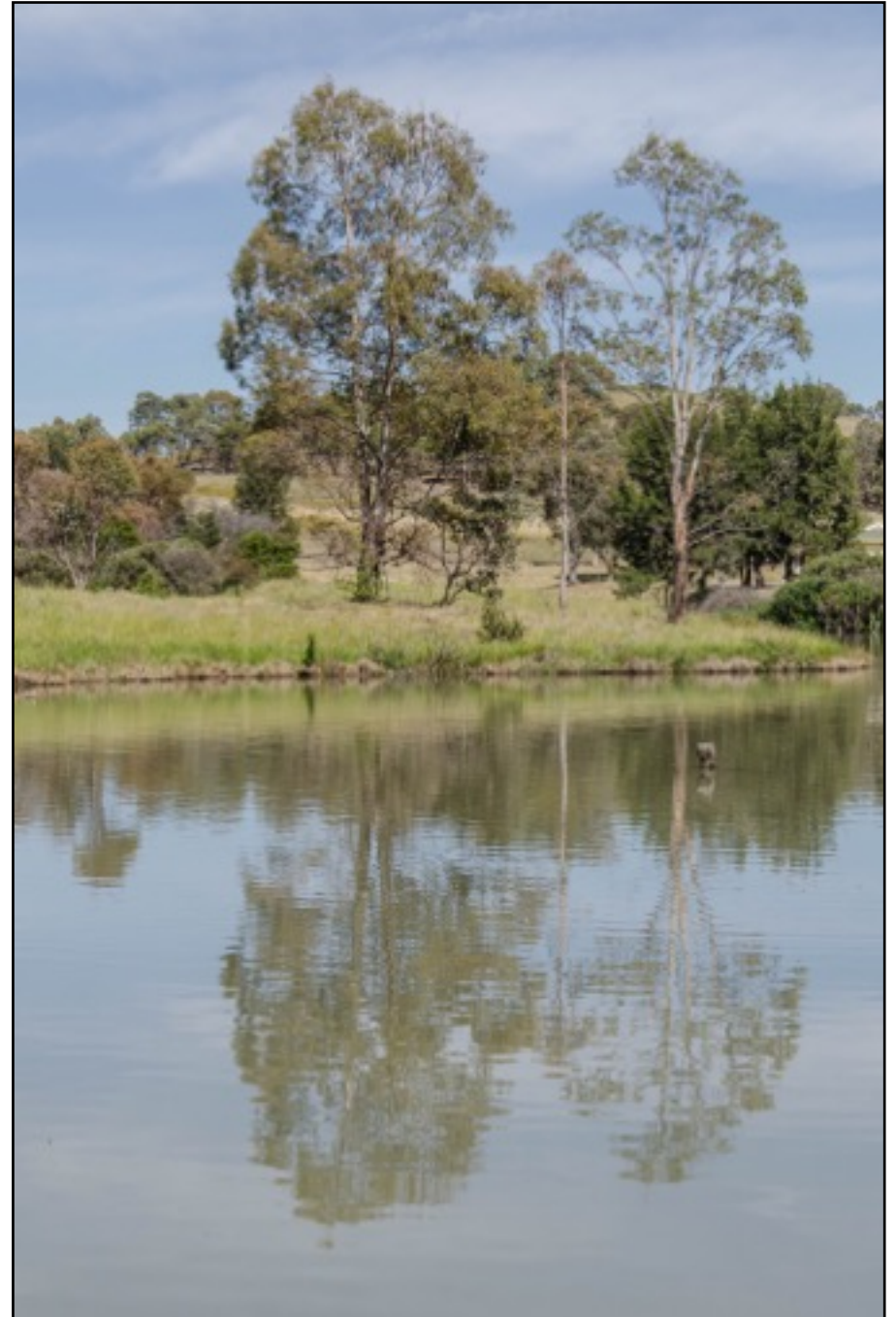


We adjourned by car to the Jindebah Café, which is situated about halfway between the Hyperdome Shopping Mall and Lake Tuggeranong. Although 2 from our morning shoot group didn't make it for coffee, another 2 members were able to join us there, making our group still 16. The Jindebah is a lovely friendly café, and we had an enjoyable coffee break there, before heading back home.



Thank you to Bev Bayley

As this is the last newsletter of the year, I would like to take the opportunity to thank Bev Bayley for the great help she has provided throughout the year by writing excursion reports and providing her excellent photos. It has made my job of producing a newsletter each month so much easier.



F22 Gallery

Laurie Westcott

This month's F22 Gallery features some photos from our Gordon Pond walkabout, kindly provided by Laurie Westcott.









DigSig - the future

In 2014 Dennis Lovatt worked very hard to keep Digsig alive. Digsig provides a valuable service to our club by enabling members to have their photos critiqued by a constructive group and it also is our main venue for imparting technical advice about photography and post processing of images.

The only way that Digsig can survive is if enough members are prepared to do presentations. This is not a big call as we only have 11 Digsig meetings per year. Most members who have prepared and presented a topic at Digsig would agree that the effort involved is well rewarded, as the best way to really improve your understanding of a subject is to have to explain it to others.

Let's keep Digsig alive!

I would also like to record my personal thanks to Dennis Lovatt for his efforts this year.

Software Buddies

If you need help with using post production software, a few club members have volunteered to try and help sort out problems using Photoshop Elements, Photoshop Lightroom, Photoshop Creative Suite and Apple Aperture. The contacts are:

Photoshop Elements: Peter Bliss at bliss.images@yahoo.com.au

Photoshop Lightroom: Peter Bliss at bliss.images@yahoo.com.au

Photoshop Creative Suite: Graeme Kruse at gkruse@bigpond.net.au

Apple Aperture: Claude Morson at claudemorson@gmail.com

Club Websites

<http://www.southsidecameraclub.com/>

flickr: <http://www.flickr.com/groups/southsidecc/>

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/470954196380232/>

News

Current and forthcoming exhibitions

National Portrait Gallery

There are no exhibitions specifically devoted to photography on at the National Portrait Gallery at the moment, but even so this gallery is always with a visit.

National Gallery of Australia

Photography Gallery:

Gifted artists: Donations by Patrick Corrigan AM 2011-2013

A group of 24 contemporary photographs from the Patrick Corrigan gift under the cultural gifts program opened 14 August and will be on view until 12 January 2015.

Australian businessman, philanthropist and collector, Patrick Corrigan AO has been building collections since the early 1970s. His areas of interests range widely, from books, manuscripts, bookplates and memorabilia to the visual arts with particular focus on Indigenous painting and photomedia. In 2010 he offered the National Gallery the opportunity to select works from his extensive collection of Australian contemporary photomedia. Over the next three years seventy-six photographs were chosen, ranging in date from 1982 to 2008. A selection has been chosen for this display.

Of the twenty-eight artists represented in the gift Corrigan acquired works by photographers whose careers were well-established as well as collecting emerging artists, who continue to acknowledge his goodwill and practical support at a critical time in their careers. The Corrigan collection has especial value in the national collection because of its range and regional representation. The National Gallery holds one of the most extensive collections of Australian photographs from the 1970s to the present and the Corrigan gift has contributed to this holding in a significant way.

James Turrell - a retrospective

An exhibition from 13 December 2014 until 8 June 2015

This exhibition follows three highly successful shows throughout 2013—at the Los Angeles County Museum of Art, the Museum of Fine Arts, Houston, and the Guggenheim in New York. It brings together works from LACMA's tour, with spectacular installations purpose-built for Canberra, drawings, prints and photographs. This is contemporary art like you've never seen before and promises an experience not to be missed.

National Archives of Australia

Discovering Mildenhall's Canberra

William James (Jack) Mildenhall, the Commonwealth's first official photographer in the national capital, captured the new federal city as it arose on the Limestone Plains. Mildenhall's 7,000 photographs can be viewed online on [Discovering Mildenhall's Canberra](#), where you can add your own re-photographs, comments and locations.

A Ticket to Paradise?

28 November 2014 to 9 March 2015

A Ticket to Paradise? delves into the rich diversity of the nation's migrants and their experiences, and looks at promotional campaigns which presented a Utopian view of Australia as a welcoming country full of opportunity.

The exhibition features archival film footage, audio recordings, and many images of migrants taken between the 1940s and 1990s, and a special interactive globe featuring personal stories of migration.

Canberra Museum and Gallery (London Circuit Civic)

There are no photography exhibitions on at this gallery at the moment, but next time you are in Civic why not call in and see what it has to offer.

Online Resources

DP Review can be found by clicking on the following link
www.dpreview.com.

Paul Livingston has provided a link to an interesting short article from the US magazine Outdoor Photography about enhancing photos using the HSL (Hue, Saturation, Luminance) tabs in Lightroom.

http://www.outdoorphotographer.com/how-to/tip-of-the-week/camera-raw-hsl-tab-to-the-rescue.html?utm_source=newslettertotw&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=OPTOTWNews_111014&utm_source=newsletter&utm_medium=email&utm_content=%20Read%20more&utm_campaign=OPTOTW_111014#.VGJ65Et_VNt

For those of us who are still interested in film photography, **Rob Wignell** provided a link about a project to help keep film going for at least the next 100 years.

<https://www.kickstarter.com/projects/filmferrania/100-more-years-of-analog-film>

Member Profile

The subject of this month's member profile is **Bev Bayley**.



I was probably around 10 years old when I got my first camera. It wasn't what most people of my era started with – box brownie. No, mine was a little plastic camera, I've no idea what brand, and I can't remember what

sized film it used, but when developed you got 3 photos from each shot: one about 2 inches square, and 2 smaller ones.

I loved taking photos even then, but only took a few at a time, due to costs of developing; but I used them to record, as we do, events to jog the memory, and to record faces and activities of friends and family, as well as places I visited.

When I was about 16, I inherited my mother's camera –the one she'd had as long as I could remember. It was Kodak Junior 616, which took black and white photos only, on a wider film (I think they were 120 size films). It opened concertina fashion from a flattened pack-away shape. This served me for a number of years, and I still have the camera. This camera would take time exposure and breadth of time, using a short plunger cable.

When I'd been married a couple of years, I got a little colour camera. I think it was a 35mm Kodak but I cannot remember any details about this one, nor another which I feel I had during those busy years. I always tried to record events and unusual items which were part of our life. During these years, when the children were growing up, I felt it was very important to keep photographic records of the everchanging faces and experiences. We had a tent, then a caravan, with which we had many wonderful family trips.

In the late 80's or early 90's I bought a Nikon F401S, my first SLR camera, with a 35-70 AF Nikkor lense. Although on looking it up on the internet, I find it's listed as beginner's level only, this was a really big step for me. For one thing, just the investment of over \$800 for a camera, was a massive purchase at that time. The Nikon F-401 had autofocus, which was a new thing, and also the integrated flash instead of the then usual hot-shoe or flash cube. I was thrilled that by setting the speed to 250 I could catch on film so many of the things we saw from the car while travelling, without having to stop. With the previous cameras there was no point in attempting this.

I got my first digital camera, a Canon PowerShot A 70, in 2003, before a trip to Tasmania. It was a 3.2 megapixel camera with a 3 times optical zoom. I loved the freedom which comes from digital photography, of only being limited in using photo opportunities by the size of the card. This served me well for a couple of years, until the sensor malfunctioned.

Then I bought another Canon, the PowerShot S115, which I took to Vietnam with me in 2005. This has a 10 times optical zoom, which was a lot at the time, but only 3.2 megapixels. While there I was trying to keep the camera 'ready for action' all the time, and found I was going through 3 or 4 sets of AA batteries every day – and it needs 4 batteries at once – but otherwise it was good. Of course I had a lot of misses, even though I was 'on the ready', due to the delayed action; and as I knew I'd probably never get back there, I regretted these misses.

In 2007, I had a glitch with the S115, and it was going to be away for a few weeks to be repaired, so (as I couldn't bear to be without a camera for that long) I invested in a Panasonic DMC TZ3, which is a handy little camera, as it fits neatly into my pocket. I was attracted by the 10 times optical zoom, but also a sensor of 7 megapixels, which was large at that time. I still use this, but it is now a bit outdated. My husband took over the S115 when we got it back.

In 2011 I lashed out and bought a digital SLR camera, the Nikon D7000, with a Nikon 18-105 lens. This is a fantastic camera, and the lens is an excellent all round lens. I rarely feel the need to change the lens, and the camera has probably more options than I'll ever learn to use, though I'm slowly working on it.

It was only after buying the Nikon D7000 that I decided to join our camera club. I find the club atmosphere very conducive to learning about the hobby. When travelling I take a lot of photos, to jog the memory, and also to help work out what memories belong with what site. These don't necessarily call for quality photos, but I prefer it if they are. Due to club influence, I'm more conscious now of composition in a photo than I was,

and I'm endeavouring to improve the quality of my shots. I have learned so much since I joined the group, but I'm still very much a beginner.

As well as family interest photos, I enjoy 'attempting' to get good nature shots. I keep trying to get good shots of birds on the wing, but they won't stay still! Macro shots also intrigue me. I also take a lot of flower photos.

I've always tried to record the date and some details of the photo as the name on each and every photo, so if a copy of a photo is moved elsewhere, its details are part of it. This takes a bit longer in the processing, but I think it's worthwhile.

I have a number of other hobbies and interests. These include painting, pyrography, scrollsawing, and gardening, all of which tie in with photography, as I try to keep a photographic record of a lot of these things. I've recently taken up lawn bowls too, but only in a small way. I also make my own cards (birthdays etc) on the computer, and use my own photos for these.

Another thing I like about photography, is that it's a hobby my husband and I can enjoy together, when the opportunity allows.

Thank you Bev for this profile and I hope that in 2015 more of our female members can help address the gender imbalance that currently exists in the profiles that have been published.

Negative/slide scanning

As discussed at the last Club meeting, **Rod Burgess** has offered to scan a limited number of negatives or slides for members who don't have access to a scanner. He has a Epson V700 flatbed scanner. Please contact Rod on canberrarod@hotmail.com if you would like to explore this offer.

Lens for Sale

Rod Burgess has a quality lens for sale.

Canon EF 17-40mm f4 L. Canon's affordable ultra-wide L lens was the main lens for my landscape photography until recently when I went even wider. The lens was purchased new from Teds in December 2010. I recently had it cleaned by the Camera Clinic in Melbourne, where they also tested the focus and resolution. They noted minor scratches on the front element which I haven't seen cause any problems for me. \$500 or nearest offer. If interested please call Rod on 0427 428 130 or on canberrarod@hotmail.com.

And Finally ...

At our get together after the Gordon Pond walkabout, the subject of a Christmas gathering for club members was raised. A suggestion worthy of consideration was to meet for lunch in the open area near the Himalayan Cedars at the Arboretum. I believe that there are some BBQ's in this area, but to save having to queue behind all the other people likely to be using them at this time of the year, it might be simpler for people to bring cold dishes or their own portable BBQs.

I will have a look at this area and report back at the meeting.

Note from the Editor

As we don't meet in January, this will be the last newsletter until February, unless of course someone else wishes to put their hand up to take over editorship of the newsletter at the AGM.

One thing that you may have observed about these newsletters during the year is that a disproportionate number of the photos I have displayed come from a very small group of our members. This fact is not because I favour these people, but because they realise that to keep the newsletter alive it needs material, and so they provide it. I could be wrong (as I am about many things), but I presume that most people who go to the trouble to join a photography club have a wish to improve their photography and perhaps have their better photos published. I am willing to publish your photos in the newsletter if you are willing to send them to me. I would also very much appreciate receiving some of your literary efforts, even if they are only tangentially related to photography.

Anyway enough sermonising from me.

I wish all of you a very happy Christmas and thank you to all of you for making the Southside Camera Club the valuable entity it is.

John

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