

In Camera

The Newsletter of the Hawkesbury Camera Club Inc.

FROM THE CHAIR

Greetings Members,

It's hard to believe that another year has almost gone, just the Christmas party left on the agenda which I am looking forward to very much. I don't know if anyone else feels the same as me but life doesn't feel normal unless we have camera club.

Congratulations to all the award winners at our end of year competition, I won't mention them all at this point as Kim our competition manager will be doing that elsewhere in the newsletter. I would like to personally congratulate Mark Hanson our B grade champion and Olga Baldock our A grade champion they are both very worthy recipients of our top awards.

Once again Ian Cambourne has burnt the midnight oil getting our program together for next and having ready for last Wednesdays meeting. I hope you picked up a copy so you can start planning your photo shoots for next year. I am sure you will notice there are a couple of interesting comps next year that may cause you to scratch your head but we cant allow ourselves to become too set in our ways now can we? Thanks Ian.

We have made small progress at the moment on the Hawkesbury Camera Club book on our history. We need to make a concerted effort to get it all together. This is a very worthwhile project and something that we need to make happen next year.

Two interclub competitions next year, we need to go one better and win them both just to let the other two clubs know who's boss.

I would like to personally thank the outgoing committee for their hard work and enthusiasm. I believe we had a



OFFICE BEARERS

President:	Geoff Pfister 9626 7537
Vice President:	Marian Fox
Secretary:	Debbie Web 4578 3680
Treasurer:	Ian Cambourne 4577 5148
Comp Manager:	Kim Duproy & Alan Sadleir
Publicity:	David Duproy
Activities Coordinator	Jenny Aquilina & Suzette Howarth
Newsletter Editor	Alan Aldrich 9627 4225

The new office bearers take up their positions in January 2011, except for the treasurer

This Month

Friday 3rd December
2010

6.30pm for 7pm

at the Richmond
Club

very good year as a club with most things coming together as they were supposed to. As president of the camera club (we need to look at the name next year also) my job was made easy by all the support I received so my thanks goes out to you all.

Looking forward to seeing you next year.

Cheers Geoff

Caravan Holiday September-October 2010

Dale Irving

Many of you would know I was missing in action for the whole of September and October. This holiday had been planned for several months. We wanted to see the Willandra Woolshed and surrounding area and follow on to Mungo National Park. We also thought that we would be able to get from there to Queensland either via Bourke or Tibooburra. The rain made that a little difficult and we were soon to learn that roads either close or are very difficult even with an off road caravan.

We spent some time at Lake Cargelligo with friends on their farm. I helped them with all sorts of electrical repairs.

We had a break one day and I was invited to a horse race meet at Griffith. I became a temporary shareowner of a horse called Rich Reef, as our friends were running him at the Griffith Cup. As an owner I had to carry a towel to look the part also take an interest in what was going on. I took some photos but did not have a bet. This was the first good day that we had as far as the weather was concerned. We were wet and cold most of the time.

We were informed at Lake Cargelligo that the road to Willandra was open, but more rain was expected and we could be there for a week or more before the roads were passable again.

Other trips we had taken at this time of year we were always warm and dry but not so this trip. Off we went to start our holiday via Hay and on to Balranald. After a brief stopover at the obligatory Bakers Shop we continued on towards Mungo National Park.

We arrived unscathed and looking forward to many Photo opportunities. The wildflowers were in abundance, almost as many as the puddles. The Walls of China and the old woolshed were fascinating. Some of the machinery was still in place. It would have been interesting to see thousands of sheep waiting to be shorn. The weather was holding out for us and we enjoyed a couple of days relaxing before heading off, this time for Menindee lakes.

We crossed the Darling River at Pooncarie and stayed a couple of days on a farm at Binderra. These old farm properties fascinate me with the Wisteria covered verandah's. Dogs with nothing better to do than lick the visitors on arrival and tractors and other machinery that have remained stationary for many years. We travelled on through Aboriginal owned and run land, toward Kinchenga and on to Menindee. The town has changed so much in the four years since we were last there. It is surprising what some water does to the community spirit.

We stayed at a caravan park called Sunset Strip for a couple of days, before heading north to Broken Hill. We travelled out to Silverton the next morning and back again that evening as the sun was setting, to get the light right. It is surprising what sunset does to sandstone buildings.

We were told that the Silver City Highway was not the best in the wet so we (as in I) decided that it would be good to visit the Flinders Ranges. Val readily agreed, so off we went down the Barrier highway. Our next stop was Wilmington as this is the base for the Mt Remarkable National Park and Alligator Gorge with amazing rock formations. The 250 steps down to the bottom of the Gorge was our stumbling block, especially when we realized that we would have to return the same way.

Quorn was the stepping off place for the Flinders Ranges and pretty good pasties at the local bakers. The next stopover was Hawker, as this gave us access to Wilpena Pound. I found this to be disappointing, as commercialism had overtaken an otherwise pretty place.

Arkaroola (North Flinders Ranges) was our next stopover, quite a trek to get there but well worth it. The wild flowers were absolutely beautiful including Sturt Desert Pea, which I had never seen in the wild. The views from the hills around the wildlife sanctuary were well worth the effort and the backache. There were Blackboys or Grass Trees growing on the tops of rocky outcrops, which proves just how hardy they are.

After several days at Arkaroola we headed west to Copley and on to Leigh Creek, which is a company owned town. Thousands of tons of coal transported by huge numbers of ore trains with three engines. They arrived empty and a few hours later left fully laden, destined for Port Augusta, Whyalla and overseas. The town was dead as it was school holidays and hundreds of homes were vacant or had been sold off over the past few years because the workers were no longer needed due to automation of the huge open cut mine.

After a very quiet weekend at Leigh Creek we headed North to Lyndhurst. We engaged permanent four-wheel drive for quite a while on our way to Maree, passing Farina (Ruin) a deserted mining town where there were at one time several hotels, churches, hospital and dozens of houses in all states of disrepair. This was once a thriving mining community.

Maree was wet after receiving more rain in the previous two weeks than they had in the last ten years. We were told that the huge cattle stations in the area could sustain themselves for the next three years without any further rain.

Maree pub and roadhouse were the two main buildings in town. Inflated prices and a poor selection of food choices were the order of the day. We were fortunate to have ample supplies on the truck so did not get caught. Diesel was \$1.77 / litre. Ted Kruze's first truck was on display; I had read his story a few years ago. He used to run the mail from Maree to Birdsville through all weather, a wonderful feat of endurance.

We were hoping to venture up the Birdsville track but the road was well and truly flooded at Cooper Creek.

They had recommissioned the ferry for the first time in ten years. This was capable of carrying only one 4wd at a time. There were dozens of vehicles on the track but the ferry was not suitable for a truck and Caravan. We did travel about thirty k's and played in a huge floodway for a while.

The next day was a trip of a lifetime. We took a two-hour flight which travelled north up the Birdsville track to the Cooper Creek crossing about 160 k's, then west along the flooded Cooper. We were able to see the Birdsville track disappear under water for several k's. Many stranded cattle could be seen from the air. They were not in trouble as they had a bounty of fresh feed and ample water. The Cooper is the route that water takes from the Queensland floods and is the main source of water for North Lake Eyre.

We flew west across North Lake Eyre and then south to South Lake Ayre and back to Maree.

There was a slight drizzle the morning of our departure from Maree and after checking the road signs and asking the local Policeman we headed off North again up the Oodnadatta Track. This was the start of a nightmare, which seemed to get worse as we travelled toward William Creek. The misty rain had turned the normally sandy track into slush!

The sand in this area has a high content of clay in it, which is only seen after rain. After what seemed like an eternity we arrived at William Creek. We asked at the pub and the Charter pilot office what was the condition of the road to Coober Pedy. We were told it was fine--"it is like a highway".

After about sixty k's and sliding all over the road we pulled into bore road #19 and prepared to camp for a week if necessary. We had sufficient water, food and power. Overnight the wind came up and blew a gale all night without rain. After checking the conditions the next morning we set off once again for another 100k's to Coober Pedy. The next 30k's were a bit hairy but after that the track was sufficiently dry to travel in comfort.

We arrived in Coober Pedy covered in mud. We found a car wash and tried to remove the worst of the mud from both truck and caravan. We then travelled south to Port Augusta for a well-earned break. We returned to Quorn a couple of days later to travel on the Pichi Richi Railway. This was very relaxing on a well-maintained stream train and carriages from the early

1900's. We also travelled south to Whyalla an industrial town covered in the red dust from the smelter.

One of the highlights of South Australia was our visit to the Barossa Valley, Hahndorf and Adelaide Hills, a very beautiful part of the world.

Our next stopover was at Renmark where we saw the local sheep dog trials and the rose festival. We had hoped to continue our journey home along the Murray River but had to cut this part from our trip. We will definitely go back to continue at some time in the future.

In the meantime we are happy to be home and enjoying some degree of normality for a time.

Thanks Dale

Photos for Children Night

For the 4th year we held our Photos for Children competition, which has now become a Camera Club institution! Most of our members have cottoned-on to the fact that children love animals and presented all manner of variations on that theme for this year's line up along with a few other topics that children might like.

Thank you to Alan Sadlier for erecting the 5 display screens, which were filled with entries (from half height down) to catch the attention and imaginations of our young judges. (Thank you Denise Newton for organizing our child judges from Richmond Primary School) The 12 or so judges milled around to examine the images, giving thought to the intended use of the photos for the walls of the Children's Ward of Hawkesbury Hospital. After each voted for their two favourite images, the children were interviewed to ascertain their insights and motivations for their choices. The thoughtful and sometimes philosophical comments from the children awed the audience. The sheer delight of one judge meant that a one-word comment sufficed, also delighting the audience.

The judges were asked what images would cheer up a sick child, make them smile, or even recover more quickly, or give them something to look forward to when they get out of hospital. The judging took place in silence as the children looked at the images before them. When questioned, Ethan who had chosen the baby elephant with its mother said he thought it showed the bond between mother and child and would be

reminded of their own mother. Justin thought the dog on the grass would be relaxing to look at, and the dog in the pram, dressed in a suit, and was funny. Lucy knew that dogs make people happy, especially since it was funny and makes you smile to look at it.

Justin chose another cute dog, and Therese said it would remind the child of its own dog. Declan chose the photo of an emu, its face directly engaging the viewer, showing it's a good listener. Nathan chose the emu for a different reason "It's like it's watching you." Jared chose the photo of jellybeans because it had lots of bright colours to light up a room. Ethan's second vote was for the peacock photo, because it is beautiful but also for a deeper meaning: it would remind a child that they are not the only ones taken from their family: the peacock is alone in the picture. Isaac chose the photo of the mother and child Koala with the idea that it's a reminder that they'll be home with their mum and dad again. (Thank you to Debbie Webb for noting the comments by the judges.)

The judges were then given the opportunity to ask questions of the photographers about their images, and it was very enjoyable to hear their inquisitive minds and curiosity. Everyone got to know where the koalas and emus were to be found, and some mysterious details about camera know-how were also revealed.

The judges were each awarded a Certificate of Appreciation by our President, Geoff Pfister, and the 2011 Calendar to take home. (Thank you Marian Paap for supplying the certificates.)

Thank you to our members who presented a lovely display of images, there was a variety of images and interpretations of the animal kingdom, and the judges chose according to their own tastes and ideas. Congratulations to those whose images were chosen, some were outside the animal criteria showing it's not JUST animals that children like.

The batch of 2011 calendars, produced by TPP Sydney (Steve Blue), with a grant from Windsor Rotary was handed over to Elsa Read from Hawkesbury District Health Service, for distribution through the Children's Ward and the Hospital Shop. Elsa thanked Camera Club for our efforts, saying how much the images were appreciated both on the walls and through the calendars.

Elsa's daughter Lucy came along to be a judge as well.

Cr Christine Paine commended us for our efforts and said she will continue to support us in our community projects. Thank you Christine for helping us obtain funding from Windsor Rotary for the production of the calendar, and bringing your grandchildren to help judge the entries. We received donations for a number of calendars we distributed through the Camera Club members' purchases (those whose photos are on the calendar received theirs for free), and will forward the money to the Children's Ward. (So far, \$104.40). There are still some calendars available, please ask if you would like to purchase more. Windsor Rotary also took delivery of a batch of the calendars and will forward the money they receive as donations to the Children's Ward. Their generosity of spirit is indicated in that they had already paid for the production of the calendars, and will now give more money to the Children's Ward. Richard Clark organized that for us.

Congratulations to members for your winning entries! And thank you to Kim Duproy for refining the competition procedures so that it runs more efficiently. The next step is to get the photos printed and ready for the changeover next year. Thank you to Alan Aldrich for organizing the photos in readiness for printing, and organizing the printing. Thanks too for Carol Donaldson for your involvement in the printing as well. Thank you Charles Sutton, Alan Aldrich and Geoff Pfister for helping with the change-over of images each year, putting them in the frames ready for hanging them on the walls.

Winning entries were:

Geoff Pfister with 3 votes – Top Hat, **Geoff Pfister** with 1 vote – Baby Elephant, **Peter Gunczy** with 1 vote – Siamese Kitten, **Olga Baldock** with 1 vote – Doris, **Dave Duproy** with 1 vote – Butterfly, **Dave Duproy** with 1 vote – Peacock, **Carol Donaldson** with 1 vote – wakeboard, **Carol Donaldson** with 1 vote – lady clown, **Julie Day** with 1 vote – Rolly, **Denise Newton** with 1 vote – Ape & Drum, **Sue Evans** with 2 votes – Dog (with the blue fluffy toy), **Robyn Ashton** with 2 votes – Ostrich head, **Kerry Harris** with 1 vote – Mother & babe, **Kerry Harris** with 1 vote – Boris, **Robyn Duncombe** with 2 votes – Max, **Mark Hanson** with 1 vote – Jelly Beans, **Jenny Aquilina** with 2 votes – Elephant, **Alan Aldrich** with 1 vote – Bear with Guitar.

With all the thank yous, you can see how many people worked together to bring this project to completion:

**WELL DONE HAWKESBURY
CAMERA CLUB for a job well done.**

HAPPY CHRISTMAS !

Josephine

Next Meeting: February 2. Black and White Photography,
Mike & Maiva Smyth

FOR SALE

BOWENS STUDIO-LIGHTING KIT

- 500Ws of power (down to 31Ws)
- 5 f-stops with 1/3 power adjustments
- Quick flash duration of 1/925 (at full power)
- Recycle time 1.5 sec
- User changeable flash tube
- Proportional modelling lamp control
- User changeable modelling lamp
- Light sensitive Photocell
- Standard ¼" sync socket
- Ready light indicator when 100% ready to flash
- Bowen 'S' type accessory fitting compatible with all Bowens accessories

Kit contains:

2 x Esprit Mono 500's – MADE IN ENGLAND – used three times for magazine shoot

2 x Light Stands

1 x 90 cm Silver / White Umbrella

1 x Wide-Angled Reflector

2 x Mains Cables

2 x Modelling Lamps

1 x RED wheelie-bag

Sync Leads

Also included is a Photoflex Softbox (and attachments) – 650 x 850

I purchased these brand new so one owner (me).

\$ 2,200.00 ONO – ask Alan Aldrich for info – he has same set.

Diane Norris 4576 1525

Awards and winners for 2010

Photographer with most accumulated points for 2010

A - Grade – Olga Baldock

B - Grade – Mark Hanson – 11 merits for the year.

Top Point Score for 2010

A grade Small print – Lyn Cornish

A grade Colour print – Olga Baldock

A grade Monochrome Print – Olga Baldock

A grade Digital Colour Image– Ron Milosh

A grade Digital Monochrome Image – Ron Milosh

Top Point Score for 2010

B grade Small print – Jenny Aquilina

B grade Colour print – Kim Duproy

B grade Monochrome print – Peter Gunczy

B grade Digital Colour Image – Mark Hanson

B grade Digital Monochrome Image – Mark Hanson

Bronze Medallions - 50 Points – Robyn Duncombe, Marian Paap, Colin Bates, Kim Duproy, Sue Evans, Samantha Gilchrist

Silver Medallions – 100 Points – Jenny Aquilina, Keith Davies, Dale Irving, Alan Sadleir, Mark Hanson. Congratulations on advancing to A grade.

Gold Medallions - 200 Points – Alan Aldrich, Olga Baldock, Nev Biddle, Lyn Cornish, Glen Foster

Photographs of the Year

Small Print of the Year 2010 A Grade Winner – Lyn Cornish

Small Print of the Year 2010 A Grade Runner up – Lyn Cornish

Colour Print of the Year 2010 A Grade Winner – Olga Baldock

Colour Print of the Year 2010 A Grade Runner up – Denise Newton

Monochrome Print of the Year 2010 A Grade Winner – Suzette Howarth

Monochrome Print of the Year 2010 A Grade Runner up – Lyn Cornish

Digital Colour Image of the Year 2010 A Grade Winner – Alan Aldrich

Digital Colour Image of the Year 2010 A Grade Runner up – Geoff Pfister

Digital Monochrome Image of the Year 2010 A Grade Winner – Grant Davenport

Digital Monochrome Image of the Year 2010 A Grade Runner up – Josephine Blue

Small Print of the Year 2010 B Grade Winner – Kim Duproy

Small Print of the Year 2010 B Grade Runner up – Alan Sadleir

Colour Print of the Year 2010 B Grade Winner – Mark Hanson

Colour Print of the Year 2010 B Grade Runner up – Dale Irving

Monochrome Print of the Year 2010 B Grade Winner – Jenny Aquilina

Monochrome Print of the Year 2010 B Grade Runner up – Mark Hanson

Digital Colour Image of the Year 2010 B Grade Winner – Julie Day

Digital Colour Image of the Year 2010 B Grade Runner up – Sue Evans

Digital Monochrome Image of the Year 2010 B Grade Winner – Mark Hanson

Digital Monochrome Image of the Year 2010 B Grade Runner up – Kerry Harris

Congratulations to everyone winning a prize on the night and for entering and gaining points throughout the year.

Kim

Competition Manager

This is an email forwarded by Josephine,

Hi Jo

Sorry I haven't returned your call. It is has been so hectic here (as usual).

Thank you for the calendars, they have been very well received at HDHS and everyone has made comment on how professional the photos are and how bright and cheerful they are.

I have given the Gift Shop 1 pack of calendars and asked them to collect a gold-coin donation. They have a little display outside the Gift Shop and the calendars look good. I have asked the volunteers to keep any money they collect separate so we can keep track on how much they collect. I might also drop some off to Community Health. I have also given ½ pack to the Children's Ward to give away to children who stay. I still have ½ packs of calendars in admin. Can you think of anyone else I should be giving the calendars to? I could send some out in the mail with our annual report, which goes out early December but that would mean I would have to fold the calendars.

Re: Lighting of the Christmas Tree Celebrations

I am sending out flyers for this event (Thursday, 2 December) at 7.30pm at the front of the hospital and would like to distribute some to the Camera Club members. Could you give me the best address to send them?

Thanks Jo for everything you and the Camera Club do for the hospital.

Kind regards
Lesley

The PDF invitation is on the next page.



HAWKESBURY DISTRICT HEALTH SERVICE
HAWKESBURY PRIVATE HOSPITAL
catholic healthcare

The Lighting of the Hawkesbury District Health Service Christmas Tree

The Management and staff of
Hawkesbury District Health Service
invites you to a special ceremony to celebrate
the Spirit of Christmas

The lighting of the tree each year will signify the
beginning of the Christmas season,
lighting the way for our celebration of the birth of Christ

Everyone is welcome to join us to sing Christmas Carols

Candles available on the night (for a small donation)

Date: Thursday 2 December 2010
Time: 7.30pm
Venue: Hawkesbury District Health Service
(at the front of the Main Reception)

Address: 2 Day Street, Windsor
For further enquiries, please contact
Lesley Walker
Phone: 4560 5656



Wet weather confirmation (Ph: 4560-5656)

Thursday 2 December 2010 at 7.30pm

Preparing Your Camera For Christmas Lights

When heading out to shoot some holiday lights, be sure to make sure your camera is ready. Good results are obtainable with almost any sort of camera – you don't need a digital SLR – but it is recommended the use of a tripod. Night time exposures are always somewhat slow, and it's just not possible to freeze the action when the shutter is open for a whole second.

If you don't have a tripod, you can consider propping the camera on top of a beanbag or a bean bag-like gadget, if you own a Gorillapod this is the perfect opportunity to use it. Beanbags are handy because they conform to the shape of the camera as well as to the shape of whatever you're placing the camera on.

When to Shoot

This is the most important part of the photograph – and the element that most people omit when they try taking holiday lighting photos. This element is the right light.



The typical shots of holiday lights – the ones you see all the time – are taken at night, long after the sun is gone and the background is in total darkness. In these photos, the lights are bursting at the seams, and the background is abject darkness. There's little context, and no drama. These photos aren't bad, but they lack a certain vitality.

The remedy? Shoot shortly after sunset, when there's still some light in the sky.

Set up in front of the lighting display when there's still plenty of light in the sky, at least half an hour before the sky goes totally dark. You should be able to see the display lights, but they should still be fighting the natural light in the sky.

Setting Your Exposure

One last thing to consider before you start shooting: the exposure settings. If your camera lets you adjust the white balance, you should set it to "tungsten" or "incandescent." These settings will give you a richer, bluer sky as well as better lights.



You can leave the camera on its automatic setting, but if you can dial in manual and adjust aperture and shutter separately, you can try starting with f/8 and a half second. To change the overall exposure, open the shutter longer (for a brighter scene) or shorter (for less exposure). To make the strings of holiday lights brighter and more dramatic, open the aperture (a smaller number--like f/4). If the lights are already too bright and overexposed, you can throttle the aperture down to f/11. The bottom line? Experiment.

Like to try HDR photography?

Take at least 3 images with a constant aperture say f11 and vary the speed to increase or decrease the exposure. The reason you only change the speed is to maintain the same depth of field.

When you return to your computer PhotoShop now has as a plugin.

If you are having trouble with it, bring your images to the next HAGS meeting on the 9th of February next year and someone will show you how.

Frame the Scene



Getting to the scene early enough is more than half the battle. Start taking some photos and check the results you're getting. As the sky gets darker, you'll start to hit a sweet spot in which the background sets a dramatic tone for your photos, but the lighting takes over the foreground and becomes the "protagonist" in your scene.



Be sure to take a lot of photos and try a number of different angles, but you're guaranteed to get some great photos if you "go wide" and include a lot of sky. This approach means you won't be able to shoot a lot of different locations in a single night, but the holidays last for months--you've got plenty of time. Just remember to try HDR photography then you too will be able to take that photograph that has the wow factor built in.