

ON PHOTOGRAPHY



RAY COOPER

COCKATOO ISLAND MAY 2005

The newsletter of the
Southern Highlands Photographic Society:

Dedicated to the art of Photography

www.shps.org.au

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From the President's Chair
March, 2009



BRUNSWICK REFLECTIONS

Nice to see visitors, new members and a good attendance of regulars at our February meeting. Len Brown, as always, was in fine form with his assessment of our **Lucky Dip** images. So pleased that he was impressed with the overall commitment of members. My topic was Allegory which I found far from lucky. In fact I nearly did not enter as I found it so challenging. In the end I enjoyed being really stretched. It was a pity that David Johnston was unable to see the tremendous response to his idea. I would encourage members unable to attend a competition meeting to enter work so other members can see their images and benefit from the judge's comments.

Have decided not to do a roster for the **kitchen duties** but ask for volunteers each month. If you know that you are coming to the next meeting please let me know before I have to ask at the start of the meeting. This is not an onerous task if we all share it around. You take the supply box home and check that it has sufficient supplies for the next meeting. There is a check list in the box. Make a cake or purchase biscuits etc. All costs are refunded by our treasurer Greg Searle on presentation of receipts. Bring it back to the next meeting and if something happens that you cannot make it then contact another member nearby or myself. A membership list is available from Secretary Ray Cooper. At the meeting you get out the cups etc., turn on the urn and serve at the break.

Hope you regularly visit our **website**: www.shps.org.au. Our webmaster Ray Cooper does an excellent job at keeping this up to date. He appreciates your comments and input.

The following might be of interest for new members www.shps.org.au/programme08.html:

This page includes links to **Presentations** which has descriptions of our speakers and their topics; **Competitions/Rules** which includes sizes for mounts etc; **Members' Portfolios** – at the moment only Ray Cooper, Graeme Jones and David Johnson. We encourage all members to exhibit here. Ask Ray for details.

Workshop on mat cutting and mounting for competition has been postponed till Sunday March 22nd, 10 am till 1pm. Please let me know, preferably by email, whether or not you can attend, also whether or not you can help with advice/ lending equipment etc. The Society will

refund a set of blades to all members who lend cutters. My address is 13 Kennedy Close, Moss Vale. We are opposite Price St.

The **committee** is always interested to hear from anyone who would like to be more actively involved with the club. At present I am looking for someone who would look after funding and grants. They will be helped by the committee members, of course. No previous experience necessary. Also any member with or without experience in this area who can offer advice please tell us.

Would members like to have a special activity to help the **Victorian Fire victims**? Any suggestions most welcome. It is such an enormous tragedy that I just cannot comprehend what it must be like for the survivors.

Do you have a favourite photography book? Please share the title and author with us. At present I am reading 'Illuminations' edited by Liz Heron and Val Williams, sub title, Women writing on Photography from the 1850s to the Present. I will leave you with this quote from the Introduction

"More than at any time in history, we are surrounded by images, and never have their meanings seemed more puzzling or equivocal. Thinking about photography involves slowing down that image blur and engaging in a struggle over meanings."

Clear thinking and satisfying photography to you all

Toni

WHAT'S ON NEXT: COMING IN MARCH / APRIL 2009

8th March, 2009

Field Trip – Cockatoo Island

17th March, 2009

Presentation – Creative Photography

Sue Robertson [St George Photographic Club].

31st March, 2009

Competition – Set Subject: Light & Form

Barry Daniel [Wollongong Camera Club]

21st April, 2009

Presentation – Altered Realities without using Photoshop [or other photo imaging software]

Barbara Smith [Canberra Photographic Society]

ON PHOTOGRAPHY

Once again the Lucky Dip individual set subject competition showed just what an imaginative group of photographers members of SHPS are. It is very pleasing to so many of you looking at photographic subjects from a new & often unexpected perspective. As mentioned by our judge, Len Brown, & from comments by David Johnson, both of whom see a large number of camera club competitions it is a mark of our Society that we look beyond the normal interpretations of topics. Congratulations.

On Sunday 8th March we will be having our first field trip of 2009. Cockatoo Island is a former imperial prison, industrial school, reformatory and gaol. It is also the site of one of Australia's biggest shipyards during the twentieth century. The first of its two dry docks was built by convicts and was completed in 1857. The island's maritime industrial activity ceased in 1992. Today Cockatoo Island retains many remnants of its past. Its prison buildings have been nominated for World Heritage listing, along with other convict sites around Australia. Large workshops, slipways, wharves, residences and other buildings retain the texture of the island's industrial past. And there is always the Harbour.

Whist the web site, www.cockatooisland.gov.au says it will take about 90 minutes to complete a tour of the Island I would expect to be there for a good few hours. It is a marvelous place for those interested in industrial photography – it is perhaps a pity that we have a presentation on industrial photography programmed for later in the year; it would have been good to presentation & field trip closer together.



RAY COOPER

COCKATOO ISLAND REFLECTIONS

2009 will mark the Society's fifth year. As such we would like to make our annual Tulip Time Exhibition [14th – 29th September] in the Old Bowral Town Hall a really special presentation of the work of all our members. Remember that throughout the year many of you gain merit awards in competitions & these images could & should be displayed. And the work by those who may not have received anything in competition is just as important part of the Society's work. The

Exhibition committee will be finalising details of the exhibition over the next few months & members will be kept informed.



DAVID JOHNSON

SAND VEINS

ON COMPETITION

- ❖ Following on from our Portfolio Development workshop in January – **the Shutterbug Photography Competition** is currently accepting entries for its 2009 festival to be held at The Chauvel Cinema on the Shutterbug Festival night of **21st July, 2009**. The competition will give photographers an opportunity to show off their work in a portfolio, with the submission requirement of **20 images on a selected theme**. The competition is designed to encourage excellence across a body of work rather than a single image.

Submissions will be taken from 1st Jan 2009. Closing date for entries - **30th April 2009**. For further details, entry forms & a sample of the 2008 entries go to www.shutterbug.org.au. Additional information on what the judges will be looking for is also available on the website.

- ❖ **The Henry Lawson Festival of Arts 2009** is inviting entries for its Photographic Competition to be held over the long weekend 5th – 8th June, 2009. **Entries close 15th May, 2009**. I recently emailed details & competition entry forms to members. If you require any further information go to www.grenfell.org.au/henrylawsonfestival.
- ❖ **The Australian Digital Photography Awards (ADPA) 2009**. The Australian Photographic Society invites residents of Australia to enter the third year of this popular annual digital photography competition. No membership is required and entry is free. If you are proud of your work, your photographs do well in club competitions, or your friends love what you do, why not see how the judges like your photographs? If you were among those who entered in previous years, come back and try your luck again this year. Simply resize your images as set out in the entry form and email your entries before 21st June. There are 4 sections: General, Creative, Nature and Photojournalism. You can enter one or all sections with up to 4 entries per section. Go to www.adpa.org.au for instructions and the entry form. **Closing date: 21st June, 2009**.

ON EXHIBITION

Goulburn

- Goulburn Regional Art Gallery - Civic Centre, Cnr Bourke & Church Sts, Goulburn. **The sixth Leica/CCP Documentary Photography Award** is a showcase of Australia's best contemporary documentary photographers. The sixteen finalists chosen bring together diverse views of the human experience, ranging from war photography to quiet observations on the streets of Beijing. **20th February – 21st March, 2009.** There is a **Street Photography Workshop** being held in conjunction with the exhibition 9th March, 12.30pm – 2.30pm with Leica Award finalist Tamara Voninski. \$25.00 plus camera & walking shoes.

Wollongong

- Wollongong City Gallery - **corner of Kembla and Burelli Streets, Wollongong: Wollongong yesterday and today** - Historical and contemporary photographs of the Illawarra, celebrating 65 years of the Wollongong Camera Club. The exhibition will also include recent video works by Camera Club members. **21 March - 26 April, 2009.**

Sydney

- Art Gallery of NSW – Art Gallery Road, Sydney: **Art Express:** A dynamic and popular exhibition featuring a selection of outstanding student artworks developed for the art making component of the HSC examination in Visual Arts, 2008. It includes a broad range of approaches and expressive forms, including ceramics, collection of works, drawing, painting, **photography**, printmaking, sculpture and video. 14th February – 19th April, 2009. *It is always interesting to check out examples of other art forms apart from photography & Art Express is usually a worthwhile exhibition. The photography component often includes works which are quite diverse in capture & presentation. - Editor*
- **Art Gallery of NSW – Archibald, Wynne & Sulman Art Prizes Exhibition** – always interesting, sometimes controversial, sometimes boring but never dull & always worth a visit even if there is no photography involved. **7th March – 24th May, 2009.**
- **Museum of Sydney, cnr Bridge & Phillip St: Tails of the City – Sydney's passion for pets.** Australians are one of the biggest owners of pets in the world, with two in three households living with animal companions. Discover Sydney's surprising social history of pets, from the early days of the colony where favoured animals served practical purposes for their masters, through to today's indulged furry and feathered family members. *Tails of the city* is an exhibition for the whole family that explores our passion for pets through photographs, paintings, objects, hands-on activities and film. **Closes on 22nd March, 2009.**
- **Museum of Sydney: Shooting Through – Sydney by Tram.** An exhibition for those of us young enough to remember Sydney's trams & for those a little younger. In collaboration with the Sydney Tramway Museum at Loftus, this hands-on exhibition brings together tram memorabilia, photos and archival film spanning a one hundred year history from the first horse-drawn tram in Pitt Street in 1861 to the last electric tram (to La Perouse) in 1961. Experience the sights and sounds of the much-loved trams that played a crucial role in shaping Sydney. **4th April – 18th October, 2009.**



RAY COOPER

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Remember this Newsletter is your Newsletter. Any news, equipment reviews, gallery reviews, photo tips, interesting travel spots, web sites or other material that may be of interest to other members is most welcome. Email me – pdripper@bigpond.co