THE diversity of Port Campbell’s coast was shown at the inaugural Camera on the Coast photographic competition and exhibition.

Over 500 people visited the exhibition viewing more than 100 photos showcasing the elements of the coast from flora and fauna, scenic shots, recreational and tourist photos, sunsets and dynamic shots of cliff collapses and wild seas.

Port Campbell Community Group and Corangamite Arts ran the competition which saw entries come from as far away as Geelong, Warrnambool and Colac.

"The exhibition was a great success," organiser Doctor Marion Manifold said. "The Heytesbury and District Historical Society made a display of wonderful coastal heritage photos, including Deans’ Steps, cliff rescue and Port Campbell foreshore and town views."

"The Port Campbell Community Group also had a display of fauna monitoring photos which showed endangered wildlife and was of great interest."

Dr Manifold said the exhibition received widespread interest from the community. "There were many comments congratulating the photographers and the effort made to present the photos," she said. "There is definitely a demand for competitions and art shows."

Corangamite Shire Coastal Ward councillor Peter Harkin presented awards to winners on opening night. "The standard of work was so good we used both the small council grant and the entry fees to provide some extra awards," Dr Manifold said.

Prize winners were:
- Open section, Glenn Wilson (first prize), Stephen Zammit (second prize), Luke Edward took out best nature photo, Cailein Kirby best sunset photo, Tim Lucas best social comment photo, Caroline Teasdale best art photo, Scott McKenzie best action photo and Tracy Edwards best fauna photo;
- Under 18, Tim Smurthwaite (winner) and Kirsty Ludeman (second prize); and
- Under 15, Abriya Harris (winner), Jessica Treble (second prize) and Gabriella Richardson with best sunset photo.