



Reg #A0013634



Newsletter: June 2026

Editor: secretarywacc@gmail.com

Website: www.waccfoto.com Facebook: www.facebook.com/WACC.Photography

May Meeting

Our May meeting was attended by 38 members and we welcomed new member Brian Smith.

The Club's blue ribbon Nature competition was judged by Gary Smith with his critique read by Bill Cleverly. Some of the judges' comments elicited a lively response from the audience with a good deal of discussion taking place.

The nature competition never disappoints and we were privileged to view a very diverse range of Flora, Fauna and Landscapes.

Emus were a popular choice as were archetypal Australian bush scenes featuring eucalyptus forests.

We saw appearances from a Puffin, a Dragon, Elephants, raptors and Ravens.

Stand out images included a Blue-banded Bee, an inverted Pelican and an emerging Iceberg.

Well done to all who entered.

First Places:

Colour EDIA: Vicki Cain

Monochrome EDIMA: Geoff Bayes

Colour EDI: Greg Haysom

Monochrome EDIM: Melanie Warnaar

Second Places:

EDIA: Glenda Black

EDIMA: Vicki Cain

EDI: Rhonda Hansen

EDIM: Ishani Booms

See all the images from the comp here

<http://www.waccfoto.com/index.html>

Diary Dates

June

Monthly Meeting

Annual Awards Night

Felltimber Community Centre

Monday 15th June 2026

(Please note: Third Monday of June)

6.45pm for 7.00pm start

June

WACC Committee meeting

Monday 29th June 2026

7:30 pm

July

Monthly Meeting

Felltimber Community Centre

Monday 13th July 2026

6.45pm for 7.00pm start

July

WACC Committee meeting

Monday 27th July 2026

7:30 pm

August

Monthly Meeting

Felltimber Community Centre

Monday 10th August 2026

6.45pm for 7.00pm start

WACC Competitions

Enter via WACC My Photo Club Webpage

<https://waccfoto.myphotoclub.com.au>

Up-coming competitions

(note: in the last edition of the Optic Nerve I listed *Fantasy* as being due in July but it is actually *Street* due in on that date, apologies for the confusion)

Due June 15 2026	August Meeting – Open
Due July 13 2026	September Meeting – Street Photography
Due August 10 2026	October meeting – Open
Due September 14 2026	November meeting – Fantasy

Definitions for the above competitions can be found

at our website <http://www.waccfoto.com/docs/programmes/setSubjects.pdf>



The 2026 WACC and BCC Paatsch Shield Challenge

After consultation with Benalla Camera Club this event has been put on hold due to the current fuel situation. We will advise when a new date is set – possibly August at this stage.

Set subjects to 28th May 2028 are below.

(The months of Dec, Feb, Jun, Aug, Oct are open)

Set Subjects for 2025-26:

Due January 2026 for March Meeting

Due March 2026 for May Meeting

Due April 2026 June Meeting

Set Subjects for 2026-27:

Due May 2026 for July Meeting

Due July 2026 for September Meeting

Due September 2026 for November Meeting

Due November 2026 for January 2027 Meeting

Australian Environmental Portraiture – Detail to come from APS –

Due January 2027 for March Meeting

Due March 2027 for May Meeting

Due April 2027 June Meeting

Set Subjects for 2027-28:

Due May 2027 for July Meeting

Due July 2027 for September Meeting

Due September 2027 for November Meeting

Due November 2027 for January 2028 Meeting

Due January 2028 for March Meeting

Due March 2028 for May Meeting

Due April 2028 June Meeting

Set Subjects for 2028-29:

Due May 2028 for July Meeting

RED - Annual Set Subjects

Black - Monthly Set Subjects

Insects

Nature

Image of the Year (Open)

Long Exposure

Street Photography

Fantasy

the Australia Cup

Railway Study

Nature

Image of the Year (Open)

Shallow Depth of Field

Looking Up / Looking Down

Curves

Australia Cup (TBA)

Caught in the Act

Nature

Image of the Year (Open)

Hands

SUBJECT DEFINITIONS.

LONG EXPOSURE: Any photograph that has been created by a longish/long exposure. That is the shutter speed is longer than or at 1/3 of a second. The emphasis is to show the image has created a positive impression and engagement on the viewer. Any technique required is unlimited to your imagination on how you take the image, provided your selected shutter speed is greater or equal to 1/3 of a second. Some examples, but not limited to are astro, fireworks, light painting, panning, ICM. The challenge is getting creative and looking beyond the examples as being only inspiration for your creativity.

STREET PHOTOGRAPHY: Is a non-formalized genre of photography that features subjects in candid situations within public places such as streets, parks, beaches, malls, and other public spaces. Images can often be ironic or emotionally detached from subject matter, focusing instead on a particular context or detail. Framing and timing are key aspects of the craft, with the aim of creating images at a decisive or poignant moment. (Source-APJA)

FANTASY: Inventive, fanciful and imaginative imagery of people and/or their environment. (Source-APJA)

RAILWAY STUDY: This may feature an engine, carriages, trucks, signals or rails on the permanent way or a combination of such or any part of such, provided it is easily recognizable as belonging to a railway. (Source-SAPF)

AUSTRALIAN ENVIRONMENTAL PORTRAITURE – Detail to come from APS –

SHALLOW DEPTH OF FIELD: This may feature any subject. The objective is to create a photo in which the subject is sharp and detailed but the background is softened by being out of focus. Blurring in post processing is not permitted.

LOOKING UP / DOWN: A terrestrial object photographed with the camera looking upwards / downwards. (Source-SAPF)

CURVES: As a compositional element, curves, particularly an S curve, may be used to create visually pleasing and dynamic images. – **Aesthetic Appeal:** natural beauty and grace, a more relaxed feel than straight lines. **Guiding the Eye:** The primary function of a curve in composition is to act as a leading line, taking the viewer on a journey through the photograph and leading them to the main subject or focal point. **Creating Depth and Motion:** Curves may add a sense of depth, perspective, and motion. **Common Examples:** Curves can be found naturally in winding rivers, paths, roads, sand dunes, or even in the posed lines of a human body in portrait photography.

CAUGHT IN THE ACT: Shows a featured subject doing something surreptitiously. It may be spontaneous or contrived but will obviously fare better if it looks natural. (Source-SAPF)

AUSTRALIA CUP 2027 – Not yet defined - Detail to come from APS –

HANDS: Features one or more hands preferably in a story-telling pose and lit to show good skin texture or to convey the mood of the story. (SAPF)

Thank you to Bill Cleverly for his hard work in putting this together

Competition Secretary's Report

Bob Thomas has judged the 21 WACC AVs for 2025-26. He has judged many AVs during his tenure as a judge, and this competition will be his last. Here are some of his suggestions for us.

General Comments - Bob Thomas

Audio Visual productions are getting more polished, and therefore more competitive. That means that you, as a competitor, will need to keep ahead of the game by making your own productions more professional and more sophisticated if you want to remain competitive.

Silent movies are no longer in vogue, and slide shows are a little bit 1960-ish. So a compelling AV should have a soundtrack which is more than just a generic piece of music. Specifically, AV makers need to seriously consider voice-overs and to aim for a production which wouldn't look out of place on the television. Use your own voice if it is appropriate, but otherwise enlist AI to give you a professional sound track. Today's AI is superb at doing this, and gives a professional feel for narration. It also lifts most productions significantly.

One aspect which is sometimes overlooked is perhaps the lack of early identification of the subject in terms of time and space. If your audience starts viewing your AV and does not immediately understand what it's about, then you have left out a vital piece of information. Leaving that information to the end credits means depriving your audience of the most important detail.

As always, AV makers need to avoid the dreaded slide show! Virtually anyone can point a decent graphics program at a folder full of images, and it will automatically produce a polished slide show which is really just a succession of images accompanied by a generic sound track. What you, as a creative person need to do is to take that slide show and inject life into it by telling a story in a creative and interesting way. What sets us apart from the automated AI approach is the ability to use our images to express an emotion or breathe life into the lifeless. Above all, we need to create interest and to leave our audience in a better place than they were before they saw your AV. Aim to produce an emotion in your viewing audience, whether it be amusement, inspiration, increased knowledge or even gloom and doom. Anything but boredom.

This year's crop of AVs from WACC have grasped most of these aspects with both hands and produced some work that should do well in other competitions. An excellent collective work.

WACC Top Awards

From July 2025 to May 2026, fifty two WACC members submitted 559 images:

WACC Top Award Winners

All awards First (3 points), Second (2 points) and Merit (1 point) are accumulated over 11 months of competition: July 2025 to May 2026

Advanced Colour

Members	Images	First	Second	Merit	Total Awards	Points
32	251	11	11	45	67	100

Advanced Mono

Members	Images	First	Second	Merit	Total Awards	Points
31	235	11	12	41	64	98

Photographer Colour

Members	Images	First	Second	Merit	Total Awards	Points
20	97	11	11	23	45	78

Photographer Mono

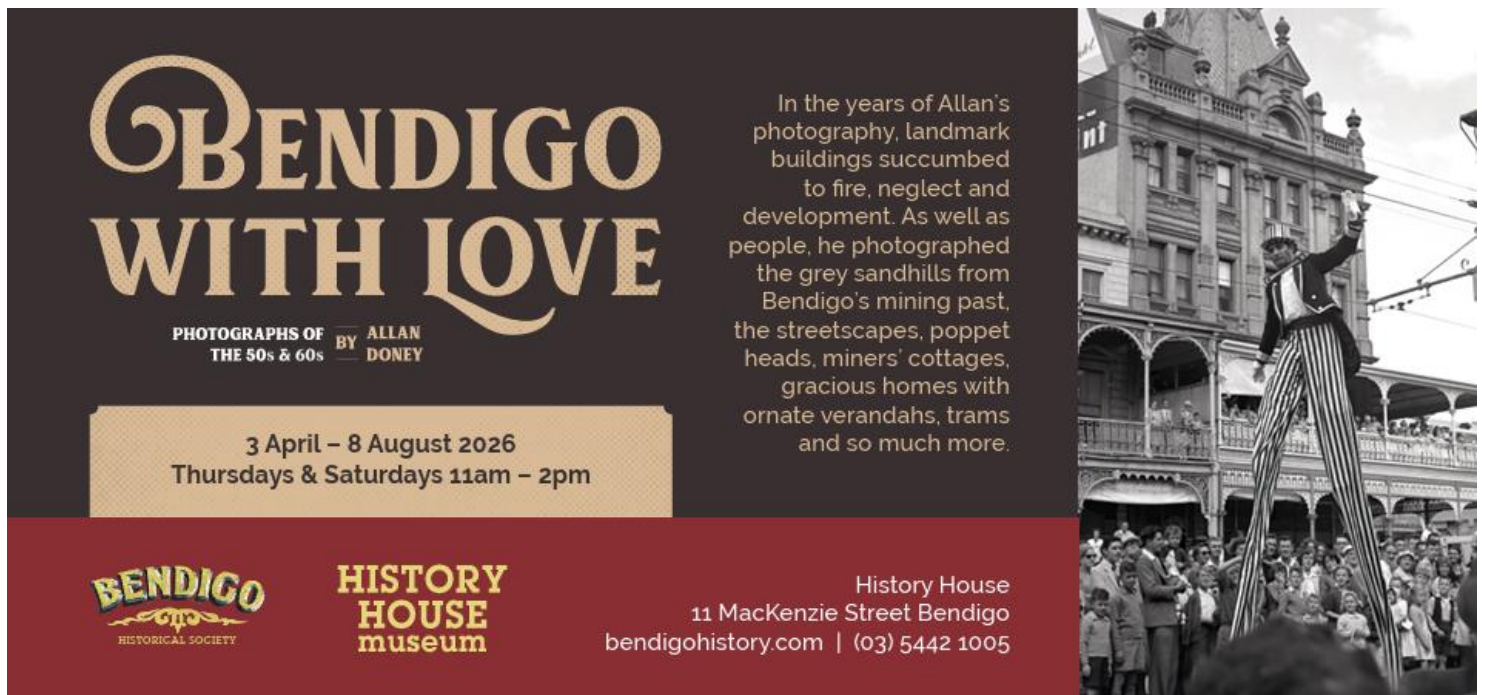
Members	Images	First	Second	Merit	Total Awards	Points
16	73	11	11	14	36	69

WACC Total

Members	Images	First	Second	Merit	Total Awards	Points
52	559	44	45	123	212	345

First and second place getters for each of the groups above (excluding WACC Total) will be announced on Monday, 15th June 2026.

Neville Bartlett



BENDIGO WITH LOVE

PHOTOGRAPHS OF THE 50s & 60s BY ALLAN DONEY

3 April – 8 August 2026
Thursdays & Saturdays 11am – 2pm

In the years of Allan's photography, landmark buildings succumbed to fire, neglect and development. As well as people, he photographed the grey sandhills from Bendigo's mining past, the streetscapes, poppet heads, miners' cottages, gracious homes with ornate verandahs, trams and so much more.

BENDIGO HISTORICAL SOCIETY
HISTORY HOUSE museum
History House
11 MacKenzie Street Bendigo
bendigohistory.com | (03) 5442 1005

**This would definitely be worth a visit if you are in the area.
Click here for extra details and an interesting read about the
photographer, Bendigo and the exhibition.**

<https://www.bendigohistory.com/bendigo>

Coming up is the set subject **"Street"**

Here is a little information that helped me previously:

Street photography doesn't require shoving a camera into strangers' faces. Timid photographers can capture authentic city life by using inconspicuous gear, shooting from a distance, or "fishing"—finding a compelling patch of light and waiting for subjects to step into the frame.

The "Fishing" Technique

Instead of hunting for moments, let the scene come to you

Find the Light: Scout a location with striking light, deep shadows, or interesting reflections, like an alleyway or a shop window.

Frame and Wait: Dial in your exposure, compose the shot, and wait for a subject to walk naturally into the frame.

The Benefit: People are less likely to feel targeted because you appear to be photographing the scenery, not them.

Also some good advice here:

<https://marcosecchi.substack.com/p/street-photography-for-the-shy>

ENTRIES OPEN | William and Winifred Bowness Photography Prize

The Bowness Photography Prize is now the richest cash prize for photography in Australia, having a direct impact on the artists who participate. MAPH is incredibly proud to have grown and administered the prize over its 21-year history, and excited to see what's in store from Australian photographers this year.”

– Anouska Phizacklea, MAPH Director

About the Bowness Photography Prize

The Bowness Photography Prize invites entries from artists working with photography. Entries for the prize will be considered from still photo-based media including analogue and digital photography, produced within the last year.

Last year we celebrated the 20th edition of the prize, seeing some significant changes that enabled a rich prize offering. We were pleased to announce an increase to \$50,000 for the winner and \$2,500 cash awarded to two Honourable Mentions. Shortlisted artists are now paid loan fees for the exhibition of their works. These changes have been enabled by a substantial philanthropic gift from the Bowness Family Foundation, which reinforces the prominence of the prize and cements the importance of photography into the future.

Entries are open until 11.59pm Sunday 14 June.

<https://maph.org.au/>

Recently received correspondence:

On behalf of the Albury & District Historical Society (ADHS), we would like to warmly invite members of the Wodonga Albury Camera Club to participate in our inaugural community photography initiative, 'Albury: A Moment in Time.'

This project aims to create a lasting photographic record of Albury as it exists today, capturing our streetscapes, businesses, people, heritage buildings, and everyday life for future generations.

*The event will be held from **5–12 September 2026**, coinciding with History Week, providing an ideal opportunity to celebrate and document our city's evolving story.*

We would be delighted to have members of the Camera Club involved alongside ADHS member. We believe your members' passion, creativity, and photographic expertise would add tremendous value to this important historical archive.

The emphasis of the project is not necessarily on professional photography, but rather on authentic and meaningful documentation of life in Albury at a point in time. Selected images may ultimately form part of a curated historical collection and future publication retained by the Historical Society and the Albury Library Museum.

We hope your members will consider supporting and participating in this exciting inaugural event and helping create a visual time capsule for future generations.

- More on this as it develops
- Thank you Mark Slater

TOWN THAT MOVED **ART SHOW & SALE**



The public are invited to submit artwork and entry form by 12pm Monday 22nd June to Anthony Dufty at Benambra Lodge Rooms on Towong Street, Tallangatta. access the entry form and Conditions of entry using the adjacent QR code.



The Town that moved Art show and sale will present the Upper Murray, its Natural landscape and Social character. More information can be found in the New Tallangatta 70 year commemoration Facebook event or by contacting Anthony Dufty (details below).

25th - 27th June.2026

11am - 7pm: daily

anthonydufty49@gmail.com



0402 894 576

Thank you Mark Slater



**Bethanga
Primary
School**



**ART
SHOW**

**Friday 11th & Saturday 12th Sep 2026
at Bethanga Memorial Hall**

We have commenced planning and preparing for our highly anticipated Bethanga Primary School Art Show in term 3 (11-12th Sep). As has been the case in previous years, we strive to have an event inclusive of the wider community.

We hope to have both student and local artists works displayed and to be purchased. Artists are welcome to have up to 10 pieces included.

Please notify the School via email of your intended involvement.

Additional information regarding art drop off and sales processes will be sent out once participating Artists have been confirmed.

Please contact Rachel Saunders (Principal) on 0403 983 939

WACC 2026 - 2027 Subscription Renewal Notice

Renewal of Club Membership Annual Subscription is due as of June 30th, 2026

The 2026 - 2027 Fees are:-

Individual Adult Member \$50

Family Membership [Immediate Family Members] \$75

Junior [under 18] \$20

Payment can be made via bank transfer [preferred method] or at Club meeting to Treasurer Brian.

BSB. 640 000

Account. 111089925

Name. Wodonga Albury Camera Club

[please include your surname - subs] Avoids any confusion.

Prepaid Members please ignore this notice.

per: Brian Paatsch

WACC Treasurer



May Audio/Visuals



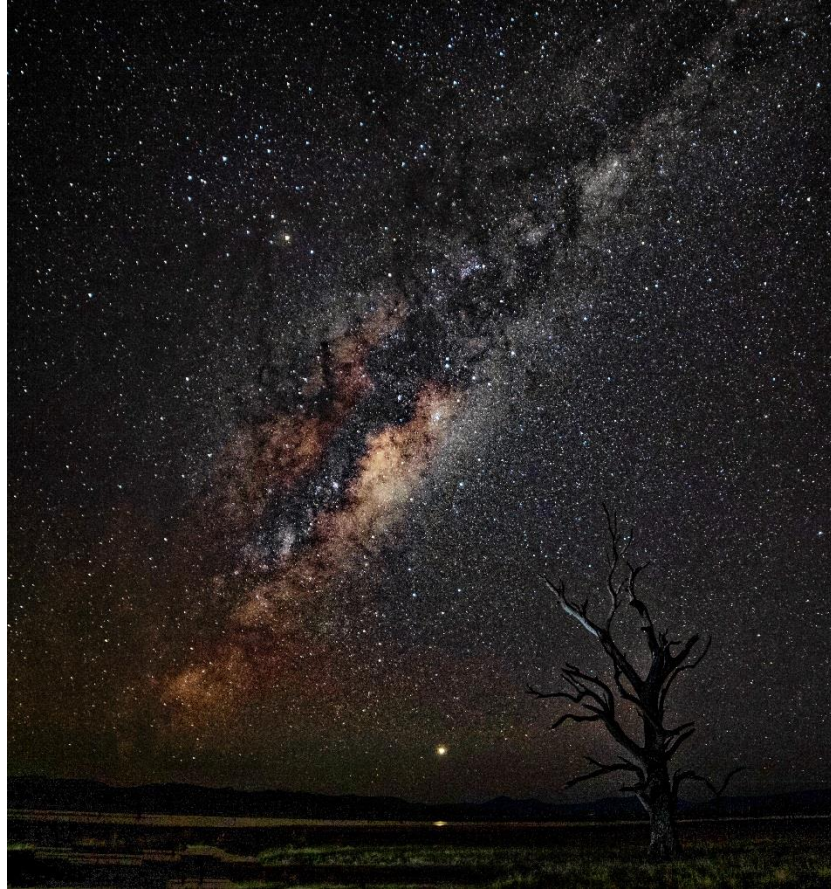
4 A/v's were shown at the May Meeting:

Geoff Bayes' "**Tailem Bend**" transported us to this wonderful country museum and days of yesteryear. There were a multitude of old trains, trucks and other rusty machinery. The photos also did justice to an old school house and stores depot. A glimpse of days gone by. Thank you Geoff.

Bill Cleverly's "**Wangaratta Railway Upgrade, A Photographers View**" gave us a delightful perspective on this interesting project. It was obvious that Bill knows the best locations for trainspotting as we viewed the transition from an overpass to an underpass as well as the preservation of Heritage structures. Thank you Bill.

David Willis' "**Elvis direct from Graceland**" had us donning the Gold Lamé Jumpsuit to celebrate the life of the King. An astounding array of memorabilia was captured beautifully by David and this was accompanied by the dulcet tones of the legend himself. This incredible display was very popular at the Bendigo Art Gallery. Thank you David.

Bill Thompson's "**A Man needs a Hobby**" saw us taking to the skies to explore the quirky world of radio-controlled Aircraft. Some of the aircraft are very lifelike and with careful editing and imagination it's not hard to mistake them for their full-size counterparts.



Lake Tyrrell Weekend (Sea Lake, Victoria) September – exact date TBA

This will be discussed at the upcoming meeting – current instability of fuel prices and moon phases are both issues which will affect the date

A wonderful initiative by Michael and Glenda Black is currently in the planning phase but as a rough guide we could be camping as a group at Green Lake Reserve for a weekend jam packed with diverse photographic opportunities and general good times.

Some of the possible activities may include:

The silo art day & night

The town murals

The old bus out in the wilderness day & night

The Kerosene Tin shearing shed at Woomerlang (you can shoot inside as well as out)

The birds in the reserve at Green Lake

Lake Tyrrell viewing area day & night

Sunrise/Sunset at different locations around the lake (may or may not be water, fingers crossed for some rain)

The old Grader 1.5kms out in the lake for those who are game.

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Lake_Tyrrell



Buy Swap Sell

Please submit any items for inclusion in next month's issue to secretarywacc@gmail.com

Committee Meetings

Ever wondered what goes on behind the scenes at our committee meetings? All members are welcome to join the meetings and observe (non-contributory) at any time – please see a committee member for details.

Pre-Meeting Meal

All welcome to join in a chat and a meal prior to the monthly meeting

5.30pm

Edwards Tavern

<https://edwardstavern.com.au/>

Our Sponsors:

Kerry & Leighton Weymouth

CameraHouse
Your photo and video experts

Schnelle
PARTNERS