

F22: Southside Camera Club newsletter



Volume 31 – Issue 10: November 2023

Contents

What's on this month	1
Next meeting Our 2023 Arctic adventure, presented by Laurie Westcott	1
Reports	2
President's report	2
Parliamentary Triangle outing Sunday, 29 October	2
Scottsdale Reserve excursion	3
Astro Interest Group meeting	4
Online resources	5
The Club online	5
Web site	5
Facebook	5
flickr	5
Equipment list	5
Office bearers	5
From the Editor	5
2022 Yearbook	5
F22 gallery	6

Meetings

7:30 pm: Woden Senior Citizens Club, 12 Corinna Street, Phillip

Third Thursday of the month

Next meeting Thursday 16 November: Our 2023 Arctic adventure, presented by Laurie Westcott

What was planned as a sailing trip with my son David and his partner, Fredereike, from Norway to Svalbard and return, was thwarted by the lack of medical insurance for sailing on a private yacht outside Australian territorial waters and became a seven day car trip with my wife around Iceland and a 13 day Hurtigruten Iceland, Jan Mayen, Spitsbergen – Arctic Islands Discovery (Eastbound) 2023 voyage from Reykjavik to Longyearbyan.



What's on this month

Date	Meeting, excursion, walkabout or group event	Speaker/convenor
Thurs 2 Nov	Virtual outing: Wet, using the rule of thirds	Zoom: Laurie Westcott
Wed 8 Nov	Astro Interest Group	John Mitchell
Thurs 16 Nov	Meeting: Our 2023 Arctic adventure	Laurie Westcott
Sun 19 Nov	Sunset: Mount Ainslie	
Sat 25 Nov	Portrait Interest Group	Mark Stevenson
Tues 28 Nov	Camera basics: Weston Park	Outings Group

Reports

President's report

Annual General Meeting 19 October 2023

The Club is in its 33rd year in 2023, the membership is 103, and our financial position is sound.

We continue to be in a strong position to provide an excellent yearly program, with learning opportunities and support for Club members in 2023–24 with no increase to membership fees. The Club subscribes to Zoom so members still have the option of attending meetings via Zoom and our very popular Virtual outings can continue.

This year we purchased a new screen calibrator and an Epsom projector and we are very happy with the resolution of the images it produces. The detail, brightness, and colour accuracy of the projected photos are excellent.

Our Club has a great voluntary team who take on diverse roles to keep the Club operating. It wouldn't function as well without these tireless contributors, my thanks to you all.

The team in 2022–23: does not just include the committee, multiple individuals work behind the scenes.

Tim Heenan, Kumar Sukumar, and Warren Hicks. Tim has been a true asset to the club and his commitment to the job as Treasurer goes without saying.

- Events and excursion organisers – Laurie Westcott, Helen Dawes, Rob Wignell and Geoff Morrison.
- Astro group coordinator – John Mitchell
- Portrait group coordinator – Mark Stevenson
- Virtual outings coordinator – Laurie Westcott
- Newsletter editor and Yearbook coordinator – Alison Milton, and all the members who contributed to the newsletters and Yearbook.
- Website manager – Brian Moir
- Facebook manager – Kumar Sukumar
- Calendar producer Derek Trow and contributors
- All those who have presented and coordinated outings.

The team has had an approach of how to make it happen with smiles and laughter.

Spotlight on 2022/23

Excursions, walkabouts and events

These outings give members the opportunity to participate in active photography; to socialise, and to learn and share skills. The calendar was full of a rich variety of activities from the regular Astro and Portrait group meetings to the theme-led virtual outing that put your photographic and artistic skills to the test.

Excursions included close encounters with crocodiles and snakes, to healthy mobs of kangaroos. We went out to see expansive landscapes, forests of cork and tiny fungi. To the Guthega ski fields for a weekend together, and out bush to historic landmarks. We caught the colour and action of the festivals and relaxed on the grass while sharing a drink at our Christmas party, to name just a few.

Thursday evening meetings

Thanks to the members who turn up early to help set up the room and equipment, much appreciated and thank you to all who have generously shared their work, knowledge, and experience.

- November:– the AGM was followed by a presentation from Jen Thompson, *Water is thicker than air*, focusing on underwater photography. A tricky juggle of camera settings, swimming skills and a bit of luck;
- December:– saw the annual show and tell showcase of members' photography of 2022 in 12 shots;
- February:– the new year began with an array of short presentations from Club members who talked about their special interest topic in photography and how they approach their practice;
- March:– Len Metcalf was our speaker, he is a professional photographer with 30-years experience, specialising in digital black and white photography;
- April:– we explored the variety of cameras on the market through the vast experience and knowledge of our members;
- May:– Giles shared experiences from trips to New Zealand and Nepal where natural beauty, history and geology were in abundance;
- June:– John Mitchell's passion for Astrophotography was clear in his presentation on how he captures the stars and planets of the night sky;
- July:– Luminita talked about her trip to one of the most amazing photographic landscape locations in the world. Tasmania is a place where there are still prehistoric rainforests, hidden waterfalls, alpine bushwalks and UNESCO world heritage sites;
- August:– Angela Robertson-Buchanan, a professional photographer who specialises in flora, fauna and macro photography, shared her beautiful bird photos and how she advanced her career in photography;
- September:– Vicki Clarke talked about her fascination for Cetaceans. From catching a chance glimpse of the Humpback whale to spending hours out on the ocean in WA admiring them to chasing across Australia to photograph their spectacular acrobatic displays.

Summing up, it has been another successful year for the SSCC. Thank you to all members for fostering a welcoming atmosphere and generously volunteering your time. I encourage all members to consider ways to support Club activities and to contribute in 2024. I have thoroughly enjoyed my two years as President and while I am stepping down from the position, I will not be far away and willing to help where needed. I expect to continue my involvement with organising the Club's next photographic exhibition. I wish the next President elect and Committee all the best.

2023–2024 committee

I am very please to announce that Richard Arculus will be the Southside Camera Club's President for the next 12 months.

He will be joined on the committee by Tim Heenan as Treasurer, Kumar Sukumar as Secretary and Warren Mark and myself as members.

Thank you to Richard for stepping up to the plate.

Nicky Bazley-Smith
Outgoing President

Parliamentary Triangle outing Sunday, 29 October

Four members took advantage of a fine and sunny Sunday morning to take a relaxed stroll around the Parliamentary Triangle. Members met in front of the National Library and after some initial shots there moved across to the Parkes Place lawns and the National Rose Garden.

While many of the roses were only just beginning to bloom, there were still more than enough in full flower for some nice close-up shots.

From there our little group crossed over King George Terrace and into the Senate side gardens of Old Parliament House. The gardens were in lovely condition with the lawns a verdant green and many more roses in bloom. Aside from the roses, the garden's irises were also putting on a fine display.

After a walk around the gardens and Old Parliament House, we decided it was time for a coffee at the National Gallery. We sat outside under the umbrellas of the National Gallery of Australia Street Cafe enjoying our coffees and some amusing conversations about an array of interesting travel experiences.

Following coffee we made our way back to the National Library of Australia via Reconciliation Place, which provided some final photographic opportunities before saying our goodbyes and heading home to process the day's photos.

Mark Stevenson
Outings Group Member

Scottsdale Reserve excursion

Laurie organised the Club's second excursion to Scottsdale Reserve just north of Bredbo.

Scottsdale Reserve was purchased by Greening Australia with the plan to restore it as a part of the Kosciuszko to coast corridor for migrating birds as part of the project.

The reserve's manager for the past eight years, Phil, gave us an update on what has happened since our last visit in February 2018. The reserve was extensively burnt during the 2020 fires but they managed to save the buildings on site.



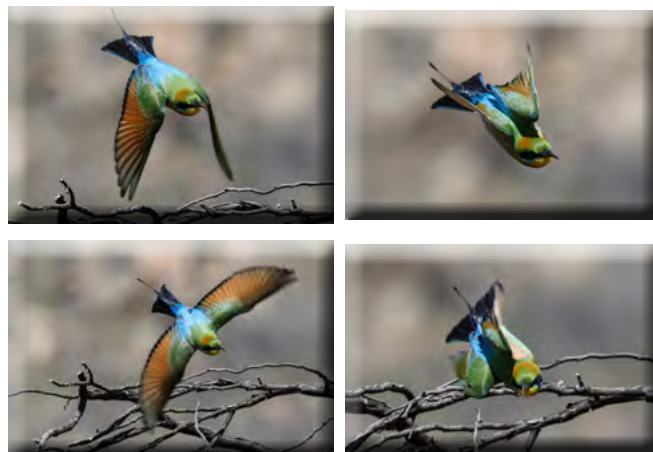
One advantage was that they had used an aerial low grade spray on the extensive serrated tussock and African Love grass weeds. The weeds had died but were left in large dead clumps across the various paddocks. The fire cleared these to better allow native grasses to re-establish.

A grove of pine trees previously defined the entrance but were burned during these fires. Phil said that they were often asked why they didn't remove the trees, as non-natives, but that they still a purpose with birds resting in them and cockatoos, for example, feeding off the pine nuts. Now that they have burnt, he is asked the same question as to why he doesn't remove them. His thoughts are similar that they still maintain the same purpose of holding the soil together, giving resting sites for migrating birds but perhaps now not providing food. The cost and effort of removing them and restoring the site is just not worth it at the moment.

After the initial talk on the history of the reserve we piled into two vehicles driven by Phil and his partner Kim, and Mark's 4WD to take us on a tour of the highlights of the property. It was a windy day but not so bad as the day wore on.

For the first stop Phil took us to the top of a hill where we could appreciate the view, and from which we could then walk down to walk along the train track to a railway tunnel.

Our next stop was at the Murrumbidgee River with great views along the river and also some interesting birds such as a Rainbow Bee-eater, Eastern Yellow Robin and Brown Tree Creeper.



I have no idea how I managed these photos of the bee-eater coming in to land.

Then it was back to the shed for lunch stopping at a gully where Tree Martins were nesting in the mud banks. Pardalotes could be heard calling but were not seen.

Back at the shed I saw a pair of Mistletoe birds land in a tree just out side, but they flew off just as I got my camera to photograph them.

Meanwhile, outside where we parked the cars, a small Rosenbergs Monitor was making its way further up the paddock but some of us managed photos. Rosenbergs are considered a rare or threatened species. Interestingly, the markings on their face are all different and can be used to identify individuals and track their movements if photographed and reported (particularly on Canberra Nature Map).

After lunch we tackled the hills of the reserve. This is where the 4WDs were really needed with some quite steep tracks.

At an almost dry water hole we saw a White necked Heron.

A number of areas have been fenced off and planted with varying native grasses or Forbes with the purpose of collecting seeds. We stopped at one of these planted with Forbes and it was wonderful to see them. However, this was also the location of a Brown Goshawk nest. Phil believes there are chicks in the nest and while one of the adults flew in to watch us, unlike the one at the botanical gardens did not attempt to swoop us to warn us away from the nest. We also saw Dusky Woods wallows and Diamond Fire tail Finches.

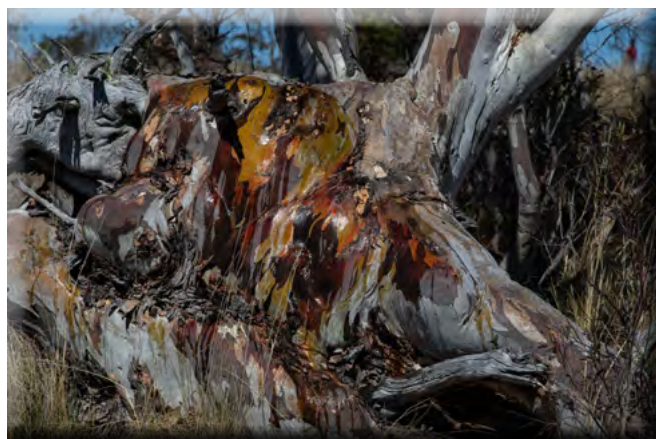
Then it was up, up up, into the hills.

Scottsdale is home to a remnant of Australia's last ice age, the Silver-leafed Mountain Gum. Adapted to a time when this part of the world was much drier and colder, just 10 populations of this little mallee tree are thought to exist in Australia, and it's vulnerable to extinction. This was one of our last stops.

At this stop were also some old snow gums that weren't burnt. I poured some water on the base of one of them to bring out the colours.

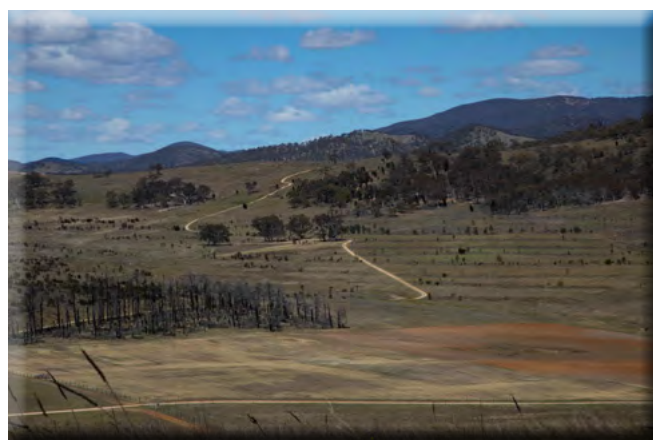


Before



After

Our last stop however, was at the top of a ridge with a great view of the Murrumbidgee River: looking down at the spot we had visited in the morning.



With Phil's enthusiasm and our photographers wanting more time at each site, we ran quite a bit over time but it was a wonderful excursion with so many photographic opportunities and so much history of the reserve and the efforts of restoring it as a birdlife corridor.

Alison Milton

Future events and meetings

Astro Interest Group meeting

The next astro Zoom meeting will be held on Wednesday 8 November at 7.30 pm.

The Milky Way panorama season is now over and we can look forward to the summer season where the Orion nebula becomes visible, low in the eastern sky from now on. Moving higher as we get closer to the summer period.

John Mitchell

Subject to change. Forward queries/suggestions to outings@southsidecameraclub.org

Outings and excursions are subject to change. If you are able to fill the gaps contact:

outings@southsidecameraclub.org

Date	Meeting, excursion, walkabout or group event	Convenor/speaker
Sun 3 Dec	Christmas gathering by Lake Burley Griffin	
Thurs 14 Dec	Meeting: Year-end Show & Tell	

Online resources

[Digital Photography Review](#)

[Photoaccess](#) – Manuka Arts Centre

[Red River Paper](#) – sign up to receive emails that contain good articles that are primarily about photographic printing but also on a wide range of photographic topics.

The Club online

Web site

www.southsidecameraclub.org/

Please send material for the web site to webmaster@southsidecameraclub.org

Facebook

flickr

[Links](#) to the Club's Facebook and flickr pages are available on the Club's web site under the [images / members on line](#) page.

To join you will need a Facebook and/or a flickr account.

- Go to the groups page
- Search for Canberra Southside Camera Club
- Click on the 'Join Group' button.

The request to join will be sent to the president as the group moderator. If you don't get a confirmation within a day or two email president@southsidecameraclub.org

Equipment list

Item	Custodian	Contact email
Elinchrome studio lighting equipment	Julie Taylor & Mark Stevenson	shinboner266@gmail.com
Colour Munki screen and printer calibrator	Mohamed Rageeb	mohrageeb@gmail.com
Fixed lighting kit: stands, light sources, extras	Mark Stevenson	shinboner266@gmail.com

Office bearers

Committee			
President	Richard Arculus		president@southsidecameraclub.org
Treasurer	Tim Heenan		treasurer@southsidecameraclub.org
Secretary	Kumar Sukumar		secretary@southsidecameraclub.org
Ordinary member	Mark Stevenson		
Ordinary member	Nicky Bazley-Smith		
Ordinary member	Warren Hicks		
Public Officer	Tim Heenan		
Non-committee positions			
Walkabout/excursion	Laurie Westcott, Rob Wignell, Helen Dawes		outings@southsidecameraclub.org
Portrait Interest Group	Mark Stevenson	0404 283 212	portrait@southsidecameraclub.org
Astro photography	John Mitchell		astro@southsidecameraclub.org
Newsletter Editor	Alison Milton	6254 0578	newsletter@southsidecameraclub.org
Website Manager	Brian Moir	0414 834 249	webmaster@southsidecameraclub.org

From the Editor

2022 Yearbook

I have been frustrated the past couple of years by the lack of interest in the Club's yearbook. This not only includes contributions to the book, but the lack of responses to various emails asking for members' comments.

For this reason I have greatly delayed producing the book. Exploration of cheaper options to Blurb have not panned out.

In respect to those who did send in contributions for the 2022 book, I have decided to complete this but feel that this will be the last one.

This is a real shame but I'm not prepared to keep beating a dead horse.

A grateful thanks to those few who did continue to show an interest. I'll complete the book shortly and send out a proof.

For the rest, there is still time to send something through if you wish.

Alison Milton



*The hunt is on. Orb spider and Praying Mantis at a rest stop on the Mount Morgan Road
Iain Cole*



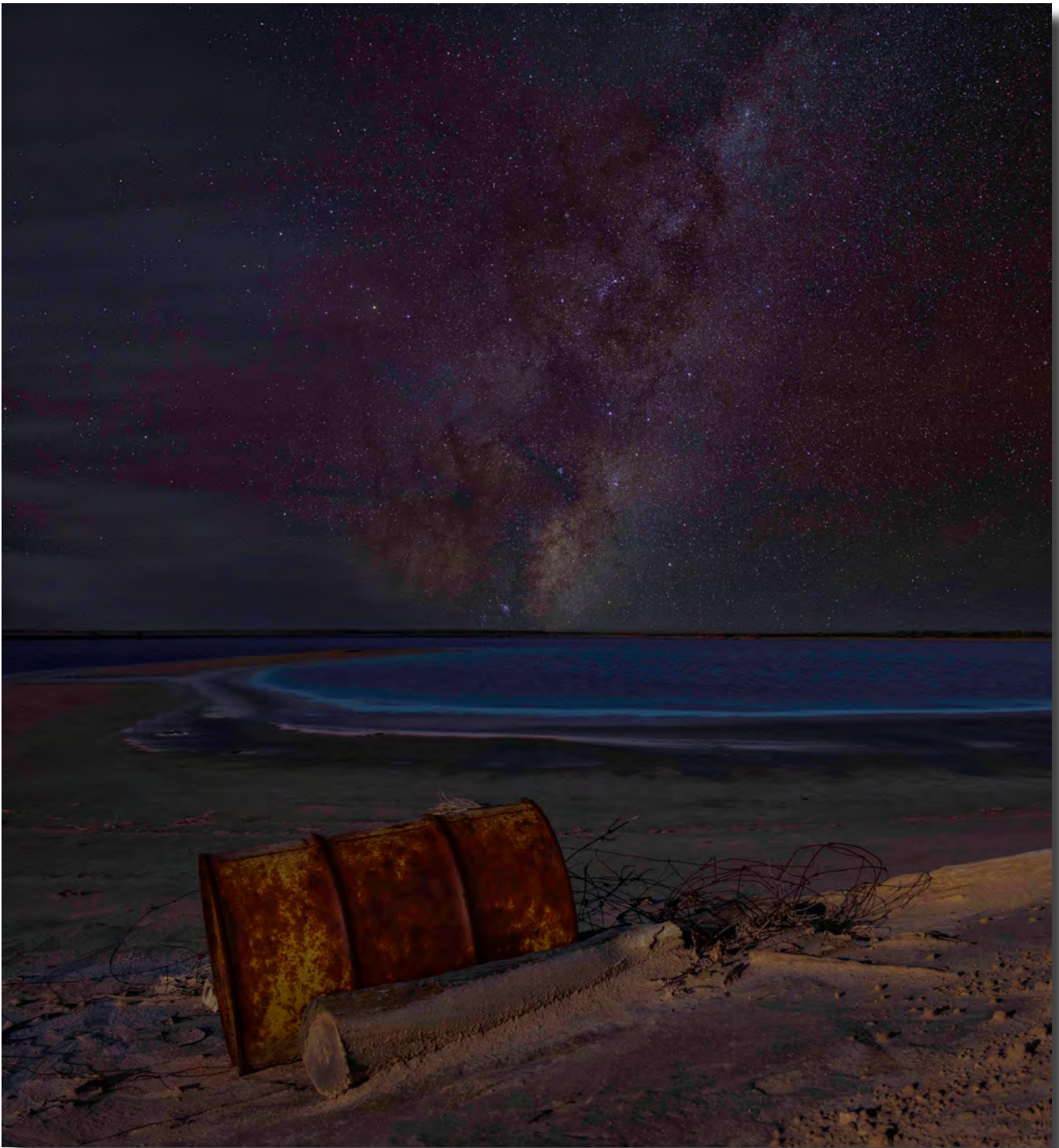
*A walk in the park
Iain Cole*



*Detail from A walk in the park
Iain Cole*



*Lake Menindee
Luminita Lenuta*



*From Broken Hill trip
Luminita Lenuta*



*From Broken Hill trip
Luminita Lenuta*



*Swing Time. Chimpanzees at play, Rockhampton Zoo
Iain Cole*



*Nom Nom Nom. Baby chimpanzee at dinner time, Rockhampton Zoo
Iain Cole*



*A walk in the park
Iain Cole*



*A walk in the park
Iain Cole*



*A walk in the park
Iain Cole*



© Iain Cole

*A walk in the park
Iain Cole*



*Watch it! Currawong and Magpie quarreling, Eungella
Iain Cole*



*Rufous whistler, Crace
John Mitchell*



*Red-capped Robin, Crace
John Mitchell*



*Red-capped Robin, Crace
John Mitchell*



*Boorowa Valley (The dusty road will smell so sweet)
Bob McHugh*



Sunrise, Marengo
Bob McHugh



Canola and Pasture, Harden
Bob McHugh



The Other Side of the Tracks (Disappearing branch line blues) Koorawatha
Bob McHugh



*Feed time, Holder
Robert Triggs*



*Male Superb Fairy Wren, Jerrabomberra
Robert Triggs*



*Young chick, Jerrabomberra
Robert Triggs*



Red-browed Finch, Jerrabomberra
Robert Triggs



*Black-shouldered Kite, Jerrabomberra
Robert Triggs*



*Female Superb Fairy Wren, Jerrabomberra
Robert Triggs*



Red-browed Finch, Jerrabomberra
Robert Triggs



*Parkes Place West
Mark Stevenson*



*National Library fountain
Mark Stevenson*



*Old Parliament House Senate Rose Garden
Mark Stevenson*



*View from the National Library
Mark Stevenson*



*From Broken Hill trip
Luminita Lenuta*



*Lake Menindee, from Broken Hill trip
Luminita Lenuta*



*Rosenbergs Monitor, Scottsdale outing
Alison Milton*



*Snow Gum, Scottsdale
Alison Milton*



*Murrumbidgee River, Scottsdale
Alison Milton*