



f22: Southside Camera Club Newsletter

March 2015

Club Meeting – 7:30 pm on Wednesday 11 March 2015
at the Burns Club, 8 Kett Street, Kambah

Events

Monthly Meeting Topics for 2015

Meeting Date	Topic	Presenter(s)	Notes
11 March	How much processing is too much?	Panel discussion	Submit before and after shots
8 April	Presentation on a photographer	Paul Livingston	Subject is an art/ documentary photographer who will be named on the night.
13 May	Critiquing photographs	Ken Crawford, Paul Livingston	Panel discussion
10 June	Composition and displaying photographs for competition	Ken Crawford	
8 July	Studio flash and portraits	Paul Livingston	

Meeting Date	Topic	Presenter(s)	Notes
12 August	Presentation on a photographer	Malcolm Watson	
9 September	Kayell		
14 October	PhotoAccess		
11 November	Presentation on a photographer		
9 December	AGM and show and tell		Bring your best photos for the year

February Meeting Report

Before Rod Burgess's talk on Lightroom, some significant club business was concluded. The most significant was that Moira Parkinson has kindly agreed to edit the Club Yearbook once more. More information about this can be found in the next section. Our Treasurer, Iain Cole provided information about light boxes, light tents and photo backdrops, as the club has sufficient funds to purchase some of these items for borrowing by members.

Jeff Cutting brought along two tripods for sale, plus a number of giveaway items. I believe buyers were found for both of the tripods.

Rod's talk on Lightroom gave a very good overview of its capabilities without going into the fine details of the product. Specific information, particularly on photo-editing may be the subject of some DigSig meetings during the year.

Rob's Rant

This is what used to be called the President's message, but I couldn't resist the new title.

In mid February, I took up a "homework" challenge from Thom Hogan (google bythom) when he asked readers to write in to tell him the biggest problem you need solving. A few days later he wrote an extended article summarising and commenting on the range of issues that his readers raised. (see: <http://www.dsrlrbodies.com/newsviews/homework-results-reviewed.html>) Most of the responses seemed to be about technical issues but, although I could list a lot of technical things that I would like to see improved: better lenses; improved workflow; better integrating between cameras and the other electronic devices that most of us carry, I had to admit to myself that none of these are my biggest problem.

The biggest problem for me is finding interesting images or original interpretations in the landscapes and other scenes that I photograph. Fortunately, trying to solve this problem doesn't require waiting for someone else to produce a new lens, better software or more pixels. But it does require me to look wider for inspiration on how others have tried to improve their craft and to think of methods and actions that I can take.

My main photographic interest is landscape photography and I especially like to get into the Snowy Mountains to take photos in the snow.

So, the project for this year is to read more and look at more work by landscape photographers and to put more consideration into what I want before I take the shot.

I hope that at least one of my 2015 Best Photos for the Yearbook comes from this conscious process and not just the blind luck that has formed many of my best.

Keep clicking.
Rob Wignell

Southside Camera Club Yearbook for 2014

As mentioned previously Moira Parkinson has once again volunteered to edit our annual Yearbook. This augers well, as Moira has produced such beautiful yearbooks previously.

To produce a really valuable memento of what our club members accomplished in 2014 you are all urged to contribute two of your best shots for the year. It's not every day that you have a chance to achieve a little bit of immortality.

Details of the yearbook requirements are as follows.

1. Two images per member, one in portrait orientation and one landscape. Preferably include a text file (e.g. word doc/docx file) with captions and shooting details - camera, lens, focal length, shutter speed, f stop and iso.
2. Members are encouraged to include a small thumbnail image of yourself and a brief bio/statement about your photography;
3. Image format - jpg, minimum of 2000 pixels on the shortest side, NB please set the colour space to sRGB;
4. Submit images to Moira either by email/cd/memory stick.
Contact details for queries- phone 62317683
email: moira.parkinson@gmail.com;
5. Images to be submitted by the 29th March 2015;
6. Your submissions should use the following filename conventions/formats/
minimum shortest side size (pixels):

Image files

last-name_initial_PortraitImage jpg sRGB 2000
 last-name_initial_LandscapelImage jpg sRGB 2000
 last-name_initial_ThumbnaillImage jpg sRGB 500

Text files

last-name_initial_Captions doc/docx/txt (image captions and shooting details)

(You can get shooting details from the image EXIF metadata, to see this right click on the image and go to properties.)

last-name_initial_Bio doc/docx/txt

Don't be reticent in submitting an image. The yearbook is meant to be a record of our club's work and what members consider their best work. We all look at the images in it with admiration and envy and think 'I wish I'd taken that picture', so get your images in. If you need help with image formats and colour spaces please contact Moira. (If you shoot jpg, straight out of the camera and haven't changed anything it will be sRGB by default.)

Monthly Excursions for 2015

Date	Activity	Organised by	Notes
7 March	Canberra Balloon Fiesta		Meet 6.30 am
14 March	Skyfire	Chris Fitzgerald	Meet at the National Museum
April	Gibraltar Falls		
15-16 May	Eden	Giles West	Quarantine Bay Cottages
6 June or 20 June	Studio Session		
August	Architectural Photography New Acton	Warren Hicks	Combine with a challenge?
September	Cowra Japanese Gardens		Also Canola Flowering
October	Night Photography		National Museum of Australia
14-15 November	Guthega	Rob Wignell	

Walkabout Group

walkabout Group Calendar 2015

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 March	London Bridge	Bev Bailey	Adventurous
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
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

March Walkabout

London Bridge on Thursday 19 March, led by Bev Baley.

Meet between 8.45 am and 9.00am on Old Cooma Road, where the newish Edwin Land Parkway (which joins Jerrabomberra to the south end of Queanbeyan) meets

Old Cooma Road. Here, at the lights, there is a short dead-end extension of Edwin Land Parkway, where we can park till we're organised.

From there we will travel nearly 20 km, to the London Bridge Shearing Shed. (8.3km to the Burra Road, then 7.7km to the London Bridge Road, then 3.2 km to the shed.) Then it's a walk of under 1 km to the London Bridge on Burra Creek, along the dirt road and a walking track, which is rocky on the bridge itself. Anyone who doesn't feel like taking the walk may fill their time photographing the shearing shed area. (Unfortunately the shed and yards don't look terribly old, so don't have the character one would look for in a shearing shed, but hopefully there will be enough of interest.)

I anticipate leaving there at 10.00 to 10.30, and travelling a short distance to Tin Hut Dam, where there is a car park within 50 metres of the dam.

There are 3 bird hides at points around the dam. I haven't been right round the dam, which is not a large area, but what I have seen is easy walking, on natural paths.

After we have spent time there, we can walk a short way up the hill to a weather shed which has tables and 2 barbecues, for our cuppa. I intend to take water and cooker to heat it for our coffee/tea, plus scones.

Excursion Reports

Multicultural Festival

Multicultural Festival - Excursion for Saturday, 14 February 2015 - by Bev Bayley

10am saw seven of our group meeting at the Canberra Times Fountain outside David Jones. The weather was cloudy, but quite pleasant – not too hot, yet not cold.

We broke up into smaller groups to wander round looking for street photography opportunities, and there were plenty available. There were 5 stages set up, plus another 3 platforms, where various groups were demonstrating dance, music and song, of many countries. The costumes were very colourful and elaborate. There

were also individual performers or groups positioned at various points away from the stages.

When we started, the tents lining the streets were still opening. At 10.00am the streets were not very crowded, although there were quite a lot of people walking around. It gradually became busier. We had a couple of light showers, not heavy enough to find shelter for ourselves, or even put our cameras away – just to protect them a little.

As we passed the various stalls we were assailed by mouth-watering odours from the many varieties of multicultural foods, sampling here and there as we felt the urge.

We walked round the streets till 12.00 noon, when we rejoined our group at the fountain. Some members had already left, but other members had come after 10.00am. So there were six of us to find a coffee shop downstairs in the Canberra Centre where we sat and chatted for an hour or so before we headed outside again.

Some of us stayed in the area for a while longer, taking more photos. Neryl and I eventually left between 3.30 and 4.00. It was starting to sprinkle again, and I believe we left just in time, as I heard many people were chased away by heavier rain.

Below are some photos taken at the Multicultural Festival.





Photos by Bev Baley









ANU Walkabout Thursday 19 February - by Laurie Westcott

By 9 am the sun was still hidden by clouds and my hoped for slanting shadows of a morning sun adding another layer of interest to the textured cladding and complex geometric designs of both windows and walls of the various buildings in the ANU Science precinct were missing. So in a rather flat but strengthening light, Club members spread out to view and catch those aspects of these remarkably photogenic buildings that appealed to them. Apart from enjoying walking around the buildings and through the open areas in between, we were able to access and photograph in the foyers of 2 two buildings.

The variety of shapes, lines, colours and vistas provided opportunities for all and the rush of students between lectures and venues on the hour, a mix of subjects for the taking. Hopefully you'll see some great results at the next Club meeting.

After 2 hours of photography, the group slowly gathered to order beverages in the "Little Pickle" Café and settle in to discuss the experience and "every thing else".

Here are some of Laurie's photos from the walkabout.





F22 Gallery

Malcolm Watson

These photo montages by Malcolm Watson are a great addition to the gallery.

















Alison Milton

Alison is a new member of the club. Here are some of her images.



Fungi, Monga National Park

Fern leaf





Suzie Q in action



The pianist and backup singers



A whimsical Suzie

Relay for Life

A Fantastic Photo Opportunity

For a number of years Chris Fitzgerald has been helping the Cancer Council by photographing the Relay for Life fundraising event. Chris is looking for volunteers from the club to assist by attending the event and taking photographs.

Here is Chris's description of the event.

Once again a year has gone past with extreme speed and the Relay For Life charity walk is coming up at the end of March. I am looking for some help in donating our photographic expertise to this worthy cause. I would especially like some help with the opening ceremony and first lap charge. It is one of the emotional moments of the event and I don't feel I have captured it well enough in the past. If any of you can provide some time, even just one hour would be most helpful. The more points of view I can provide for the organisers the more choice they have for the promo photos in their pamphlets.

It is a great opportunity to create portraits on the run, literally, with permission and little harassment. I have found it challenging and absolutely fascinating to take photos at this event. The extended time allows for experiment and practice of technique with numerous subjects to capture in action. I have always enjoyed the friendly atmosphere and welcoming feel of this event, from the first lap charge through the evenings solemn candlelight ceremony, to the misty dawn breakfast and the last lap dash to finish a wonderful 24 hour sojourn. It provides a thoughtful photographer with enough challenges to last a year, till the next one. So consider if you can spare some time over the weekend at the end of March (28th and 29th) for a photographic challenge.

Please contact me at chris.fitzgerald55@gmail.com so I can let the organisers know how many to expect and provide tee-shirts for to mark you as a volunteer photographer.

The details are:

Event: Cancer Council ACT Relay For Life Charity Walk
Where: AIS Athletic Track
When: Midday Saturday 28th March to midday Sunday 29th March (24 hours)
Contact: chris.fitzgerald55@gmail.com

I have attended the event on a couple of occasions and I strongly concur with Chris that it is a great photographic opportunity. There are runners, dancers, musicians, store holders and a huge range of opportunities to take interesting photographs.

Below are two of my own photos from the event.



DigSig

The next DigSig will be held Wednesday 25 March, 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.

Online Resources

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

Everything you ever wanted to know about Nikon Cameras

For those Nikon addicts in the club, here is a link to a site where the complete range of Nikon camera models is explained.

<http://future-publishing.msgfocus.com/c/11EwgS8YU1ZnLMIBhPANGHKjRp>

Book Review - Photography, Narrative, Time: Imaging Our Forensic Imagination. By Greg Battye

There is a pretty comprehensive book review by Simon Weaving that appeared in the SMH in last September about the book.

<http://www.smh.com.au/entertainment/books/book-review-photography-narrative-time-greg-battye-20140919-10app3.html>

Be Careful How You Use Your Camera!

Warren Colledge sent this interesting snippet.

Thought you might be interested in this small newspaper article from the US.

I would not like to see this happen here in Oz.

http://www.cascadiaweekly.com/currents/farmworker_groups_oppose_agricultural_interference_bill

We usually follow the Americans in most things and already there is talk of laws to prohibit photographers from photographing scenes of animal cruelty on farms in Australia, so Warren's link could be prophetic.

Antique colour photos made from potato starch & more

Paul Livingston sent the following 4 links.

Interesting article about the Lumière brothers introducing the first viable method of colour photography in 1907.

http://news.nationalgeographic.com/news/2015/01/pictures/150131-pictures-autochrome-color-photography-history-people-culture/?utm_source=Facebook&utm_medium=Social&utm_content=link_fb20150201news-autochrome&utm_campaign=Content&sf7217410=1

Another article about Russian colour photography 1909-1912.

http://www.boston.com/bigpicture/2010/08/russia_in_color_a_century_ago.html

Why are people shooting film an Ilford survey.

<http://pdnpulse.pdnonline.com/2015/02/ilford-film-photographer-study.html>

Interesting video on Michael Paul Smith who creates historical photos of detailed models. I've seen his work online a few times and what he does is fascinating and so realistic.

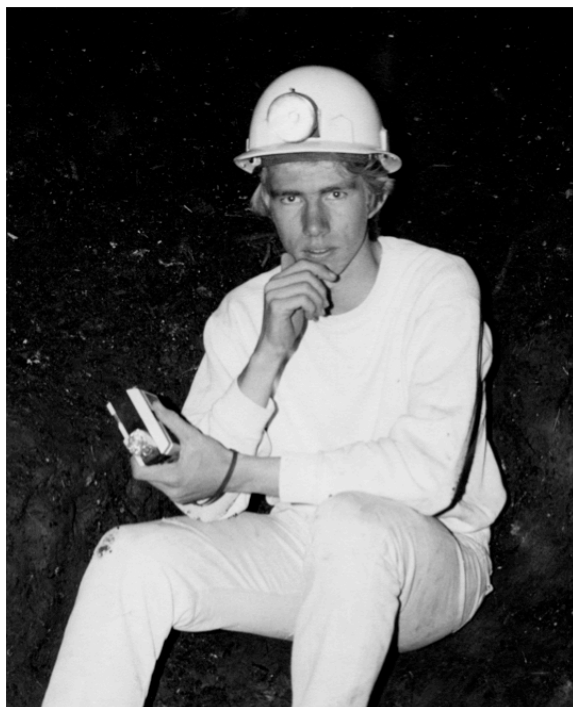
<http://petapixel.com/2015/02/02/look-michael-paul-smith-creates-historical-photos-incredibly-detailed-models/>

Member Profile

The profile this month is of Peter Bliss. Peter has moved to Sydney, but he is still a member of the club. I'm sure that all of you except those who have joined the club recently, will remember his beautiful landscapes.

Peter Bliss - The Early Years

I was asked to write this for another group I'm in and thought I'd share my early days of photography with you.



Me with my trusty Kodak Instamatic 104 on one of my many caving trips, 1970, by Chris Pavich

My earliest recollection of an interest in photography is when I discovered some old photos in a dusty hall sideboard at my grandparents' house. I spent hours sifting through my Grandfathers prints and negatives which he took while exploring for gold in the New Guinea highlands in 1928.

New Guinea Highlanders, Akmana Expedition 1928, by my grandfather, H. V. Seale

Later I became totally hooked when I saw many of mum's amazing



landscapes during our family slide nights. Mum had a great eye, and we were never bored, but eager to see what was on the next roll of Kodachrome that arrived in the letterbox. Yes, Kodachrome had to be sent to the Kodak lab in Melbourne back then and it took two weeks to get the processed and mounted slides back.



Stirling Ranges and Carnarvon Gorge, Elizabeth Bliss. Kodachrome 64 slide film

The first camera I used was Mum's old 6x6 Ensign FUL-VUE that I took on a scout camp to The Basin on Pittwater in 1965. Here's a shot from the first roll of film I ever put through a camera.



The Basin, Pittwater, 1966. Ensign FUL-VUE

I progressed from this to an old Kodak folding camera I found in my grandparents garage.



Vintage Car Rally, Lane Cove National Park, 1968. Kodak No. 1A Pocket Camera

I only took a few rolls with this till I received a Kodak Instamatic 104 for my 15th birthday. I took this on many camping and caving trips taking mostly Kodachrome 64 slides and B&W, never colour prints.



1971 The Sydney Opera House under construction, from the rooftop cafeteria of the AMP building, Kodak Instamatic 104

It was with this camera that I discovered my passion for landscape photography, probably partly because I didn't relate to people so well when I was a shy, pimply teenager.

The Kodak Instamatic served me well till I asked for an SLR for my 21st as the Instamatic just wasn't producing the results I was after. I was given a Yashica TL Electro X ITS, what a name for a camera.

I took the Yashica with me to the Flinders Ranges, New Zealand and Tasmania and spent many hours sitting on a headland on the northern beaches taking shots of waves and surfers. This was as much as a form of meditation as anything else, or was it to get out of study for my university exams. The surfing shots were never great, but I've always loved the seascapes.



Big Seas, Warriewood, 1973. Yashica TL Electro X ITS. Scanned Cibachrome print

After moving to Bathurst in 1976 I met an amateur landscape photographer, Ted Mista, and joined the local camera club. Ted and I went on many trips including Kanangara Walls, Hill End, Newnes, Menindee and Mutawinge. Photographing with Ted improved my photography immensely as we shared ideas and the love of landscape photography. During this time I upgraded to a Minolta XD7 and later to a Mamiya RB67 medium format camera.



The Road to Kanangara, 1985. Mamiya RB 67 Pro s

After moving back to Mona Vale in 1980, I met some photographers exhibiting in Warriewood Square. I asked if I could join with them, and after seeing my photos, I was in the little group of 6 photographers. You will all know one of the photographers from that group, Peter Eastway. We printed and framed our own photos, mine exclusively on Cibachrome from transparencies. The group exhibited at the Sydney Festival, in various

shopping centres and even in the Commonwealth Bank n Martin Place. During this time I sold many prints, and I even had one of them stolen from the exhibition in the bank!

I learned how to print and frame my own work and a lot about what makes a good photograph from this group. At the exhibition in the Sydney Festival, Max Dupain reviewed our work in the Sydney Morning Herald and stated that it was soporific. Oh well, I hope I've improved since then, we all know Peter Eastway has.

In 1985 I moved to the Blue Mountains and drifted away from the group, but I continued to sell my photos under the name of Bliss Images.

In the late 1980s I sold the RB 67 and bought a Mamiya 645 Super. In 1988, I carried this camera and 4 lenses on a 14 day trek in Kashmir. The porters were constantly asking if they could carry it for me, but I insisted on carrying it the whole way.



Nomadic shepherds, Warwan Valley, Kashmir, 1988. Mamiya 645 Super

In 1990 I trekked through Nepal. For this trip, I took my Minolta XD7, as I found the 645 was too intimidating for people shots. My Nepal shots consequently included far more people.



Village woman weaving, Nepal, 1990. Minolta XD7, scanned Cibachrome print

From 1992 till 2007 I was taking mainly family shots and my serious photography was on hold till the digital age. I still used my Minolta XD7 till 2006.

For a long time I actively avoided reading any photography magazines as I always maintained that I could develop my own style without any outside influences. This seemed to be a good idea at the time, but these days, I wouldn't consider such a move. There is so much to learn from other photographers and collaborative groups like Focus. I'd say my biggest influences would be the work of Ansel Adams, Eliot Porter and Galen Rowell, though you probably wouldn't guess that from the shots I have included here.

I still have a great interest in film and quite a collection of old cameras. My favourite is the Hasselblad SWC.



Argyle Stairs, 2014. Hasselblad SWC

I hope you've enjoyed sharing my journey through my film days in photography. One day I might write about my camera collection.

I would like to thank Peter for providing this very interesting insight into his photographic journey.

No doubt there are many of you with interesting photographic journeys, so please consider submitting your own stories. Don't be shy.

Advertisement

For Sale

Wanting to upgrade so selling as kit.

Sony a850 24MP full frame body only - just under 55000 actuations.

Sony HVL-F42AM flash.

Sony FA-HS1AM hot shoe adapter.

Original Sony battery, usb cable, charger with Australian plug, manual.

16GB and 8GB compact flash cards

Asking price \$1100 negotiable.

Contact

Ray Mac Neill

0427 916 284

And Finally ...

A photographic portrait is a picture of someone who knows he is being photographed. - *Richard Avedon - 1933*

Note from the Editor

Amy Meyer is a citizen of Utah USA who saw a sick cow being pushed along by a bulldozer outside a slaughterhouse. She filmed this and was later prosecuted under Utah's "Ag gag" laws which are aimed to curtail the activities of terrorists (politician's terminology - not mine) such as animal liberationists who want to prevent cruelty to farm animals.

Similar laws are proposed for Australia. In addressing the 2013 NSW Farmers' Association Annual Conference the NSW Minister for Primary Industries, Katrina Hodgkinson, had this to say:

"It seems every week now where you've got animal activists breaking into intensive farms,"

"We simply have to win. I've spoken very strongly to other government ministers in relation to this and the NSW Government is now looking at what we can do in this space as well."

"We have to keep putting it up to city people that don't, may not necessarily understand our farming practices and how important they are, that they cannot support these groups such as Animals Australia and cannot support what they're doing."

"These people are vandals. These people are akin to terrorists."

(Katrina Hodgkinson lives nearby at Yass, by the way.)

See <https://www.voiceless.org.au/content/animal-law-spotlight-hodgkinson's-cheap-shot>

I like meat on my plate as much as the next person, but nobody can tell me that cruel, or just plain careless farming procedures are necessary to achieve this.

So what does this have to do with a local camera club newsletter? Just that photographers and film makers are the only people who can produce credible evidence that can be used to curtail animal cruelty and we should be vocal to prevent another freedom being chipped away.

The **ONLY** language that politicians understand or respond to, is the threat to their generous incomes from loss of votes. If the noise and ire that thousands of concerned citizens can raise exceeds that of the few farmers who want a carte blanche to continue with outdated farming practices, then they will be listened to, but otherwise not. The charges against Amy Meyer were hastily dropped after a public backlash when the story came out, but these laws still exist in Utah. The people have enormous power if we choose to exercise it. The backdowns after last year's budget are good evidence for that. The resistance to the budget from the Senate was producing nothing but an impasse, but when the politicians saw their electoral chances declining, it was amazing how quickly they responded.

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