



WELCOME TO THE JULY ISSUE OF THE LEADING LINE – Dennis Archibald

In this issue of the Leading Line, we can report that some of our members have performed well in external competitions and have received awards. There are images from our Special Interest Group activities, the latest PSA News, preliminary program for the 2025 NPF Conference and at the end of this issue some items for sale. I hope you enjoy this issue of your newsletter.

Our next club night will be held at the Valentine Bowling Club on Wednesday 9th July at 7.00pm.

Notice of Annual General Meeting (AGM)

Our 2025 AGM will be held at Valentine Bowling Club at our August Club night on Wednesday 13th August. We will circulate an agenda for the meeting soon. As part of the AGM all committee roles will be declared open and nominations requested for the coming year. Please give some thought to the election of committee members for the 2025/2026 year. Is there someone you would like to nominate for a role? Would you like to stand for one of the positions yourself? The club can only continue to function if we have an active and dedicated committee.

New Members

I am very happy to welcome Julie-Ann Palmer and Lindie Kolver to our club and look forward to you both joining in club activities.

WHAT'S ON IN JULY – Greg Carruthers

The activities and tutorials for July are summarised below:

- Wednesday 2nd July, committee meeting via ZOOM
- Saturday 5th July, Scapes Waterfall Shoot, see website calendar for details.
- Sunday 6th July at 11.30pm, closing date for July club print and digital entries **AND NPF competition entries.**
- Wednesday 9th July – Club Print night at VBC commencing at 7.00pm. **Bring your prints for NPF Print Competition.**
- Sunday 13th July Street Photography SIG outing at Toronto, details to be advised.



- Tuesday 15th July Macro SIG Zoom session with Bill Chambers at 7.00pm
- Thursday 17th July, Lightroom SIG via Zoom with Greg Carruthers at 7.00pm
- Wednesday 23rd July – Tutorial night at VBC. Topic tbc, 7.00pm start.
- Monday 28th July at 9.30am. Coffee catch-up at Lake Macquarie Sailing Club.
- Wednesday 30th July – Astro SIG - Photoshoot – with Greg Carruthers, 5.30pm. Details tbc.

The best and most immediate way to see what's happening in the club is to look on our new website at the Calendar, and then select the Agenda option. Then you will see what is on each day through the month. A summary appears below.

July 2025						
MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
30	01	02 Club Committee Mtg. via Zoom 7.30pm	03	04	05 Scapes Photo Shoot, Waterfalls. Details in website calendar	06 July Club Competition Entries close 11.30pm NPF Entries Closing
07	08	09 Club Night at VBC 7.00pm NPF Prints Dropoff @ VBC	10	11	12	13 Street Photography Interest group outing Details tbc
14	15 Macro SIG Bill Chambers Zoom Session @ 7.00pm	16	17 Lightroom SIG Zoom session with Greg Carruthers @ 7.00pm	18	19	20
21	22	23 Tutorial at VBC @7.00pm. Details to follow.	24	25	26	27
28 Coffee Catchup - Lake Macquarie Sailing Club 9.30am	29	30 Astro Photoshoot @5.30pm with G.Carruthers	31	01	02	03



2025 External Competitions News

Please let us know if you have had success in competitions external to our normal club competitions.

Congratulations to David Richards who has achieved his FIAP AFIAP Honours grading. To gain this award David required a minimum of 20 different images to achieve 50 acceptances (including 8 Print acceptances), across 12 countries, and 15 different international salons. Well done.

This month we can report that Bill Chambers received the following award for his image “Vice Grip” in The Federation of Camera Clubs “Top Shot Competition” – Nature category. Well done, Bill.



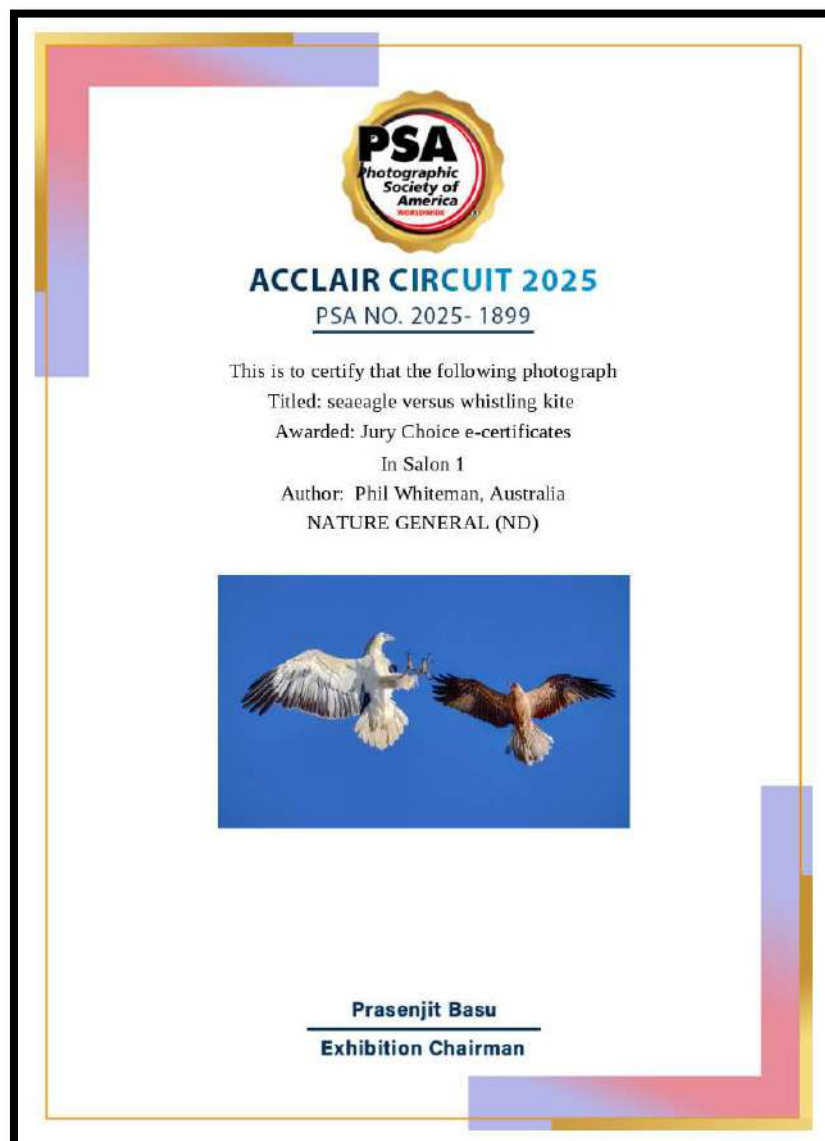
Accolades also go to Shane Wallwork who gained a top 20 placing in the Black and White category in the 2025 Australasia's Top Emerging Photographers competition which is conducted by the Capture magazine. Shane's submission was titled 'Work Life'.



If you checkout the Winter 2025 edition of Capture magazine, you can see 170 of the best entries including Shanes. You can also see the Winners and Runners-Up in each of the nine categories on the [Capture website](#).

Australasia's Top Emerging Photographers will open for entries again in November 2025.

Congratulations to Phil Whiteman who received 11 Acceptances in the ACCLAIR CIRCUIT 2025 | PSA 2025-1899 with two Awards for his "Seaeagle versus Whistling Kite". Well done Phil.





Galah Regional Photography Prize 2025



In our last issue we reported that two of our members, **Margot Hughes and Stephane Thomas** were finalists in this Regional Photography Competition.

You can see the finalists by following this link -

<https://digital.galahpress.com/articles/finalists-announced-2025-galah-regional-photography-prize/>

The winners have now been announced and you can see the results by clicking on the following link - <https://digital.galahpress.com/articles/and-the-winners-are-2/>

July Club Competitions

Judges for July 2025 are:

- PRINTS - Colour and Nature – Dennis Archibald
- DIGITAL - Colour – Terina Vale
- DIGITAL - Nature – Roy Killen
- DIGITAL – Set Subject – Bill Chambers

July Set Subject – “Choose Your Subject (“Closeup / Macro Image that emphasises DETAILS”)” – Bill Chambers

Definition:

We are surrounded by interesting details; we just have to look for them. Close up photography is perfect in this respect, because we are surrounded by fascinating subjects. Practically every object you see has details that usually go unnoticed, but which make for some stunning photos. Taking close-up photographs is a great way to develop your creativity and an eye for a good shot, as it forces you to find something interesting in even the most mundane of subjects. It will also teach you to look for small details in other types of photography, such as landscapes and portraits, which can help you shoot traditional subjects in an unusual or unique way.



Judging Criteria:

Choose a subject which has an unusual or interesting feature which catches your attention. These details may be in the form of an eye-catching colour, an interesting texture, an unusual shape, or something else entirely. Really examine your subject and decide exactly what it is that interests you about it. This is what you will focus on in your close-up photo; all other details will either be secondary or excluded entirely

Set Subject Competitions

Do you know where to find the details of each month's set subject? I only ask this as each month we are seeing images entered in the set subject competition that do not comply with the criteria set by the judge. The best place to find these details is on the club website.

Home Key LMCC Contacts Information for Members Calendar **Competitions** Club Newsletters Galleries

Each month, there is a Set Subject section in the Digital competitions for both Advanced and Open grades.

The Set Subject for 2025 are:

January - Scapes

February - Leading Lines

March - APS Interclub topic - "This is Australia"

April - People on the Street

May - Still Life

June - Symmetry

July - Choose Your Subject (macro)

August - Similarity and Difference

September - Fire

October - A Series of Three - **SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS**

Definitions and judging criteria for each topic can be viewed or downloaded here.

Edit Custom Page

In addition, please note that the October Set Subject is **different**. You can still submit two entries, but each entry must be a collection of three images. Detailed instructions for assembling your entries are on the club website. From the menu select **Competitions>Set Subject**. On the list of monthly Set Subjects, next to October click on the "SPECIAL



INSTRUCTIONS” link to view or download the instructions. If you have any questions about these instructions, please email Roy Killen.

Club Competition Rules

Please make sure you read the club’s competition rules and follow them. One such rule is that you cannot enter the same image in a digital competition and a print competition in the same month. Refer to the section in our rules under the heading “Restriction on entry of images in Monthly Competitions”.

Photographic Society of America (PSA) and Interclub Competitions

Our club is a member of PSA, which allows us to participate in the PSA Interclub competitions, where we compete against clubs from all over the world. Full details about how these competitions are conducted are in the Club Documents section of the club website and the latest PSA competition news can be found on the club website at **Competitions/PSA Interclub Competitions**.

In previous years, our club has been very successful in the Digital sections – Colour, Monochrome, Nature, Photojournalism and Photo Travel.

This year, we have expanded our participation to include the Colour and Monochrome Print sections of the Interclub. If your image is selected to represent our club, the club will subsidise the cost.

In Round 3 of the PSA Interclub competitions LMCC gained the following results:

Monochrome Small prints - 5th place out of 13 clubs.

Colour Small Prints - 5th place out of 14 clubs.

Digital Colour - 13th place out of 25 clubs in Group B.

Roy Killen was awarded an Honourable Mention for his image "Cleaver Weaver".



Digital Monochrome - 16th place out of 25 clubs in Group A.

Bill Chambers was awarded an Honourable Mention for his image "Menacing".



Digital Nature - 16th place out of 24 clubs in Group A.

Digital Photojournalism - 6th place out of 22 clubs in Group A.



Digital Photo Travel - 9th place out of 25 clubs in Group A.

FINAL RESULTS FOR THE YEAR

At the end of the third and final round of competitions, our club standings were:

Small Colour Prints - 11th out of 14 clubs.

Small Monochrome Prints - 5th out of 13 clubs.

Digital Colour - 8th out of 25 clubs in Group B.

Digital Monochrome - 13th out of 25 clubs in Group A.

Digital Nature - 12th out of 24 clubs in Group A.

Digital Photojournalism - 6th out of 22 clubs in Group A.

Digital Photo Travel - 4th out of 25 clubs in Group A.

Results for all Rounds, including our club entries that gained awards are on the club website at **Competitions>PSA Interclub Competitions**.

The next step in the PSA Interclub is the **End of Year-Round** in which all images that gained a Merit in Round 1, 2, and 3 will be judged again to determine overall winners for the year. Gold, Silver and Bronze medals, plus 3 HM's are awarded. The results of this judging are now in, and congratulations go to Shane Wallwork and Bill Chambers who were awarded the following awards in this rejudging stage which effectively means their images were in the top 6 in their respective categories. Well done to you both.




THE LEADING LINE

THE LATEST NEWS & VIEWS FROM
LAKE MACQUARIE CAMERA CLUB

July 2025 - Issue 22.





Nature Interclub Competition

2024-2025

END OF YEAR, Group A

"Strike"

Bill Chambers

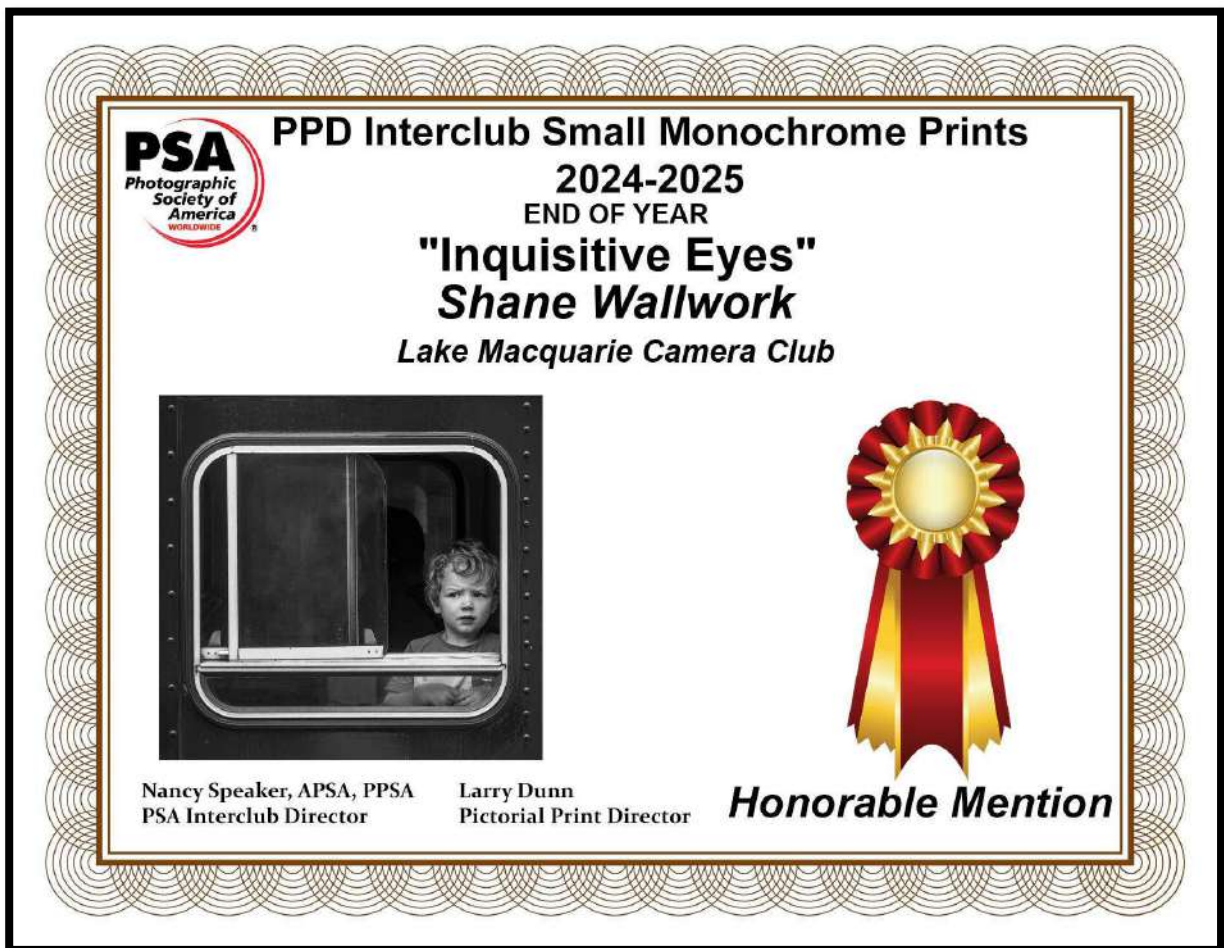
Lake Macquarie Camera Club




Nancy Speaker, APSA, PPSA
PSA Interclub Director

Somdutt Prasad, EPSA
Nature Interclub Director

Honorable Mention



*Entries for Round 1 of the 2025-26 PSA Interclub will close on 30th September. Please visit our club website and make your entries as soon as possible. Use the **Competitions>Enter a Completion** menu.*

When submitting entries for the PSA competitions the only restriction is that you cannot enter an image that has previously been selected to represent LMCC or Belmont 16s.

If you have any questions about the PSA Interclub competitions, please contact Roy Killen.

PSA Courses

As well as our club being a member of PSA, several of our members are individual members of PSA. Among other membership benefits, they can participate in the free online courses offered by PSA. Club members who complete a PSA course and then make a short presentation about it at one of our club nights are eligible to have the first year of their PSA membership fee



reimbursed by the club. For details of these PSA courses and other benefits of joining PSA, please contact Roy Killen who is the Australian Membership Director for PSA.



INTEREST GROUPS NEWS

The groups, their respective mentors and news are listed below. It is **NEVER** too late to get involved. It's great to see a flurry of activity with more people joining groups.

If you would like to join one of these groups just contact the nominated mentor.

1. **Beginners Group** –the basics of camera craft and/or basic image editing. Mentor – Chris Prior
2. **Lightroom** – Learn and share the tips and tricks of using Lightroom Classic as your main image editing program. Mentor – Greg Carruthers.
3. **Astrophotography** – Learn the basics of capturing and editing nightscape images including the Milky Way, star trails and foreground interest. Mentor- Greg Carruthers.
4. **Studio Lighting** – Concentrating on portrait photoshoots using speedlights (flash), **and/or LED lighting.** Mentor – Dennis Archibald.
5. **Macro Photography**– Learn how to master the techniques involved in capturing and editing Macro images. Mentor – Bill Chambers.
6. **Scape Photography** – ‘Scape’ Photography – capture and editing of Landscapes, Seascapes and Cityscapes, including the opportunities presented during Blue hour and Golden hour. Mentor – Dave Richards
7. **Photoshop**– Training via Zoom conferencing on Monday nights – Mentor – Roy Killen. Meetings will start again later in the year if there is sufficient demand. If you are interested in participating in this group, please email Roy Killen.
8. **Street Photography** – gear, camera settings, street etiquette, photoshoots – Mentor – Dennis Archibald.

Please check the club calendar for dates and activities.

Featured below are some images captured by members as part of their involvement in one of the Special Interest groups.



Macro SIG – Bill Chambers



Shane Wallwork



Street Photography SIG – Dennis Archibald – It’s a Blur



Kaye Chambers



Anna D’Accione



Ian Armstrong



Joy Thomas



Bettina Damme



Shirlene Lawry



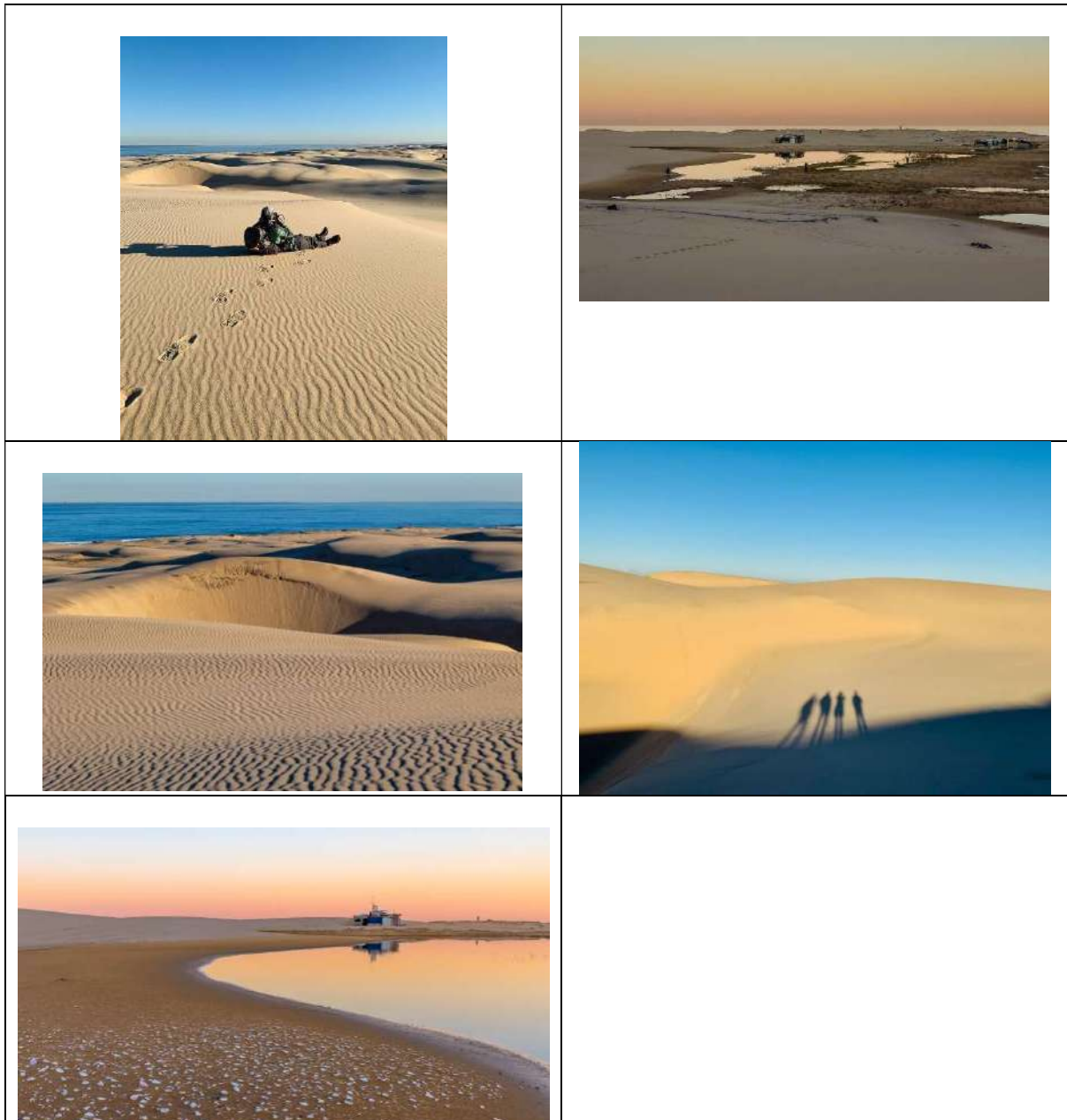
Astrophotography Group – Greg Carruthers

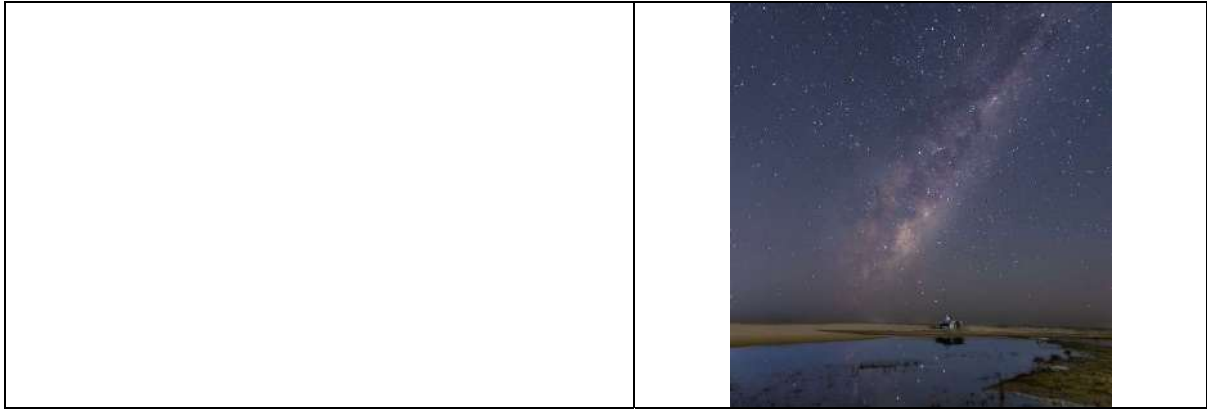




Scapes SIG – David Richards – Stockton Sand Dunes

Four club members went to the wonderful sand dunes located just north of Newcastle. You feel like you could be in Namibia, or the Sahara Desert. This photo shoot was rated as ‘Hard’, as we walked in and out to the Stockton sand dunes and to “Tin City”. This photoshoot took close to eight weeks to go ahead, due to three weeks of heavy rain, then the closure of Worimi National Park, and finally waiting for an afternoon that was cloud free. But the wait was worth it. We even snagged an impromptu Astro shoot, thanks to Terina checking PhotoPills.







Valentine Bowling Club Photoshoot

There is an upcoming opportunity on Saturday 16th August to capture some images for a function at Valentine Bowling Club. The men's bowling group are having their awards night and we need a photographer (or two) to go along and capture some table shots of attendees having fun and some of the award presentations. The club will provide a free meal and some drinks so if you are interested, please let me know as soon as possible – Dennis (bicton36@gmail.com).

BVC

Mens Bowls Presentation Night

**\$39 PER
PERSON**

SATURDAY 16TH AUGUST 2025

5:30PM - 10:30PM

EACH TICKET INCLUDES:



Just 3 – Barb Hunter

After the Rains

This red and green plant used to flower in our garden at Delungra Street, Belmont North. I never knew its name till today. It's a Mickey Mouse plant (Ochna Serrulate)



The Star of David

Agapanthus bud just before blooming and after the rains. It's also known as the "star of David". It blooms every December.



In Happier Times

This photo of Alex, our two daughters, two grandsons and with grand daughter Sarah taking the photo.

Hold on to your loved ones as tight as you can, you do not know what tomorrow will bring.



Photography Retreat with Nilmini De Silva the Rhythm of the Land

Club members will remember Nilmini from the wonderful presentation she made in recent years. This is an opportunity to join her on a photography in rural NSW. You can see all the details here - [Photography Retreat: The Rhythm of the Land](#)





Worth a Look?

I'm sure club members have different ways of informing themselves on photography in its many forms and applications. Whether it is subscribing to magazines, borrowing books or magazines from the library or following people on social media or YouTube. Each month we will include some links to news stories on the internet, competition results and well-known photographer's work. If you have an item of interest, please let us know. A special thanks for the contributions received this month:

- From Naomi Nichols, the following is a link to a PAID photography community based in the USA, but worldwide and very new! It offers community, education and the group (so far) are all knowledgeable, diverse and interesting. <https://www.skool.com/humbletogclub>
- Roy Killen alerted us to the opportunity to enter the 2025 Australian Birdlife Photography competition



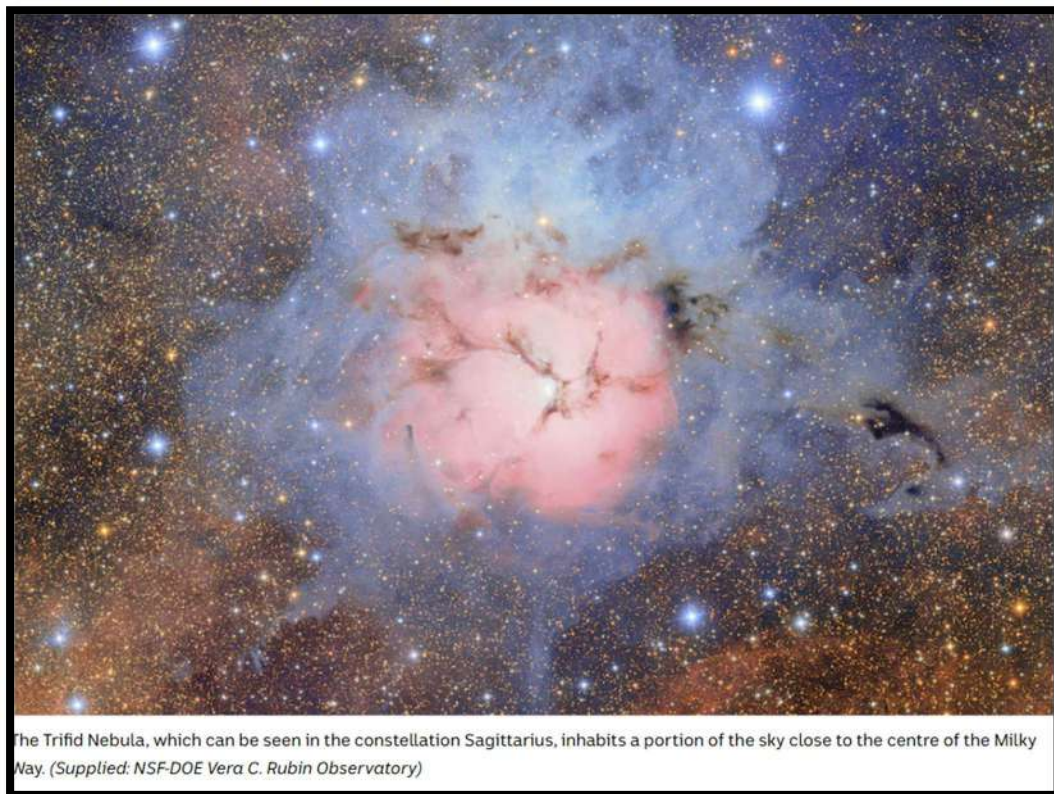
- Bill Chambers sent through this link for those contemplating purchasing a new camera – Top 10 Worst Cameras of 2025 – Avoid These at All Costs! https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ge2e1YefP_U



- Di Schofield sent through this one about astronomy and the world's largest digital camera - <https://www.abc.net.au/news/science/2025-06-22/vera-rubin-observatory-universe-never-before/105442694>

The first images from this camera have just been released to much excitement in the Astronomy community.

https://www.abc.net.au/news/science/2025-06-23/first-taste-images-vera-c-rubin-observatory-released/105448868?utm_source=sfmc&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=abc_specialist_science_sfmc_20250625&utm_term=&utm_id=2581483&sfmc_id=223376595



- From the F Stoppers website an article by the editor on the corrosive effect of “The Selfie.” *“Photography has always been a mirror of its time, but the digital age has transformed it from a tool of documentation into a weapon of self-delusion. The camera, once used to capture reality, now serves primarily to manufacture it. What we*



photograph, how we photograph it, and why we photograph it reveals a society that has lost touch with authentic experience, commodified human connection, and replaced genuine accomplishment with the performance of success.

The trends that dominate contemporary photography aren't just aesthetic choices—they're symptoms of deeper cultural pathologies that extend far beyond the camera frame. “

[Photography Trends That Reveal Everything Wrong With Modern Society | Fstoppers](#)

- Aleksey Myakishev, born in 1971 in Kirov (formerly Vyatka), Russia, is a distinguished documentary photographer renowned for his poignant black-and-white images

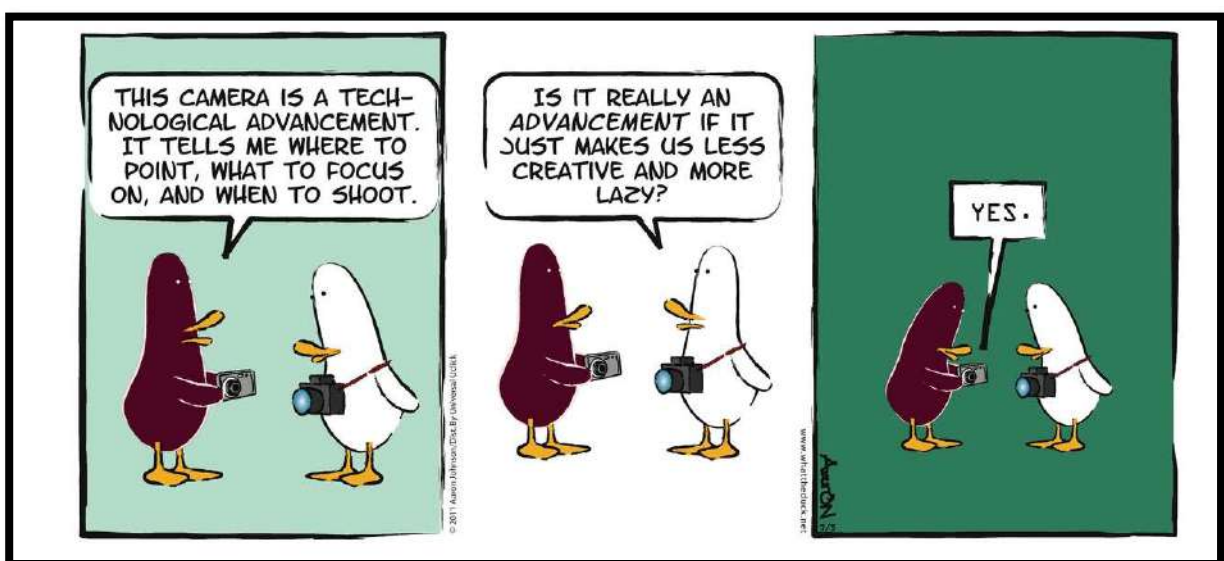
Source: 121clicks.com

<https://search.app/mUgLPuYmgc5Kck2o6>

- The 2025 Color Photography Contest has unveiled its 14 vibrant category winners, showcasing a stunning array of imagery that captures the power and emotion of

Source: 121clicks.com

<https://search.app/1xiSBY9i7gHax2gk9>





"Eltonwhenrockwasyoung" Show at the Blacktown Workers Club.

Phil Whiteman captured the following images for a mate. Well done Phil.





Benro QRB95 Quick Rotation Lens Bracket



The Benro QRB95 Quick Rotation Lens Bracket is a universal lens bracket designed to allow quick rotation from horizontal shooting to vertical shooting without changing the centre of frame.

The height of the camera quick release plate is adjustable. It is compatible with different cameras (the distance from lens centre to the bottom is from 36.7mm to 50.7mm). The maximum size lens it will work with is an exterior diameter less than 94mm.

The semi-ring design means there is still access to the camera handle and other controls. It can be used on both Arca style or Manfrotto 501L mount quick release systems. You can find further information at this link - <https://www.lakemacquariecameraclub.com/Downloads/1b1fa827-47d7-4198-b302-86c1ce6f8f6c>



2025 NPF Competition and Conference



NORTHERN PHOTOGRAPHIC FEDERATION

2025 Photographic Competition and Conference

INFORMATION

The NPF is holding a photographic competition and exhibition in conjunction with a conference weekend on 26th and 27th July, 2025. The conference will feature a range of keynote speakers and workshops over the two days, as well as a trade fair with suppliers in attendance.

The competition and conference are open to all members of affiliated camera clubs, which includes your camera club.

Venue: Kurri Kurri Bowling Club, Tarro Street, Kurri Kurri (next to McDonald's)

Key dates:

- | | |
|--|---|
| • 8 th June, 2025 | Photographic competition entries open |
| • 6 th July 2025 | Closing date for entrants to upload entries |
| • 10 th July 2025 | Deadline for bulk delivery of prints by clubs |
| • 26 th and 27 th July, 2025 | Exhibition and presentation of awards at the NPF Convention |
| • 27 th July 2025 | Exhibition open to the public |

Competition Summary:

The competition offers six sections:

- Prints - Monochrome (M), Colour (C), Nature (N)
- Digital - Open (OD), Action, (AD) Staged (SD)
- Definitions are available in the Conditions of Entry on the NPF website

Entry upload through the MyPhotoClub website: <https://npf.myphotoclub.com.au/>

Maximum of 6 entries per entrant across the 6 sections, with a maximum of 2 entries per section.

Entry fee:

The entry fee for the NPF photographic competition is \$50. This fee covers both the photographic competition entry fees and entry to the NPF weekend convention. This fee is paid on the MyPhotoClub website as part of the entry process.

Entry fee to the NPF weekend, for camera club members who are **NOT** entering the NPF Photographic Competition is \$50. This fee is paid on the MyPhotoClub website as part of the registration process.

Studio Shoot Competition

Your job, should you choose to accept it is to shoot a portrait using lighting that copies the style of the glamour and glitz of Hollywood. The winning image will reflect the glamour, sophistication and elegance of this golden era.



Full details in the attached Studio Competition document.

The entry fee for this competition is \$25.00. Registration is on the MyPhotoClub website. Places are limited and filled on a first come basis

**Accommodation:
The Kurri Motor Inn**

The Kurri Motor Inn

This year we have organised a deal with the Kurri Motor Inn. However, they only have 11 rooms availableso best get in fast. Speak to Parveen and mention the Camera club conference at the Bowling club to receive the very best price.

There are a range of rooms at several price points and Parveen is anxious to impress, so that we will come back next year. This means their prices are keen and the rooms are clean and well appointed.

Located in a quiet little complex just out of town on the main street, a couple of minutes from the Bowling club.

Manager: Parveen Sorathia
313 Lang St Kurri Kurri 2327
Ph 02 4937 2222

Other Accommodation Options

There is a range of accommodation available in the local area. Accommodation in Kurri Kurri itself has limited options, however Maitland, East Maitland, Cessnock and Pokolbin are all a 20 – 25 minute easy drive from Kurri Kurri and there are also quite a few B&B's, farms stays and Airbnb businesses on offer.

In Maitland/Rutherford the Monte Pio, part of the Mercure group, is also a good option.

The draft program for the weekend can be found at the following link -

<https://www.lakemacquariecameraclub.com/Downloads/e58861ab-32ed-4838-a5dc-734a4f3c00c3>

This is likely to change up until the date of the event. Updates will be posted on the event website and we will endeavour to send the final program for the event to members via email.



FOR SALE:

- Kaiser System V Enlarger as per following photos. Please contact Fernando (Fred) on 409568419.



- Zeiss Contaflex Film camera with 45mm f2.8 lens. Free to a good home. Text Dennis – 0438 403 933





- **NISI Filters - Contact Jen Carrigan - 0406648681 (text)**

- V6 filter holder \$25
- 82mm adaptor ring \$10
- Gaskets \$8
- Nisi step up rings 2x 67mm, 2x 72mm \$2 each
- Soft nano IR GND8 100x115mm. \$150
- Nano IR ND filter 10stop 100x100mm. \$130
- Nano IR ND filter. 15stop 100x100mm \$150
- Nano IR ND filter 3stop 100x100mm \$100
- Various cases \$5-10





- **Filters for Sale – contact Greg Carruthers – 0410 629 620**
2 filters for sale AS NEW no scratches, 72mm thread:
 - Hoya PROND64 (6 stop) Neutral density filter great for silky water long exposures
 - Hoya PRO1 Circular Polariser - reduces glare and saturates colours!

Asking price \$20 each or 2 for \$30







Frame Today Club Sponsorship

We are pleased to announce that our club has accepted a sponsorship arrangement with Frame Today at Warners Bay. In return for promoting Frame Today at our club events, on our website and in our newsletter, Frame Today will provide:

- one monthly print voucher of up to A3 size.
- an annual ready-made frame to fit an A3 print valued at \$129.
- a 30% discount on printing, backing and mounting services to members of our club when they join the free Frame Today's Art Society.
- Members can apply on the following [link](#).

Each month the print voucher will be awarded by lucky draw to one of the Judges Choice winners for that month, includes all EDI and print competitions.

The annual frame prize will most likely be awarded as part of the prize for the overall Image of the Year (IOTY) winner at the end of the year.

If club members have any specific questions about the services that Frame Today offer, they can have a chat to Peter Treloar and Laurie Connolly.



Club Committee

Following the AGM in August 2024 we now have a new committee in place for the coming year. Note that there are some vacancies on the committee and there is an opportunity to join the committee at the upcoming AGM in August.

Position	2024 - 2025
President	Dennis Archibald
Secretary, Public officer	David Richards
Vice President and Training Co-ordinator	Greg Carruthers
Treasurer	Ruth Keech
Competition Coordinator	David Richards
Social Functions	Barb Hunter
Social Functions	Katherine James
Membership Coordinator	Joy Thomas
Training, Grading Officer	Bill Chambers
PSA Coordinator and Training	Roy Killen
Newsletter	Dennis Archibald
Committee Member	Vacant
Committee member	Vacant
Committee Member	Steve McGrath