

Bellarine Camera Club

NEWSLETTER

October 2013

Melbourne Show Success ...

Best in Show Experimental Photography Section

Jon Bagge wins again
at Royal Melbourne Show



Also this month ...

Beautiful Tasmania

Ellen McIlroy visits a favourite place

A cook's tour of Baghdad

Gordon Traill shares an insight into his life
when he was in the Australian Army



NEWSLETTER

October 2013



Front Cover:
Look Both Ways
by Jon Bagge

Club meets twice a month
(excluding January):
1st Monday - Club Night
3rd Monday - Judging Night

Venue:
SpringDale Neighbourhood
Centre
17-21 High Street, Drysdale

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Contents

03 President's Report

Monthly report from the president

03 New Members

New members welcomed in September

04 Guest Speakers

Last month's speaker and upcoming speakers

05 Competition Results

Results from September set subject 'Movement'

06 Royal Melbourne Show Success

Jon Bagge's recent success at the Royal Melbourne Show

08 A Cook's Tour of Baghdad

Gordon Traill's story

10 Beautiful Tasmania

From Ellen McIlroy on her recent visit to Tasmania

11 Notice Board

Information on upcoming events, competitions, etc.

12 Syllabus

The most up-to-date syllabus for the next two months

12 For Sale

Now available - hinged mats, along with traditional mats for mounting images. Members are also welcome to advertise their own photographic equipment for sale.

President's Report

Welcome to the latest edition of the Bellarine Camera Club Newsletter. As I mentioned in my last message I would attach an image that shows what photography means to me in regard to catching those moments to remember forever. This edition's image is a doozie. It is a memory only. Me looking thin and youthful - too bad it will never return. Don't laugh at my image, we all looked this way didn't we? Those around me are my siblings.

The committee would like to advise members that our club secretary, Val Moss, has resigned from her post and committee position. We thank Val for her efforts and enthusiasm over the years and wish her all the best in her photography endeavours. She will remain a valued member of the club. That leaves me with the next issue - who will replace her? Anyone who wishes to be part of our vibrant committee in this role, please let me know.

One of our well recognised members, I think he is becoming too well recognised, a media king, Jon Bagge has done it again. This time he took out a number of major prizes at this year's Royal Melbourne Show and then had to top it off with the Best in Show Image. Well done Jon.

I would also like to mention that we have had some variations in judging over the past few meetings. We as a committee would like to assure all members that their efforts are appreciated and that individual judges have different methods of putting their message over. Most are really good and have a grasp of what members would like to hear. I would like to say this is mostly the norm and occasionally we get someone who leaves members with comments to remember. We advise this is the process of judging. No two judges are the same. We recently had a judge give an average score to an image that ended up winning a major prize in the Royal Melbourne Show. Take the judge's



comments on the chin. You may not agree, but that is photography, not everyone likes your work. Roger and I speak from experience

Our syllabus is looking good for the next 12 months and we hope to cater for all members needs. We have decided that from the 21st October meeting members will have the chance to be part of a Q&A 15-minute period at the start of the meeting. This time period will be allotted to solve members issues and point them in the right direction on how to improve their camera use and image production. So start thinking about it. It will be strictly held to 15 minutes. □

Shane Coles
President

New Members

During September we welcomed new members Anna Lai Ying Hong, Dean Reynolds, Bill & Elizabeth McCall.

Guest Speakers

Mike Dugdale

At our September club meeting our guest speaker was Mike Dugdale, Senior Photographer for the Geelong Advertiser. He gave members a detailed look at behind-the-scenes activities of a press photographer, and how it works today in the electronic world.

Mike took us on a quick trip down memory lane to the time when he started with the 'Addy' some 30 years ago, and moved to the present day and the massive changes that are still occurring.

After showing his 'press camera kit' (with many of us looking on in envy!) he was quick to hold up his iPhone, which has also become a powerful tool for speed and ease. So many (general public) photographers are out there with their iPhones, which means in many cases a

photo can be sent in prior to the press photographer arriving at a scene!

The actual process of a photo appearing in an edition was quite amazing, from the process used, to the speed of forwarding and selection. The software program being used seemed very effective, with access from all News Limited individual newspapers having access to almost every photo taken throughout Australia – amazing! The newspapers select the best ten photographs taken by their own staff, which is emailed to each senior photographer within the News Limited group to allow cross-sharing. Mike concluded the evening with an electronic display of the memorable images he had taken over the years and some background to them, covering everything from weather, court, road crashes, people, schools and many other subjects.

It was a night well-worth attending and we hope to see Mike back again another time with the next update of the fast moving area of photojournalism. Our president Shane thanked Mike with the traditional bottle of wine to enjoy!

- report & photo by Roger Northam



Coming soon...

OCTOBER 7th
Darren Henry (BCC Member)
'Exploring Film Cameras'

NOVEMBER 4th
Roger Gillard
'Trainspotting Near and Far'

Don't forget to put a note in your diary now so you don't miss these speakers.



REMINDER
7th October 2013 - 7:30pm

'EXPLORING FILM CAMERAS'

Darren Henry will be presenting a talk about some of the old 20th century cameras he has collected. Working in small groups we will actually be taking photographs with some of these.

The theme for these photos will be 'the good old days' so if you have any old time props or costumes (disguises) you would like to use/share please bring them along.

For example an overcoat, fur coat, walking stick, antique hat or hand mirror, a violin, old wooden tennis racquet etc.

- something that will make a photo interesting.

And it is a good chance to snap a genuine old-time portrait.

So please come along as it's sure to be a fun night:

- **We will start at 7:30pm sharp**
- **Don't forget your props**
- **Bring your reading glasses if you need them**



Club Competition Results

SEPTEMBER - SET SUBJECT: 'MOVEMENT'



PRINTS

- 1st:** **Raining Sparks** Jon Bagge
- 2nd:** **Don't Get Wet** Janet Young
- 3rd:** **Tail Swish** Kerrienne Hobbs
- Merits:** **Evening Walk** Ellen McIlroy
- Baghdad** Gordon Traill



EDIs

Image of the Competition & 1st:

Spin Darren Hobbs

2nd: **Run** Darren Hobbs

3rd: **Leaping Alex** Darren Humphries

Merits: **Fly** Darren Hobbs

Run Jack Run Val Moss



Congratulations Jon!

Success at the Royal Melbourne Show 2013

Last year Jon Bagge was awarded 1st place in the Landscape/Waterscape section at the Royal Melbourne Show with his stunning image 'Sylvia Falls'. This year Jon has added to his awards with 1st place & Best in Show for his self portrait 'Look Both Ways' which he entered into the Experimental Photography Section. He also received a Commended in the same section for his image 'Sparks'. Congratulations Jon, well done! After asking for something for our newsletter, Jon kindly submitted the article below:

Well it's been a busy year, and with saving hard for our trip to the UK, I've hardly entered any comps this year.



*Look Both Ways
1st Place & Best in Show in
Experimental Photography Section*

A few months back, I entered the Pakenham Camera Club National Exhibition. The best thing about the Pakenham comp was that they allowed EDI's, so I just had to send a disc along with images on it, much easier and cheaper than printing up images then mounting them and sending a parcel. Although I didn't have any winners, I did have 5 out of 12 images accepted in to their exhibition which is nice although to be honest a little disappointing.

The image itself, 'Look Both Ways' came from an image I saw going round on the net. At the time, the BCC set subject Portrait comp was coming up. I didn't set out to copy the idea, more to try and work out how it was done, and why did it work. I created the image one Friday on an RDO, and put it up on

my facebook page that evening to see what people made of it. It caused quite a reaction! Although I rarely appreciate my own work, I could rate the image by the reaction and the number of friends commenting that wouldn't normally comment.

So the BCC comp night came and went, the judge liked it, but I think he liked everything that night, but again, the reaction from the members was wonderful. It's funny how when you look at the image for the first time, then there are a few seconds that pass before your brain flips the image and you see the second image. Then you struggle to see the

Best in Show Experimental Photography Section

first, before being able to 'Look Both Ways'. It was then entered in to our InterClub Comp. Again, the judge

liked it, but it was better received by the audience. At this point, if I hadn't already entered the Royal Melbourne Show comp, I'd have probably put the image in the archives.

The Royal Melbourne Show photography competition received a revamp this year. Having won a First last year with 'Sylvia Falls' I was keen to enter, but with no 'Open' or 'Landscape/Seascape' sections, I was left wondering how I could possibly enter this year. This year's categories were Portrait/People/Animal, Weather, Architecture/Construction, Melbourne and Experimental Photography.

So I took a chance with Experimental. At the time, I still believed 'Look Both Ways' had some mileage left in it and I had just shown and talked about my steel wool 'Sparks' images at our camera club, which are always well received, so I also entered one of those in the same category.

Well, last year the results were online the Friday night. This year the website crashed! I'm sure I didn't cause it by checking and rechecking it to see if they were up yet. So this morning, I'd been up a while before

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I remembered to look. At last the results were up! I scrolled through the list to my section, and was very happy to see that 'Look Both Ways' was awarded a First, and Sparks received a Commended. Very happy! A repeat of last year, with the added bonus of the commended! I then noticed that the judge had added a short comment at the top of the section. It read 'This section of photos were of a high class. Every picture was a delight to see, thank you for the photographs.' Nice I thought, I wonder what else the judge had to say. So scrolling back up the list reading the judge's comments along the way, I got to the top to see my name and the following:



Sparks
Commended in Experimental Photography section

**2013 Royal Melbourne Show Art, Craft and Cookery Competition
PHY01S - Best in Show Photography (Special Classes\Photography Awards)**

PRIZE: 1ST VALUE \$500, ROSETTE

This portrait is just so strong, and all the competition was hot. I could not stop going back to the winner. The picture that is side on and front on forces the viewer to keep looking at it. It is very refreshing to see such great work, thank you.

8840

Jon Bagge: Look Both Ways

Oh my word! I was stunned! So very happy and close to tears I was really quite overwhelmed ! (The same happened winning the Image of the Year last year). I was happy with the first place, but Best In Show is really quite something special! Honestly blown away. I know the image isn't everyone's cup of tea, and it's always in the eye of the judge. But you've got

to love it when they like it!

So following on from this morning, I've had a phone interview with the Addy, thanks to my PR agent Mr Northam, which may appear in print on Monday and now plan to visit the show to see my image on display. I wonder if anyone will recognise me? ☐



The Geelong Advertiser, Monday 22 September

Articles on Jon's Royal Melbourne Show success were published in The Geelong Advertiser and The Echo.

Do you have a story, or any other article, tips or ideas that can be published in our monthly newsletter? For this publication to be an ongoing success we would greatly appreciate your assistance.

Contributions to the Newsletter can be submitted to the editor at club meetings or emailed to editor@bellarinecameraclub.org.au

A cook's tour of Baghdad

Gordon Traill was asked to submit an article for our Newsletter - this is his account of 'A Cook's Tour of Baghdad'. Last week he was advised that he had been awarded an Honourable Mention for this story. Gordon will be our guest speaker in December and will speak on his time in the Australian Army.

An email from Gordon explains why this particular article was written:

"Here is the story that I entered in the veteran comp run by Department Of Veteran Affairs. It is held every year and covers story writing, photography, painting woodcraft etc. My piece was a special category for story writing and each year they have a different theme. This year's theme was 'Stories from the Middle East' - it had to be no more than 1500 words."

**Category 1E - Special Category Subject
'Stories from the Middle East'
Gordon Traill - VSM 09622
A Cook's Tour of Baghdad**

Food Asia, Singapore 1994. I had reached the pinnacle in my chosen trade as a chef. I was a member of the Australian National Culinary Team that competed for the 'Battle of the Lion' against seven other nations. It was an amazing experience to represent your country on the world culinary stage. I was a Sergeant Cook competing with and against the best civilian chefs in the world.

Ten years later I found myself on a C130 Hercules aircraft flying into Baghdad, this time to represent Australia as a soldier and a cook.

Diary entry: Friday 7th May 2004

'Left Camp Doha and drove to a rundown Kuwait Air Force Base that still showed the battle scars of Saddam's invasion years before. The C130 arrived, loaded Stores, Ammo and Security Detachment 4 (SECDET 4) personnel. The flight to Baghdad was very smooth until we began tactical flying. It was an adrenaline filled 15 minutes till we touched down.'

Once on the ground we were briefed by Sgt Moriarty who was in charge of the ASLAVS that were to take us to 'The Flats', a name given to the shell of a building that was to be my home during my time in Iraq. It was located next to the Australian Embassy in the 'Red Zone'.

After a tour of the building it was time for dinner. It felt good to get some food as I hadn't eaten all day and also meet the cooks from SECDET 3. There were approximately 220 personnel for dinner with both SECDETS during the handover period.

SECDET 4 was a self sufficient Battle group of approximately 100 - 120 personnel made up of Infantry, Cavalry, Engineers, Signals, Cooks, Intelligence, Military Police, Medic, Mechanics and Q Store soldiers. Our role was to support and protect

the Australian Ambassador and his staff in the most dangerous place on earth, Baghdad.

Diary entry: Sunday 9th May 2004

'Mother's Day, once again I wasn't there to share the day with Shona and the kids.'

Being in Baghdad really brought home how special my wife really is as a mother. She has been the one constant in our children's life. Shona is always there for them when I have been away with the Army.

My role during my time in Baghdad was to ensure that our soldiers got the best possible food that was available and ensure that there was plenty of bottled water to keep them hydrated. The temperatures ranged between 35 and 55 degrees with little change when the sun went down. My other role was to work in the Operations room which included manning the radios, keeping contact with the diggers

on picquet duty, foot and mounted patrols in our Area of Operations.

Steve Riley was my Corporal Cook and had previously completed a tour of East Timor. He was a brilliant cook and great to work with. Steve always gave me a 110% and was a very funny guy and well liked by all. The kitchen was approximately 4 metres wide by about 8 metres long. It had no plumbing, no kitchen sink, four toilet extractor fans on a side wall, a household stove, BBQ plate, two freezers, glass door fridge, stainless steel work bench and shelving to store cooking equipment.

In one corner of the kitchen was a sandbagged wall where the local gas bottles would be stored and spew out a horrible odour when they were nearly empty. The gas bottles would arrive by donkey cart and kicked off by the driver to land on top of one another. No wonder they were all banged up and in poor shape. The electricity was a constant source of ineffectiveness with blackouts that lasted hours at a time. At times evening meals would be cooked under torch light.

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A cook's tour of Baghdad ...cont'd from previous page

Diary entry: Tuesday 11th May 2004

'There is always an Intelligence brief on the state of affairs in Baghdad and Iraq. I don't need the Intel brief to tell me that this is a bad arse town with all the bombs and rockets going off.'

A normal day would consist of a cooked breakfast, a light lunch due to the hot climate and a cooked meal for dinner. The food we received through the supply chain, were American 50 man Ration Packs. Some of the interesting items were frozen laser cut fried eggs (yuck), grape jelly and grits (I never did get around to cooking them), dehydrated hash browns and inedible bread rolls. Steve and I had our work cut out for us trying to make the food suitable for our Australian tastes using the American rationing system. I would source local eggs, potatoes, flat bread, fresh vegetables, fresh dates, fruit to add variety and flavour.

Every Friday depending on the threat assessment I would receive a BBQ pack that was flown in from Kuwait. It comprised of lettuces, tomatoes, onions, cheese slices and thick steaks that were tough as boot leather. To fix this problem I would marinate the steaks and add bicarbonate soda to make them tender.

Bottled water was extremely important due to the weather conditions as well as wearing body armor. On average a person would drink between 6 – 8 litres of water a day. I always had a seven day supply of ration packs, meals ready to eat (MRE's) and water. Just outside the kitchen door was where we served the food. I had a large piece of cardboard which had a vegetarian MRE nailed to it with the words 'Complaints Book'. I never did get any complaints!

Diary entry: Tuesday 25th May 2004

'This was the worst day of the tour so far. A huge car bomb exploded right outside 'The Flats'. The jagged bits of car and shrapnel that were hurled through the air were found throughout 'The Flats'. I had never heard an explosion that loud before. There were locals killed which included children.

This is a f---d up place.'

One of the sayings when explosions or small arms fire were heard was 'if the building was not rocking everything was good'. The building did rock that day and that was not good.

Diary entry: Wednesday 16th June 2004

'Today was very hot in the kitchen, found a small fan just to circulate the hot air.'

Breakfast was quite large with eggs, bacon, pancakes, hash browns, chipolatas, porridge, macaroni cheese and cereals. There was plenty of food for the diggers before going out on foot or

mounted patrols. Lunch usually consisted of local flat bread and salad or left over dinner items to make toasted sandwiches. Dinner consisted of four main choices, vegetables and dessert.

I had a supply of sports and soft drinks that I had on ice in big esky's in the dining room. The ice came in metre lengths by 20 cm square - the frightening thing was the mud colour that ran through these ice bars. This was another good reason to use only bottled water for cooking and drinking. I swear I saw three headed fish in the Tigris River that curled its way around Baghdad!

One of the rituals the Cavalry boys brought to Baghdad from Australia was their 'beer and cigar night' that was held once a week. As the Middle East was a dry area there was a supply of American 'near beers' which had 0% alcohol. You would walk into their room where smoke billowed out as you opened the door. There in front of you they would be smoking handmade Cuban cigars and drinking 'near beers'. There was always raucous laughter with the many jokes they told.

Diary entry: Tuesday 10th August 2004

'A bomb threat was made against the Australian Embassy next door. More stand to's due to the threat.'

During these times you had to wear your body armor all the time except for sleeping. This made work in the kitchen all that more difficult due to the heat that was generated by the cooking appliances. The temperature would range between 55-60 degrees.

Diary entry: Tuesday 21st September 2004

'Flying into Darwin the pilot announced that he had very special passengers on board who were returning home from their tour of Iraq. A loud roar and clapping filled the plane. My chest burst with pride and yet I felt very humbled'.

'Saw the girls and gave them a big hug. Shona wrapped her arms around my neck like a vice and wouldn't let go. I felt like a millionaire'.

'Went out to dinner, I felt weird with no weapon and felt very detached from the family. The feeling of guilt hung around my neck like a lead weight because I should have been ecstatic to be home. Sleep was very difficult to come by'.

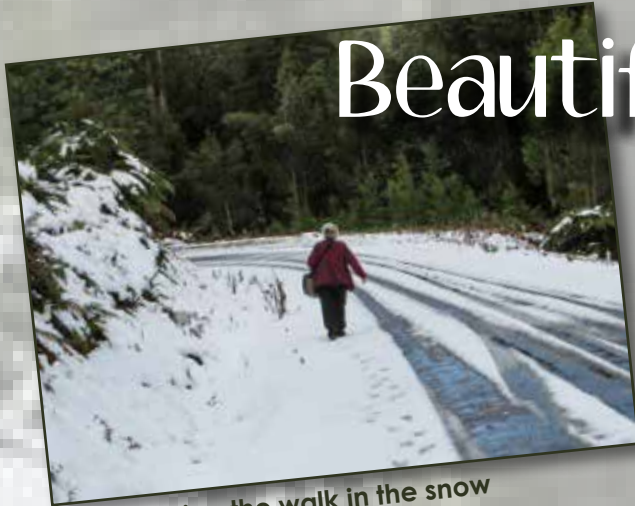
My 'cook's tour of Baghdad' was complete. My long journey returning 'home' was just beginning.....

□

Beautiful

Tasmania

by Ellen McIlroy



Me enjoying the walk in the snow



Near Mount Mawson



Mount Field National Park



Tasmania at its best (for me)

I first visited Tasmania in 2008 with my friend Jacky and a couple visiting my husband and I from England. We all fell in love with the scenery, the fresh air, the gentler pace of life and also its history. I particularly liked the area from New Norfolk to Maydena passing the Mount Field National Park. My friend Jacky loved it so much that she sold her house in Clifton Springs and built a new home in Maydena, a small village of only 225 inhabitants. This gives me a chance to visit a few times a year.

I have just been to Maydena hoping for snow, which the weather gods granted me. Mount Mawson is the skiing centre of the area. The Styx Valley is also nearby. This is a place of forests of old trees and beautiful scenery with lots of wildlife like pademelon, wallabies, kangaroos, other small creatures and an abundance of bird life. My favourite spots to visit are Russell Falls and Horseshoe Falls in the Mount Field National Park.

My biggest concern is the logging that is being done there. It would be such a sad thing to see this beautiful area destroyed for the future generations to enjoy.

I can truly recommend a visit to Tasmania for a lot of wonderful photographic opportunities. □

Notice Board

BELLARINE CAMERA CLUB and GEELONG CAMERA CLUB invite you to a very special afternoon with David Piko

A special one-off opportunity for photographers from the Geelong region to hear David Piko talk about photographing Australian miniature orchids and macro photography, both of which he specialises in.

**Sunday 27th October 2013
2:00pm - 4:00pm
at Geelong Camera Club
Barwon Valley Activity Centre
Barwon Heads Road Belmont
(opposite Kmart)**

If you are interested in attending please keep this date free - more information will be coming out very soon.



Images by David Piko, from his website dlpiko.com/MountCannibalOrchids/

Ballarat National Photographic Exhibition 2013

Entry form is available on the club's website:
ballaratcameraclub.org.au/ballarat_nationals
Entries close: 11 October, 2013

If you are not already a member, join our member-only Bellarine Camera Club Facebook group today.

Notice to all BCC members -
once again you are invited to enter framed images in:

THE BELLARINE 2nd ANNUAL PHOTOGRAPHY SHOW

Venue: St Leonards Yacht Club
Date: Friday 1st to Sunday 3rd November, 2013

Category 1 - Landscape/Seascape
Category 2 - Subject of Choice

Prize money is available for each category - more details to follow at a later date.

BCC members are urged to enter and support this event in appreciation of the loan of the Yacht Club display boards that are supplied free of any charge for our own annual Easter Exhibition. **Entry forms available at BCC meetings, from John Gallichan.**

Entry forms
now available
from
John Gallichan

Syllabus - October & November

October

- 7 - Guest Speaker - Darren Henry (BCC Member) - Old and Antique Cameras
- 7 - Prints & EDIs due for Open Competition
- 21 - Judging - Open Competition -
judge Mark Bloot'hooff
- 28 - Committee Meeting

November

- 4 - Roger Gillard - Trainspotting Near and Far
- 4 - Prints & EDIs due for Set Subject: Photojournalism
- 18 - Judging - Set Subject: Photojournalism -
judge David Rendle
- 25 - Committee Meeting

NOVEMBER SET SUBJECT

'Photojournalism' Images due November 4

Photojournalism is a particular form of photography that creates images in order to tell a news story whilst telling the story in strictly journalistic terms. Photojournalists create pictures that contribute to the news media.

For Sale

HELP SUPPORT YOUR CLUB BY PURCHASING READY-MADE PHOTO MATS

Mats are available for sale at each meeting for a very reasonable price. All profits go back into the Club.

Colours are black, charcoal and off-white to suit the following print sizes:

5" x 7"	\$2.00 each
6" x 8"	\$2.50 each
8" x 10"	\$3.00 each
8" x 12"	\$4.00 each

Special sizes can be made to order
(up to the maximum mat size of 40 x 50cm)

FOR ALL MATS SEE JOHN GALLICHAN, OUR 'MASTER MAT MAKER'

NEW, MATS WITH HINGED FOAMCORE BACKING
Available in BLACK, CHARCOAL, OFF-WHITE

TO SUIT FOLLOWING SIZES,

5" X 7"	\$4.00 EA
6" X 8"	\$4.50 EA
8" X 10"	\$6.50 EA
8" X 12"	\$7.00 EA
12" X 16"	\$10.00 EA

(12" X 16" Made to Order only)



DO YOU HAVE ANY PHOTOGRAPHIC EQUIPMENT OR ACCESSORIES FOR SALE?

If you would like to advertise your pre-loved photography equipment or accessories here, please submit a detailed article, preferably with a picture, via email to:

editor@bellarinecameraclub.
org.au