



Monthly Newsletter of the Wodonga Albury Camera Club

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SEPTEMBER 2015

Julia Margaret Cameron

An exhibition of 100 photographic portraits by Julia Margaret Cameron, on loan from the Victoria and Albert Museum, London, is being held at the Art Gallery NSW, Sydney.

Cameron's career as a photographer began in 1863, at the age of 48, when her daughter gave her a camera as a present. Within a year she had mastered the complex chemistry of wet-plate photography and was to become a pioneer of photographic portraiture and one of the most influential and innovative photographers of the 19th century.

Cameron strove to capture beauty and introduced an emotive sensibility to early photographic portraiture. She was obsessive with what she saw as her art. Her subjects, neighbours and members of her social circle including Alfred Lord Tennyson, Charles Darwin, John Herschel, Robert Browning, Henry Wadsworth Longfellow and many other notable figures of the time, would sit for countless exposures as she laboriously coated, exposed, and processed each wet plate. The results were closely-framed, soft-focus, pensive portraits created through long exposures and leaving the lens intentionally out of focus. Her unconventional techniques attracted criticism and ridicule from some of her more orthodox contemporaries, but praise from others for her daring originality.

Diary Dates

Monday 14th Sept 2015

@ Boomerang Hotel

7:30pm General Meeting
Judging - Rust
Entries due - Backlit

Thursday 24th Sept 2015

7:00pm Committee Meeting @
Hancock residence

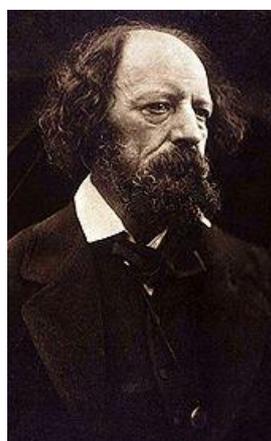
Monday 12th October 2015

@ Boomerang Hotel

7:30pm General Meeting
Judging - Open
Entries due - Open



1



2.



3

1. *Annie Philpot*, taken in January 1864, was considered by Cameron to be her first success.
2. *Alfred Lord Tennyson* 1869
3. *Julia Stephen*, Cameron's niece, favourite subject, biographer and the mother of Virginia Woolf.

This year marks the bicentenary of Cameron's birth and 150 years since her first exhibition was held at what is now known as the Victoria and Albert Museum.

The exhibition is on until 25th October 2015.

Captive-Bred Regent Honeyeater Release

Recently, several WACC members attended an open day at Chiltern-Mt Pilot National Park where they learnt about the Captive-Bred Regent Honeyeater Release Project, witnessed the release of a Regent Honeyeater and visited spots where other Regent Honeyeaters were feeding and courting.

Neville Bartlett, WACC member and Project volunteer explains: "Regent Honeyeaters are an endangered species that number less than 500 birds.

They can be found are in the Capertee Valley in NSW and Chiltern-Mt Pilot National Park in Victoria. These lovely birds are struggling to survive the rigours of living in the wild and a captive release program is running to see if more can be learnt about helping this species survive.

Birds are bred at Taronga Zoo, transferred to Chiltern and released into the wild in April / May when eucalypt flowering is underway. Some of the birds are fitted with radio transmitters each with its own frequency so that individual birds can be tracked. The batteries in the transmitters last 10-12 weeks and the harness designed to break off so the

birds are not encumbered indefinitely by having a transmitter fitted. The birds do not seem to suffer any ill-effects from wearing a transmitter.

All released birds are fitted with coloured leg bands to aid visual identification without having to capture or otherwise disturb the birds.

One of great challenges regarding Regent Honeyeaters is to work out where the birds go between November and April. Only sporadic sightings occur in this timeframe despite many people searching for them.

Each year, captive-bred birds from earlier releases have been recorded breeding with wild birds, so there is some hope for saving the species in the wild."



Neville Bartlett *Regent Honeyeater (yellow/white) showing bands and transmitter*

WACC Annual Exhibition

Last Sunday saw the conclusion of the annual WACC photographic exhibition. Congratulations to those who entered images and a pat on the back to those who enjoyed sales success. Many, many thanks to Mark Slater and his team of helpers for their efforts in organising such a successful event.

Future Competitions:

October

Judging: Open

Entries Due: Open

November

Judging: Backlit

Entries Due: Lines & Curves

Happy Photography!

Garry

Roster

October

Wendy Stanford & Rod Alexander



I can't believe I missed the Exhibition

Our Sponsors:

Kerry & Leighton Weymouth

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