

# PHILLIP ISLAND CAMERA CLUB Inc

Reg.A0102960D

## MEMBER HANDBOOK

[www.phillipislandcameraclub.com.au](http://www.phillipislandcameraclub.com.au)



### CHARTER:

- *Support those interested in photography, to further their understanding of the technical and creative aspects of this art form.*
- *Seek opportunities to display Club Members' photographic work in the community & surrounding areas.*
- *Advance the photographic medium in the community.*
- *Provide photography assistance, when requested, for community activities and charity events.*
- *Encourage member participation in Local, State, National & International Photography events.*
- *Establish a mutually supportive and friendly community interest group for members and guests.*

### WELCOME!

Phillip Island Camera Club members are happy to share their passion for photography. Our members have differing interests, needs, confidence and levels of skill with the camera.

All members are invited to join in contributing to the success of the club and experience the pleasure we all gain from learning together. Such support may include: taking your turn in making afternoon tea; setting up the room for our monthly meeting; sharing your thoughts during discussion groups; writing our Club Newsletter; helping with community displays; sharing your experiences; running a workshop on an area of your interest; joining the Club Management Committee; suggesting excursion opportunities; organising excursions; submitting publicity articles to local newspapers; mentoring another member; delivering/picking up Club Competition entries for judging; and the

most important of all – by contributing to the welcoming and inclusive nature of the Phillip Island Camera Club.

While that list may seem formidable, it does acknowledge that Community Clubs exist and grow because of the goodwill of members. We look forward to getting to know you and trust that you will enjoy participating in Club activities.

## **CLUB HISTORY:**

The Phillip Island Camera Club was formed by a small group of enthusiasts in mid-1994.

In 2008, the Club became a special interest group of the Artists' Society of Phillip Island (ASPI). In 2018 the Club became re-incorporated under our own name, and is now Phillip Island Camera Club Inc.

In 2014 we celebrated our 20th Anniversary with an exhibition at the Cowes Cultural Centre. The exhibition featured: an Artist Statement for each Photographer; a chart displaying camera settings data beside each image; a section for past members; and also involved Primary, Secondary and Specialist Schools in the Bass Coast area.

Life Membership awarded to Rob McKay on 26th April, 2014, in recognition of an amazing twenty years of selfless service and support to members of the Phillip Island Camera Club.

2019 saw the celebration of the Club's 25th anniversary with a successful exhibition of Members images in the Anglican Hall in January followed by a celebratory dinner later in the year.

Life Membership awarded to Lyn Young on 7th December, 2020, in recognition of her service to the Club, in taking on the leadership and co-ordination of the Club, creating a friendly environment and promoting the love of photography.

Life Membership awarded to Susan Brereton on 7th December, 2020, in recognition of her service to the Club in taking on the leadership through incorporation, creating a friendly environment and promoting the love of photography..

Our members have a broad range of photographic interests including: architecture, land and seascape, portraiture, macro-photography and nature, especially birdlife, rocks, trees, texture and form. We remain committed to sharing ideas and expertise, practising photo evaluation, developing skills, promoting photography as a recreational activity and participating in exhibitions.

## **EVENTS CONDUCTED TO BENEFIT MEMBERS INCLUDE:**

- Intra-Club competition and workshops
- Excursions
- Inter-club activities

- Supporting Community activities which in the past have included;
- Cape Patterson Aquathon - photographs of action & entrants; assisting in recording the National Vietnam Veterans Museum's exhibits; Wildlife photography for local tourist venue's annual charity event; Santa photos at the Christmas market; 150th anniversary of settlement on Phillip Island street parade; World Vision Flower and Photography exhibition.
- Promotion of photography: display of framed photographs in local venues; successful entries in district art competitions; holding our own photography exhibitions and publishing regular local media reports
- Computer Skill development: encouraging participation in digital enhancement and photography courses that are provided by the local community centre and sharing skills within the club.



*By Gary Parnell*

## **CLUB STRUCTURE**

The Phillip Island Camera Club is an incorporated association. The affairs of the Club are administered by a President, Secretary and Treasurer with assistance from other committee members.

### **Position Responsibilities:**

**President:** Coordinates the Management Committee and their activities; chairs monthly meetings; coordinates with Phillip Island Centre of Adult Learning (PICAL), V.A.P.S. (Victorian Association of Photographic Societies) and community groups.

**Secretary:** Manages correspondence and media reports; and establishes contact with new members. Prepares and distributes the monthly newsletter. Keeps minutes of committee meetings and meeting attendance sheets.

**Treasurer:** Manages club finances, collects Membership fees, pays club accounts.

**Committee:** Supports the President by co-ordinating the program of activities, including arranging guest speakers, judges, printing, competition, excursions and regular workshop activities for members; displaying members' work in public venues; and maintaining the web-site. The Management Committee meets once a month and is comprised of volunteers. Announcements about decisions made by the Committee are usually made at the next Club meeting and/or communicated via email, or published in the Newsletter. Minutes of committee meeting are tabled at the monthly meeting.

### **Ways you can help include:**

- Afternoon Tea Co-ordinator: maintains basic supplies - coffee, tea, milk, biscuits
- Club Historian: manages storage of important PICC documents
- Club Librarian: manages loan & retrieval of PICC books & materials to members
- Club Newsletter Editor: encourages contributions, disseminates items of interest
- Club Uniforms: organises annual order & delivery. Members pay printer direct.

- Club Website: update site re newsletters & Club activities. Encourages uploads
- Excursion Co-ordinator/s: researches, publicises and manages participant numbers
- Meeting Room set up: everyone contributes in set up and return of furniture.
- Buddies: informal requests, may be 1:1 or in groups
- Visitor Welcome & Introductions: greet & introduce visitors to other members
- Our Club thrives when volunteers see a need and step up ! Thank You !!

Should you have any ideas, issues or queries concerning the operation of the Club please do not hesitate to raise the matter with the President or a Committee member.

## **CLUB MEETINGS**

Ordinary club meetings are normally held on the first Monday of each month, from February to December. Our meeting will be a week later if the first Monday falls on the weekend of the Easter or Cup Weekends. PICC members meet at the Newhaven Yacht Club rooms, Seaview Street, Newhaven Vic 3925. This arrangement may be varied to accommodate public holidays and special presentations. Members will be notified of changes. Meetings commence at 1:30pm and conclude at 4p.m. Afternoon tea is supplied at each meeting with a donation to cover costs.

Meetings include the monthly evaluation feedback and usually incorporate either a guest speaker or practical workshop, as well as a brief administrative session and an enjoyable social break.

## **MONTHLY EVALUATIONS**

The Club holds a monthly photographic evaluation. Entering any such event provides numerous opportunities for learning. You will experience a wealth of ideas and inspiration for subjects, encouragement to try new techniques and acknowledgement for your effort. The mechanism used can provide a guide of your progress over time. Not only will you hear comments, both positive and negative (but with constructive advice) about your own images, but also about other members' work – so at the same time you get to see where your technique needs improvement and what you should be aiming for.

### **Format of Club Evaluations**

- Club evaluations are held on a monthly basis from February to December.
- There are three different categories – Novice, Print and EDPI (Electronic Data Projected Image).
- Monthly evaluation alternates between Set and Open topics.
- For each section the Judge will share observations of note for each image as well as possibly allocating a 'Judge's Choice', although not always, and as many Highly Commended and Commended awards as identified.

## **Rules for Monthly Club Evaluation Submission**

### **Digital Images (EDPI):**

- Images may either be created with a digital camera or created with a conventional camera and scanned into electronic format.
- Images may be enhanced or manipulated using image editing software, but the original image must have been made by the entrant.
- As per VAPS specifications ([www.vaps.org.au](http://www.vaps.org.au)), maximum horizontal dimension is 1920 pixels and the maximum vertical dimension is 1080 pixels.
- Each image file must be in sRGB JPEG format and a maximum of up to 5 Mb in size (5000kb).
- Name your data image with Title of photo and your Club member number, separated by an underscore, followed by the topic & date eg: Sunset on Woolamai Beach\_126\_Open\_July2018. Bring these specially named images on a memory stick to the meeting for transfer to a Club CD to be given to the judge.

### **Prints:**

- Prints may be ANY size, up to a maximum of 40cm x 50cm (16in x 20in) when mounted.
- ALL prints MUST be mounted.
- Panoramic print formats are acceptable, but must fit on a 40cm x 50cm (16in x 20in) board.
- Prints mounted to a total thickness greater than 5mm will not be accepted.
- Please also include a digital image of the photo on the memory stick you bring to the meeting labelled as for the EDPI, but starting with PRINT: e.g. PRINT\_Sunset on Woolamai Beach\_126\_Open\_July2018

Members may submit up to four images per month, for example 2 prints and 2 EDPI, or any combination of Prints/EDPI's up to 4 entries per member. Entries are submitted at monthly meetings, with feedback received at the following meeting. Each print entry must have a label affixed to the back showing title, member no., topic and date. (Adhesive labels are supplied by the club).

Entries which have been assessed as Commended, Highly Commended or Judges Choice may not be resubmitted in another monthly competition that year. Other entries may be resubmitted for only one further monthly competition that year. You may like to re-edit your photo taking into account comments made by the judge before resubmission.

### **Novice**

To encourage new members to enter the monthly evaluations, a novice section was reinstated in 2019.

Novice entries to the evaluation follow the guidelines as per EDPI s and prints but when naming the images or labelling prints put ' NOVICE' first ie  
Novice\_WoolamaiBeach\_126\_Open\_July2018

Once a member is feeling confident in entering their images they may drop "Novice" in their own time.

## **End of Year Portfolio Evaluation**

November, a portfolio of 4 prints and a portfolio of 4 EDPI images are submitted. An outside judge is utilised to assess the images entered, with the results announced at the Christmas Break-up in December. This is something you could work on during the year. The award system is the same as for monthly meetings and the judge may give feedback on all entries.

Portfolios should contain 4 related images, presented in a folder. Consideration is given to presentation as well as content.

## **JUDGING OF CLUB EVALUATION**

Judges used to assess and critique entries in Club competitions are drawn from the V.A.P.S. List of Judges, experienced photographers and club members, a different judge for each monthly competition is engaged so that a variety of expertise and opinion is brought to the Club. Whilst the comments by judges provide useful advice from which to learn, this doesn't mean that members always have to agree with them, for in photography, like other art forms, individuals will have different reactions but all members will use common courtesy and not question judges decisions. There should be no comments made during the announcement of the judges decisions unless the judge asks a question of the maker of the image.

When 'Set' topics are to be judged, a definition of the topics used by participating members, will be included to assist the judge. This definition will be given to the entrants to support them in research for the topic.

## **Non-Club Competitions**

In addition to the Club evaluations referred to above a number of independent organisations (eg. local government councils, photographic magazines, agricultural shows) hold annual photographic competitions and exhibitions, some of which offer prize money, in which members are encouraged to enter their work. Members should familiarise themselves with terms and conditions before entering.

Phillip Island Camera Club also enters the annual V.A.P.S. (Victorian Association of Photographic Societies) Interclub Competition which coincides with the V.A.P.S. Convention usually held at the end of May.

## **BUDDYING & MEMBER DEVELOPMENT**

While we no doubt join a camera club because we enjoy photography and wish to improve our technical and 'artistic' skills in this field, an individual's progress in this area is directly related to his/her efforts and willingness to seek specific answers, as well what each Club is able to offer. The learning process is different for each person, but generally best accomplished through practice, feedback, questioning, experimentation and being brave enough to speak up – you'll definitely find you're not the only one with such queries!!

For many of us, the camera manual may as well be in a foreign language until we have a specific purpose, or a buddy who can help us make sense of it – usually one section at a time. Participating in excursions is a fantastic way to discuss your issues in a practical setting with others around who can help. Workshops at meetings can also consolidate ideas as well as raise further questions. We plan to:

- ✓ Increase Club evaluation participation by ensuring all members know how to resize photos for EDPI section entry. Please ask if you are having trouble with this, someone is sure to be able to answer your questions.
- ✓ Revise Set Topic definitions & educational websites.
- ✓ Plan our annual judging program early so that we know which meetings will be without a judge's presence, so we can schedule a Workshop on areas related to upcoming Competition topics.
- ✓ Run between-meeting sessions eg: Workshops, Coffee & Camera informal catch ups; group/individual borrowing of the 'Ultimate SLR Camera Course' set of 6 CDs, etc
- ✓ Agenda a Members' Question Time at the end of monthly meetings – to highlight areas of common need & hopefully receive an answer or connect with an available mentor for that issue.

## **CLUB NEWSLETTER**

The Club newsletter is prepared and distributed to members on a monthly basis, in electronic format. The newsletter includes announcements about forthcoming meetings and events, reports on recent activities, evaluation subjects for the next twelve months, and offers items of general and/or technical interest. Please contact the Editor if you have any queries about the newsletter, or any articles or items to contribute, as these are always welcome.

## **INSURANCE**

Club members sign the attendance sheets at each meeting and for each outing to ensure they comply with the conditions of the club's insurance policy. The membership fee due on June 30th each year covers the insurance fee.

## **WEBSITE**

The club website is [www.phillipislandcameraclub.com.au](http://www.phillipislandcameraclub.com.au). Members are encouraged to contribute photographs and a short biography to the site, or links to their own website. Regular photography hints and tips will be shared, questions may be asked.

Your own images may be shared but please limit this to no more than 5 per week.

We also welcome articles of interest to the club members and visitors to our website.

## **CONTACT**

Enquiries about membership and camera club activities are most welcome and should

be emailed to [phillipisland-cameraclub@gmail.com](mailto:phillipisland-cameraclub@gmail.com)

## **FACEBOOK CODE OF CONDUCT:**

Members are invited to join the closed Facebook group of Phillip Island Camera Club.

The code of conduct for Facebook is very clearly outlined on the top of the Facebook page and must be adhered to by all members of the club. Failure to do so will result in the member being removed from the page and this can be done with no prior warning and need not be explained. The administrators of the page can do this with no prior consultation with the committee but must then inform the committee of the decision within 24 hours. All persons applying to become members on the page must be fully paid members of the camera club before being accepted to the page.

## **EMAIL PRIVACY:**

All members need to have an understanding of the Privacy Laws pertaining to the club and especially to the use of the Facebook Page and the use of the mailing list of the Club. Under no circumstances should any member use the mailing list of the Club for their personal use, up to and including mailing of political or personal mail to other members. Members may at times be given access to the mailing list on behalf of the Committee of the Club to send emails to other members for a project, this in no way grants the member permission to use this list for any reason other than the project that the permission is granted for. All emails must be sent BCC so that no access is granted from one member to another; if this is accidentally omitted this does not then grant permission to any member to use this mailing list.