



CIRCLE OF CONFUSION

February 2014

Newsletter of the Tasmanian Photographic Federation

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President's Thoughts

by Victor Jamieson

How quickly time passes when one is pre-occupied.

Firstly let me wish all our members and families a very Happy, Healthy, &

Prosperous New Year 2014 and hope the festive season was incident free.

Elsewhere in this bulletin you will find the minutes of the previous meeting and I ask you to pay particular attention to the articles regarding proposed notices of motion relating to the future direction and make up of TPF.

Whilst I personally have no leaning one way or another, members should, at their club meeting carefully consider the motions that are to be presented and have their delegates come with definite input.

Should you wish to add to the debate please have your club secretary send a copy of your club's proposal to our secretary Erika in order that we may include them on the agenda. This does help in having a meeting in an orderly fashion and not get bogged down with meaningless debate. Positive ideas usually save the day.

We must, and I stress, must finalize our future within the next couple of meetings otherwise we shall be back to where we were a couple of years ago. Progress is being made, all that remains is the decision in which direction to head.

You the members can only decide this.

So please attend the next meeting at Wynyard with this thought in mind.

Those of us who attended the last meeting of TPF would have had a wonderful time photographing the models on the day and congratulations should go to NTCC for this. Everybody had a fun time and some great portrait photos were taken.

Please support Wynyard at the next TPF meeting in March and I feel sure that good things are in store for us also.

See you all then.

Alive and Clicking

President Victor

Tasmania's AIPC Success

by Felix Staub FTPF

For those Tasmanians who attended the APS conference, APSCON, in Bunbury last September, there was a great surprise waiting. Tasmania won the points aggregates in two of the four sections in the Australian Interstate Photographic Competition! The Tasmanian entries in the Monochrome Prints and the Monochrome Projected Images came out on top. We didn't have quite that much success in the two Colour sections, but were by no means disgraced there either. In the end, it was Victoria that managed to take home the trophy this time.

The winner of the Herbert Medal for the highest place in the Monochrome Digital Images section was Phillipa Alexander for her image "Gironde Fishing Huts". Phillipa and Felix Staub also were awarded Merits for other images.

The AIPC is a competition run by the individual states and territories and pitches states against states. In some states, the participation is run by the state organisation, in others, the participation is handled somewhat differently. In Tasmania, there is an informal committee of active exhibitors who call for entries through the various channels that are available, including the TPF. However, there are a significant number of

active exhibitors in Tasmania who are not members of a TPF member club, requiring the invitation to enter images to be broadened as much as possible.

You don't have to be a member of any camera club, or for that matter of APS to participate in the AIPC. In reality though, anyone likely to have the kind of images available for selection would almost certainly be a member of one or the other.

The entry conditions for the last competition were for 10 images in each of the four categories, Colour Prints, Monochrome Prints, Colour Projected Images and Monochrome Projected Images per state with no more than two images from any one artist in any one section. While this has not been confirmed as yet, we expect that similar conditions will apply for next years' AIPC.

We encourage all photographers in Tasmania to make images available for selection in the next Interstate Competition. It is a great honour to represent our state, and as you can see from the above results, we are by no means outgunned. There is no doubt that there are many great images in Tasmania, so please look out for the call of entries around May 2014.



Bull Rider 785 by Felix Staub

Judging A “Good” Image

by Felix Staub FTFP

In the camera club movement we have evolved from the early days when producing a well exposed, well focused image was the most important achievement. With the assistance of past masters and technological advances, these goals have long been taken for granted and photographers have been able to look further.

From the initial documentary approach to photography, we have progressed to regard fine art photography as our goal. For this purpose, the term “Fine Art Photography” would have to be the creation of photographs that people would like to hang on a wall and admire day after day.

This still leaves a very wide range of imagery that could fall within that description. The subject range and variety in media exhibited in camera clubs and in exhibitions, locally, nationally as well as internationally reflect this incredible variety.

Camera clubs teach us the many “Rules” of composition that can be employed in photography. However, these are simply tools and tricks to achieve what it is we are trying to express. They certainly form no basis on which to judge the images presented to us.

So what makes a photograph “Good” and what causes it to fail? If we study visual art and photography in particular, we develop an experience that tells us what is “Good Art” to a greater or lesser degree. Sounds awfully nebulous, doesn't it? In practice, it really is surprising how similar this assessment is among viewers who are asked to make such judgement. There are no rules or numbers that define this in any way and no doubt is often quite subjective. And yet, there seems to be a surprising consensus all over the world.

To follow this question further, your Editor has consulted – what else but the internet. Among the many sites dealing with this subject, I have found a site at www.artbusiness.com. It contains many quotes by art dealers, critics and gallery curators. You notice, they are not specific to photography but art generally. I have printed some of the quotes that I believe to be particularly well expressed. However, I recommend that the readers look up this website for themselves. It is really very illuminating to see how the art world generally comes to terms with this vague notion of “Good Art” in much the same way that we are trying to understand it in respect of photography in particular.

Brian Gross, Brian Gross Fine Art, San Francisco: Art that is unique in conception and well executed.

DeWitt Cheng, freelance art writer and critic, Bay Area, CA: Jorge Luis Borges wrote, “Music, states of happiness, mythology, faces molded by time, certain twilights and certain paces-- all these are trying to tell us something, or have told us something we should not have missed, or are about to tell

us something; that imminence of a revelation that is not produced is, perhaps, the aesthetic reality.” While art has become, in the experimental 20th and 21st centuries, impossible to define-- critics learned long ago to stop being prescriptive, perhaps a little too well-- Borges's tentative manifesto makes a good starting point-- as long as we don't succumb to mystical mush. Good visual art looks stunningly right and, in retrospect, obvious, or inevitable-- yet it's also continually surprising. It is a powerful paradox. How can someone have possibly made this? How in the world could it not have been made?

Catharine Clark, Catharine Clark Gallery, San Francisco: When it has its own internal logic. It took me a long time to get to this place, but that is the answer that I now give. I used to say that good art is like porn; you know it when you see it.

Jack Hanley, Jack Hanley Gallery, New York: I like something where the intensity of the experience of the person making it comes through. Maybe somebody is turned on by the nature of the materials, a psychological issue or some kind of narrative. Maybe some people have greater intensities of experience than others. What makes art good on a grander scale is how extraordinary and profound the components of those experiences are. Some artists are maybe better than others at tapping into their own idiosyncrasies and conveying them to others.

Justin Giarla, The Shooting Gallery, White Walls & 941 Geary, San Francisco: What makes good art is when you see a piece from across the room, you immediately fall in love with it without knowing anything about it and are in love with it forever.

Alan Bamberger, itinerant artster, San Francisco: At its most fundamental level, good art is an effective combination of concept, vision and mastery of medium (the ability to get the point across). Good art is also uncompromisingly honest, unselfconscious, bold, ambitious, enlightening, original, challenging, and a feast for the senses. It doesn't necessarily have to have all of these qualities, but at the very least it has to keep you coming back for more... and never ever bore.

It is interesting how the “Art World” judges art. If we apply these considerations to our own work, how many of our photographs would we consider to be “Good Art”? Looking around camera clubs, I believe that there are quite a number of works that would pass muster when looked at through these eyes.

Camera club judging may never be quite the same again.

APS State Service Honours

by Felix Staub FTPF

The Australian Photographic Society has recognised the significant service to photography provided by two people who are prominent in their clubs as well as in TPF. The following are the citations referring to these honours. The photographic fraternity in Tasmania owes a great deal to the dedicated members who keep our federation going.

State Service to Photography (SSAPS)

Awarded to

Ruth Nina Timperon EFIAP FAPS

Ruth Nina Timperon has been an active and successful photographer over many years exhibiting locally nationally and internationally.

She has been a sought-after judge by Tasmanian camera clubs and the Tasmanian Photographic Federation and has judged the Tamar Valley National Exhibition in 2003, 2005, 2006, 2007, 2008 and 2010.

Ruth Timperon has been a key member of the 208 APSCON Organising Committee with the tasks of managing all apparel and the catering for all formal and informal events connected with the conference. She has taken particular care in successfully managing the various dietary requirements for the delegates.

Ruth has given many presentations to Tasmanian camera clubs and has conducted workshops in a number of locations in Tasmania. She has also organised the Tasmanian selection and entry into the AIPC in 2011 and 2012. Ruth has been the APS State Representative for Tasmania from 2007 to 2010 and has actively promoted the interests of APS over that period.

Connections with the Army Reserves and the RSL have led to numerous assignments where Ruth has provided the official photographs for the organisation's records and archives. These include the 2008 ANZAC Day Parade in Launceston, the Remembrance Day celebrations in Scottsdale from 2009 to 2011 and the 6th RAR Vietnam Veteran's Day in 2011.

The Scottsdale History Group has been provided with a collection of individual portraits for one of its publications, the official photographic records of the "42 Deg. South" celebration at Ross and the cataloguing of the extensive historic collection of Pearn's Steam World, the official photography for the 2012 and 2013 Bridport Fun Run.

In addition to the direct photographic involvement, Ruth also was involved in the organising and judging of the Rotary Dorset Art Festival from 2008 to 2012 and the 2011 judging of the Scottsdale Garden Society's photographic exhibition. Ruth has been in charge of judging and displaying the photography section of the North Eastern Agricultural and Pastoral Society's annual show from 2002 to 2012.

There are many local events where Ruth has also been asked to provide the official photography for the various organisations. These include the Zodiacs Gymnastics Club in 2012, the swimming events of the Australian Masters from 2005 to 2012 and the Leaver's Dinner in Scottsdale from 2009 to 2011.

Ruth Nina Timperon has made a very extensive contribution to the local community, the camera clubs and to the Society and is a worthy recipient of the APS Honour of SSAPS.

State Service to Photography (SSAPS)

Awarded to

Baydon Andrew Smith

Baydon Andrew Smith has been a stalwart of the photographic community in Tasmania over a period of more than thirty years. He has been the Delegate to the Tasmanian Photographic Federation since 1982 and is still in that position. He has served for two 2-year terms as President of the Tasmanian Photographic Federation, from 1994 and again from 2006 onward.

Baydon has acted as co-organiser of the Tasmanian Photographic Federation's "Photographer Of The Year" competition from 2002 to 2006 inclusive. This involved the collection of entries, arranging for judging - usually interstate, and the formal presentation and the publication of a catalogue.

In the course of Baydon's long experience as a photographer he has developed a wide range of skills and has been generous in passing them on in a total of eight presentations to the Ulverstone and Wynyard Camera Clubs from 1990 through to 2011. He has also given the keynote address at the Tasmanian Photographic Federation's 2005 conference.

As an experienced and successful photographer, Baydon has been asked to judge on numerous occasions. He has judged the End Of Year competitions in both the Wynyard And the Ulverstone Camera Clubs and has acted as a judge in the Northwest National Exhibition of Photography in 2000, 2007, 2009 and 2010.

The Tasmanian Photographic Federation has recognised Baydon's exceptional contribution to the Tasmanian photographic community by awarding him the George Billing Medallion in 2009, the most prestigious award the TPF can bestow for service to photography.

Baydon Andrew Smith has made a very significant contribution to photography in Tasmania over many years and is a worthy recipient of the Award of SSAPS.

Around The Clubs

DCC	no report
NTCC	no report
UCC	no report
WTCC	by Joan Bessell

Membership remains steady with an enthusiastic group of between 10 and 20 usually attending our meetings and outings.

During January we enjoyed two outings in combination with other clubs:

On 8th January 11 West Tamar members met several from Devonport at Bakers Beach, at 5.00pm for a meal and in the hope of photographing the animals, etc. Sadly the wombat population is much reduced by the ravages of mange and the few we saw were also suffering from it. However, there were plenty of wallabies about at dusk.

On 18th January 12 West Tamar members enjoyed a very pleasant BBQ on Tamar Is thanks to the generosity of NTCC. Again a late afternoon/evening event to take in the sunset and the arrival of a variety of water birds as the tide receded.

And for something different, on the 10th of January 8 members met for the interesting exercise of judging of a PSA competition, judges being Norton Harvey, Felix Staub and Phillipa Alexander.

WCC by Ian Hubble

The Club has seen quite a bit of interest from the public in recent months, resulting in a number of new members joining up.

Set Subject and Open competitions at Club meetings twice per month alternated between prints and projected images. Set Subject competition topics have included Commercial Port or Pier, Portraiture, Night Photography, Place of Worship and Travel Photography.

Meeting night activities have included Members Prints and Projected Images, a Wynyard Walkaround Photoshoot and a National Geographic photographic DVD on lenses.

Club Patron Phil O'Neill spoke of his latest photographic exploits and Club member Jim Cleland talked on The Great Bear Rainforest. The November TPF DVD was shown and a Review of 2013/Ideas for 2014 session was held.

The Club once again put on a display of photographs for the Tulip Festival in October.

An outing to Guide Falls was held in October, a successful Club Dinner and Annual Club Competition Presentation took place in early December at the Wynyard RSL and a well-attended BBQ/Picnic at Sisters Beach in mid January started off activities for 2014.

We look forward to seeing you along at Wynyard on March 22 for the TPF Photographer of the Year.



Tasmanian Photographic Federation Inc. Form A

Results of Interclub Competition November 2013

Camera Club	Projected Images		Monochrome Prints		Colour Prints		Small Prints	
	Points	Place	Points	Place	Points	Place	Points	Place
Devonport CC	59	=2nd	50	4th	53	4th	50	5th
Northern Tasmanian CC	57	4th	62	=1st	60	1st	56	3rd
Ulverstone CC	53	5th	-	-	52	5th	58	2nd
West Tamar CC	69	1st	59	3rd	55	3rd	60	1st
Wynyard CC	59	=2nd	62	=1st	57	2nd	54	4th

Individual Placings - Projected Images			
Place	Author	Club	Title
H.C.	Phillipa Alexander	WTCC	Cormorant Arrival
H.C.	Astrid Claase	NTCC	Cowgirl
3 rd	Felix Staub	WTCC	Storm Over West Beach
2 nd	Georgie McKie	DCC	Taiko #2
1 st	Phillipa Alexander	WTCC	Flying Off

Individual Placings - Monochrome Prints			
Place	Author	Club	Title
H.C.	Peter Ralph	WTCC	Rolling Stone
H.C.	Felix Staub	WTCC	Fumaroles Chile
3 rd	Ian Hubble	WCC	Chatting On The Balcony
2 nd	Astrid Claase	NTCC	Arches and Columns
1 st	Fay Hulme	WCC	Rope Wrap

Individual Placings - Colour Prints			
Place	Author	Club	Title
H.C.	Sylvia Chatterton	DCC	Red Doors
H.C.	Judy Davey	NTCC	Poppy 2
3 rd	Fay Hulme	WCC	Country Road
2 nd	Graeme Smith	UCC	Afternoon Nap
1 st	Astrid Claase	NTCC	Mykonos Windmills

Individual Placings - Small Prints			
Place	Author	Club	Title
H.C.	Mark Jones	NTCC	Boris
H.C.	Denis Hulme	WCC	Flowerdale
3 rd	Rommel Hagen	WTCC	Little Wattlebird
2 nd	Elaine Smith	UCC	Bhutan Monks
1 st	Toni Hingston	UCC	Charleston Performance

Tasmanian Photographic Federation

Summated Bi-annual Points 2013/2014

Projected Images	November	June	Total	Place
Devonport CC	59		59	
Northern Tasmanian CC	57		57	
Ulverstone CC	53		53	
West Tamar CC	69		69	
Wynyard CC	59		59	

Monochrome Prints	November	June	Total	Place
Devonport CC	50		50	
Northern Tasmanian CC	62		62	
Ulverstone CC	-		-	
West Tamar CC	59		59	
Wynyard CC	62		62	

Colour Prints	November	June	Total	Place
Devonport CC	53		53	
Northern Tasmanian CC	60		60	
Ulverstone CC	52		52	
West Tamar CC	55		55	
Wynyard CC	57		57	

Small Prints	November	June	Total	Place
Devonport CC	50		50	
Northern Tasmanian CC	56		56	
Ulverstone CC	58		58	
West Tamar CC	60		60	
Wynyard CC	54		54	



TASMANIAN PHOTOGRAPHIC FEDERATION (TPF) PHOTOGRAPHER OF THE YEAR

Venue: Ex-Servicemen's and Citizens Club (RSL)

Date: Saturday, 22nd March, 2014

10:00am	Delegates arrive, Morning tea <i>(Those not attending the TPF Delegates Meeting may like to visit Table Cape, Fossil Bluff and/or The Wonders of Wynyard Visitor's Centre (car museum and current exhibition)).</i>
10:30am	Delegates General Meeting <i>(Attendees from Clubs are welcome but only delegates can vote on decisions)</i>
12:30pm	Meeting concludes. Lunch break <i>(All welcome, BYO eats, tea and coffee provided)</i>
1:30pm	Register for afternoon session <i>(\$5 attendance fee per adult, children free)</i> Depart for Lobster Ponds, 241 Robin Hill Rd, Flowerdale Entry by Gold Coin
2:00pm to 3.45pm	Photo-shoot at Lobster Ponds and purchase of afternoon tea from cafe at own cost
4.00pm	View print entries for TPF POY competition at RSL Club Presentation of entries, announcement of results, presentations to winners.
6:00pm for 6.30pm	Dinner at RSL Club, Goldie St, Wynyard

CONTACTS

CLUBS	PRESIDENT	SECRETARY	DELEGATES	MEETINGS
NORTH				
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W.T.C.C.	Norton Harvey OAM PO Box 175 Exeter 7275 6394-4817 nortonharvey@bigpond.com	Joan Bessell PO Box 175 Exeter 7275 6394 3166 gordon.bessell@bigpond.com	Felix Staub FTPF Phillipa Alexander	1st Wednesday
NORTH-WEST				
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U.C.C.	Stephen Clarke 30 Barker Street Ulverstone 7315 6425 5190 sgctlc@internode.on.net	Dr Keith Burnett PO Box 286 Ulverstone 7315 ph 6425 4351, fax 6425 6728 drkeithburnett@bigpond.com	Stephen Clarke Victor Jamieson	2nd & 4th Wednesdays
W.C.C.	Graeme King c/- Post Office Boat Harbour 7325 6445 1271 gralynking@bigpond.com	Ian Hubble 15 Gilmour Cr Somerset 7322 6435 1111 wynyardcameraclub@iprimus.com.au	Graeme King Mick Hyland	1st & 3rd Tuesday

The Deadline for copy into the May 2014 newsletter is 26 April 2014
Send contributions to the Editor at fstaub088@gmail.com