



November
2016
No. 101

From the President's Bunker

Hi Everyone,
News from Committee



Competition Mounts –

As from our January 2017 the club will only be purchasing A4 sized mounts for members to purchase for the print sections of the club competitions. Members are free to reuse their smaller mounts if they wish when entering the print sections.

Members Handbook –

This will be reviewed over the summer by committee to update the club competition information and any other out of date information in the handbook. Members are reminded Version 5 December 2014 of the handbook is available on the website. Members will be notified when this is replaced by Version 6.

Club 2017 Planning Day

Our annual planning day was held on Sunday 6th November – thanks to everyone that attended or sent suggestions for next year's program. Thank you to Ronnie and Ray for hosting the day and providing the BBQ once we had finished our planning.

Club Competitions: Those at the meeting brainstormed our task subjects for the years club competitions. You can find a copy of these with definitions attached to this newsletter. These will also be available on the website.

Workshops: Between everyone at the meeting we came up with a list of guest speakers for our workshops – landscape photographer, Astro photographer, portrait photographer to name a few. Committee are currently confirming presentation dates with these speakers. Due to the positive feedback from members regarding the Pentagon discussion groups in 2016 these will be back on the program for 2017.

Field trips: There were plenty of suggestions for field trips for 2017 including some overnight trips to Melbourne, Baw Baw and Conran. Also day trips to local attractions which should make for some great photo opportunities.

The club program for 2017 will be available on the web in the not too distant future once we have confirmation from our guest speakers.

Happy Snapping

Vicki

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Editorial News

Hands up who says photographing outdoors in summer is their favourite past time? Hm, not many, I would think. Summer is the season of washed out images with over exposed highlights, black shadows.

And yet, get up early and capture magnificent sunrises. At breakfast time capture the blue sky against the drab colour of old buildings or bright beach sheds when the sun is high in the sky.

Or try portraits in the shade to avoid harsh shadows.

Grab that golden hue from evening the sky, or start night time photography when the dark blue sky persists for about an hour before darkness takes over.

Or take on board the judge's comments at the last workshop and create a silhouette by pointing the camera at the sun. My task would be, to improve on contrast in the photograph.



Kangaroo Silhouette.
Photo by Val Bragg

Or photograph the weather.

Wild and Wool weather, as Vicki Jesty observes.

Hasn't the wind been amazing this spring – here's a big swell I captured a couple of weeks ago.



Take a look at the winning photos of the Back-lighting Comp from the October workshop.
<http://www.egps.com.au/index.php/competition-winners>

In summer, a photographer's lunch time should be reserved for eating lunch. And there is a lot of that around, among the pre-Christmas festivities. Just in case that priceless photo of a feeding mouth hovers over the table, a small camera with fill flash will always fit into a side pocket.



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What's On, at a glance

Next Workshop is on Wednesday 23rd Nov. Be there at 7 pm, for a 7:30 start.

It starts with the Annual Awards Night.

For the short session, Matt White will be presenting Drones and their Use in Photography.

For the **Christmas Workshop** on 14th Dec, there will be judging of the **Feel the Cold Competition**.

Wear a Christmas theme and bring a plate to share. Keep it small, we don't want lots of leftovers.

End of the Year BBQ will be at Buchan on Sunday, 11th Dec. People wanting to go for a walk up Springs Creek before the BBQ meet at McDonald's in Bairnsdale at 8 am, then meet the others at the Bruthen Bakery at 8:30. If you plan to go only through the caves, meet others at the Buchan Caves Reserve at around 11:30 am.

It is BYO everything for the BBQ.



The next **Special Interest Group** is on Wednesday, 18th January 2017 at 7 pm at the Historical Museum Hall, McAuley Street, Bairnsdale. Bring your laptop and questions, and any images you wish to work on.

Please note there is no Special Interest Group in December.

Entries for the **Pets/Animals Comp** close on 25th Jan 2017.

Pets and animals could include your pets, birds, fish, horses, cows, any domesticated animal, wild animals or animals in a Zoo.

What's on Elsewhere

Winning prints of the **47th National Ballarat Photography Competition** will be displayed in the Ballarat Art Gallery from 10th Dec 2016 till 15th Jan.

Entries for the **Maitland International Photographic Salon** close on 16th Jan. For details, see maitlandsalon.myphotoclub.com.au/

Entries for the **National Photographic Portrait Prize 2017** have now closed. Winning entries will be displayed at the National Portrait Gallery in Canberra from 1st April until 18th June 2017.

www.portrait.gov.au

The VAPS Annual Convention, and also the VAPS Interstate Photographic Convention, are being held concurrently on 27th and 28th May 2017 in Frankston. Watch the VAPS newsletter for updates.



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My Stuff

Val Braggs

Val feels at home on the farm north of Stratford, where the cleared agricultural land gives way to the beginnings of the wilderness of the foothills of the Great Dividing Range. Squatters and landholders have done so before her, more than one hundred years ago.

On most morning she looks outside the window, her eyes feast on a parade of kangaroos, emus, the occasional wombat, black cockatoos and other native birds. Or she may go for a short walk across the paddock or on the road, with camera on hand.



Needless to say, Val has done rather well with her photographs that she submitted to competitions during her two years of membership with the East Gippsland Photographic Society. Initially, she entered the Print competitions; later changed to Digital.



Born and bred locally, Val's inspiration began early in life. She recalls wandering the paddocks and the swamps of McLeod's Morass as a ten-year old.



Val has since upgraded to a Canon 7D SLR. Many times has the fast shutter been useful for photographing birds and other animals.

For now, she would like to continue to explore the full functionality of the 7D, though she is also exploring how she could do better with a full frame camera.



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Comp Prep

Photography of pets and other animals

Closing Date: 25th January 2017

With Christmas and the New Year celebrations around the corner, this is an excellent time to photograph pets and other animals. I am partial to dogs. Like all animals, pets take lots of patience because they never get into the intended position, face a certain way, or hold still when they are meant to. Dogs often move too close to the camera or start licking the lens, while cats tend to quickly move away before you had the chance to press the shutter.

Photographs at eye level tend to look good, where the animal looks directly at the camera. A table brings smaller animals up to the human eye level, and this beats crawling on all fours to capture that direct eye contact.

Let the pet fill most of the frame, perhaps with a tele shot of the face. But keep the eyes sharp.



Pet fur often takes us into the realm of black and white. Both instances need compensation for the exposure that is automatically selected by the camera; otherwise the sensor produces a grey image. For detail in black fur, decrease the exposure. For white, open up. You may need to compensate by as much as two stops if the pet fills most of the frame.

Black fur leads to over exposure, because the sensor wants to turn the black into grey. Therefore, stop the exposure down. The opposite applies to a white pet. Here, the camera wants to under expose the image and produce a dirty grey. Therefore, increase the exposure.

Exposing for only the fur often creates problems elsewhere, so that the rest of the image is over- or under exposed. Multiple exposures could be the answer, but most pets won't keep still throughout the bracketed exposure shoot. Fortunately, there are other remedies.

Don't only look at the pet, but quickly scan the total picture, including the background. Remember composition.

For the moving pet, try continuous focus, possibly motor drive, as you would for sports photography.



Rather than capturing that perfectly exposed fur, aim for the texture of their coat. Or position the pet so that a light outlines the black fur or the facial features. Sunlight is an excellent source of light; though harsh sunlight creates too much contrast.

Above all, aim to capture the personality. What makes your animal so unique, loveable, and distinctive? Is it a physical characteristic that could be brought out by enhancing shape and texture? Or is it the content face after feeding or during a snooze? Be patient and wait for them



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EGPS Club Competitions 2017

Below is a list of our task subject for the 2017 club competitions. Members are able to submit two task photos and two open photos for each competition. Open photos can be of any subject matter.

“Task” Subjects

Photos must be submitted by:	Task and its definition.
Wednesday 25th January 2017	Pets / Animals Pets and animals could include your pets, birds, fish, horses, cows, any domesticated animal, wild animals or animals in a Zoo.
Wednesday 22nd February 2017	Still Life Still life can be almost anything that does not move, for examples and ideas check in on the internet by keying in still life photography, there are many photographic examples there. Still life is what the name infers, which most times is an inanimate object or objects
Wednesday 26th April 2017	Old Paint Old weathered barns, abandoned trucks and farm equipment, vintage graffiti, car graveyards, antique doors, these are all great places to find beauty in old paint. This assignment might be presented as an abstract, or as a complete object, but must draw the viewer's eye to the main subject of “old paint”
Wednesday 28th June 2017	Eyes When eyes are the main object in a photo, they often have a definite impact. This category is not limited to the eyes of humans; animals, birds, and insects can also be used. The eye or eyes of your subject should be in focus even if other parts of the subject are not. Catchlights in the eyes add impact and add interest.
Wednesday 23rd August 2017	Rural Scene Rural could be a landscape, a sunrise in a rural area, a lonely country road, farm animals or equipment. One way to add interest is to shoot from the animal's perspective which means getting down low. Don't be afraid to include the animal's habitat and to move in very close?
Wednesday 25th October 2017	Night photography Night time photography can be anything taken from sunset on, including the sunsets, they can include photos of buildings the moon the stars and star trails, anything that extrudes light at night and is visible to the naked eye is suitable.

Please note that all completion photos must be submitted by the workshop date listed.

This ensures our competition coordinators can collate and post the entries in a timely manner. This also gives our judges time to do their judging, write their comments and return the photos.

Please be mindful that late entries will not be accepted.



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