

## **Review of 'North West Pacific Part 2'**

**By Ian Bateman FRPS MPAGB AV-AFIAP APAGB**

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As I mentioned in my review of Part 1, Ian is so skilful at looking for photographic opportunities and a 'good' story and once again Ian rose to the occasion with his superb photos, interesting anecdotes and skilful story telling.

So it was that we discovered that whilst on holiday Ian and his wife Elaine met a group of women bikers, one of whom worked as a security guard in the Parliament buildings in Downtown Victoria, Vancouver Island. After a BBQ with the bikers and a fabulous photo of Ian and Elaine on motorbikes the security guard offered them a tour of the Parliament buildings for the next stop on their holiday. So our u3a members were treated to Ian's wonderful photos of the magnificent décor inside the Parliament building not usually seen by tourists.

Always on the lookout for the unusual Ian had photographed trees in front of the impressive Empress Hotel which if my research is correct are weeping sequoias which were removed in 2015 after their tree roots were starting to push up and impede walkways. Fortunately Ian had recorded their presence and we could admire their striking features.

A visit to Vancouver followed and with the hire of cycles a ride around Stanley Park to admire the trees, magnificent totem poles and the remarkable bronze statue of Vancouver's track and field runner Harry Jerome who set a total of seven world records.

Visitors to Vancouver can't fail to notice the yellow mounds of the North Vancouver Sulphur Works and bright vibrant colours were also evident at Granville Island market. Warm primary colours dominated the huge displays of fruit and vegetables, all captured so well by Ian.

Warm tones radiated from Ian's beautiful panorama of the Seattle skyline with a setting sun casting a golden glow on the buildings. Absolutely gorgeous.

The striking form, shapes and colours of Dale Chihuly's blown glass works were shown off to their very best in Ian's Audio Visual (AV). Chihuly's artistic work is of the highest order as was Ian's AV, a fabulous end to a great presentation. Much admired by us all and by the four committee members from Kingsbridge Estuary u3a who had joined us to see the workings of a 'Zoom' presentation. They did of course ask Ian to give their u3a a presentation and so they have a treat in store!

Review by Christine Chittock, Chair and Speakers' Coordinator