

Wattamolla

February 7th 2022

Last night Valerie Khoo placed this notice on the Facebook page for *So you want to be a photographer Podcast community*:

There is no easy way to tell you this news. And this is incredibly difficult for me to write. It is with great sadness that I let you know that our podcast host Gina Milicia passed away yesterday.

Gina absolutely loved creating the “So you want to be a photographer” podcast and was always so incredibly generous in sharing her knowledge with aspiring photographers. It has been an absolute honour for me to co-host this podcast with her.

I know that this news will come as a shock to many of you. You may already know that we paused the podcast some weeks ago, due to Gina’s pneumonia, and we hoped that the podcast would return.

Even just a couple of weeks ago, Gina was talking to me about future episodes. She was fighting to get better but the pneumonia, along with other health-related issues, became too much.

We have lost a wonderful mentor, friend and podcaster. Her wonderful kids, family and friends are devastated. I know that there are also many members of the listener community – especially those who are also in the Gold Community (I have posted a separate message to you guys) – who will really feel this loss.

The podcast will remain available so that you – and any aspiring photographers who will discover it in the future – can continue to learn from what Gina has shared.

I know that Gina would want to leave her legacy through her teaching and her knowledge.

I also know that Gina has made a difference in the lives to so many people, whether that’s through the podcast, courses or mentorship.

There is so much more that I could say about my beautiful friend. But I’m going to stop here for now. Please understand that I will not be checking this Facebook group in the next week or two as I take some time out.

I know you will have questions about what’s going to happen to this Facebook group and I will come back to you with a clear announcement when I return in one or two weeks. Along with many of you, I am so sad about this loss. However, I hope you continue to learn from her teachings in the podcast and to celebrate the wonderful contribution she has made to the world of photography and aspiring photographers all over the globe.

Valerie

I have listened to so many of those podcasts and have had so much inspiration from the words of Gina Milicia and Valerie Khoo so whatever images are within this trip report today are dedicated to the memory of Gina! She stressed many times that there were three rules in good photography: Rule 1... Light! Rule 2 Light! Rule 3 ... Light! Mind you, she also spoke about “kaka light”! That was her idiosyncratic way of saying “yuck”!!!

Anyhow, I led a small party of National Parks Association of NSW members gathered at Wattamolla today to take some photographs. It was not a long bushwalk. This was about photography. So, carrying my Canon 7D Mark 2, my 60mm Canon Macro, my Canon EF 70-300 1:4-5.6 L series lens and my all-purpose Sigma DC 18-250mm (with a baby Canon on my hip, SX 700HS) we headed south to look over the scene below.

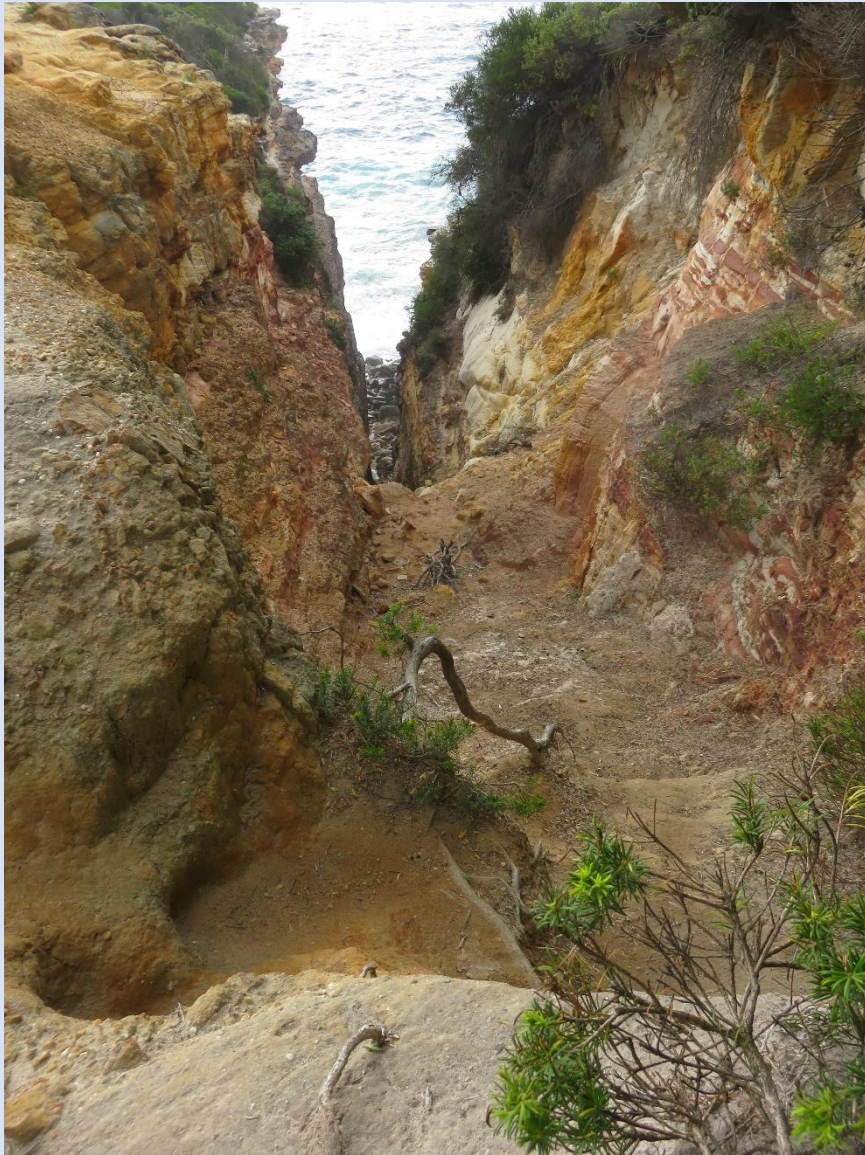
The weather Well, if Melbourne can have five seasons every hour, we matched it today! But what changes of LIGHT!





So, while others chased birds I focused today on the horizon! And on the ever-changing light!





We returned north to explore the cliffs heading down to Martin Point and enjoyed the many changing colours and shapes in this magical part of the world!







Tim Storrier might enjoy this landscape







Not much later the squall hit us and soon we were hiding from the rain as much as possible under various branches!



Not that that affected a rather proud Water Dragon



And as soon as it hit, it went! Sunshine!



Perfect beach weather





The new life guard





After a late morning tea at one of the new tables (covered, so protected from another squall), Narelle left us to have lunch in Bundeena before a planned extra walk along the coast. We remaining souls walked north to the dam on Wattamolla Creek.



Lobelia dentata





And the find of the day, a *Corunastylis fimbriata*

That just left me with one more stop. We checked out a location behind one of the ranger residences in Audley and there were still some *Corunastylis filiformis* in flower!!!! I should explain that these flowers are very, very tiny! They are also called Midge Orchids!



Crinum pedunculatum – Swamp Lily

Brian Everingham