



## Newsletter: August 2023

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Reg #A0013634

## Under the Night Sky

Some members recently braved the cold weather to take part in some astrophotography under the guidance of Mark Slater. Here is a summary of the experience by Neville Bartlett who went along to participate and achieved a nice result with his image below.

After a long wait for suitable conditions, about nine members gathered at the Western end of Bethanga Bridge to take some landscape astrophotography images. Mark Slater had circulated some excellent instructions and information beforehand and fortunately I had the foresight to obey them. Some practice helped me to achieve some reasonable starting settings (manual focus on infinity, reasonably high ISO 3200, aperture wide open at 2.8, time set to 25 seconds and a two second delay on pressing the shutter). It is near impossible to take images in the dark without knowing how to change the settings from memory.

As darkness took hold, we quickly learnt some valuable lessons. Firstly, cars on or near the bridge produce too much light and over expose those parts of the shot. The solution was to wait until there were no cars and to have someone use a torch to illuminate the bridge for 2-3 seconds only.



Secondly, any fixed lights, such as the town lights at Bellbridge also tend to be over exposed. Lastly, being under the flight path between Melbourne and Sydney means that there were trails caused by aircraft lights in many shots.

Quickly, we learnt to vary the settings after a few images and some reasonable results were achieved under Mark's tutelage.

Over the last few evenings, I have observed how bright the landscape is as the moon advances so it is clear that a moon at up to 10% in the days on either side of the new moon would be ideal. I do not think that my efforts will win any competitions but I am now much more confident about tackling some other locations.

Mark's notes are highly recommended and the practice last Sunday evening has made a substantial difference. I am now much more skilled at changing the settings on my camera.

Article and image of Bethanga Bridge by Neville Bartlett

# **COMPETITION PAGE**

email: photocompwacc@gmail.com

web: https//wacc.visualpursuits-au.com

web: https//waccfoto.myphotoclub.com.au

Due in 14th August for October 2023 - OPEN

#### NOTE: Please register for myphotoclub and submit your entries into myPhotopClub

If you have any questions or issues plaese contact David Skinner (d\_skinner@bigpond.com) or Neville Bartlett (neville@nrbartlett.com.au)

Due in 11th September for November - Book, Music & Film Title

Book, Music & Film Title - Illustrating the title of a published book or commercially released music, song or film. It is thought that a well-known title would have more appeal than an obscure one. To assist in the judging, your image title is to depict the title and the medium. Eg. Grease - Film.

Due in 9th October for December - OPEN

Due in 13th November for January 2024 - The Working Man/Woman

The Working Man/Woman - For earlier generations many occupations involved much hard labour but modern mechanization and technology have greatly reduced the need for such physical effort. However, there are still jobs in our society that involve manual labour in occupations such as shearing, outback work, fruit picking and many trades. The challenge for this topic is to depict men and/or women at work or who show the effects of years of great toil.

#### Competition Secretary's ditties

Try not taking images from your eye-level. Photos from an unusual point of view are often more interesting.

Try not to shoot with the sun behind you. The photos will become boring and flat-looking. Instead, shoot with light coming from the side or behind your subject. It creates shape and a more compelling photo.

David Skinner - Competition Secretary

#### Paatsch Shield Luncheon and Presentation

#### Reminder

Don't forget our follow up social gathering with Benalla Camera Club is coming up on Sunday 27th August. Even if you were unable to attend the photography day back in May please feel welcome to come along.

Wangaratta Club - 4 Victoria Parade 12.00 lunch

#### Venue Map



## Photography Exhibitions & Competitions

Ballarat International Foto Biennale

Exhibition dates 26th August - 22nd October 2023

https://ballaratfoto.org/2023-biennale/

Lockhart Spirit of the Land Festival - Art & Photography Exhibition

Location Lockhart Memorial Hall Entries close 18th September 2023 Exhibition dates 7- 8 October 2023

https://www.spiritofthelandlockhart.com.au

Online Photo Competitions

https://www.australianphotography.com/competitions

# Bright Festival of Photography

A number of members have attended this event in the past. If interested in finding out more visit the website below or contact the club to get in touch with previous participants.

https://bfopaustralia.com



#### Outside - Inside Challenge

This month the entry due in is for an image showing a composition that is 'on a table, bench, shelf or stand'.

Please put your entry into Visual Pursuits by Monday 14th August.



## **Diary Dates**

Next General Meeting
Monday 14th August
Venue: Felltimber Community Centre,
Wodonga
7:30pm
[NOTE: venue change]

Committee Meeting Monday 28th July 7:30pm via zoom

September General Meeting Monday 11th September 7:30pm

Paatsch Shield
Luncheon & Presentation
Sunday 27th August
12:00 noon
Wangaratta Club
4 Victoria Parade
Wangaratta

## **Our Sponsors:**

Kerry & Leighton Weymouth





