

U3A(CANBERRA) CAMERA CLUB

Communiqué

December 2016

Next Meeting

The next meeting of the Camera Club will be the first for 2017. This will be held in the Hall at Cook (not Room 3 as usual) on Tuesday 7th February 2017. In the Chair will be Chad Addison, our new Convenor. Among other items on the Agenda (including a catered morning tea) will be a short presentation by Bob Hay, Past Convenor, on *The Objectives of Show & Tell*. This is designed to show members the kind of strengths and weaknesses of a photo the critics should be looking for during this fundamental part of the Camera Club's operation.

Note that new rules apply from 2017. These include the Club year being divided up into two semesters, February to June and June to December. Room rent will be paid in advance from now on in accordance with the general rule in U3A. So, at the meeting on 7th February members will be required to pay \$10 which will cover the general meetings on the first Tuesday of each month in the semester (The next installment of \$10 will be due at the Tuesday July 4th meeting). This covers *only* the \$1.50 per person per session room rent for those first Tuesday meetings: workshops and other meetings for which room rent is payable will be collected on the day). Any remainder will go towards the incidentals such as gifts for guest speakers etc.

As is usual in U3A, if you cannot attend and/or pay on the due date then you are expected to pay as soon as possible thereafter — the deadline is the second meeting so, if your fee is not received on or before the Club meeting on 7th March your place will be given to someone of the waiting list.

Membership of the Camera Club

As members were warned last month, **if you wish to continue as a member of the CC you will need to have re-registered on or before December 8th.** If you do not do so then you lose the benefit of this advance registration and you will have to take your chances on or after January 31st 2017. As from next year the CC will be limited to 60 members (recognizing room size restraints) and we will be enrolling on a first-come first-served basis from the 31st January as advertised in the *Prospectus*. To register in advance on or before

December 8th simply email u3acanberracameraclub@gmail.com and state your wish to renew your registration.

Coming Up Next Year

There will be no *Show & Tell* at the February Meeting because the Hall is not suited to showing slides or prints.

8th February Field Trip — Lake Ginninderra

21st February Workshop — Photo manipulation

7th March General Meeting — Show and Tell theme “Moody” plus “Open” and Lake Ginninderra field trip photos. Morning tea – self-catering.

8th March Field Trip — ANU, theme “Architecture”

22nd Workshop — something on *Lightroom* (details TBA)

Because it is one of the primary functions of the Camera Club to progress beginners as quickly as possible, another *How to use Your Camera (Getting Out of Auto)* session will be held for new members early in the year. David Raff has agreed to present a second *Lightroom* photo manipulation course in May focusing on the *Development* module.

Christmas Party Exhibition

An Exhibition of members’ work will be held in Room 2 at Cook during the annual U3A Christmas Party on Thursday December 8th (11.00am — 2.00pm). The 32 prints submitted will be hung on the afternoon of Wednesday 7th. A catalogue of prints showing photographer’s name, the title of the work if any and if for sale, the asking price, will also be available. Slides will be shown on the TV during the Exhibition with a slide showing the names of the authors of the projected images being part of the continuous slide show.

The Working Group

Whereas community clubs have a “committee”, we have instead a group of experienced photographers who meet occasionally to help decide on Club activities and policies. Those who served during 2016 will continue in 2017 except for Marie Betts who has resigned. Marie had given generously of her time and talents to the Club, especially in organizing the two Strathnairn studio days this year and in the past. Marie’s place will be taken by Viki Gray.

Other Camera Clubs

At its final meeting for 2016 the Working Group decided that we should continue to exchange newsletters with other camera clubs and to invite members of those clubs to participate in our events and activities where appropriate as long as doing so does not exclude U3A members.

Mid-Year Survey

There was a pleasingly high response rate to the Mid-Year Survey in which members expressed a significant level of satisfaction with the Club. A gratifying number of members also volunteered for a range of administrative tasks and meeting and workshop presentations. These offers will be pursued during 2017. And thanks to Chad for conducting the Survey...

Strathnairn Exhibition

Strathnairn has accepted our Expression of Interest for a second exhibition which we will call *Click and Capture 2017*. The dates on offer are 25 May to 11 June 2017. On that occasion we will have the use only of the larger gallery so we will not be able to accept as many entries as last year. Dorothy will advise members direct of the specifications and rules for this exhibition but they are likely to be much the same as for *Click & Capture* this past year. There are significant public works surrounding Strathnairn at present but how this will affect visitor numbers and the prospect of sales is anyone's guess.

Somewhere in Newtown

Belinda Pratten at The Photography Room- 20 November - 11 December

**Please note that the Old Bus Depot Markets, and The Photography Room, will be open on Saturdays and Sundays throughout December.*

"The Photography Room is pleased to present an exhibition of new photographic works 'Somewhere in Newtown' by renowned photographer Belinda Pratten.

For this series of work, Pratten has focused her lens on her home suburb of Newtown in Sydney's inner-west. Eschewing the alternative scene of King Street and the characters that it attracts, these images are inspired by the quieter side of the suburb; we are taken on night walks through the back streets and are given an intimate tour of this rapidly changing area".

PhotoAccess Exhibitions 1 December - 11 December 2016.

(Image: Mikhaila Jurkiewicz, *One Man, One Baggie* (detail), 2016)

In the Huw Davies Gallery, the last of PhotoAccess' 2016 Residence Season includes ***Serotonin Syndrome***: a collection of B&W domestic portraits

featuring Sydney artists and musicians by Mikhaila Jurkiewicz; and ***Collective Rhythm***, a social documentary project exploring Canberra's swing dance community by Casey Crockford.

Photo Group, Friends of the ANBG Exhibition.

The Photo Group within the Friends of the Australian National Botanical Gardens is currently holding its annual exhibition of members' work. Called *refocus*, the exhibition will be on show in the Visitors' Centre until December 11. Most images are of flora and fauna within the Gardens. Works, framed and unframed, cards, calendars and bookmarks are for sale.

Marie told me about the following Exhibition at the High Court – reference: <http://www.hcourt.gov.au/> Home page on the left.

High Court: Peter Hislop: *People, Performances and Places*

Sunday 11 December 2016 to 25 January 2017 <http://www.hcourt.gov.au/>

Peter Hislop is a photographer specialising in documenting fine music performance and performers. He became interested in photography and classical music in his teens, and managed to combine both at age twenty as volunteer editor of Sydney radio 2MBS-FM's monthly magazine. He is a graduate of the four year Photography course at Sydney TAFE and holds a Degree in Graphic Design (Hons) from the University of Canberra. Peter currently works full-time as a Public Servant, and documents approximately two hundred music events per annum in his free time. The images are donated to the performers, and a catalogued set is also gifted to the National Film and Sound Archives as part of their documentation of Australia's music making. This exhibition looks back forty years to the beginning of this work and comes forward to the present in a personal journey through fond memories of people, performances and places.

Outstanding Service Award

As Dorothy announced at the last meeting, she and Marie Betts had successfully nominated me for an Outstanding Service Award.

Photo: Pedro Fortunato, from Facebook

This Award was presented to me — along with 6 other recipients — by U3A President Chris Patterson at the U3A AGM on 23rd November last. In presenting the Award, Chris said:

Bob Hay has been an active U3A member for many years contributing much of his time and expertise to the content of his courses over 11 years. He is always well prepared making the material clear for beginners while challenging for the more experienced. Topics include Genealogy, History of Indonesia and Psychology, many of these are available on his website. Perhaps his most outstanding contribution was his initiative in starting the U3A Camera Club in 2014 to engage photographers at all levels. This club now has over 60 members. Bob is an outstanding teacher, coach and mentor.

It is difficult to recognise myself in those kind words and indeed, in the even more fulsome document by Dorothy and Marie prepared when nominating me. As I said when expressing my thanks, I have thoroughly enjoyed my time with U3A, I have learned a lot, made many friends and now the Award comes as the icing on a very big cake. I am grateful to Dorothy and Marie and to all the members who have made this Award possible.

Incidentally, Chris mentioned that my courses are available on my web site (www.bobhay.org). Members are welcome to download them at any time although a couple of short courses (*Composition for Photographers*, *Converting to B&W*) and next year's longer offering, *A Short History of India*, have yet to be uploaded. I will get onto that over the holidays. All courses are in .pdf format.

Communiqué

This is the last *Communiqué* for 2016 and, if you do not re-register by the December 8th deadline, the last you will receive. Other camera clubs and others on our complimentary list, including a couple of founding members now unable to attend, are of course exempt from this draconian deadline.

There will be no *Communiqué* in January although if there is a need, emails will be sent to all who have re-registered and so are on the new mailing list. The first *Communiqué* for 2017 will be published immediately after the General Meeting in February which, remember, will be held in the Hall at Cook.

This will also be the last *Communiqué* which I will sign off as “Convenor”. I welcome Chad taking over and I know he will be good for the Club. I was not pushed but have left of my own accord, believing — after watching recent Federal politics — that a generational change is necessary. My hey-day was back in the '60s and '70s when my photographic sensibilities were shaped by

my experience of camera clubs, lots of exhibitions, the dark room technology of the day and also by magazines like *Life* and the magnificent *Magnum* photos. Times like the technologies we use are changing and I think the Camera Club can benefit from new ideas and directions. However, I will continue to write *Communiqué*, I remain the Course Presenter, and I will go on sharing whatever I can of my experience and enthusiasm for our art whenever I can in courses, workshops and just about anywhere else.

On behalf of the U3A Camera Club, have a safe and happy holiday season. May the light be with you....

Bob Hay
Convenor