

EXPOSURE



THE MELBOURNE CAMERA CLUB MAGAZINE

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New Zealand in Autumn

Charles Kosina



This little tree in Lake Wanaka is one of the most popular places with photographers from all over the world

The South Island of New Zealand is spectacular any time of the year. This was my tenth visit, but the first one in autumn. It would be no surprise to you that most of the others were in winter! But I have always wanted to go in autumn as the colours are superb. So my wife, Alyson and I decided that we should spend a few weeks there this year.

How long is long enough? We finished up with three and a half weeks, and in retrospect that was not nearly enough. And in every such trip there were highlights and lowlights. The latitude of the island puts it right in the path of the roaring forties. The weather can change from beautiful sunshine to gloomy downpours very rapidly. And we had a fair bit of each. In fact there were five days of almost incessant rain about half way through our trip.

But that is what you have to expect, and the bad weather can result in quite dramatic photos. The other bonus was that the first storm that hit only a couple of days after our arrival

dumped huge quantities of snow down to low levels to create an early winter fairyland.

To try to describe the whole trip would overflow this magazine so I have concentrated on a few highlights.

Hokitika is a small town on the west coast and we arrived there just after the first major storm. It was still quite stormy out to sea and resulted in quite dramatic photos. There is lots of driftwood washed up on the shore and



Hokitika beach sculptures



The boat's engines were stopped for several minutes to create undisturbed water for this view

journey across Wilmot Pass to the boat trip on the sound. I should point out that these “sounds” are actually fiords as they have been created by glacial action and not sunken river valleys such as the Marlborough Sounds at the top of the South Island.

The Wilmot Pass road is apparently the most expensive road per kilometre built in New Zealand. It was constructed to facilitate the building of an underground hydro-electric power station at the end of the west arm of the lake.

This region receives up to 7 metres of rain per year, and we had amazing luck to have good weather and with most interesting clouds in the sky. On the outward journey we were heading into quite strong winds, and combined with the boat speed, the gale

the locals assemble this into bizarre sculptures which last until the next storm blows them over.

We did go to Fox Glacier but from a photographic point of view it did not amount to much. Near the coast we called into Matheson Lake from where there was a great view of Aoraki/Mt Cook and Mt Tasman. This is where Captain Cook sighted the mountains back in 1769. Because it is closer, Mt Tasman appears higher and with the fresh snowfall it was quite spectacular.

Many have been to Milford Sound, as it is easily accessible. Less accessible is Doubtful Sound, further south in Fiordland. The only way to get there is to take a tour that starts as a boat trip across Lake Manapouri to the end of the west arm of the lake. From there, a bus took us on a 22 km



The strong winds created a stunning cloudscape in Doubtful Sound



Mt Tasman as seen from Matheson Lake near the west coast

on deck was close to 80 km per hour.

But the return journey took us into a sheltered arm and this is where we stopped for several minutes with all engines off so as not to disturb the water surface. The reflections were near perfect.

We spent a whole week in Wanaka. Why so long? Two reasons. Firstly we managed a swap of our time share week at a resort in the town. Secondly, Wanaka is surrounded by so much beautiful scenery that a week cannot really do it justice.

The little tree in Lake Wanaka is famous with photographers all over the world. I have photographed it on many occasions in the past, but never before in autumn. The colours were at their peak and the main photo was taken early in the morning with brilliant

sunshine. I went to that tree, which was only ten minutes walking distance from our accommodation, almost every morning, but had sunshine on only one of the days. This tree has many moods, so regardless of the weather it provides beautiful images.

It takes about an hour to get to Queenstown from Wanaka over the Crown Range Road. But before Queenstown is the village of Arrowtown. This was a gold mining area and many of the buildings date from that era. The hills above the town were ablaze with colour.

Between Arrowtown and Queenstown is Lake Hayes. Compared with the big lakes in the district, this is a tiny lake but also a favourite for photographers. The Remarkables with a dusting of snow on top provided the perfect background.

Queenstown is well known and has been featured in many photos. So I won't repeat any of the photos from there. North of Queenstown, the road winds alongside Lake Wakatipu to Glenorchy and beyond. It is up there where much of the mountain scenery was shot for the Lord of the Rings movies.

No trip to the island would be complete without a visit to the tallest mountain, Aoraki/Mt Cook. It was there to see on our way to the Mt Cook Village. But that was the last we saw of it. The following day and the next four days it rained almost incessantly.

There were further highlights on the trip, but these I may include in a photo book that I am planning.



Arrowtown Hillside was a blaze of colour



At Lake Hayes with The Remarkables in the background



Aoraki/Mt Cook



Lake Wakatipu and the road to Glenorchy

President's Report

Lesley Bretherton

Dear MCC club members and friends.

We are almost at the half way mark for this year and the club has been busy. The Board is in the process of submitting plans to Heritage Victoria for approval. The building subcommittee is to be congratulated on continuing the work of the previous board. Bob Morgan, who co-ordinates that subcommittee, is currently working with an architect on behalf of the club to coordinate the heritage and renovation work which needs doing. He has a brief report in this issue of Exposure to update members on the plans.

The program subcommittee has put together a great program so far this year with excellent national and international speakers. The evening with Julieanne Kost, international photographer and Adobe Evangelist, was a sellout and there are more excellent speakers planned for the second half of the year. Julieanne was also a keynote speaker at the VAPS convention held in Bendigo this year and presented two excellent workshops, one on compositing and the other on her journey in photography.

Our congratulations go to Gary Richardson who gained a merit

certificate in the VAPS interclub competition, to Brian Seddon who also scored well in the prints section, and to Kelly-Anne Keily's AV "Jeff's Car" which was placed third in the AV section. Overall the club was placed 6th in the interclub print competition. Our congratulations also go to Sue Rocco on receiving a VAPS Service Award at the annual dinner and awards night.

We hope you are all working on your photo books for the competition this year and walking around Melbourne CBD in the soft winter light snapping great shots for the end of year set subject.

Kind Regards, Lesley

MCC Gives Itself a 125th Birthday Present

With its 125th birthday coming up next year the Melbourne Camera Club is giving its members and its venerable 140 year old building a present.

As many members are aware the club building was purchased back in 1979 in a derelict condition to replace the rented premises in the Old Telegraph building in Little Bourke Street. The then members set about through hard work, many working bees and BBQ lunches to bring the Victorian Heritage Register-listed building back to its former glory. They did an outstanding job and the work they did has survived the test of time.

Thirty six years have flown by and our building now needs a bit of a makeover. The balusters surrounding the building's eaves are crumbling and the coat of arms over the main door is in danger of disintegration. The club, through, Greg Hotson of the building committee, applied successfully to Heritage Victoria for a permit to carry out the needed repairs and obtained a \$99,000 grant to carry out these works. This has freed up a little of the club's money to apply towards long overdue improvements and to address some of the physical building issues facing the club.

These issues were identified as:

- A lack of easy access to the main hall is limiting our ability to keep and attract new members.

Solution: the board felt that the time had come to install a lift and disabled toilet.

- Make the building more welcoming and give it the appearance of being used. It needs to present a more up-to date and lively face to the world to help attract and keep members.

Solution: Give the building a bright new well-lit and welcoming entry and foyer that showcases the work of the club members and is lit up whenever the building is occupied.

- Make the venue more attractive to both members and potential third parties for year round use.

Solution: Add heating, air-conditioning, a larger upstairs kitchen and decent indoor toilets. (Yes, indoor toilets, it is the 21st century after all).

- Controlling member access to specialized areas such as the darkroom, studio, office, lighting cupboards, store rooms, main club room entry, toilets etc

Solution: Install a modern computerized access tag control system

As well, a number of overdue upgrades and maintenance works require attention. These include:

Upgrading the fire stairs and fire equipment, a new switchboard, a safe roof access hatch, window repairs, crack repair and repainting of the stairwell and drainage changes to address rising damp.

It was also felt that a little self-promotion was in order and that large electronic window display screen with a scrolling show of award winning photographs clearly visible from the street along with lit signage over the entry would give our image a lift.

In order to minimize costs the building committee preferred to do the extension works at the same time as the rectification works and an application for the additional new works is currently before Heritage Victoria. Subject to the approvals process it is hoped to commence works this calendar year.

Early cost estimates show that funding will be tight so the board has decided to run a fund raising campaign to pay for the air-conditioning and heating of the main hall. Our target is \$20,000 and in the first week, we have commitments for over \$1550. A box will be available for contributions at each meeting. Contributions are tax deductible and receipts for amounts over \$10 are available from the treasurer Gary and the secretary Gail.

If you have any questions related to the building works or permit process feel free to contact me, Bob Morgan on 0418 109 383.

*Colin Booth
Greg Hotson
Bob Morgan*

MCC Building Committee

MCC VAPS EDPI Entries

These are the MCC EDPI entries and scores in the recent VAPS convention held in Bendigo. The print entries will be featured in the next issue.

Nicole Andrews	12	Annette James	10
Jane Barnes	12	Kelvin Rowley	10
Jim Weatherill	12	Mark Smith	10
Tuck Leong	11	Robert Groom	9
Karin Kowalski	11	Marg Huxtable	9
Charles Kosina	11	Ray Papoulis	9
Annette Donald	11	Kathryn Hocking	9
Judi Mowlen	10		



Kathryn Hocking *Into the void*



Jane Barnes *The Kick*



Annette James *Japanese Youth*



Jim Weatherill *Of the faith*



Marg Huxtable *Weep for me*



Charles Kosina *Black Tusk BC*



Annette Donald *King Protea*



Judi Mowlem *Waves of Gold*



Kelvin Rowley *The Persuader*



Karin Kowalski *Let me in you look tasty*

Exposure

July-August Issue

The deadline for the next issue is July 31



Tuck Leong *The Abandoned Shack*



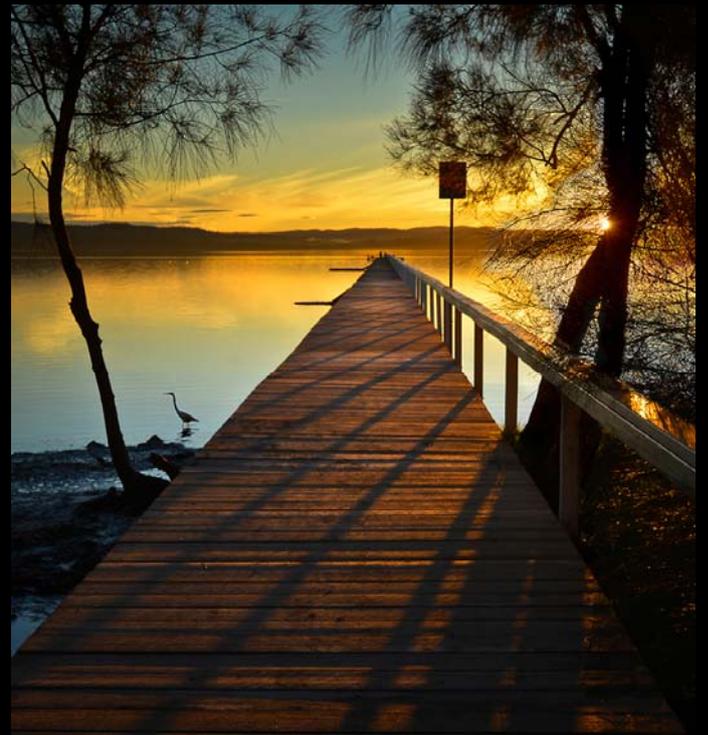
Mark Smith *No they are mountain zebras*



Nicole Andrews *Silvereve*



Robert Groom *Feather with shadow*



Ray Papulis *Long Jetty 1 5a*

The Melbourne Camera Club

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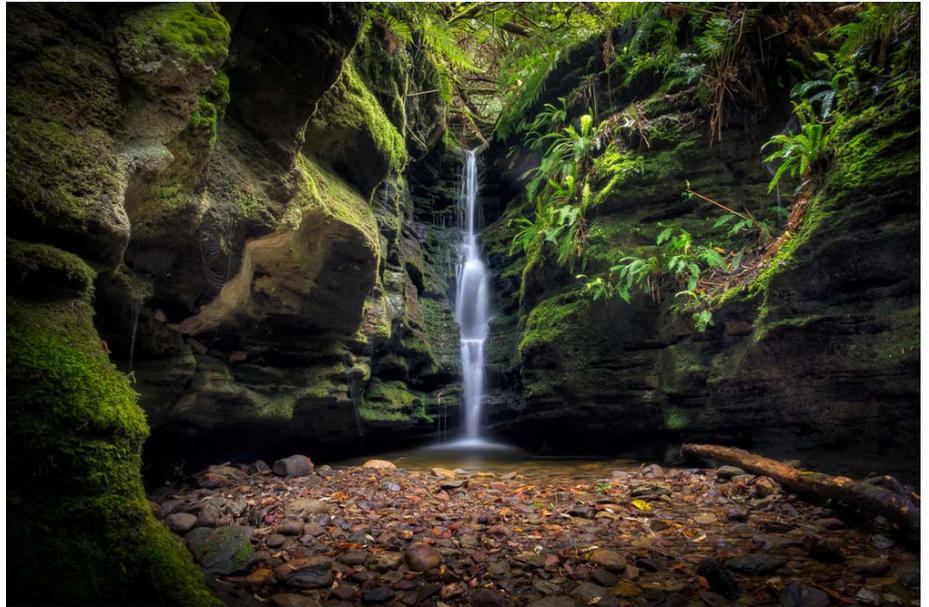
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April colour PDI of month

Toby Frost

Secret Falls



April mono Print of month

Lesley Bretherton

Phobjikha Valley Potato Farmers



April mono PDI of Month

John Jovic

Untitled



May monochrome PDI of month Robert Groom Water Oil Wood



Cover Photo
Spider House
by
Toby Frost

MCC Photobook Competition

The 2015 MCC photobook competition is on again.

You can download a copy of the PhotoBookShop software from:

www.photobookshop.com.au/index/download

Members are invited to start preparation for the proof and final copy of their photobooks – the cost is \$55 for the set (proof plus final copy) but you will need to apply for a code to:

Lesley.bretherton@melbournphoto.org.au

so that you can access a discount voucher before your upload your proof copy.

The critical dates are:

- 8th August upload proof copy (or earlier to have adequate time to proof read and amend).
- 24th August (and no later) upload final copy.
- 17th September Club meeting, review of entries and members receive their copies.

If you need assistance please contact Lesley Bretherton or Ian Bock:

ian.bock@melbournphoto.org.au

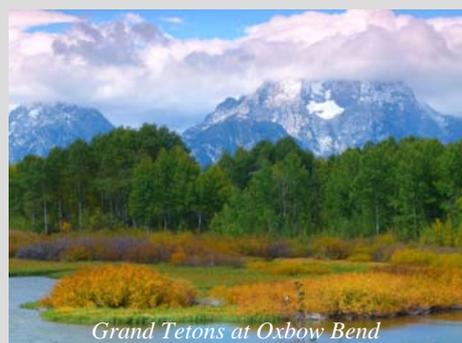
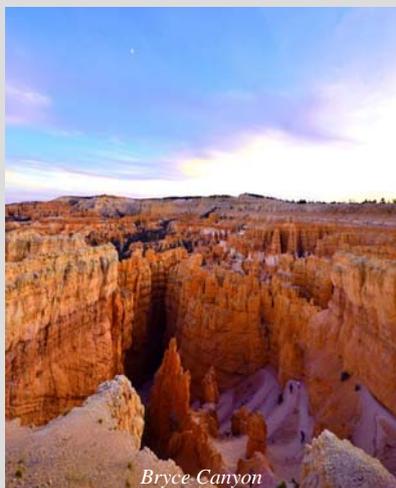
or go to the Photobookshop website:

www.photobookshop.com.au/help

July - August Issue Preview

In the next issue we will have “My photography” by Julie Ughetti. These are just four images that she had taken in two trips to the USA in 2013 and 2014.

Also included will be the MCC VAPS print entries and scores.





May mono print of month Peter Walton *Condor over the Andes*



May colour PDI of month John Jovic *Untitled*

How Safe are your Photos?

We are constantly told to back up all our data. There is the saying “There are only two types of hard disk, those that have failed, or those that are going to fail”. I had such a case recently when my 3 TB drive failed without warning. But apart from losing a few edited photos, nothing else was lost. The original RAW files were available on at least 3 other backups.

But is that enough? No, you may have backups on external drives and they are sitting right next to your computer. An MCC member has just had the misfortune to have been burgled much of his data has been taken. This means that many photos are gone forever. ***You must have off site backup!***

So keep all your precious data on backups elsewhere, be it at your office, cloud storage or at a friend’s place. *CK*



May colour print of month Jane Barnes *Illuminated Cloud*



April colour print of month Gary Richardson *Church of the Good Shepherd*