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## STEPPING UP IN KORUMBURRA

A trip to Coal Creek in Korumburra to photograph old and rustic buildings ended up as more than just a photographic outing for the 'Community Snappers' photography group.

Whilst they were there photographing their surrounds, they were approached by Doug, The Coal Creek Gallery Manager who, after enquiring about the group, asked them to show him examples of their photography. He was very impressed and offered the photographers exhibition space at the Gallery.

The Community Snappers group comprises a number of young adults with a common interest in learning about photography, who are members of disability support service, Interchange Outer East's photographic program.

'The group are determined to be acknowledged for their talents as photographers in their own right, minus the 'disability' label' said Tania Matuschka, coordinator of the photography program. 'Their work is of equal standard to that of any other photography group. They have had a number of very successful exhibitions in local galleries and venues and a couple of group members have had individual exhibitions, all with very positive public acclaim. We are all very excited that the Coal Creek exhibition is giving us the opportunity to display our work to an even wider audience.'

'What started out as a simple exploratory program has developed into a real passion, with all the photographers updating their equipment, learning a range of techniques and honing their skills in a wide range of photography associated areas." Mrs Matuschka said.

The exhibition, 'Stepping Up', opens on Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> August (11.30am - 1.30pm) and runs until 28<sup>th</sup> August. It features a wide range of images of nature - flora, landscapes, sunsets - using a variety of photographic techniques. Each photographer has chosen their work for display, completed the mounting and presentation of work and included their profile for the exhibition. All photographs are available for purchase by the public. The Gallery is situated at the Coal Creek Community Park, South Gippsland Highway, Korumburra and is open every day from 9am – 5pm.

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