



ANZANG 2007 winners captured in print

Short-listed and winning entries from the 2007 ANZANG (Australia, New Zealand, Antarctica and New Guinea) Nature photography competition – the most prestigious of its kind in the Australasian region – have been brought together in a new book published jointly by ANZANG and CSIRO Publishing.

Photographs are powerful tools for reminding us of the need to protect the world's biodiversity and environment.

For example, early photos of the Earth taken from space sparked a new global environmental awareness, articulated by astronaut Donald Williams who said: 'For those who have seen the Earth from space ... the experience most certainly changes your perspective. The things that we share in our world are far more valuable than those which divide us.'

Closer to home, Tasmania's World Heritage-listed Franklin River was saved

from damming, thanks to a movement that drew inspiration from the photos of Peter Dombrovski and Olegas Truchanas.

Since its inception in 2004, ANZANG's aims have been to encourage photography of the nature and wilderness of the Australasian/Antarctic bioregion to raise public awareness of its natural heritage and support conservation. In turn it supports bush buy back programs to assist in conservation. The competition's annual

travelling exhibition has attracted more than 400 000 visitors from around the country.

This year, 1250 photographic entries were received for categories that included animals, plants, underwater subjects, wilderness landscapes, and, for the first time, a section titled 'Our Impact', which includes some disturbing images of human impacts on the environment, such as a seal pup collared by a tight loop of rope.

'This section has produced some confronting photographs, but is true to ANZANG's aim of raising public awareness of our natural heritage,' says Dr Stuart Miller, ANZANG's Chairman and Founder.

The overall winner of the 2007 ANZANG competition was Ofer Levy's rare photo of a black-shouldered kite caught in flight, a mouse clutched in its talons. The judges described it as 'a remarkable action photograph of behaviour seldom seen'.

'Nature photography is a great way to help win the battle for nature conservation,' says Levy, who describes his passion for photography as his 'way of promoting wildlife awareness'.

Miller says that any funds left over after meeting competition and travelling exhibition costs will be donated to conservation organisations in Australia

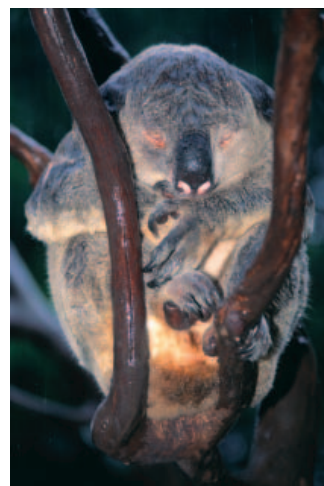
and New Zealand that conserve natural habitat and provide sanctuaries for native flora and fauna.

ANZANG *Nature and Landscape: The Fourth Collection* presents more than 100 of the best photographs submitted to the 2007 competition. Each photograph is accompanied by technical information and a comment from the photographer about how the picture was taken.

More information:

ANZANG, www.anzangnature.com

CSIRO Publishing, www.publish.csiro.au/pid/5694.htm



Page 24: 2007 Competition Winner: *Black-shouldered kite flying with a mouse*, Ofer Levy, Ashfield, NSW.

Clockwise from top left: 2007 Animal Portrait Winner: *Bush cricket*, Tony Hopkins, Gooseberry Hill, WA.

2007 Portfolio Prize for Best Six or More Entries, Botanical Subject: *Fruit of Silkwood, Lepiderema sericolignis*, Stanley and Kaisa Breeden, Malanda, Qld.

2007 Our Impact Winner: *Choked seal pup*, John Gibbens, Brunswick, Vic.

2007 Animal Behaviour Highly Commended: *Drip 'bear'*, Gary Steer, Newtown, NSW.

2007 Wilderness Landscape Winner: *Bushfire burning on Razorback Ridge*, Calista Lyon, Doncaster, Vic.