



f22: Southside Camera Club Newsletter

January 2015

Club Meeting – 7:30 pm on Wednesday 14 January 2015
at the Burns Club, 8 Kett Street, Kambah

Events

Monthly Meeting Topics for 2015

At our final 2014 meeting we discussed the topics and likely presenters for our meetings during 2015. Here is a rough outline of the proposed program.

- Focus and F stops (or Aperture and focus) Dennis Lovatt
- Lightroom Basics Rod Burgess
- Photographer presentations Paul Livingston
John Franze
- Camera Controls Rob Wignell
- Photography for competitions Ken Crawford
- Guest from Photo Access Iain Cole to arrange?
- Panel discussions (eg critiquing photos; how much processing is too much?)

Obviously this program is incomplete and very tentative at this stage. Other than for January, no dates for these presentations have been decided.

Any members with suggestions for presentations or who would like to give a presentation during the year, are very welcome to do so.

Meeting Date	Topic	Presenter(s)
14 January	File backup strategies. (how to prevent loss of your photos when a computer hard drive fails)	Warren Hicks Rob Wignell

December Meeting Report

AGM

Warren thanked everyone who organised club activities during the year; in particular mentioning Moira Parkinson who put in a sterling effort to produce such an excellent Year Book.

Nominations were called for all club Office Bearer positions. Warren did not wish to retain the Presidency for another year so Rob Wignell was unanimously accepted as our new Club President, being the only nominee for the position. Welcome Rob, as our new president.

All of the members present thanked and applauded Warren for his great efforts on our behalf during his very successful club presidency. Warren was Club President for three years and has left a valuable legacy. Now that Warren has the Club Presidency off his shoulders, he has some photographic aspirations that intends to fulfil. Here is what Warren has to say on his own behalf:

From Warren

Having both stepped down from the club Presidency and finished work, I hope to rekindle my creative spirit, get out there, create some images and have some fun.

I'm a bit of a technophile so I have to regularly remind myself the point is taking photographs not playing with techno-toys. That said I've always been interested in low light photography. Back in film days I used to carry around two (Pentax M series) bodies one with Kodachrome 64 and the other with Ektachrome 400 which I'd sometimes push to ISO 800. So the low light capabilities of the next generation sensors in the Nikon DF and the Sony A7S has me drooling. But, I guess as always you try to push the capabilities of your equipment and something better is always just over the horizon. But when I get that new dream camera ...

Like many of us, I'm comfortable searching for the great Australian landscape photo, while the search continues, I figure I need to get out of my comfort and attempt other genres. I really love photographing the lanes of Melbourne and associated street photography. Being out of town seems to embolden me, as do events such as the multicultural festival. My other obsession at the moment is wide field astrophotography, this is a bit of a technophiles dream so I can combine multiple interests.

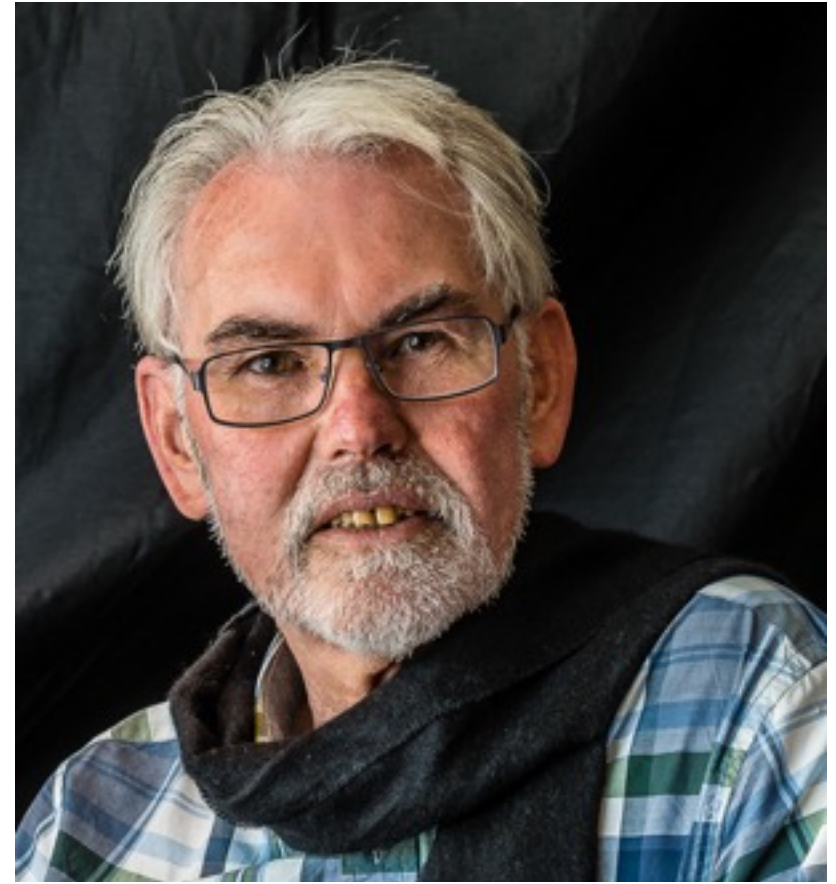
Thanks to all the club members who assisted me during my time as President, I'll see you all at the end of the lens.

There being no nominations for Treasurer and Newsletter Editor, both of those positions remain unchanged.

Naturally, when one president goes, another one arrives.

Who is Rob Wignell?

I started my interest in photography when I was in high school because we had an eccentric teacher who had been a photographer in England before migrating to Australia in the late 1950's. He used a full plate camera using 10" x 8" negatives and printed them as contact prints. He taught me, and many others, how to develop B&W film and how to use an enlarger, do test strips and produce a final image. Seeing my first image develop in the red light of the darkroom was like magic. It still is.



When I arrived in Canberra in 1967 I didn't have access to any darkroom facilities. I was able to get a friend at the Australian News and Information Bureau (ANIB) to develop and print my film as "outside jobs" at a very good price but I didn't get serious about photography again until my first daughter was born in the early 1980's. Around that time I bought a Contax SLR with an excellent Zeiss f/1.7 50mm lens and soon after I discovered the Camera Club of Canberra (CCC) that maintained a darkroom for club members use in Gorman House. CCC originally started in Reid House where the Convention Centre is now located but had to move to Gorman House when Reid House was demolished. Essentially, CCC was a darkroom club and was interesting in that it was only by accident that you were likely

to meet another member. We had a simple room booking system where you put your name in a diary located in the darkroom to reserve a 2 hour session. If no-one was around at the end of the session you were allowed to keep going and, in fact, it was quite common to suddenly discover that it was 2:00 am. Sadly, as digital photography became more popular, the CCC membership waned and it became too expensive to keep paying the ever increasing rents at Gorman House. The club was wound up in the early 2000's.

I joined the Southside Camera Club soon after the CCC had wound up. At that time the club only had about 30 members and we easily fitted into a small room at the Irish Club. This was before I bought my first digital camera and, although most of the show and tell was photo prints and slides, there were some adventurous members who had digital cameras and the photos they produced seemed amazing.

My first digital camera was a 2 MP Nikon Coolpix 355 that had a three times zoom. It took a while before I had the confidence to bring anything along for show and tell and I am still a low contributor in that field.

After my 2MP Nikon froze with its lens stuck out I bought a 5MP Sony which was a much better camera but was stolen after a short time. After the Sony I bought a waterproof 7 MP Olympus Tough which I still own and occasionally use.

My big step up was in 2008 when I was given a Nikon D40 for Christmas. The D40 was an amazing camera to me and it was this move that got me really interested in finding out more about the complexities of digital photography. I couldn't believe the flexibility that came from being able to use ISO speeds of 800, or a little more, with hardly any penalty from noise. I discovered the terrible mess you can make of a JPG file if you get the colour balance wildly wrong. My curiosity led to some horrendous messes.

Through these messes, the information coming from club nights, lots of reading and taking lots of photos, I have gradually learnt more and more about the cameras and software I have been using to the point where I have felt confident enough to present some sessions for the club and to put my hand up to teach the Digital Photography course at Erindale

Community Education Program that Shane was teaching before he moved to Western Australia. I am at the stage of knowing a fair bit about a few small areas of photography.

The two years that I was editor of the club newsletter, F22, was also a big learning curve in things relating to Photography.

My working environment was mostly unrelated to photography except in the sense that I ran the IT Section at AusAID for 8 years and after early retirement from the public service I taught computer programming and other computer related subjects part time at CIT for a further 10 years. As photography becomes more digital there is a convergence between my IT and teaching roles and my photography hobby.

Finally, why did I want to become President? The main reason is that when I joined the club I was made very welcome and I was able to learn a lot of things that were useful to my photography. I would like to contribute to that welcoming and educating environment so that new members and old can continue to learn more about photography and their cameras. I also know that a lot of members are in the club for its social activities as much as the photography. This seems to be a perfectly valid reason to join. If some photographic skills are acquired on the way then that is even better.

I propose to stand for a second one year term but, if successful in a second term, intend to stand down at the end of that time. In the meantime wish me luck and expect to be called on to help out with some activity or other as I am a great believer in sharing the load.

And one more thing...(with apologies to Steve Jobs). I have been taking photos in the Snowy Mountains for the best part of 40 years and have a few good shots to show for it. My challenge to me is to find interesting ways to photograph snow gums and their environment. Snow gums are basically very messy trees, they are hard to isolate because of their habit of growing in clusters and the generally chaotic intertwining of branches. I try to organise a Club trip to Guthega as well as spending a week or two skiing there each year. On reviewing my results I have to admit to a fairly low

success rate on getting good shots in the snow but it is a challenge that I take up each year with renewed gusto. Over the next two years I will share my success and failures in this area as they are all opportunities for learning about our shared passion for photography.

Breakfast GetTogether

There was no Club Christmas Party held in 2014, but in lieu of this at the last meeting it was agreed that we would hold a breakfast gathering at 9 am on Saturday 17th January at the Himalayan Cedars area within the Arboretum. The Himalayan Cedars are at the end of Himalayan Cedar Road which turns to the right off Forest Drive as it leads up to the Arboretum complex. See the map below.



There is a small car park at the end of Himalayan Cedar Road, a toilet, and a nearby BBQ area with some seating. It is recommended that you get there well before 9 am (due to parking limitations) and bring your own breakfast, drinks and seating as there may be other groups sharing the area with us.

Monthly Excursions for 2015

Warren called for suggestions for our monthly excursion itinerary for 2015 and the following list was proposed.

A. Weekends Away

Location	Tentative dates	Organised by
Eden	May	Warren Hicks, Giles West
Guthega	November	Rob Wignell

B. Day Trips

Location	Tentative dates	Organised by
Temora (Air Display)	?	Rod Burgess
Japanese Gardens at Cowra (possibly combined with Canola displays)	?	Warren Hicks to investigate and recommend whether this should be a day trip or an overnight stay.
Multi Cultural Festival	February 13 to 15	Norm Fisher
Gibraltar Falls	March, April or May ?	Rebecca Hayes
Night Photography	?	
Architecture (New Acton)	?	
Challenges (eg fixed lens)	?	
Grafitti and public art	?	

As can be seen from the above information, we by no means have a complete itinerary for the year. This presents an opportunity for members to put their hands up to suggest and help organise some excursions.

Walkabout Group

Walkabout Group Calendar 2015

Walkabouts for 2015

Some members met at the Botanic Gardens on the 11th of December to discuss the walkabouts for 2015. There were many ideas and locations discussed and one point made was that some locations may be difficult for our older members to negotiate due to rough terrain. Accordingly we decided to grade future walkabouts as “Easy”, “Medium”, and “Adventurous”. We came up with so many ideas that we also decided to sometimes schedule more than one walkabout in a month. If two walkabouts are scheduled, the first would be on the first Thursday of the month and the second would be on the third Thursday.

Below is the tentative list of walkabouts, but just because some of us have compiled this list it does not mean that other ideas and suggestions are not welcome. Basically, if any member wants to organise a walkabout, then we are keen to publicise it in order to get the maximum turnout.

Date	Location	Organised by	Level
19 Feb	ANU	Laurie Westcott	Easy
5 March	Googong Dam, London Bridge		Adventurous
19 March	Queanbeyan		Easy
16 April	Collector and nearby vineyards	Laurie Westcott	Easy
7 May	Tarrago, Bungendore, windfarms	Laurie Westcott	Easy
21 May	ANU, New Acton Precinct	Laurie Westcott	Easy

Date	Location	Organised by	Level
18 June	Queanbeyan Glassworks	Rob Wignell	Easy
16 July	Botanic Gardens	Denis Walsh	Medium
20 August	A local homestead (eg Lanyon)	Mike Gauntlett	Easy
3 Sept	Honeysuckle Creek / Booroomba Rocks	Denis Walsh	Adventurous
17 Sept	Warri Bridge / Braidwood	Bev Baley	Easy/ Medium
15 October	Michelago, Bredbo, Captains Flat	Laurie Westcott	Easy
5 Nov	Mulligans Flat	Laurie Westcott	Adventurous
19 Nov	Tidbinbilla		Easy/ Medium

Other walks that were considered and are only in need of an organiser are: “The Big Hole” (in the Deua State Forest) and the National Museum.

As can be seen from the above list, some walkabouts are still in need of an organiser and Laurie Westcott has taken on a big load. Additional members who would like to take on some of the organising would be most welcome to do so.

Another topic we discussed was the possibility of people bringing a laptop along to the walkabouts so that we could connect our cameras and display our photos on site. This would possibly help people to come up with ideas and at the very least, it would engender more discussion.

Finally, to those who helped compile this list, if I have made any mistakes please let me know and I will endeavour to correct them in the next edition.

Excursion Reports

There was no official excursion listed for December in the previous newsletter, however after a notice sent out to members by Rob Wignell, a group met near the National Museum on New Year's Eve to take fireworks photos. **Bev Bayley** went along and compiled the following report.

I went to the last outing of 2014 for the SCC – the New Year's Eve fireworks.

We met at 8.00 at the usual site at the end of the peninsula behind the Australian Museum, facing the Commonwealth bridge. By 9.00, when the fireworks started, there were quite a few people there, but we were not crowded. There were 7 of us from the Camera Club trying our luck. Although, even after a quite hot day, we did need jumpers and light coats, the breeze wasn't strong, and it was not too cold.

This year was different to usual – instead of the fireworks being on and behind the Commonwealth Bridge, we had to turn to the left to view them. I believe they were being launched from Garema Place in Civic. They showed up very well from our position, and I think we were all positive about the results.

By 9.15 it was over, and we made our way back to the cars and home. I don't know how many of our group were going to come back for the midnight display, which should have been more impressive than the earlier show. I'm afraid I chickened out, and saw the New Year in watching the Sydney display on TV.

My photos were taken on manual, ISO 200, at F18 for 2 seconds.









Thank you Bev for these photos.

F22 Gallery

This month I have no set of photographs sent to me specifically for the F22 Gallery, so I am going to indulge an idea I had recently. I had a look through the various F22 Galleries for 2014 and I was struck by the wide variety of genres and by the quality of the photos. Accordingly I am going to feature what I consider to be the five best F22 Gallery photos of 2014. This selection is my own personal choice and I admit that I am no authority when it comes to judging photos. If your photos don't feature in this selection then all I can say is that none of my own photos made the cut either (at one stage my bizarre humour tempted me to display five of my own photos and no one else's).



Safia at the Lake Barry McGloin

This photo by Barry McGloin from the February 2014 issue has a dreamy impressionistic quality which I admire.



This early morning landscape by a mystery photographer is from the April issue.



This photo from the June edition is by Rohan Samara and is a great example of “capturing the moment”.



This photo breaks away from the usual genres. It is by Warren Colledge and is from the November edition.



And finally this close up from the December edition is by Laurie Westcott.

DigSig

The next DigSig will be held Wednesday 25 February, 2015.

Software Buddies

If you need help with using post production software, a few club members have volunteered to try and help sort out problems using Photoshop Elements, Photoshop Lightroom, Photoshop Creative Suite and Apple Aperture. The contacts are:

Photoshop Elements: Peter Bliss at bliss.images@yahoo.com.au

Photoshop Lightroom: Peter Bliss at bliss.images@yahoo.com.au

Photoshop Creative Suite: Graeme Kruse at gkruse@bigpond.net.au

Apple Aperture: Claude Morson at claudemorson@gmail.com

Club Websites

<http://www.southsidecameraclub.com/>

flickr: <http://www.flickr.com/groups/southsidecc/>

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/470954196380232/>

News

Current and forthcoming exhibitions

National Portrait Gallery

National Photographic Portrait Prize Exhibition

From Saturday 21 March until Monday 8 June 2015

The National Photographic Portrait Prize exhibition is selected from a national field of entries that reflect the distinctive vision of Australia's aspiring and professional portrait photographers and the unique nature of their subjects.

Life and Time

Portraits by Rod McNicol

From Friday 12 June until Sunday 23 August 2015



Maryan, 2010 by Rod McNicol from the series Newcomers to my village.

Born in 1946, Australian photographer Rod McNicol has consistently analysed the passing of time through the evidence of the photographic portrait. At once confronting and tender, McNicol's portrait photographs are bold and intimate. McNicol founded The Photographers Gallery in South Yarra Melbourne in 1975. He was awarded the National Photographic Portrait Prize 2012 for his portrait of Indigenous actor Jack Charles. This exhibition is developed in partnership with the Monash Gallery of Art Melbourne.

National Gallery of Australia

James Turrell - a retrospective

An exhibition from 13 December 2014 until 8 June 2015

This exhibition follows three highly successful shows throughout 2013—at the Los Angeles County Museum of Art, the Museum of Fine Arts, Houston, and the Guggenheim in New York. It brings together works from LACMA's tour, with spectacular installations purpose-built for Canberra, drawings, prints and

photographs. This is contemporary art like you've never seen before and promises an experience not to be missed.

National Archives of Australia

A Ticket to Paradise?

28 November 2014 to 9 March 2015

A Ticket to Paradise? delves into the rich diversity of the nation's migrants and their experiences, and looks at promotional campaigns which presented a Utopian view of Australia as a welcoming country full of opportunity.

The exhibition features archival film footage, audio recordings, and many images of migrants taken between the 1940s and 1990s, and a special interactive globe featuring personal stories of migration.

Canberra Museum and Gallery (London Circuit Civic)

Down to the wire: Australian Police peacekeeping in Cyprus

Currently on until Sunday 8 February 2015

2014 marked the 50th anniversary of the first overseas mission undertaken by Australian police –peacekeeping in Cyprus with the United Nations.

The exhibition covers operational duties as well as work and social life on the mission. Delivered in partnership with the Australian Federal Police Museum, Canberra.

Online Resources

DP Review can be found by clicking on the following link
www.dpreview.com.

Copyright Issues

Paul Livingston is my most prolific source of links and they are always very interesting and relevant to our interest in photography. The subject of copyright often comes up in our discussions and Paul has thoughtfully provided two links to Australian sites dealing with the subject generally and also parts specifically about photography.

Australian Copyright Council – <http://www.copyright.org.au>
Arts Law Centre of Australia – <http://www.artslaw.com.au>

The Most Expensive Photograph

Rob Wignell has provided a link to a news article about Australian Photographer Peter Lik, who recently sold the most expensive photograph in history.

<http://www.lik.com/news/newsarticle57/>

Digital Camera World - Predictions for 2015

Here is a link to Digital Camera World which features their choice of the best photography of 2014 and their top camera predictions for 2015.

<http://future-publishing.msgf.net/c/11CMoNq0C8kvt7urWIDEA0Rx8O>

Sensor Crop Factors and Equivalence

Laurie Westcott has provided a link to a site that provides all the information you would ever need to know about sensor crop factors and equivalence. This sounds esoteric, but is basically about the differences you can expect to find when using different sized sensors in digital cameras: for example a full frame sensor such as is used in a Canon EOS 5D versus a camera with a micro four thirds sensor.

<https://photographylife.com/sensor-crop-factors-and-equivalence#more-97334>

Photography Quotes

When looking for something for “And Finally ...” I came upon a website with quotations from many photographers. It has some reflections about the non-technical aspects of photography.

photoquotes.com

Member Profile

This month's profile of Rob Wignell is placed in the AGM report section on page 2 as I considered that a more appropriate position for information about about our new Club President.

If you enjoy reading these profiles, please consider sending me your own stories. It's not often that you will be offered a chance for immortality (or immorality for that matter).

And Finally ...

Some pictures are tentative forays without your even knowing it. They become methods. It's important to take bad pictures. It's the bad ones that have to do with what you've never done before. They can make you recognise something you hadn't seen in a way that will make you recognise it when you see it again. - *Diane Arbus*

Note from the Editor

Last month I said that this edition would not be written as I was under the impression that there would be no January meeting. I was wrong of course, so I thought I had better produce a January newsletter, but I'm trying to keep it mercifully short.

See you at the meeting on 14 January.

John

Club Office Bearers

Position	Person	Contact details
President	Rob Wignell	sscc.president@gmail.com 0416 055 322
Secretary/Treasurer	Iain Cole	icole@grapevine.com.au
Newsletter Editor	John Franze	jxk@netspeed.com.au 0434 558 925