



EXPOSURE

The Melbourne
Camera Club Magazine

Holidaying in Namibia and Botswana
2016 Glennie Nature Salon
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Holidaying in Namibia and Botswana

Nicole Andrews



Fish River Canyon

Botswana has always been high on my list of places to visit, but less so Namibia. It was therefore with some trepidation that I signed up to five and half weeks away with some fellow Australians to travel through Namibia and Botswana in September 2015.

My notions of visiting a vast and empty country and possibly being a bit overwhelmed, or at the very least a bit bored, were very quickly dispelled after only a few days in Namibia. It is indeed a very arid country but the landscape is stunningly beautiful and full of surprises.

We started our trip in Namibia's capital, Windhoek, after an overnight stop in Johannesburg. I didn't take to Windhoek with its high level of crime but it wasn't long before we hit the road and the magic of Namibia was revealed. After a quick overnight stop at Mariental we travelled along some very ordinary roads to get to Fish River Canyon in the south of Namibia. The slight inconvenience of bumpy roads proved to be well worth the effort. The views on arrival were breathtaking. Each of our beautifully appointed chalets was perched right on

the edge of the canyon. The food and staff were wonderful as was the surprise a capella performances during dinner each night.

From Fish River Canyon we moved to Klein Aus, where we stayed in 'Fred Flintstone' type cottages (built into the rock) and located in the Namib

Desert. From this base we visited the diamond mining area and the quaint town of Luderitz with its charming German art nouveau architecture.

Next we headed to Sossusvlei which boasts the world's largest sand dunes. With slight reluctance I clambered into a hot air balloon on day



Aus Klein



Captive leopard at Okanjima

one of our stay and was rewarded with a magical experience as we gently glided across the terrain while watching the sun come up. I quickly ran out of superlatives describing the majestic dunes, particularly as the dunes started to develop a superb red glow as the sun hit their eastern flanks. After a slightly dodgy landing – where a sudden downward draft almost left us in a tree – we were treated to a champagne breakfast. Visiting the dunes the next day at ground level was equally impressive.

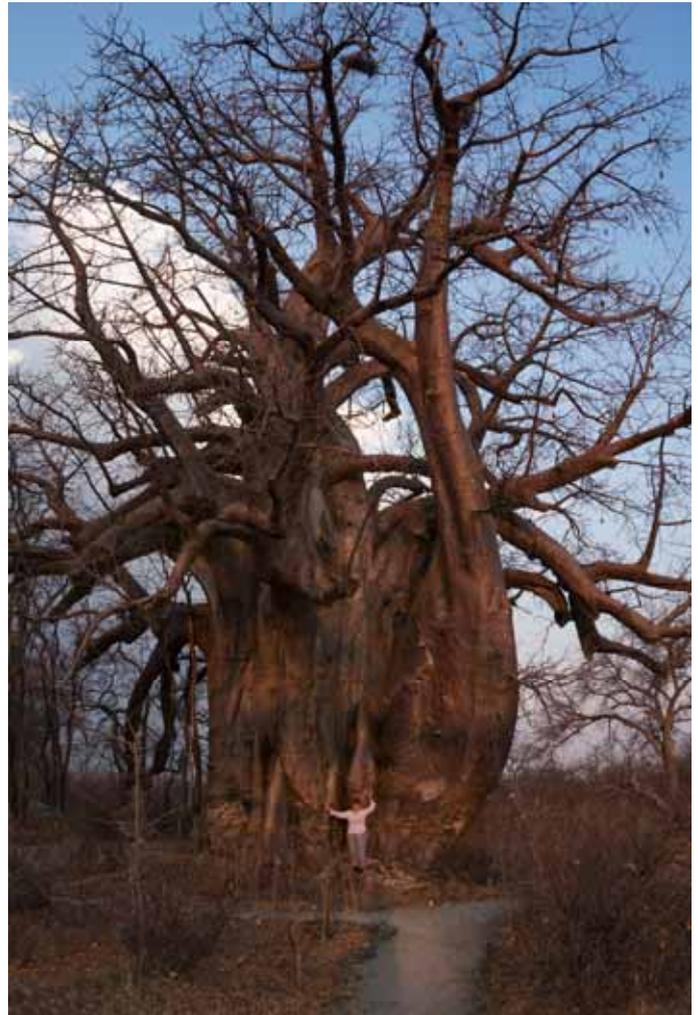
From Sossussvlei we headed to the Atlantic Coast, visiting Walvis Bay and Swakopmund where we witnessed a large flamingo colony and plenty of other interesting birdlife.

Heading inland we then visited a private reserve, Okanjima. This was a class act in every respect and provided the best

viewing of leopards and cheetahs of our trip. Okanjima is also home to the AfriCat Foundation which promotes the protection of cheetahs through education and community projects which assist farmers to live harmoniously with these beautiful creatures. After a few days at a picturesque location in the Kamanjab area (central north) to recharge our batteries, we moved on to Namibia's most famous national park, Etosha. Despite the incredibly barren landscape Etosha offers some of the best wildlife experiences and we were not disappointed with a two hour elephant



African darter at Chobe



Baobab tree



Southern yellow-billed hornbill

experience at the local waterhole near our cabins.

From Etosha we headed along the Caprivi, a narrow stretch of land to the north east of Namibia, after which we entered Botswana. In Botswana we stayed in the Okavanga Delta area, visited the salt pan area in the north east of the country and finished in Kasane which is situated on the Chobe River and adjacent to the Chobe National Park.

After such dry country it was a delight to take a helicopter ride over the lush delta area and see the multitude of tracks the elephants and hippos had made through the reeds and papyrus. The area was rich in birdlife



Elephants in Etosha



Flamingoes at Walvis Bay



Sossusvlei dunes

which we enjoyed close up from mokoros (canoes propelled by polers).

The Nxai Pan area was memorable for the impressive thousand-year-old baobab trees and salt pans. This was also the location for our first real experience with lions. I'm not sure how sensible our guide was but stopping within ten metres of ten lions resting under a tree in an open vehicle certainly managed to get our heart rates up.

For someone who loves photographing birds, Chobe was a dream come true. Heading onto the Chobe River soon after breakfast in beautiful early morning light and experiencing the abundant bird life busy to and froing from nests left me speechless. In fact, I became quite emotional on our last day and



Lions



Victoria Falls



Yellow-billed stork at Chobe

had to reassure a very worried guide that he hadn't been the cause of my tears as we finally pulled up at our lodge.

From Chobe we did a day trip to Zimbabwe to see the Victorian Falls. Although the end of the dry season, the Falls were spectacular and probably easier to photograph without the enormous amount of spray that would otherwise have created a few challenges.

For the duration of the trip we had our own vehicle and driver. Most of the wildlife viewing was done in park-operated, open vehicles and with a local guide/driver.

All my photos were taken with either my Canon 60D and 80-300 lens (for shooting wildlife) or my very light mirrorless Sony NEX 6 with both an 18-50mm lens (and very occasionally my wide angle 10-18mm lens) for landscapes. This gear was the maximum I could carry but seemed to work well for me. Continually changing lens would have been a hazard, particularly in the Namibian desert.

This really was the holiday of a lifetime with plenty of wonderful photos to keep the experience alive. I've now managed to narrow it down to a 1000 of my favorites!



Cover Photo
by
Nicole Andrews

MCC's club entry in the 2016 Glennie Nature Salon

Phil Marley

Thanks to the efforts of Marg Huxtable, the MCC recently made its first club entry in an international nature salon - the 36th George W. Glennie Memorial Nature Salon, run by the Merrimack Valley Camera Club in Massachusetts, USA.

The competition had eight sections - Landscapes, Botany, Birds, Reptiles, Amphibians, Mammals, Invertebrates and Marine & Freshwater Life - and subsections within these. Ten different MCC members each provided one image for the competition and these were spread across four of the eight sections.

The competition was judged on 12 March 2016 and the MCC team entry came an outstanding 16th out of the 80 clubs that participated from seven countries. The MCC's aggregate score of 242 was only 11 points behind the winning club,

Richmond Hill Camera Club from Ontario, Canada. Australia had 13 clubs that entered, ahead of all countries except the host nation, USA, with 56 clubs. Individual scores for the ten MCC entries are listed below. Other club results are available from:

<http://mvcameraclub.org/competitions/results/scores/43/>

Special congratulations go to Frances Egan and Jane Barnes for

their Merit awards, to Gary Richardson whose photo was used as the cover image for the video of the awards ceremony (see: <https://vimeo.com/159498519>) and to Nicole Andrews, Jim Weatherill, Gary and Marg who each earned an Acceptance for their entries.

A big thank you goes to Marg for coordinating, collecting and submitting the club's entry.

Name	Title	Score	Category	Award
Jim O'Donnell	Echidna drinking	24	Mammals - other mammals	
Judith Mowlem	Mudflats from above	22	Landscapes - other landscapes	
Marg Huxtable	Hydrotherapy in the snow	25	Mammals - other mammals	A
Frances Egan	It's mine	26	Mammals - large carnivores	M
Nicole Andrews	Jackal feast	25	Mammals - <i>Canidae</i> mammals	A
Jane Barnes	Morning glory	25	Landscapes - other landscapes	M
Phil Marley	Pied currawong catching wasp	22	Birds - exotic birds	
Jim Weatherill	Roos feeding	25	Reptiles	A
Tuck Leong	Territory squabbles	22	Birds - sea & shorebirds	
Gary Richardson	The provider	26	Mammals - large carnivores	A

A = Acceptance M = Merit



February mono print of month John Van Hirsell *Helmet Head*

Wanted - New Commissioning Editor for *Exposure*

Phil Marley

At the end of last year, I decided it was time for me to step down as commissioning editor for *Exposure* and allow someone else to move into the role and refresh it. I announced at the club on 31 March that I intended to step down at this year's AGM in September, after eight years and 48 issues. Charles has indicated he is happy to continue in his role as the production editor, doing the layout and working with the printer. The club is therefore looking for a new commissioning editor. Anyone interested in considering the role and wanting to know what's involved please feel free to come and have a chat with me or contact me by email through:

mcc-exposure@melbournphoto.org.au

The role does not take large amounts of time, is largely done by email, does not require any technical skills and does not require time commitments at set times. In addition, the role could be done by a small group of say two to four people working together rather than a single person, if that is of interest. The Board has recently re-committed the club to continuing the printed edition of *Exposure* (see Lesley's President's Report in this issue) and *Exposure* retains strong support from the members. Please let me know if you would like to know more.

President's Report

Lesley Bretherton

As you are all aware towards the end of last year the Board solicited feedback from members about the Thursday night club program and on the future of Exposure magazine. The results of these two activities are summarized below:

Thursday Night Program Survey Results:

Some interesting statistics emerged from the member survey relating to MCC program. From a total of 92/93 responses (1 person did not supply their age), 13% were from members 40 years old or younger, 48% from members in the 40-65 age group and 39% were from members older than 65 years. In response to the question on which club activities are attended 81% said they regularly or occasionally attended Thursday club night. Interestingly the print competition is better attended (76%) than the PDI competition (52%) even though there are more entries in the PDI competition.

The Traditional Darkroom Printmakers is one of the most regularly attended interest groups (15%). Seventy seven percent of members shoot with a digital camera, 3% use film and 19% use both. Photoshop (70%) and Lightroom (49%) were the most used editing software. When asked about presenters, 52% indicated they would like more guest speakers (3% wanted fewer), 51% wanted more professional photographers speaking about their photography (4% wanted fewer).

Seventy percent thought we had enough member presentations (17% wanted more, 13% wanted less, the rest indicated they were happy with the status quo) with similar figures for club member panel discussions. There was strong support for Photoshop and Lightroom seminars and especially workshops and this has been acted on. If you would like to express your opinion about topics and presenters please contact Gail Morgan who is the Program subcommittee coordinator.

Exposure:

We asked members to express their views on the future of Exposure magazine, as, while it is a major expense for the club it is also a significant asset; it showcases the work of the club, is a marketing tool, it serves an important role in the communications and promotions for the club, and provides an archivable history of the club. Many club activities are only recorded via Exposure magazine.

Of the 55 responses that were received there was clear support for retention of Exposure as a publication (electronic or print version). There was also a pretty even spread between how it is delivered, that is, print and/or electronic. There was strong support for fewer editions; quarterly editions were frequently suggested and a yearbook printed edition, with more frequent electronic versions were the main suggestions. There was also support for consideration of advertising or gaining a sponsor. Several responders suggested we need a rationale and some detail on costing for not printing, and a 'positive spin' on a decision to retain the printed copy (not just that it is too expensive). There was some support for instigating a charge for the print version, or alternatively compensating for loss of the print version.

After due consideration of these responses and discussion with the editors of Exposure the Board's preferred option is to move to quarterly printed editions, and this will be the format ongoing. There will be ongoing investigation of a higher quality electronic edition, sponsorship, advertising, and reviewing printing and postage. I would like to remind everyone that an electronic version of all Exposure magazines dating back to 2010 is available on the website: click on the Members tab on the right of the header (you do not need a password to access this tab) scroll down the menu and click on Exposure to access the current Exposure and archived copies back to 2010.

Unrelated to the above our editor Phil Marley has decided to retire from his position as Editor in Chief and will do so towards the end of the year. Phil has been the Exposure editor for 8 years and done a wonderful job; we sincerely thank him for his input – he will be hard to replace. If you would like to express interest in this position please contact Phil Marley or myself. Phil is very willing to provide support to anyone who would like to take up this position.

MCC Weekend away:

There will be a club weekend away in Lorne on the 6th and 7th May 2016 at the Ocean Lodge Motel. Ocean Lodge is situated at: 6 Armytage Street, Lorne, Victoria, 3232. The Club has reserved 10 rooms so if you would like to come please telephone Andrew Grange (the motel proprietor) on (03)52891330 and

(Continued on page 8)

The Melbourne Camera Club

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CLUB CONTACTS

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Privacy Officer

Peter Tredrea
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(President's Report continued from page 7)
book a room under the Melbourne Camera Club reservation.

The cost is approximately \$125 to \$135 per night for a motel room (no single supplement) and there are also 1-2 bedroom apartments available; Andrew is very happy to discuss options. We will arrange a group dinner at the Pacific Hotel on Saturday 7th May and an informal gathering for those available on Friday night. There are many photo opportunities available in Lorne: waterfalls, the jetty, seascapes and the swing bridge at dusk and dawn. Please let me know when you have booked so I can update you with any further arrangement:

Lesley.bretherton@melbournephoto.org.au

Other items:

International Women's Day 2016 celebrated at MCC on the 17th March with an exhibition of photographs and we thank Tina Thomson for organising this event so successfully.

An MCC group entry, organised at short notice by Marg Huxtable, in the international 2016 Glennie Memorial Nature Salon saw the Melbourne Camera Club placed 16th out of 80, a great result for our first attempt at this salon and with very short notice. The link to the video of the acceptances and award winners for the Glennie is available on:

<https://vimeo.com/159498519>

Gary's Richardson's image 'The Provider' is the cover image for the video. Congratulations to all who entered on behalf of of the club.

Monthly Competition Rules Reminder

Entrants may not enter the same or a substantially similar image in both the Print and PDI competitions in the same month.

Entrants may not enter the same or a *substantially similar image* in a monthly competition if it has previously received a Commended or Highly Commended Award in any monthly competition or has won an award in an End of Year Competition.

Exposure

May-June Issue

The deadline for the next issue is May 31

mcc-exposure@melbournephoto.org.au



March colour PDI of month Jane Clancy *Gum Nuts*



March mono PDI of month Colin Booth *Untitled*

Change to Competition Rules

From 1 May 2016, Melbourne Camera Club competitions will change.

Our competitions have become too popular, particularly the projected image (PDI) which for the first two months of 2016 has attracted in excess of 160 entries. This places an enormous burden on the judges, and makes for a particularly long night on the fourth Thursday of the month.

Currently members are permitted to enter three images in an Open Competition and one image in the Set-subject Competition. The Board has agreed to the following recommendation of the Competition Committee:

That with effect from 1 May 2016, entries in the monthly competitions (print and PDI) be reduced to a maximum of 2 entries in the Open competition and 1 entry in set-subject competition.

You may wonder why it has been necessary to change the number of entries in the print competition. The "Photographer of the Year" award which is bestowed at the Presentation Night in December, takes into account performances in both print and PDI competition. Therefore to be equitable, both competitions had to be changed.

*Jim Weatherill, Chairman,
Competition Committee*



March colour print of month Jane Clancy
Essentially Neave



March mono print of month Tina Thomson
Mira Fujita Dream



February colour print of month Jane Clancy
Tree in the Fog

International Women's Day Exhibition - Thursday 17th March 2016

Tina Thomson



*Tina Thomson at the exhibition opening
(photo by Lesley Bretherton)*



Jacqueline Goss Johara

The Melbourne Camera Club was proud to present an exhibition on the 17th March 2016 to celebrate International Women's Day.

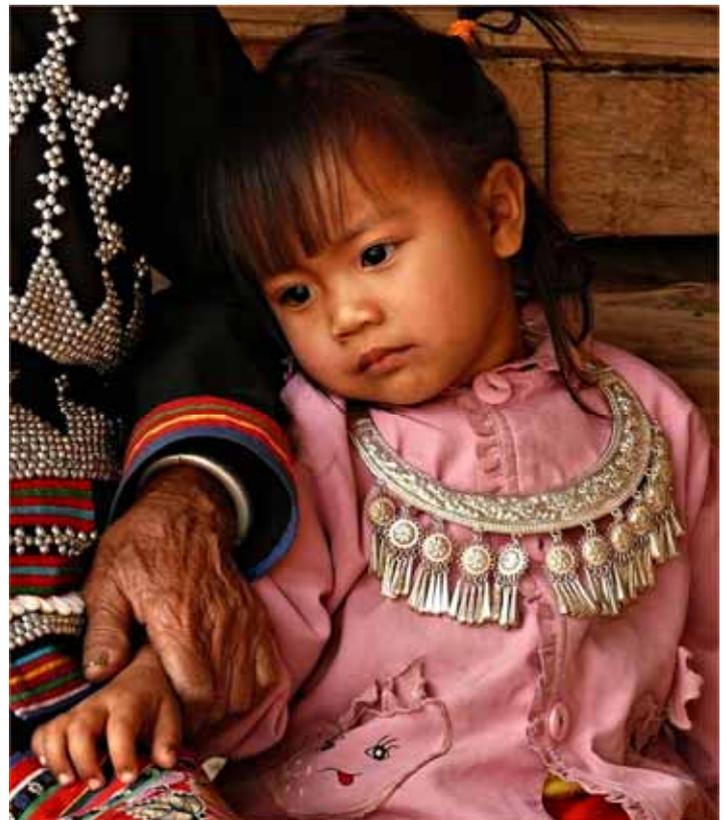
This year's theme for International Women's Day was "Pledge for Parity". It was recognized that although undeniably we do we have many active

and talented women members in the Club, there is an imbalance in numbers in favour of men, and so one of the aims in putting together the exhibition was to address this imbalance and hopefully encourage all women members past and present to be recognized and celebrated.

Although the Melbourne Camera Club began its life as the "Working Men's College Photographic Society" in 1891, from its inception women have been welcomed and encouraged to join as equal members. In an era when many photographic clubs only allowed "associate membership" to



Carolyn Buckley China has our business



Marg Huxtable Comforting Hand



Karin Volz *In the shadows*



Margot Sharman *Folded Body*



Maggie Smith and Alan Elliott at the exhibition
(photo by Lesley Bretherton)

women this was a significant gesture. The Melbourne Camera Club continues to support its women members and encourages equality in participation, exhibition and leadership roles.

There are currently around 60 women Club members and three women Board Members, including our Secretary and our President.

The exhibition was a wonderful opportunity for established as well as new members to feel welcome and appreciated and to exhibit their work in a supportive environment. The creativity and skill of the images on display was apparent with a wide variety of themes and subjects. Portraits, landscapes, montage, audio visual, digital manipulation, darkroom, photo journalism, sports journalism, street photography and studio photography were all represented, showing the wide range of interests and talent of our women members.

We were honoured to have a fascinating presentation from our Club Archivist Alan Elliott, assisted by Barrie Bunning, on the history of women in the Club. We were also lucky to have a few of the prints held in our archives on display for the evening. Thank you to Alan for all his support in putting together this exhibition.



Nicole Andrews *Starry night*

Well done to all the participants and we look forward to continuing supporting International Women's Day in the future.

Participants

- | | |
|-----------------------|------------------------|
| <i>Mei Chan</i> | <i>Jacqueline Goss</i> |
| <i>Margot Sharman</i> | <i>Karin Volz</i> |
| <i>Nicole Andrews</i> | <i>Julie Ughetti</i> |
| <i>Shani Marshall</i> | <i>Joanne Rinaldi</i> |

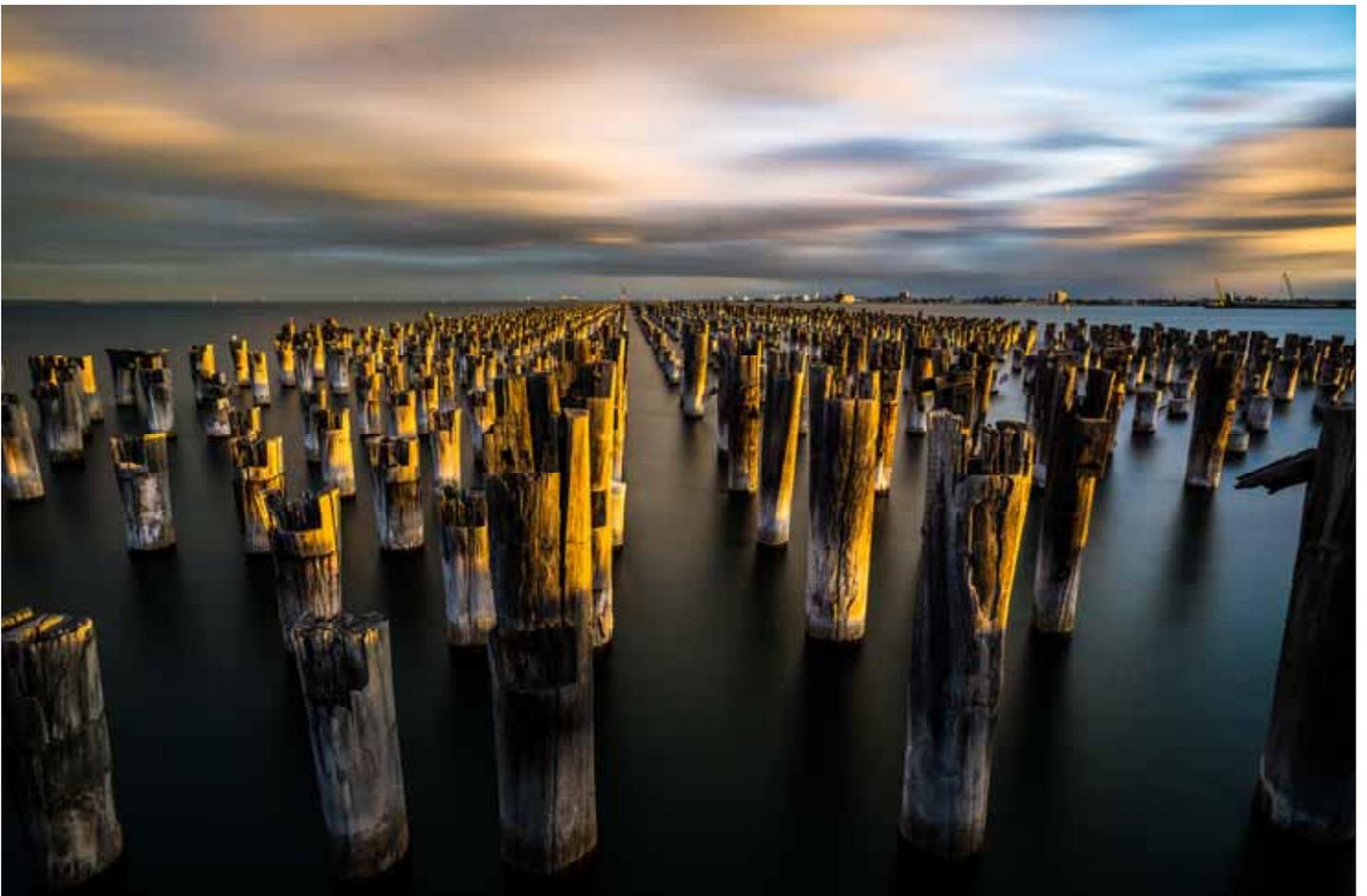
- | | |
|------------------------|--------------------------|
| <i>Susan Brunialti</i> | <i>Jane Clancy</i> |
| <i>Dominique Smith</i> | <i>Tina Thomson</i> |
| <i>Marg Huxtable</i> | <i>Maggie Smith</i> |
| <i>Jane Barnes</i> | <i>Lesley Bretherton</i> |
| <i>Judi Mowlem</i> | <i>Mary Kerr</i> |
| <i>Karen O'Connor</i> | <i>Sue Rocco</i> |
| <i>Carolyn Murphy</i> | <i>Barb Butler</i> |



February mono PDI of month

Peter Walton

Beautiful Ceiling



February colour PDI of month

Frances Egan

Princes Pier