

Rare Collection Front and Centre in Photography Exhibition at Open Day



August 10, 2016

'In The Picture: Ballarat Through Time' Photography Exhibition
part of **Ballaarat Mechanics' Institute Open Day**
September 3, 2016 from 10am
117 Sturt Street Ballarat
ballaratmi.org.au/springcelebrations

Despite being blessed with a well-preserved streetscape, it is sometimes difficult for Ballarat's residents and visitors to imagine how Ballarat transformed from a city of horses, trams and hotels, to that of cars, buses and cafes. However, a series of images on display in the photography exhibition 'In The Picture: Ballarat Through Time' at the Ballaarat Mechanics' Institute Open Day on September 3, will take viewers back to this time and more.

The exhibition draws together images from the much-cherished Max Harris Collection, contemporary Instagram feed The Ballarat Life, and Ballarat Historical Society's archiving project Capture The Vision, bringing together rare and valuable gold-rush era photographs, with modern interpretations of what it's like to live in the Ballarat of today.

'The Max Harris Collection is so precious in terms of capturing life in Ballarat right from settlement through to now' says the collection's curator Amy Tsilemanis, 'and we're so thrilled to have it here at the BMI, thanks to the wonderful generosity of the Haymes family.'

The exhibition will also allow residents and visitors to make their own memories part of history, as the Capture the Vision project asks participants to donate their photographs to be archived, or offer knowledge on historic Ballarat images.

Aside from the fascinating images, there is plenty more for visitors to see and do as part of the exhibition, including an extensive vintage camera collection belonging to BMI volunteer Roger Burrows, and a street photography workshop with local photographer Aldona Kmiec.

The Exhibition and Open Day form part of the Ballaarat Mechanics' Institute's Spring Celebrations, which also include three nights of live music at the venue from September 1 - 3.

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