



Monthly Newsletter of the Wodonga Albury Camera Club

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MAY 2015

The Photograph & Australia

Sydney - it's a long way from anywhere, but it is the home of the Art Gallery of NSW, which is currently displaying over 400 images in an exhibition entitled "The Photograph and Australia".

The collection traces the evolution of photography in Australia from the small, dark daguerreotype portraits of colonial settlers in their stiffly uncomfortable clothing and stiffly uncomfortable expressions (resulting from long exposure times), through albumen photographs, the first x-rays, stereoscopic views and, ultimately, modern digital images.

However, the exhibition is not arranged chronologically, it pursues a thematic approach, the four themes being: settler and indigenous relations; exploration; portraiture and transmission.

The catalogue states that "these images trace the evolution of the medium and its many uses, from the documentary and commemorative to the speculative and conceptual".

The stories behind some of the images are as fascinating as the images themselves. The only print of Olive Cotton's *Only to taste the warmth, the light, the wind* (c.1939) was found in the late 1990s; Photojournalist David Moore's *Migrants arriving in Sydney* (1966) is seen as an icon of migration, but it seems only two of the eight travellers captured in the image fit the bill. Mervyn Bishop's 1975 photo of Gough Whitlam pouring sand into the hand of Vincent Vincent Lingiari is the re-creation of a moment that had occurred minutes before inside a shed and in poor light. It seems that Bishop suggested to the pair that it be repeated outside in better light, to capture the red earth and blue sky to give a sense of place.

For me, the highlight is Harold Cazneaux's *The Spirit of Endurance* (1937) an image of a gum tree, that, despite its apparent battering,

Diary Dates

Monday 11th May 2015

@ Boomerang Hotel

7:30pm General Meeting

Judging – Nature

Entries due – Food:

Picked, Packaged or

Processed

Thursday 22nd May 2015

7:00pm Committee Meeting

@ Slater residence

Monday 8th June 2015

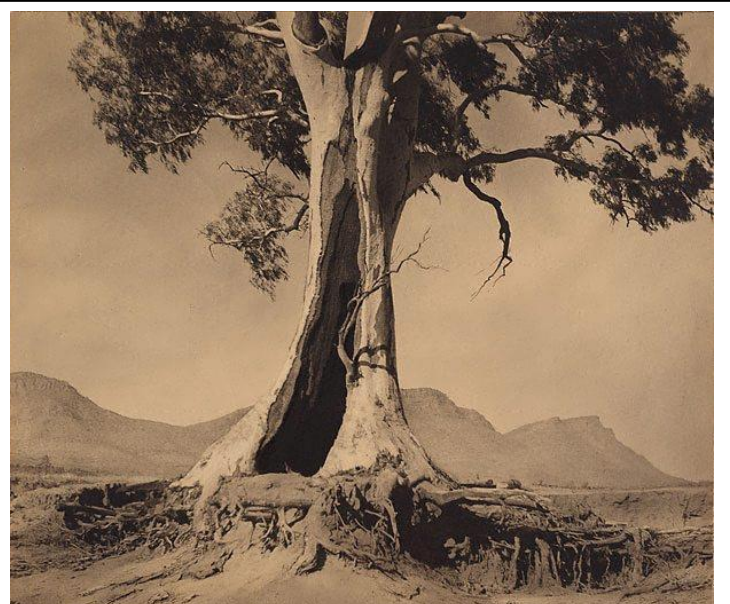
@ Boomerang Hotel

7:30pm General Meeting

Judging – Image of

the Year

Entries due – Open



Harold Cazneaux *The Spirit of Endurance* (1937)

continues to show signs of life. It is a powerful symbol of human resilience, for a country that, at the time the image was captured, had recently battled through World War I and the Depression. The tree still stands in the Flinders Ranges, near Wilpena Pound, and is known as the Cazneau Tree.

The exhibition continues until 8th June.

Club Competitions

Tonight sees the judging of “Nature” with the overall winner receiving the “Pelican Award”.

Last year’s winning entry was Wendy Stanford’s “Brown Butterfly”, a beautifully simple image. Here’s how she did it:

“These Brown Butterflies, (Family Nymphalidae) were attracted to a particular flower on a bush. With my camera and 100mm Macro lens mounted on a tripod and in Manual focus, I pre-focussed on a flower and waited for the butterflies to come back.” Wendy used Live View to focus on the eye and a cable release to capture the image. The original image is shown above right.

Post processing was done in the Adobe Raw Converter. “I rotated the image and cropped quite heavily as I wanted the butterfly to dominate the frame but still leave some space in front of it.” There was very little additional processing apart from some sharpening and a slight increase in contrast to bring out colour and detail. The final result is shown below right. Well done, Wendy!

Future Competitions:

June

Judging: Image of the Year
Entries Due: Open

July

Judging: Food
Entries Due: Rust

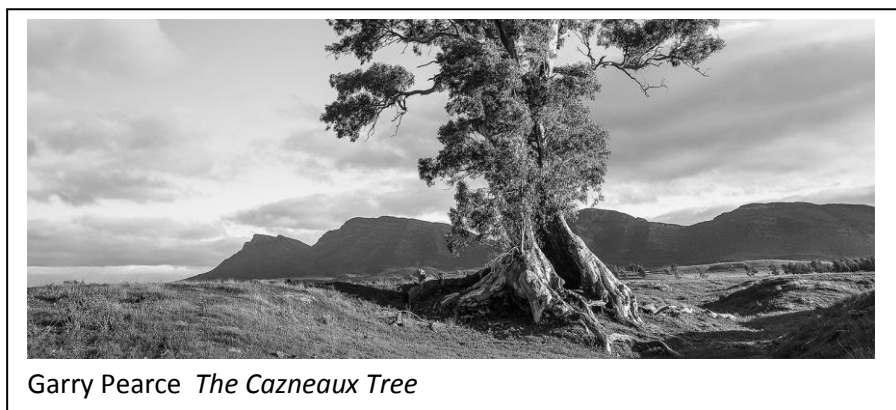


Wendy Stanford *Brown Butterfly*

Details:

Camera: Canon 7D

Lens: Canon 100mm Macro, 1/100 sec @ f9,
ISO 400, Tripod and Cable Release



Garry Pearce *The Cazneau Tree*

Roster
June
Eric Boquet
Mary Singh

Happy Photography!

Garry

Our Sponsors: *Kerry & Leighton Weymouth*

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