



## Calendar of Events

**VAPS 2012 Convention  
Ballarat - 19-21 May 2012**

**40th Anniversary, Warragul Na-  
tional Exhibition**

**Entries close Thursday 14 June**

**Judging Saturday 23 June**

**'One-off' Anniversary event - Rob  
Smith - Sunday 24 June.**

**Exhibition days 13-15 July (will in-  
clude wide variety of additional  
events)**

**Presidents' Meeting & Judges'  
Seminar - probably July (watch this  
space)**

**VAPS AGM - 21 October, 2012**



## PRESIDENT'S REPORT

April is on us already, and just a few weeks to go until the Convention in Ballarat.

Registrations are coming in, slowly, so please, if you are coming up to Ballarat and all that we have on offer at the 2012 Convention, please get your registrations in as soon as possible.

We have a great programme planned as you would see from the activities form attached. It will be a great weekend with plenty on for everybody.

At the dinner on the Saturday night the awards and citations will be kept as **brief** as possible, we plan on issuing an addendum to the catalogue on the night that will contain all of the citations, and year bar awards.

So the citations will not be read out but each recipient will be mentioned and receive their badge on the night, arrangements are being worked on to see how we can speed up that process also.

The Presidents' meeting and Judging Seminar scheduled for June will be moved out to July due to clashes with other events and room availability. Further advice on these dates, once confirmed, will be provided to clubs via email and in the June Newsbrief.

At the Half Year meeting on the 25<sup>th</sup> March a number of topics were tabled for consideration by clubs, including:

### VAPS Interclub

- The Future of small prints is under consideration, with novice members generally rejecting the current limitations of small prints, a proposal to re name it more appropriately and include from small to large prints is in hand.
- This means large prints will also need to be redefined for the VAPS Interclub. A proposal paper including defining the description/ alternative name of "novice" and "large" will be circulated to clubs for consideration and comment with any decision being taken at the AGM in October.

### New Category "Motion"

- The development of a video sub section, either in the Interclub, or as a freestanding competition to be conducted in October each year. This would be specific to videos made with a digital camera.

A proposal paper on both these issues will be circulated to clubs for consideration and comment; any decision will be taken at the AGM in October.

I look forward to catching up with you at Ballarat over the weekend of May 19/20/21.

Peter Kewley

Ballarat Convention, May 19th to 21st  
Registration cut off date  
**April 23rd**  
Please register now  
It will be a great weekend

AT THE CONVENTION DINNER THIS YEAR  
SATURDAY 19<sup>TH</sup> MAY

- ✦ The Awards and Citations will be **BRIEF !!**
- ✦ The food will be delicious and plentiful
- ✦ The company will be great
- ✦ Hope to see you all there over the weekend and at the Dinner on the Saturday night.

**BALLARAT CONVENTION  
LUNCH BOXES SATURDAY 19<sup>TH</sup> MAY**

We recommend ordering a lunchbox for Saturday 19th May as there are no shops nearby and if you are attending any of the workshops commencing at 1.30pm, there will be little time to get into Ballarat and back.

Order on your registration form or via email to

[vapsconvention@hotmail.com](mailto:vapsconvention@hotmail.com), Cost is \$12

## ***EASTER PRINT EXHIBITION AT BENDIGO***

The Bendigo Camera Club is once again holding a Print Exhibition over the Easter Holiday period.

This year Melbourne Camera Club has been invited to show a selection of work by its members. These images together with work from the Bendigo Camera Club will be shown over the four days in conjunction with the Bendigo Easter Fair.

Please note that the Bendigo Easter Fair Committee has decided to hold the main attractions on Good Friday, Saturday and Sunday only. The Parade which is normally held on the Monday will now be held on the Sunday. The Exhibition is held in Dudley House, half way along View Street, opposite the round-a-bout and three doors up from the Art Gallery.

The viewing days for our Print Exhibition will be Friday, Saturday, Sunday, 10am-5.30pm and 10am-4.30pm on the Monday. A \$3 entry fee will be charged to assist with the running costs of the Club. Hope to see you there.



Sun Loong- Bendigo Chinese Dragon



Photos by Bev Pascoe

## **Congratulations Southern Suburbs Photographic Society - 60 Years**

Southern Suburbs celebrate 60 years this year; this is a marvellous achievement.

The number of members who would have passed through this club over that time frame would be exceptional in itself, the teaching, knowledge and friendships experienced during that time is really what a camera club is all about ... sharing and enjoying the pursuit of photography.

From all of the Affiliated Clubs in Victoria we congratulate Southern Suburbs Photographic Society on reaching this milestone of 60 years.

## Report on the 60th Anniversary Celebration Dinner & Book Launch of Southern Suburbs Photographic Society Inc.

To celebrate our 60th Anniversary, we began with a dinner for 62 members and guests at the Highett RSL Club on Monday March 19.

On this night we also launched our book **"SIXTY YEARS IN THE MAKING 2012"** which reflects not only the history going back to 1952 but work by current members.

Invited guests included VAPS President Peter Kewley, Jenny Colson as President of Essendon, (because of the inter-club relationship over many years between SSPS & Essendon), Sue Rocco and Peter Carty as Presidents of Caulfield and Frankston respectively, those clubs being our nearest neighbours. Unfortunately Peter Carty was unable to make it.

The night went well with the partners of members joining in together with our guests and creating a warm fellowship.

A birthday cake, complete with a black camera on top, was made and donated by one of our members, David Johnson.

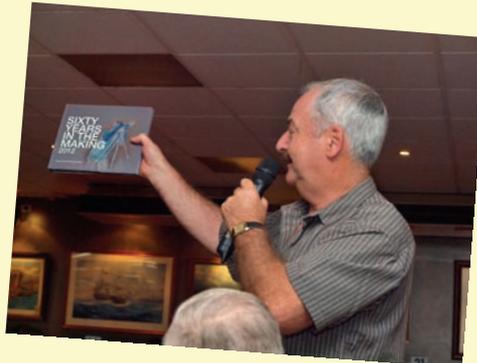
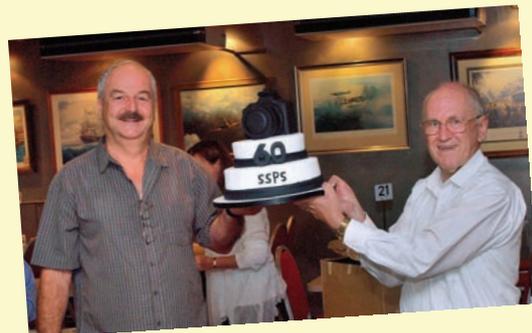
The initial bulk order of 50 books was a complete sell out on the night and another order is on the way. The 160 page hard cover Blurb book was produced by Bob Clothier with help from a member skilled in graphic artwork and some 47 members who contributed images of their choice. Several pages are devoted to the history of the club.

At the moment we have a confirmed membership of some 107 and about 50 who are active with competition work.

Bob Clothier, SSPS President

Those pictured are:

Bob Clothier, Ian Rolfe, Marg Edwards, Bronwen Casey, Claire Bickle, Peter Calder, Frank Pisani, Peter Hammer, Annette James, Heather Westerman.



# BEGINNERS COURSE

## CAULFIELD PHOTOGRAPHIC SOCIETY

### CAULFIELD ARE TAKING BOOKINGS FOR THEIR ANNUAL BEGINNERS COURSE

**Further details** <http://www.caulfieldphoto.org/BeginnersForm.aspx>

Each year this quality course is conducted by experienced instructors Paul Robinson and Jean-Philippe Weibel. It is practical and theory driven comprising eight sessions which include field trips, workshops and lectures on all technical and design elements of photography.

**DATES:** Tuesdays each week from 17<sup>th</sup> April to 22<sup>nd</sup> May and two field trips one on Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> May and on Friday 18<sup>th</sup> May in the evening to explore night photography.

**VENUE:** St Peter's Parish Hall cnr. Ames St., and Neerim Rd., Murrumbeena. Melways 68 K5.

**TIME:** 7.30p.m – 9.30p.m

**COST:** \$150.00  
\$120.00 concession

Phone: J-P Weibel 9569 4887

#### VAPS Website

Anyone wanting to make alterations to their club listing on the website just needs to contact Kath Gillies. Kath has been extremely ill and someone did make contact, asking to alter their listing. She responded from her hospital bed and asked them to contact again in a couple of weeks but so far they have not done so. Kath is well now and working on the website again.

Please make sure when you are looking for the VAPS website that you type in [www.vaps.com.au](http://www.vaps.com.au) and not the old site which was [vaps.org.au](http://vaps.org.au).



## High Country Huts and Landscapes

Prints by David Oldfield and Richard White

Melbourne Camera Club, Corner Ferrars and Dorcas Streets, South Melbourne  
Opening Thursday 19 April, 8.30 pm; Saturday 21 and Sunday 22 April, 12noon to 5pm

## Skipton Progress Association 7th Annual Photography Show

Will be held on Saturday & Sunday 19th & 20th May  
In the Skipton Mechanics Hall.

There will be three sections; Open, Novice & Youth up to 16 years.

The 8 categories will be: Pictorial, Creatures, Creative/Experimental,  
Photojournalism, Landscape/Seascape, People/Portrait, Skipton  
Buildings/Scenery and Still Life.

This annual event receives up to 800 entries each year.

Entries can be posted or delivered to Val Day, 18 Lismore Road, Skipton 3361.

Enquiries or requests to be placed on the mailing list to receive entry forms and  
schedules - [daisydazed@hotmail.com](mailto:daisydazed@hotmail.com) or phone 03 53402336.

## BALLARAT ACCOMMODATION OPTIONS

"Ballarat offers a very wide range of accommodation options, from hotel to motel, budget or upmarket cabins, self contained and a range of farm stay, apartments or caravan parks, it's all around Ballarat."

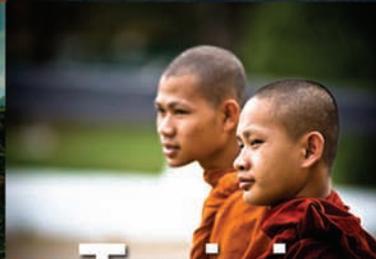
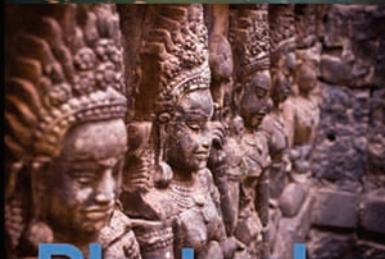
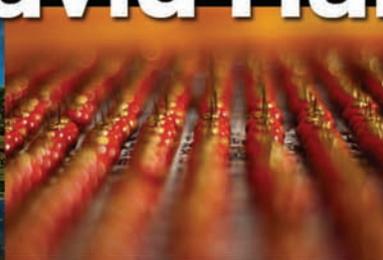
The following links will take you through the many options to make your visit to the 2012 Convention affordable, comfortable and enjoyable.

- |                      |  |
|----------------------|--|
| 1. Ballarat Tourism, | <a href="http://www.ballarat.com">www.ballarat.com</a> .   |
| 2. Motel/Motor Inn,  | <a href="http://www.ballarat.com/motel.htm">www.ballarat.com/motel.htm</a>                               |
| 3. Bed & Breakfast   | access the link from within the Ballarat Tourism page  |
| 4. Self Contained    | <a href="http://www.ballarat.com/self.htm">www.ballarat.com/self.htm</a>                                 |
| 5. Apartments        | <a href="http://www.ballarat.com/apartmen.htm">www.ballarat.com/apartmen.htm</a>                         |
| 6. Farmstay/Rural    | <a href="http://www.ballarat.com/farmstay.htm">www.ballarat.com/farmstay.htm</a>                         |
| 7. Hotels            | <a href="http://www.ballarat.com/hotelacc.htm">www.ballarat.com/hotelacc.htm</a>                         |
| 8. Caravan Parks     | <a href="http://www.ballarat.com/caravan.htm">www.ballarat.com/caravan.htm</a>                           |
| 9. Budget            | <a href="http://www.ballarat.com/budget_accommodation.htm">www.ballarat.com/budget_accommodation.htm</a> |

Click on the above links or copy and paste each of the links into your browser to open the respective pages.

Photography & Training

# David Harradine



## Photoshop Lightroom Training

WHACK.COM.AU

### 2012 Class Dates

- Saturday April 21 - Lightroom
- Saturday May 26 - Photoshop
- Saturday June 23 - Lightroom
- All classes on Mac computers
- Fully illustrated notes included

**Just \$195 for VAPS members**

For full details please contact  
Peter Kewley - [pwk@optusnet.com.au](mailto:pwk@optusnet.com.au)

## Art

## Peter Curmudgeon

“Nationals” are being held around the country and state bodies are also presenting their interclub competitions. We pedestrian hobbyist photographers seldom think about the organising that goes into producing these events unless we are actually involved. The same goes for the judging process and the effort by the entrants.

When we slowly pace through the display of images, do we ever think about what the makers had in mind when they pressed that button? Did they intend that particular image to end up here? Was their intention to produce an Acceptance level picture, or did they simply take a shot of something that appealed to them at the time? When they first saw the image on their screen, was their plan to tidy it up a little and print it, or to use it as the base layer for a substantially “shopped” output? Were they trying to make a pretty picture or a piece of art? Is it important? I think it is.

My belief is the majority of prints and projected images we view at shows are taken as pretty pictures or shots of something novel which will simply give the photographer an interesting subject to show. The subject is primary and has hopefully been captured with composition in mind. The processing of the image will consist of some cropping, distraction removal, tonal enhancements and sharpening. I see it as a process of technical refining rather than creative construction.

The “creative” labeled entries, in my view, often consist of a natural feature or man made structure with sufficient geometry and tonal range that the addition of HDR will add a large amount of wow to. So the picture is of something of no intrinsic attraction which has been tizzied up to draw the eye away from those less so. The tizziedness is the main feature. In those with human content it may be cartooned body proportions and facial alterations that achieve the result.

To be fair, I admire the technical skill that the makers of both types of image treatment apply and the results they can produce. I would like to be able to consistently achieve that level of expertise.

No. Not all entries will fall into the categories so brutally defined. There are images with more presence than that; pictures that carry an emotion as well as impact. The best cases I have seen are portraits where the model has features portraying a personality and the photographer has applied lighting and perspective which captures them. Sure, post processing has been used, but to enhance the essence of the subject, not as a substitute.

In the same way, there are highly manipulated streetscapes which have been artfully reconstructed to present a uniquely modified view of a common, but never seen, place. You may see seascapes and landscapes that have also been sympathetically treated this way. It is not all doom and gloom.

Comments parallel to those above have been circulating the photography scene for a hundred and fifty something years. They seldom come with a solution by the antagonist. One can attend painting and drawing classes in most areas at not a lot of cost, and so develop a basic appreciation of art in those disciplines. I do not believe it is so with photography. Commercial courses are not inexpensive. Nor are they necessarily art based. We have camera clubs where members generously share their knowledge, but the information exchanged is usually technical. Not a lot of hobby photographers know a lot about art.

For most of us, finding the art in one’s own photography is not an overnight process. I believe we start by seeing it in the work of others. Over the history of photography, there have been some very creative image makers. Copies of their work are not hard to find. Try library books or the world wide web. You may also find commentary about the significance of the works.

If you want to see current work, visit a gallery. Even better, why not have a look at your upcoming state or national level competition? Then you can decide whether they are pretty pictures or art.

### DIGITAL IMAGES

The recently added resolution size of 1400 x 1050 is a maximum size for entries in this year's Inter-club. We will still accept 1024 x 768.

### CONVENTION UPDATE

Saturday lunch boxes are an additional cost of \$12. The Sunday barbecue lunch is included in a full registration, **otherwise \$12 cost**. Please order on the registration form, as mentioned on P2 of this Newsbrief.

# BALLARAT

## REGIONAL TOURISM

**HORSHAM REGIONAL ART GALLERY, 21 Roberts Ave, Horsham.** [www.horshamartgallery.com.au](http://www.horshamartgallery.com.au)

**Tim Handfield "Fascinated"** is on display until 15th April, 2012. Tim has been defining Australian colour photography for three decades.

**Southbank** - on display 20 April to 27 May 2012. This exhibition will feature the work of Sydney based photographer Andrew Merry. Taken from a helicopter on Saturday mornings and Sunday afternoons, the images feature very few people yet they do document changes in how we live.

### AMAZING ANAGRAMS

**Justin Timberlake**

When you rearrange the letters

**I'm a jerk but listen**

- + - + - + -  
- + - + -

**Elvis**

When you rearrange the letters

**Lives**

**Publication deadline, 25th of  
the month**

Commercial Advertisements cost \$50  
per half page.

Newsbrief Editor: **Bev Pascoe**

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### NEWSBRIEF - Subscriptions

For annual subscription send your name and address with your \$20 cheque or postal note, payable to :

VAPS  
PO Box 2010  
South Melbourne 3205

**\*Email copy [free]**

Type your name on an email to

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