



● ABOVE: Mr Foeden, right, inspects one of Mr Bignell's portraits. The little girl is Courtney Stuart of Cessnock.

Master meets star pupil

Nationally acclaimed portrait photographer Peter Foeden rates Robert Bignell his "star pupil".

Foeden, widely recognised as Australia's number one classical portrait photographer, made the assessment

when visiting Mr Bignell's Abermain studio last week.

Mr Foeden met Mr Bignell on a touring seminar at The Entrance four years ago and has followed his career "with interest" ever since.

"He is a keen observer and can apply himself to change and new

ideas rapidly," said Mr Foeden who has been involved with photography for 20 years.

Highly

The Melbourne-based "master" said Mr Bignell's work would rate highly among the top portrait photographers

in Australia.

Mr Foeden was in Abermain after giving a lecture series to Sydney Chamber of Commerce. He initiated the merit award system for the Institute of Australian Photographers which allows members to be classified and is recognised world-wide.