

Newsletter, February 2021



Latino G.

Photographer of the Year 2020

It was a year of fire and floods, followed by a global pandemic, lock-downs and isolation. Most people would probably prefer to forget 2020 but there were some who chose to use the time to create images that Australian Photography competition judge Sally Brownbill says are “thought provoking, well planned and well executed Perhaps this year the photographers had more time to sit and observe or felt less time pressure in deciding what they wanted to enter into the awards.

“Whatever the reason, the calibre of work was of a standard never before seen in these awards,” Brownbill says.

The overall winner of the 2020 Photographer of the Year is Victorian photographer Julie Thomas for her series of images titled “Camouflage”, shot during Victoria’s extended coronavirus lock down. It depicts her 12-year-old daughter Madi in a series of elaborate and beautifully constructed portraits.

For more info on the winning entries and entry details please click [HERE](#)

Lisa Buchan



The changing landscape of the Australian bush



Spanning over two million square miles, the Australian outback dominates roughly 70 per cent of the country's total land mass. It's an area equal to half the size of the US, and 10 times the size of the UK. Vast, arid and sparsely inhabited, the outback exists as an important part of the country's history and heritage.

Adam Ferguson, is an Australian photographer whose work explores conflict and the implications of an overarching industrial military complex

In a project titled "Big Sky", for a special issue of the British Journal of Photography exploring the theme of A Decade of Change, Ferguson documented the changing landscape of the Australian bush. Ferguson travelled approximately 30,000km to capture on-

location portraits of the people living in the outback, the ongoing challenges of drought, bush fire and the decline in community life, with the shift towards city living. He soon realised that the portraits alone could not tell the complete story. He realised that "It made sense to position everybody in the spaces they have to occupy. I wanted to construct a scene which complemented, or helped to reinforce that person's story."

Amongst the portraits are sculptural shots of the landscape and objects which inhabit it, which speak more directly about the impacts of climate change. The images reflect how extreme weather conditions are hurting communities and challenging livelihoods.

Ferguson wanted to through the project "acknowledge the changing landscape and the people that exist in it". He also believes that

"There's an overarching concern about the planet, and how we preserve it,."

For more information on Adam Ferguson click [Here](#),

For details on the project "Big Sky"click [Here](#)

Current Exhibitions at the Cultural centre include: Gary Shinfield: Landscapes of Anxiety - 23 Jan – 7 Mar

Gary Shinfield explores ideas based around three geographical forms that dominate landscapes of the Blue Mountains – plateau, escarpment and valley. These landforms are reinterpreted as formal, subjective and metaphoric images carrying memory of recent and future events; drought, fires, flooding and human presence. More details [Here](#)

Lisa Buchan



Adam Ferguson - Big Sky

Members' Choice - "Princess Charlotte"

I wanted to convert the original image to B&W to create a darker and perhaps slightly sinister mood. It proved to be much harder than I thought.

The shot was taken in a hall in mainly natural light but with fluorescent lights high above which, annoyingly, were reflected in the goggles. As well, a mess of criss-crossing blonde hair could also be seen through the goggles. I first removed these reflections and hid the hairs in Lightroom by placing radial filters over the lenses and colourising them dark blue. Amazingly they still looked glassy.

Conversion to B&W was then done by applying a monochrome filter in On1 FX, but this produced blotchy black areas in the darker parts of the image, especially the bottom left corner. I guess this was due to some noise in the original which was shot at ISO 800. The solution I hit on was to bump up the black levels in Lr before transfer to On1.

There followed much dodging and burning and use of On1's skin repair brush to get her complexion and the light on her face, goggles and headpiece looking just right.

What I thought was going to be a couple clicks turned into several hours of "hard work," however, it gave me some valuable lessons in using On1 FX!

Pentax K-5, smc Pentax DA 18-135mm @40mm, f/6.3, 1/15s, ISO 800.

Michael Peck



Members' Choice - "Shadow & Light"

This image was taken in the October of 2020, I had gone out in the early afternoon specifically to photograph the emerging butterflies that I'd noticed in a garden, close to where I work, photographing flowers was never my intention.

However, I was only having moderate success with the butterflies.....so after switching from a macro to a longer lens I began to look around for something different to photograph, it was then that I noticed the light falling on a large planting of daisies, the shadow and light created by the sun and some very co-operative cloud cover was magical as it danced across the white petals.

This special light wasn't going to last forever, there wasn't time to switch back to the macro, so I continued to fire away with the long lens at quite a high shutter speed which meant I was underexposing the image, thereby limiting the amount of light on the petals and creating deeper shadows.



Post processing was fairly simple, a little adjustment to the contrast and the white balance was all that was required, my intention was to always process this image in black and white, the shadows and white flowers were a perfect combination for monochrome.

So, into SilverEfx Pro for the conversion and it just popped from the moment I applied the Fine Art profile, a little dodging and burning in

Photoshop and it was all done.

Technical Specifications: Pentax K-1, DA 300mm F4.0 WR lens, F/5.0, 1/2000, ISO 100

Rob Skinner

Members' Choice - "Wheat, Heat and Old Poles"



Another ICM, this time utilising vertical panning. Just off the highway, approaching Bathurst on a gloriously bright and clear early morning. A very simple scene – a field of white / gold stalks, a line of old wooden power poles extending into the distance and a cloudless sky. ICMs tend to be most effective when there are no (or very few) oblique lines on view. Here, with everything vertical – the crop and the poles – it was straightforward. Vertical lines invite a vertical pan; horizontal lines eg

ocean, still water, roads, suit a horizontal pan. Again, an ND400 filter was essential for a slow shutter in the very bright light.

Olympus EMI MkIII, M Zuiko 12-40mm 1:2.8 lens. 40mm, 1.6sec @f14, ISO 200

Greg Pitty

Members' Choice - "Evening on the Lake"

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The image of Wentworth Falls Lake was taken in the late afternoon. I'm standing on the shore below the main carpark, looking north. The technique used was ICM – intentional camera movement; in this case, panning the camera laterally from left to right, deliberately blurring the image. It is virtually impossible to predict the results of any ICM, hence you *always* need to take a great many of them before you can achieve the right or intended outcome. This was a case in point – in the space of about 10 minutes I shot upwards of 50 images most of which were unsatisfactory. This was one I kept.

To obtain the slow shutter speed needed to blur the image in daylight, I used an ND400 filter.

Olympus EMI MkIII, M Zuiko 12-40mm 1:2.8 lens. 12mm, 1.6sec @f5.0, ISO 200.

Greg Pitty

Members' Choice - "Study of Light"

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My initial set up for this black and white self-portrait was: Sony A7 III camera on tripod, a radio remote control in my hand.

One speed light inside of soft box with a grid to create rim light and a second speed light with a honeycomb grid attached to create window light. I also used white reflector to bounce some light from the floor back on my face.

My laptop was connected to the camera via the tethering cable, so I could see what I was shooting without moving around the room.

I wanted the photo to be a very simple using rim light as a main light for dramatic look.

Editing and processing is not difficult for a black and white photograph.

Without need for playing with curves and a whole lot of other stuff, I increased the contrast, lifted up black and dim some whites, that was all I needed for this shot.

Andy Krawczyk

The Gold Awards



This section shows all exhibition night images achieving the top score of 15. Click on an image to view it on [Flickr](#)



“Evening on the Lake” - Greg Pity.

UBMCC Outings for 2021

FEBRUARY - SUNDAY 28th

Get to know our local Katoomba Street. You will be given a series of Katoomba Street pictures, plus a wildcard and you will need to find as many as possible. This is a good way to find spots on foot. No car required.

MEET: Gearins Hotel coffee shop 10 am. After instructions, HUNT, find lots of snaps and your own lunch.

FINISH: Carrington Hotel bar 3 pm for happy hour. See who got all ticked.

There is no prize, but you will get some treasured shots for 2021 exhibitions, we can assure you.

Full details on page 17



MARCH - WEDNESDAY 3rd EXHIBITION NIGHT.

Greet Shoalhaven camera club members. They have 20 staying at the caravan park and their agenda seems tight

More information as it comes to hand.

APRIL no outing planned.

MAY - SUNDAY 30th SUNRISE.

Brace yourselves. Head off before dawn. We think Wentworth Falls, either the lake or Tablelands Road.

Time and place TBA



JUNE - SATURDAY/SUNDAY 26/27 WINTER WATER

A complete new experience for the club. A WEEKEND AWAY.

Kiama is the location, a couple of days exploring Irish style cliff tops, blow holes and other interesting points.

The hotel I have in mind is basic and central. The idea is to be given a list of interests, then team up with someone, or do it alone then meet for a meal and drinks at days end. No set agenda. To make it worth while, I would suggest a minimum of 2 nights.



UBMCC Outings for 2021

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JULY - SATURDAY 24th SUNSET CRAWL

Meet at Brougham street Katoomba and walk the three lookouts. Peckmans, Cahills and Boars Head.

Meeting Time and exact place TBA.



Windsor Castle Hotel at East Maitland, right in the center of it all. Also in the area is the very interesting and historic Walka Water Works and garden. For those who want more, there is of course the architectural photography of Maitland itself.

Most important!!! Bring your partners to enjoy warmth wine and colours!



of the dirt speedway inside that. Inside that again is the indigenous display. Whichever way, there is lots of photos to be had. There is a picnic area, so bring a thermos, cake and chair for afternoon tea



AUGUST - NO OUTING PLANNED AT THIS STAGE

SEPTEMBER - SATURDAY/SUNDAY 25/26

Time to enjoy the warmth and colour of spring. This outing really deserves the effort. 3 night stay is strongly recommended. Highlighting the trip is the magic Rose Garden in Pokolbin. Yes, the wonderful wine area. At the moment I am suggesting staying at the comfortable

OCTOBER - NO OUTING PLANNED AT THIS STAGE

NOVEMBER - SATURDAY 27th EXPLORE LOCAL KATOOMBA

Meet at Gates Avenue Katoomba late afternoon for afternoon Tea at Catalina park approximately 3 pm

There are several gems here. Find what's left of the original bitumen race track and timber guard rails. Or do the inner bush track. Or find pieces

DECEMBER - SUNDAY 19 th

Christmas picnic. Venue TBA. Suggestions welcome.

If there are any questions, email or give me a call.

David Mansfield, dmpianos@tpg.com.au or 0455507772

Emanuel Conomos will also have all the details.

Diary

Photos1440 - State Library - Macquarie Street, Sydney

Saturday 16 January 2021 to Sunday 25 April 2021 -

Admission Free.



Marking its 10th year, the Photos1440 exhibition returns to the Library with a look back over the past decade of key events and moments captured through the lens of Sydney Morning Herald photographers. The exhibition features more than 200 images including award-winning photography from the Herald's chief photographer Nick Moir and Gold Walkley winner Kate Geraghty.

From the wreckage of the MH17 plane crash strewn amongst sunflowers to a poignant frame of Newmarch House resident Alice Bacon, who was the 100th COVID-19 victim in Australia, experience a tribute to photojournalism that has the power to inspire, to educate and to form opinion. - More details click [HERE](#)

Encounters: Robyn Mussett & Rob Smithn

12 December 2020 - 21 February 2021

For those travelling to the Mid North Coast, Encounters is a wonderful celebration of nature (image below right) and our incredible Australian landscape. Robyn's unique viewpoint is captured with 'Intentional Camera Movement' (ICM) to render the works in an impressionistic way that invites the viewer to consider the abstract forms, colours, rhythms and moods of our country's landscapes. More Details [Here](#)

Arthur Boyd: Landscape of the Soul

BMCC - 13 Mar – 2 May

An exhibition exploring a lifetime of landscape paintings by renowned Australian artist Arthur Boyd. Details [Here](#)

1000 words' a new book which presents 21 interviews with leading curators of contemporary photography

Featuring interviews with Renée Mussai, Thyago Nogueira, Azu Nwagbogu, Alona Pardo, and more

The texts explore how curation mediates our experience and understanding of photography within an institutional setting and takes a critical perspective on subjects, including the curators' roles and responsibilities; These discussions also highlight the change in curation, partly due to the new modes of display demanded by the pandemic.



Silver Lining Awards

In 2020, the year of Covid-19, AIPP had to find the silver lining when the in-person print awards were all cancelled. The Silver Lining Awards were born and with 3000 entries and a prize pool valued at \$45,000 generously donated by amazing sponsors, the awards were a resounding success.

In 2021 - They are BACK!

And this time, the SLAs are open to all AIPP members, the general public and international entrants

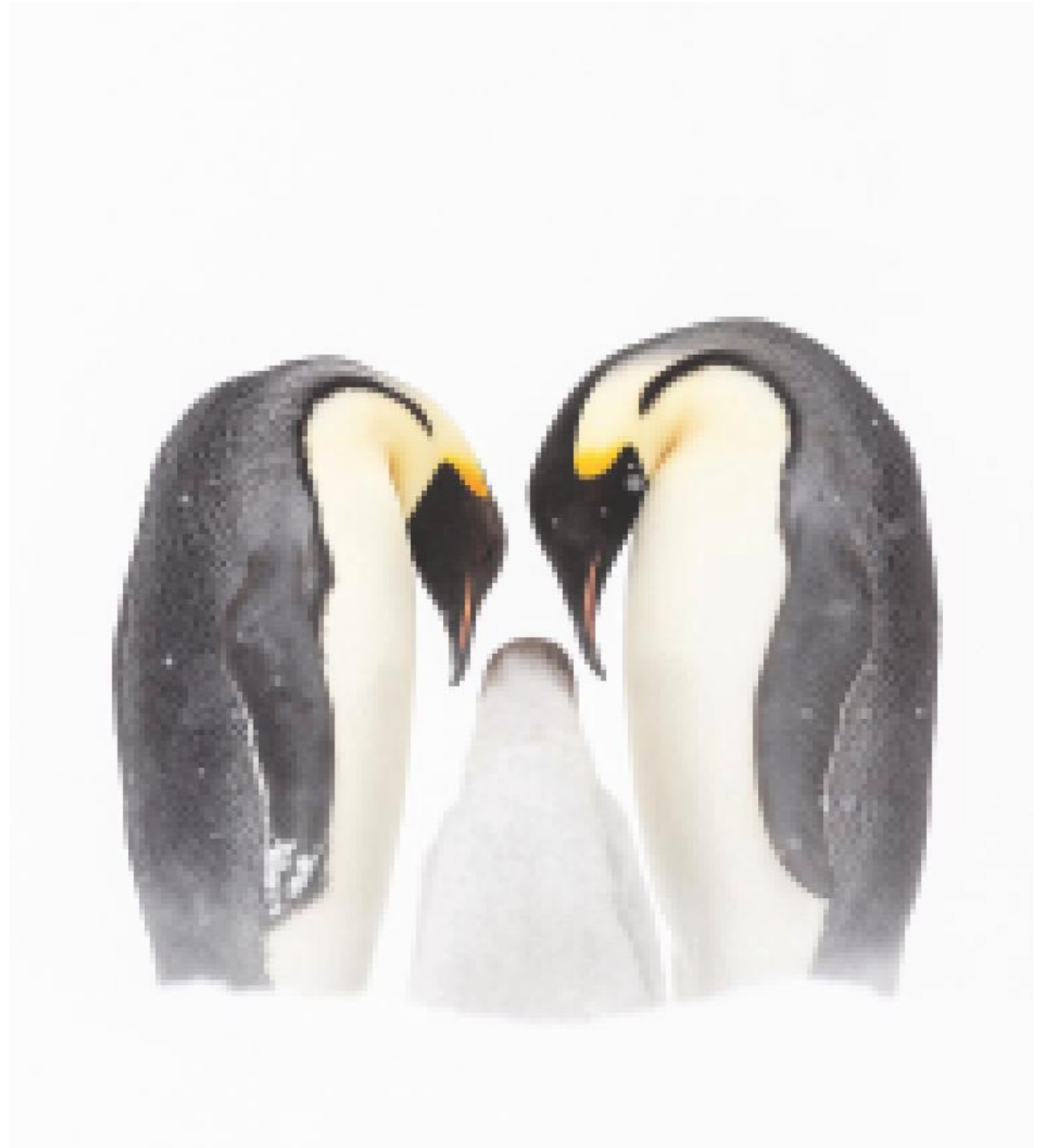
The 2021 Silver Lining Awards for all entrants include;

- * Judging by AIPP-trained judges and international guest judges
- * More feedback: scores and written comments for every entry
- * Top 25 Semi-Finalists and Top 10 Finalists announced in every category and featured on the website

Fabulous prizes in every category from 1st to 3rd place

Categories include - Home, Away, Shades of Grey, Colour, Natural World, Stories, Portrait, Places, Man made, Smart phone, Art & Science.

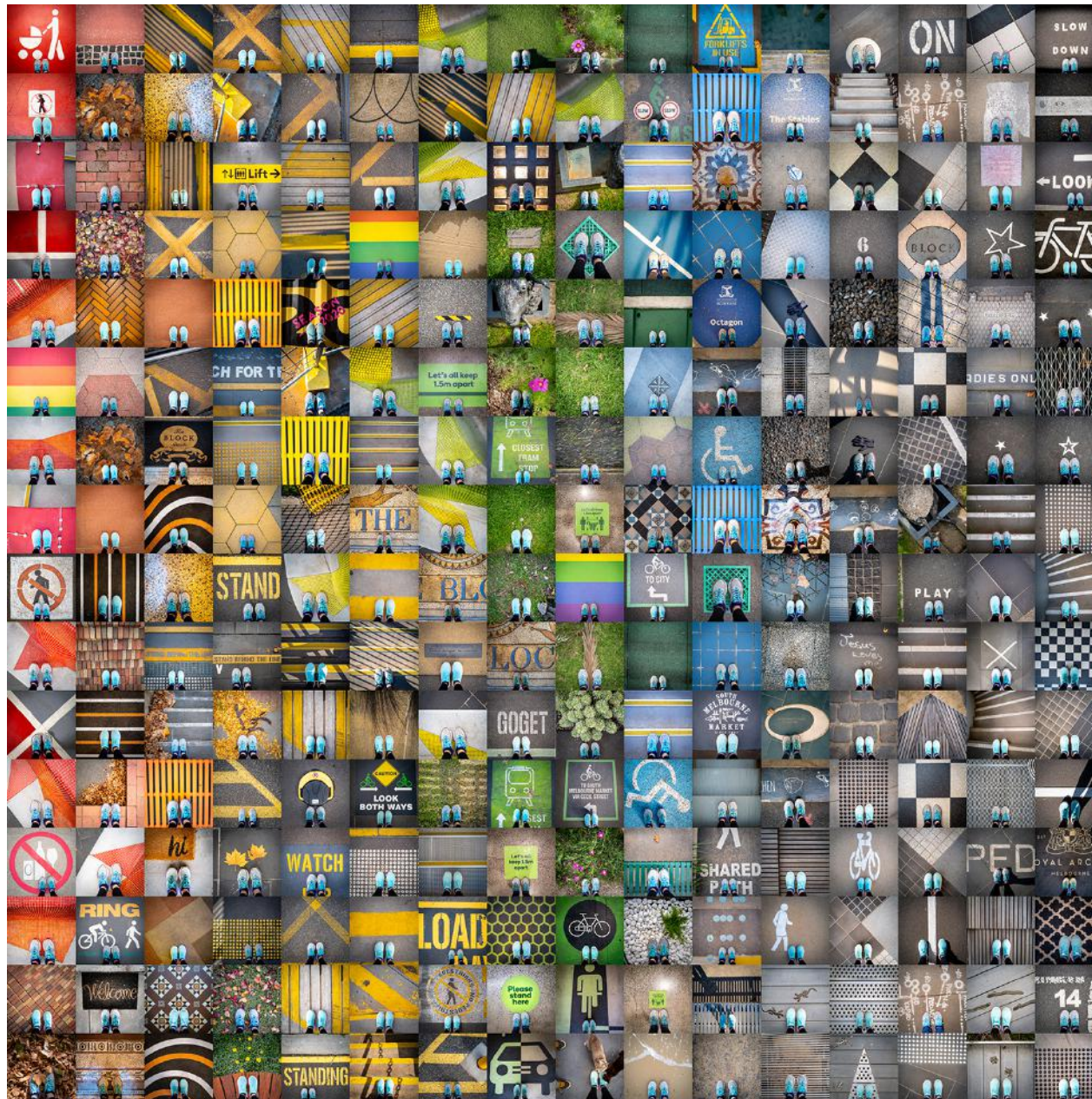
For more details click [HERE](#)



Nature Category 3rd place Joshua Holko



Places - Semi Finalist Renee Doyle



Ruth Woodrow, the Silver Lining Awards Newcomer First Place for 2020!

The Monochrome Photography Awards 2020 winners have been announced – and the black & white photography is amazing.

The Monochrome Photography Awards is an International annual competition for professional and amateur photographers alike. Their mission is to "celebrate monochrome visions and discover the most amazing photographers from around the world"

The Monochrome Photography Awards 2020 has recently announced the black & white photography winners of the latest competition. Scooping the top prize of Monochrome Photographer of the Year 2020 (Professional) is Ksystof Mozyro for his arresting image 'Opponents', taken at a Black Lives Matter rally in London.



Monochrome Photographer of the Year 2020 (Professional) (Image credit: Ksystof Mozyro)



Landscapes - 2nd Place Winner (Professional) (Image credit: Hsiaohsin Chen)

Hsiaohsin Chen won second place in the Professional Landscape category for his photograph of an ice cave. "This ice cave is really uncanny workmanship and wonders created by nature... The layers from the melting ice wall even has natural holes [perfect for someone standing in] the hole, forming a very valuable scene."

Lê Khánh's image of a Buddha statue shrouded in clouds awarded him the third place winner in the Professional Architecture category. "[This] bronze statue of Buddha is an architectural work built very carefully on the top of Mount Fansipan, [which is] 3,143 meters high. Fansipan mountain is called the roof of Indochina... In order to build this statue, all materials were piggybacked to the top of the mountain by walking up small trails... This photo is an extremely rare moment when clouds follow the wind over the top of the mountain, but just enough to see the structure."

For further details and to see the winning images click [Here](#)

THE FIRST OUTING FOR 2021

Welcome to the start of what we hope will be a different and enjoyable year for your club.

Titled :Treasure hunt: the treasure will be the quirky images that you take and you enter in future exhibition nights.

The images only give you clues as to where and what may be of interest in Katoomba street between the station and Aldi.

If you find all the given images, it must be too easy

THE DATE: Sunday February 28th

THE PLACE Gearins hotel coffee shop in the main bar.

THE TIME 10am

LUNCH BYO

THE FINISH 3pm for drinks at the Carrington

THE OBJECT to find interesting photographic subjects in our home street

If you finish early there will 2 wild card items you may like to find

Come and enjoy like minded company and the social contact

For Covid reasons - Please let David Mansfield (Social Secretary) know if you are coming so he can tell the café

There is outside seating available

David Mansfield 0455507772 dmpianos@tpg.com.au

Judging begins... Our first exhibition night at the plush Palais

Member ship fees are due - Please refer to the website for further details - [UBMCC](#)



*It is we who put the humanity,
the vision, and the poetry into
our photographs*

David DuChemin



Contacts

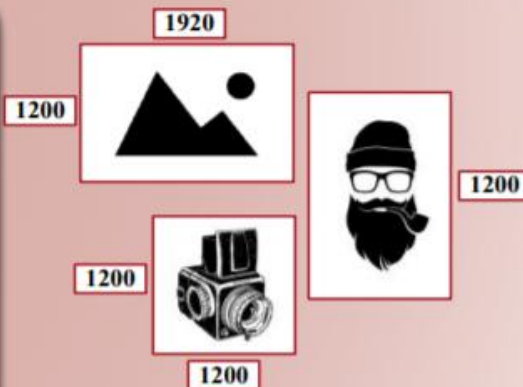
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Submitting images

Whether submitting a DPI or digital images of your prints the required format is jpg (jpeg) with a **maximum width** of 1920 and a **maximum height** of 1200 pixels.

For a **landscape** image, set the longest side to 1920 ensuring shortest is no more than 1200; for **portrait**, set the longest side to 1200, and for a **square** image, all sides are 1200.

Please name your image file in the following format:
[type] title_initials.jpg e.g. [DPI] Blue Sausage_JX.jpg.
The three image types are [DPI], [CP] and [MP]. Use an **underscore**, not a dash



Apple Mail users: after attaching your images please ensure you select

Image Size: Actual Size

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