



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

Thanks to all members who have logged into our new website and are becoming familiar with its features. The way we have made the transition has I think been quite impressive, due in no small part to the efforts of Roy and David our webmasters, but also you, the members who have taken the time to listen and engage with the process that was set out.

March competitions will be run on our new website, so I encourage members to get their entries in early and request assistance if necessary.

Finally, this is your newsletter, and I encourage you to read the newsletter and contribute to it.

Our next club night will be held at the Valentine Bowling Club on Wednesday 12TH March at 7.00pm.

New Members

Welcome to new members Barbera Mannell, Maureen Lai, Shirlene Lawry and Franco Romani. Hope to see you at one of our upcoming meetings. Please don't be shy.

WHAT'S ON IN MARCH – Greg Carruthers

The activities and tutorials for March are summarised below and are contained in the calendar below:

- Saturday 1st March, closing date for entries in R3 PSA Print competition
- Sunday 2nd March – Scapes Interest Group outing with David Richards
- Thursday 6th March Scapes Zoom session with David Richards at 7.00pm
- Saturday 8th March -Club Picnic at Belmont Wharf at 10.30am
- Wednesday 12th March – Club Print night at VBC commencing at 7.00pm
- Sunday 16th March – Closing date for R3 PSA Digital entries
- Monday 17th March – Photoshop Interest Group Zoom session with Roy Killen, 7.30pm start.
- Monday 24th March – Photoshop Interest Group Zoom session with Roy Killen, 7.30pm start.
- Tuesday 25th March – Closing date for Mini Print competition.



- Wednesday 26th March mini print competition at VBC, commencing at 7.00pm with Greg Carruthers
- Friday 28th March – Astrophotography photoshoot with Greg Carruthers
- Monday 31st March at 9.30am-. Coffee catch-up at Lake Macquarie Sailing Club.
- Monday 31st March – Photoshop Interest Group Zoom session with Roy Killen, 7.30pm start.

Some further information from Greg on the March Mini Print competition which will be held at Valentine Bowling Club. All members are invited to take part and be involved with this event. To be involved.

1. You must enter your image online via the new website. The competition is now open and available for image upload. You are allowed just 1 entry!
2. Print off your 6"x4" image for the competition. You can do this at minimal cost at Harvey Norman or Officeworks.
3. Make sure your print has a border, this will help with mounting
4. Mount it on a black mat board 18cmX23cm. These are available from the club. Email me if you need one already cut to size. Include your name on the back and a title across the LH front corner
- 5 . Bring your print on the night. All members attending on the night will judge the images to select the prize winners

Never entered a print competition before or you are a new member.

NOW IS YOUR CHANCE

More information will be posted throughout March

If you require any further information, please contact Greg Carruthers.

gkcarruthers@gmail.com



March Club Calendar

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.

March						2025
MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
24	25	26	27	28	01 Closing date for R3 PSA Print Entries	02 Scapes SIG Photoshoot with David Richards - Seascapes
03	04	05 Club Committee Mtg. via Zoom 7.30pm	06 Scapes Interest Group with David Richards via zoom, 7.00pm start	07	08 Club Picnic @ Belmont Wharf 10.30am to 2.00pm	09 March Club Competition Entries close 11.59pm
10	11	12 Club Night at VBC 7.00pm	13	14	15	16 Closing date for PSA R3 Digital competitions
17 Photoshop Interest Group with Roy Killen via ZOOM - 7.30pm	18	19	20	21	22	23
24 Photoshop Interest Group with Roy Killen via ZOOM - 7.30pm	25 Closing date for Club Mini Print Competition	26 Mini Print Night @ VBC 7.00pm	27	28 Astro Photoshoot with Greg Carruthers - @ 6.45pm	29	30
31 Coffee Catchup - Lake Macquarie Sailing Club 9.30am Photoshop Interest Group with Roy Killen	01	Notes:				



2025 External Competitions News

Congratulations to our members who achieved acceptances for their entries and the following members who received awards in this year's Maitland Salon.





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LAKE MACQUARIE CAMERA CLUB

March 2025 - Issue 19.





Maitland International Salon of Photography

2025

GPU Gold Medal

Nature PSA-ND-Large Prints



Vice Grip

Bill Chambers

Colin Woods
Salon President

Debbie Sutton
Salon Secretary






Approval No 2025/016

Approval No 2025-1738

Approval No L250003

Approval No 2025/001



Maitland International Salon of Photography

2025

Salon Certificate of Merit

Nature PSA-ND



Jumper with Meal

Bill Chambers

Colin Woods
Salon President

Debbie Sutton
Salon Secretary






Approval No 2025/016

Approval No 2025-1738

Approval No L250003

Approval No 2025/001



Maitland International Salon of Photography

2025

PSA Gold Medal For Excellence

Mono PSA-PPD-MA-Large Prints



Devil Woman

Allison Hayes

Colin Woods
Salon President

Debbie Sutton
Salon Secretary






Approval No 2025/016

Approval No 2025-1738

Approval No L250003

Approval No 2025/001



Maitland International Salon of Photography

2025

MENTION D'HONNEUR

décernée à:

HONOURABLE MENTION

awarded to:

Maitland 2025

FIAP H&M Ribbon

Phil Whitehead

Red Hill Hotel





Congratulations to Stephane who won the People's Choice section of the 2025 Newcastle Herald Hunter Photographic competition with his image "The Bird Fisher".



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



March Club Competitions

Judges for March 2025 are:

- PRINTS - Colour and Mono – Peter Ryan
- DIGITAL - Colour – Carol McGrath
- DIGITAL - Mono – Ian Marriner
- DIGITAL – Set Subject – Roy Killen, Phil Whiteman, Dennis Archibald

March Set Subject – “This is Australia”

Images will be entered on the theme described in the 2025 APS Cup competition. The highest awarded images from Advanced and Open grades will be chosen as the club’s APS Cup entries. All the details you need are at:

<https://www.a-p-s.org.au/index.php/exhibition/australian-cup-for-clubs>

However, here is a quick summary from the website.

It’s up to each individual photographer to show Australia through their own eyes. The topic has to have the ability to showcase and portray our diverse country in all its conditions, from the seasons, fire, drought, and flood, as well as its flora and fauna, its people, and its structures—be they railways, buildings, bridges, or more. Each photographer or club needs to decide on their own vision, how to capture that vision, and which tools needed to complete it. Lessons learnt – a rodeo doesn’t necessarily work as those events can be held in other countries. Therefore, the image must be identifiable as Australian. This link to the 2024 catalogue will give some ideas

[Australian Cup Catalogue 2024](#)

Judging Criteria:

A judging panel, consisting of Phil Whiteman, Dennis Archibald and Roy Killen, will base their scoring decisions on the artistic merit, composition, storytelling, and emotion of each picture, as it represents Australia. Chosen images will be displayed at the May 2025 Club night, then entered by LMCC.

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.**

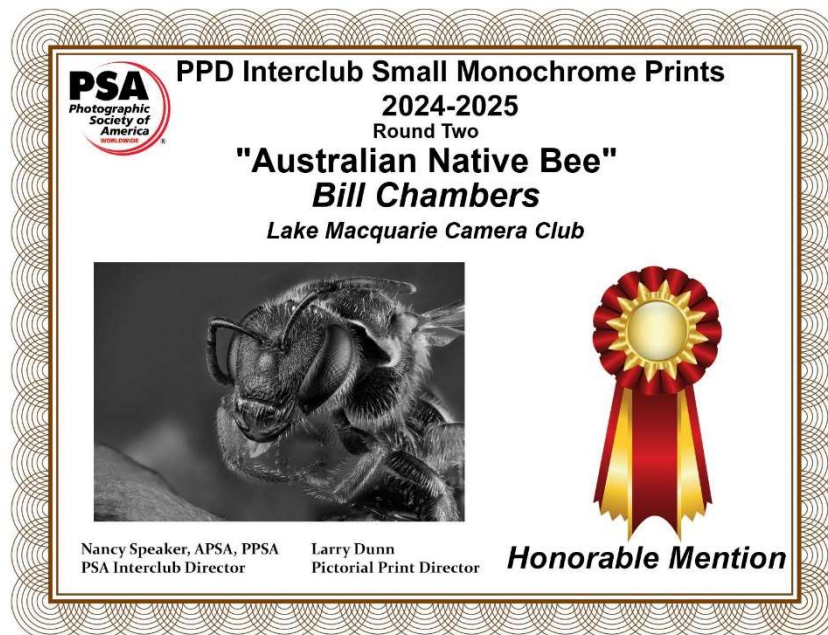
In previous years, our club has been very successful in the Digital sections – Colour, Monochrome, Nature, Photojournalism and Photo Travel.

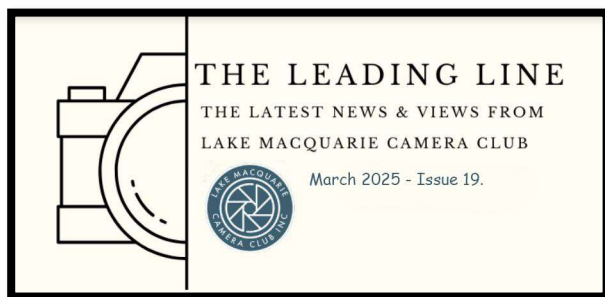
This year, we have expanded our participation to include the Colour and Monochrome Print sections of the Interclub. If your image is selected to represent our club, the club will subsidise the cost.

In Round 2 in the Monochrome small prints, LMCC gained 3rd place out of 15 clubs - just 1 point behind the two clubs that gained equal first place. Three club members gained award in the monochrome section. In the Colour small prints LMCC gained 9th place out of 16 clubs - 9 points behind the club that gained first place. No awards were gained.

Congratulations to the following members who received awards in Round 2 of the PSA Print Competition.

At the time of finalising this edition of the newsletter we have not received the Round 2 digital results.





PSA
Photographic
Society of
America

**PPD Interclub Small Monochrome Prints
2024-2025
Round Two**

"Companions in Mono"
Steve Wallis
Lake Macquarie Camera Club



Nancy Speaker, APSA, PPSA
PSA Interclub Director

Larry Dunn
Pictorial Print Director

Honorable Mention

PSA
Photographic
Society of
America

**PPD Interclub Small Monochrome Prints
2024-2025
Round Two**

"Tranquillo"
Stephane Thomas
Lake Macquarie Camera Club



Nancy Speaker, APSA, PPSA
PSA Interclub Director

Larry Dunn
Pictorial Print Director

2nd Place

All club members are encouraged to start thinking about their entries for Round 3 Print competition that closes on 1st March. The only restriction is that you cannot enter an image that



has previously been selected to represent LMCC or Belmont 16s. Entries in Round 3 digital competitions close on the 9th of March.

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

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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. A special thanks to Greg Carruthers for organising the session at Valentine Bowling Club which showcased what each group were doing in the way of training and outings. 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 – Bill Chambers.
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 – Stephane Thomas.
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.

Some of the following images were taken by members during activities organised by the Special Interest Groups.



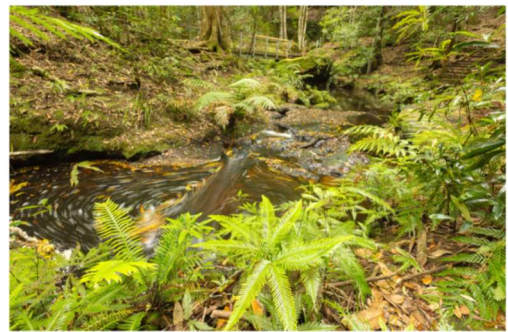


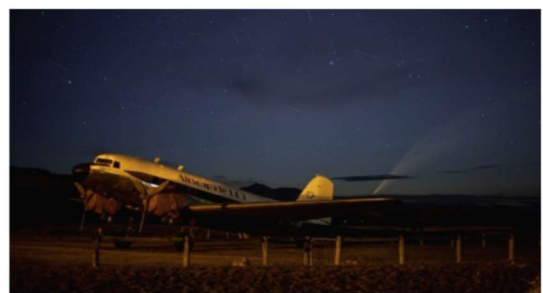
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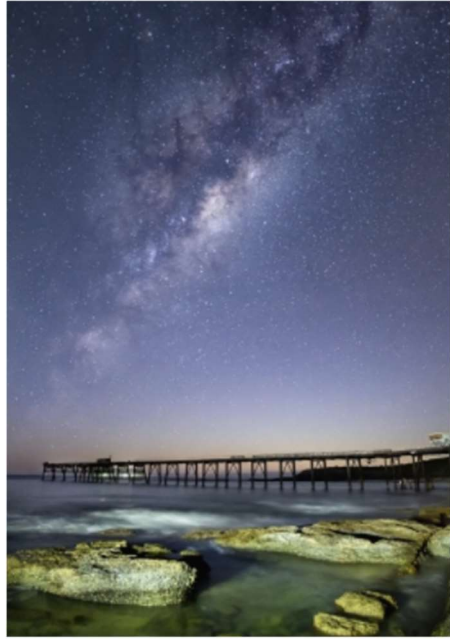


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Just 3 – Margot Hughes

Adelaide



This is a photo of my granddaughter who lives on the same farm as me. So, I have a personal attachment to it. Adelaide has a very rare form of Epilepsy (less than 1000 in the world), which has given her many challenges. And it is a huge challenge to get a nice photo of her. She was happy wearing her “Papa’s” work hat and she gave me this (rare) gorgeous natural smile.

I chose monochrome because I feel it allows the viewer to focus on her face. A small vignette was used as well for the same reason.

Saddhu Man



This man epitomises India – he reflects India’s rich tapestry of traditions and religions. He had a wonderful aura around him and was very comfortable for me to photograph him. I could have



spent a lot of time with him. I slightly reduced the vibrance because it gave the image a more natural look. He has the typical yoga sitting position and I liked that he had his belongings beside him and that it added a touch of colour. I was lucky with the unobtrusive background. I used a small vignette.

Red and Green Algae.



I wanted to include one of my drone images. I like abstract patterns, textures and colours in nature and one way to do this is with a drone (or by aircraft which is much more expensive).

It's almost like a hidden world.... that is often overlooked.

This image is of Hutt Lagoon in WA. It has a very soft pink hue when you look at it from the ground, however, at the right time of the day (12pm – 2pm) and looking down from above it gives a whole different perspective. The red is an algae called *Dunaliella salina*. I liked the contrast of the red and green algae and the brown road.



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 the website 121 Clicks - "Rohit Rattan, a distinguished fine art photographer based in Dubai, masterfully captures the essence of silence through his black and white fine art photography. His work is a poetic exploration of solitude, where every frame evokes a sense of stillness and introspection. Using long exposure techniques, Rohit creates ethereal compositions that blur the lines between time and space, allowing silence to take form through light and shadow. The stark contrast in his images enhances the depth of emotion, turning minimalistic scenes into powerful visual narratives. Each photograph becomes a quiet meditation, offering viewers a glimpse into the unspoken beauty of stillness." - [Photographer Rohit Rattan Captures Silence Through Black and White Fine Art Photography](#)
- From Lenscraft in the UK an article on photo editing software "Photo Editing Software - Windows & Apple" - <https://lenscraft.co.uk/photo-editing/photo-editors/>
- From Lightstalking - 12 Hugely Important Moments in the History of Photography - [12 Hugely Important Moments in the History of Photography | Light Stalking](#)
- From the website 121 Clicks – "India's rich biodiversity and lush forests provide the perfect backdrop for some of the world's most stunning bird photography. Several award-winning photographers have captured mesmerizing images of birds in their natural habitat, showcasing their beauty, agility, and unique behaviours. These images not only highlight the vibrant avian life found in India but also inspire nature lovers and conservationists to appreciate and protect these delicate ecosystems." - <https://121clicks.com/inspirations/best-bird-photography-by-indian-photographers>
- Jailtime Images from Bill Chambers
<https://jailtimerecords.com/photos/>
<https://wepresent.wetransfer.com/stories/jail-time-records-label>



- For the Street Photographers who don't want to walk or would like to walk less. Walking 20,000 to 40,000 steps on a photo walk isn't always practical. Sometimes, you need a way to capture compelling images without constant movement. This video on FStoppers describes a technique. - <https://search.app/kbAJLJs4fRy1vGKs8>
- There is a very useful Photography Show on Channel 10 app. "Ten Play" and on YouTube. Simply do a search for "Snap Happy Photography Show" and you will be able to see series 7 on Channel 10 or earlier sessions on YouTube. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rYE4KHJVI2E>

This is an Australian production that takes you all over Australia and explains how their images were taken and then for some of their images how they are edited. It's well worth a look. Easy viewing 20min each episode often featuring well known Aussie photographers

Last month I mentioned an American photographer Jim Zuckerman - <https://www.jimzuckerman.com/> and suggested members, particularly new members subscribe to his daily blogs. This means you will receive an email from Jim most days where he posts a photograph and adds a paragraph on how he captured the image. I was particularly taken with this recent posting.



A 'perfect storm' happened early this morning with a great grey owl. The bird was perched on top of a young spruce tree just after sunrise. The sun was behind the owl, and the backlighting was beautiful. From my shooting position, I calculated that the angle of the light would readily show brilliant transillumination through the feathers. While perched, the eye tracking feature of the Canon R5 locked onto the owl's face, and then it took flight with the perfect trajectory to show the stunning backlight. The autofocus mechanism kept focus long enough so I could capture several amazing frames at 20 fps. My settings were 1/3200, f/7.1, and 4000 ISO. I used daylight white balance which retained the golden colors of the early morning sun, and I used a central cluster of focus points.



New Club Website

The new club website is up and running at <http://www.lakemacquariECAmeracLub.com> . Login details have been sent to all members. If you did not receive your login information or you have any trouble logging in please email one of our webmasters, Roy Killen at roykillen@gmail.com

or David Richards at lakemacquariECAmeracLub@gmail.com

March club competition entries **MUST** be made on the new website.

One of the new features on the site is that each Special Interest Group (SIG) has a Discussion Forum where members of that group can share information. If you would like to join a SIG, please do the following:

From the menu, select My Account>My Groups. Scroll to the group you want to join and select "Join Group". This will enable the group leader to include you in emails sent to the group.

From the menu, select Information for Members>Discussion Forums. Scroll to the Discussion Forum for the SIG you have joined and select "Subscribe". You will then receive an email notification when new information is added to the Discussion Forum.

If you have any questions about our club, please select the Key LMCC Contacts menu and you will find links to all the people who have special responsibilities (such as the Secretary and the Treasurer).

To enter competitions (Monthly, PSA Interclub and any special competitions) select Competitions>Enter a Competition from the menu. If you have any questions about competitions, please email Phil Whiteman at philwhiteman@gmail.com

Have fun exploring the new website and don't hesitate to ask for assistance if you have any problems.



Software Discounts

Roy Killen has negotiated with DxO, a pioneer in photo editing software, to achieve some exclusive benefits for our club members. DxO has the following range of software:

- DxO PhotoLab: The flagship software offering advanced colour science, precise local adjustments, and DxO's renowned optical corrections for flawless editing. (Think of this as a Photoshop alternative.)



- DxO PureRAW: A revolutionary plugin that primes your RAW files to perfection with exceptional denoising and correction technology. Compatible with Lightroom, Photoshop, Capture One, and other programs.
- Nik Collection by DxO: A powerful suite of creative plugins offering unique filters, editing tools, and effects to elevate your photography. This includes the renowned NIK Silver Efex for producing monochrome images.
- DxO ViewPoint: Ideal for achieving perfect proportions and straight lines in your photos, making composition fine-tuning effortless.
- DxO FilmPack: A nostalgic treasure trove of iconic film-inspired presets that bring the timeless charm of analogue photography to your digital images.

DxO is offering our club members 20% off all DxO software—you can apply the discount to new purchases of any or all of the software product listed above. All the software is ‘single purchase’, not subscription. Here’s how you can take advantage of this exclusive offer:

1. To get your discount code: Simply fill out this form <https://forms.monday.com/forms/5cbf68e3950ec51e9684044d64be27b6?r=euc1>, and you’ll receive your personalized code. Feel free to request as many codes as you need for personal use!
2. Try DxO’s software for free: Explore all DxO software with trial versions before purchasing - no payment method required. <https://dxo.io/43cs0ry>
3. Stay updated: Subscribe to DxO’s newsletter to stay informed about their latest innovations and news. <https://dxo.io/43gMoaT> This will give you access to tutorials and webinars.

This partnership is a unique opportunity to access world-class photo editing tools and take your creative vision to new heights. Don’t miss out!

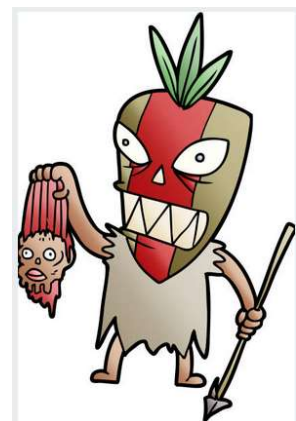


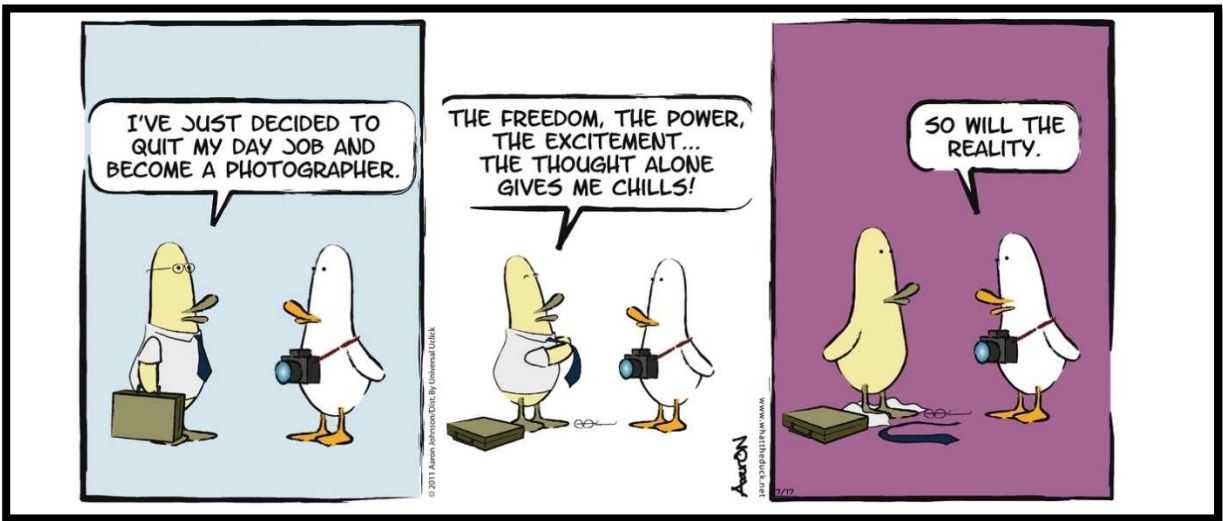
Bill's Dastardly Cannibals & Missionaries Puzzle

A particularly perplexing problem was presented to those present at the recent Coffee Catchup:

- Three missionaries & three cannibals come to a river they want to cross. A canoe at the bank will only carry two people. The river is full of crocs / piranha / other nasties.
- All the missionaries can row, but only one of the cannibals can row (he'd been to Oxford). The canoe must be rowed across & back each time.
- If at any time, on either side of the river, cannibals outnumber missionaries, then the cannibals will eat the missionaries, which, understandably, the missionaries don't want to happen.

Problem: How do they cross safely?







Newcastle Show – Photography Exhibition 2025 – Katherine James

Katherine again organised the Photography Exhibition at the 2025 Newcastle Show, which was held from Friday 28th February to Sunday 2nd March.

Thank you to members of the Lake Macquarie Camera club, Hastings Camera Club, The Entrance Camera Club and a few other photographers for their wonderful photos that have made up this amazing Exhibition at the Newcastle Show.

Thank you to members Laurie Connolly, Peter Treloar, Greg Carruthers, Jill Helps and her son Andrew, Brad Le Brocque and Phil Whiteman for the help in setting up the exhibition.

A special thanks to Harvey Norman Kotara for their sponsorship in printing an amazing 2-metre-high banner which I couldn't have done without. Julie Brooks who had no problem understanding what I wanted (because I've forgotten more than I ever learned) used her special talents to design the banner. Andrew Helps set up a section with OLD Newcastle Photos back as far as 1900's.

The Show representatives were amazed at what we do, and I've been asked to do it again next year!





FOR SALE:

From Stephane Thomas – Email : thomste@yahoo.com

I am selling a new unopened Nisi Filter starter kit v7. <https://nisifilters.com.au/product/nisi-100mm-v7-starter-kit/>

Happy to sell this for \$600

I am selling my Canon RF 800 F11 lens.

https://www.georges.com.au/products/canon-rf-800mm-f-11-is-stm?currency=AUD&variant=42717574987943&utm_source=google&utm_medium=cpc&utm_campaign=Google%20Shopping&stkn=67cdf3d53d76&gad_source=1&gclid=CjwKCAiAzvC9BhADEiwAEhtlNzfpRR2eAa2B5Fu7D13BL8blc0MCuBXq0DnJ2l071UDaRklk4CaEtBoCrNQQAvD_BwE

It is actually a great lens for wildlife or surf etc. Very sharp.

I am selling it with a pouch and a lens hood (neither are included when buying brand new).

The lens is in perfect condition. I am only selling it because I got the 200-800.

Happy to sell for \$900.



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 we now have a new committee in place for the coming year.

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