



# Doncaster Camera Newsletter Club

Doncaster Camera Club Inc.  
PO Box 1673 Doncaster East 3109  
ACN A0012955D

May 2012

## Club Information

### President

Val Armstrong - Ph: 9 841 8707

### Competition Steward:

Arthur Lilley - Ph: 9 842 5257

### Vice President/Newsletter Editor

John Smith Ph: 9 890 2957

### Secretary:

Beverly Dillon - Ph: 9 842 2441

### Treasurer:

Les Armstrong - Ph: 9 841 8707

### Committee Members:

Ian Game – Social Secretary

Graham Kay

Phil Ryan

Liz Reen

Pam Rixon

## How To Contact Us

### Mail:

PO Box 1673 Doncaster East 3109

### Attend a Meeting:

Visitors are most welcome to come to one of our monthly meetings and discuss membership details.

### Email:

[doncastercameraclub@yahoo.com.au](mailto:doncastercameraclub@yahoo.com.au)

### Web site:

[www.home.vicnet.net.au/~doncam/](http://www.home.vicnet.net.au/~doncam/)

## Meetings:

The Club meets on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Friday of each month at the Pilgrim Uniting Church, Westfield Drive, Doncaster, at 8.00pm.

A number of members meet at the Doncaster Hotel at 6.00pm prior to the meeting for a meal and a chat. All are welcome to join them.

Workshops are held generally 6 times each year usually as part of a meeting or separately on a suitable night.

Social Events - The club organises a number of social outings during the year inc. BBQ's & live theatre.

### Membership Subscriptions -

Single Membership - \$45.00

Family Membership - \$70.00

Full time Student - \$30.00

[Add \$10 if you elect to receive the monthly newsletter by post]

## Previous Meeting- April 2012

[This is an early Newsletter because our next meeting is a week earlier than usual to allow some members an early start for the VAPS Convention at Ballarat.]

We opened the evening with our Annual General Meeting and the election of the new Committee for the forthcoming year.

All the previous Committee were returned in their former positions with the exception of Adrian Donoghue who, after 5 years, has stepped down from the position of Vice President.

John Smith was elected Vice President and Graham Kay was elected to fill the vacant position on the Committee. We extend a welcome to Graham and thanks to Adrian for his years of valuable service to the Committee.

The annual President's Trophy was awarded to Pam Rixon for all her committee work and organization of the supper. Congratulations Pam.

We also take the opportunity to thank a number of other members who do the seen [and unseen!] extras.

Arthur Lilley for his tireless organization of the monthly/ annual and End Of Year competitions.

To Phil Ryan for efforts in producing and printing the annual and EOY competition certificates.

Most certainly to Liz Reen for all the work she put into re-designing and producing the re-vamped annual program.

To James Lew for operating the computer each meeting night and also those members who contribute to the setting up and putting away on those nights.

And to Bruce Millikan for all the photo work at these annual and EOY "do's" in producing the photos of the smiling winners.

To Alan Rash for his long serving maintenance of the Club's website. Thank you Alan!

And last, but certainly not least, to Gary Leete, who is our sponsor, Frameco. They have been generous in general sponsorship, with providing the trophy for our monochrome competition and finally in the copying our program.

The list is long so I apologise if I have not mentioned everyone.

Our judges for April were Peter Layton, Les Armstrong and Liesel Ingrassia. John Ingrassia was the observer. Thank you judges.

The leading entry in the Open Prints was Arthur Lilley's "Trondenés" with a score of 84. Congratulations to Arthur.

The leading entry in The Projected Images was Peter Walton's "Surprise, Surprise" with a score of 84. Congratulations to Peter.

The leading entry in the Small Prints was Val Armstrong's "Striking" with a score of 77. Congratulations also to Val.

On the night Pam Rixon scored 4 Merits/Honours and Val Armstrong gained 3 Merits/Honours.

The usual table of Merits and Honours and the highest scoring images appears later in the Newsletter.

We also held the presentation of our End Of Year Aggregate Awards.

The winner of the EOY Open Prints Award [The Fred Drakeford Memorial Trophy] was Arthur Lilley with a total score of 1695 points. Congratulations to Arthur.

Second placing went to Pam Rixon and third placing to Ralph Petty. Congratulations also to Pam and Ralph.

Here is Arthur receiving his trophy from Val.



In The Digital Projected Images the EOY Award [The Kath and Kevin McKay Memorial Trophy] went to Peter Walton with a point score of 1706 points. Congratulations to Peter.

Second placing went to Pam Rixon and third placing to Marg Walton. Congratulations to both Pam and Marg.

With Peter in New Zealand it was a bit hard to get a photo of him! I will substitute with a picture of Pam Rixon receiving her President's Trophy from President Val!! [In any event Pam was 2<sup>nd</sup> placing in the Digital Images]



In the Small Prints the EOY Award went to Val Armstrong with a total of 1601 points. Congratulations to Val.

Second placing went to Les Armstrong and third placing to Pat Game. Congratulations also to Les and Pat.

Here is Val receiving her trophy from Arthur Lilley [not a mirror image of the Open Prints Award!]



The new, re-designed program for the 2012/2013 Photographic Year was available on the night but not everybody seemed to take a copy. They will be on the table again at the next few meetings.

Annual Subscriptions are now due and should be paid promptly. Remember the discount for emailed Newsletters no longer applies. If you want the "hard copy" - add a further \$10.

## The Next 3 Months In Brief

May 11<sup>th</sup> 2012

*This is the 2<sup>nd</sup> Friday of the month to allow members to go early to Ballarat for the VAPS Convention.*

We present the April hand-in and our judge, and guest presenter, is Rob Burkitt, a member at Ivanhoe Club and the owner of Photo Colour in Heidelberg.

His presentation is entitled "Rob's Rambles"

June 15<sup>th</sup> 2012

Our guest is Terry Lane. His presentation is entitled "The Tough Life And Times Of A Camera Reviewer". Many will be familiar with Terry's work through his column[s] in the Green Guide [in the the big paper not the little one!] He is sure to be entertaining.

We will present the May competition entries and your hand-in is the set subject "Creative Blur"

July 20<sup>th</sup> 2012

June competition results and of course the hand in for next month.

Tonight we have a portrait workshop. Models have been arranged. Don't forget to bring your camera and a tripod.

## Judging Participants

Judges for the following three months are:

Date	Judges	Observer
Jun 2012	Bruce Millikan, Kevin Wilson and Alan Robertson	Clive Watt
July 2012	Phil Ryan, Denis Dikschei and Marg Walton	Gary Leete
Aug 2012	John Conway - Visiting	

Can't make the date? Then you must advise the Judging Steward, John Smith and the Co-ordinator as soon as possible.

*[Co-coordinator/Judge adjustment for June has been made and advised]*

## Set Subject Hand In Dates

The Subject	Hand In
Creative Blur	Jun 2012
Monochrome	Oct 2012
Portraits	Feb 2013
Food	Jun 2013

We have added a new subject, "Food" for June 2013.

We are organizing a workshop in July this year to bring you up to speed for portraits.

## Interesting Article On Cropping

### Three Reasons To Avoid Relying On The Crop Tool

"In this age of digital photo editing, it's tempting to get lazy when you're taking a photo out in the field and just say to yourself, "well, if I don't like how I framed this, I could always crop it later." But, there are a few disadvantages to relying on that crop tool too much:

#### #1 – Sharpness

When you minimize cropping, you maximize the area of your subject in the frame. That means you're dedicating as many pixels as possible to your subject. And, the more pixels you dedicate to your subject, the sharper it will be. You've probably noticed this when you try to photograph something really far away (like a flying bird), and since it's so far away it only takes up a tiny amount of the frame. And, then when you crop it, it looks really un-sharp.

#### #2 – Print sizes

When you crop your photos, you obviously take out a lot of the pixels, so this also reduces the maximum print size. This may not be a big deal for all types of photographs (such as close-ups, where you don't always want super large prints). But, it's extremely important for landscape images (which are normally printed in large sizes).

#### #3 – Depth of field

In close-up photography, you often want to isolate your subject against an out-of-focus background. This helps draw the viewer's eye to your subject.

If you avoid relying on the crop tool in post processing, then this forces you to get closer to your subject in order to fill the frame with your intended composition. And, remember that as you move your camera closer to your subject, depth of field decreases (giving you a more out of focus background).

It's okay to rely on cropping sometimes

I do think there are some situations where it's perfectly fine to rely on the crop tool, especially when you can't even fill the frame with your subject anyway (which is often the case with any kind of wildlife photography). But, when possible, get your composition correct in the field. Take the time to really think about how you want that final image to look." - Steve Beradi

**About the Author:** Steve Berardi is a naturalist, photographer, software engineer, and founder of PhotoNaturalist. You can usually find him hiking in the beautiful mountains and deserts of southern California.

Thanks again to Denis Dikschei for referring the article. This, and other excellent articles, can be found at Steve's interesting website at [www.photnaturalist.net](http://www.photnaturalist.net) and we have permission to reproduce articles from the site

## East Gippsland Photographic Society – Proposed Trip To Tasmania

<http://www.egps.com.au/images/Forms/tassietour2012.pdf>

We have received [via VAPS] notice of an intended trip to Tasmania by members of the East Gippsland Photographic Society. The Society is asking if members of other Clubs might also be interested

Essentially it's a 12day trip involving the sharing of transport [4WD] and associated costs and staying at various accommodations, generally on a shared basis.

All the details are available at the above web address and enquiries should be directed to Stephen Smith on 5155 3505 or by email [stephen@egps.com.au](mailto:stephen@egps.com.au)

If you are interested you might also like to email me beforehand. I have made some brief enquiries for myself and the email response I received contains information that may be helpful.

## Some Best Wishes

Ellen Lew is now home from hospital and recuperating slowly but steadily.

She thanks everyone for the get well card but, although progress is good, the visiting schedule is *strictly limited* and arrangements for the present are best made with James on 9848 6306.

### FACTORY DIRECT CUSTOM FRAMING AT FRAMECO

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Please support our sponsor by purchasing matting and framing needs from them. Don't forget the 10% discount available to Club members! Frameco still have some affordable backing board available for \$2.90 a sheet of 100cm X 80cm and don't forget the double-sided tape.

You should "back" all your print entries – just fastening the print to the frame will cause all sorts of problems! Want to know how to do that – then go to some of Frameco's excellent class nights!

## Responsible Consumption Of Alcohol

I would like to share an experience with you all, to do with drinking and driving.

As you may know some of us have had brushes with the authorities driving home in recent months.

Well I for one have done something about it. The other night I was out for dinner and drink and watched a football match with friends. Having had far too much wine, and knowing full well I was intoxicated; I did something I have never done before. I took the bus home.

I arrived home safely and without incident, which was a surprise, as I have never driven a bus before!

## April 2012 – Merits and Honours Open Prints

Arthur Lilley	"Trondenes"	84
Pam Rixon	"Wet Rocks"	80
Ralph Petty	"A-corn Chip"	78
Clive Watt	"Backwater-Evening"	78
Pam Rixon	"Koh Tao"	78
Ken O'Sullivan	"Reading Room"	76
Arthur Lilley	"Rue des Barre"	76
Ralph Petty	"Tickle Tickle"	76

And here is Arthur's "Trondenes"



## Projected Images

Peter Walton	"Surprise, Surprise"	84
Pam Rixon	"Fish Eye City"	81
Clive Watt	"Kitchen Flowers"	79
Pam Rixon	"Bonnie Scotland"	78
Graham Kay	"Sailaway"	78
Jan Pearce	"The Blue Rag Track"	77
Kevin Wilson	"Sky High"	77
Val Armstrong	"Autumn Splendour"	76
Jan Pearce	"Alpine Wonder"	76
Peter Walton	"Red Canyon"	76

Here is Peter's "Surprise, Surprise"



## Small Prints

Val Armstrong	"Striking"	77
Val Armstrong	"Joseph"	76

And here is Val's "Striking"



## A Message From Ghana

Via the Clubs email address I have received a message from Judy Dunn. Judy is currently visiting her son Richard at an underground mining site in a remote area of Ghana!

She is spending a lot time indoors "air conditioning" herself and wishes everyone well. Judy reports no trouble reading the Newsletter by email.

## APSCON 2012 - Canberra

[http://www.a-p-s.org.au/index.php?option=com\\_content&view=article&id=103&Itemid=84](http://www.a-p-s.org.au/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=103&Itemid=84)

The conference for 2012 will be held in Canberra over the week of the 15<sup>th</sup> – 21<sup>st</sup> September at the Southern Cross Club, 92 – 96 Corinna Street, Phillip, ACT – that's near Woden Plaza for those that know Canberra.

There is too much to repeat – just visit the above direct link [and be greeted by Kay Mack's photo entitled "Great Court"!] and on the upper right are all the links/information you want.

This is a popular Convention and many of our members are regular attendees.

## VAPS 2012 Convention

[www.vaps.com.au](http://www.vaps.com.au)

The Convention is in Ballarat over the weekend of the 19<sup>th</sup> – 21<sup>st</sup> May 2012 and the venue is the University Of Ballarat's Mt Helen Campus.

Registration forms and convention details are available at the website. Registration cut-off has been extended to the 11<sup>th</sup> of May 2012 so it's not too late to change your mind.

A recommendation has been made to order the "lunch-box" for the Saturday. The venue is a reasonable distance out of Ballarat and it might be hard to find alternate sources of food without a trip. For the Sunday there is a barbecue.

## The Supper Roster

Members should arrive around 7.40pm to prepare cups, saucers and the urns.

Speak to Pam Rixon at meetings or phone her on 9846 3051 about roster changes.

May 2012	Liesel and John Ingrassia
June 2012	Bruce Millikan and Kevin Wilson
July 2012	Judy Dunn and Denis Dikschei
Aug 2012	Barbara and Bill Prudden
Sept 2012	Fred Bath and Jennifer Jones
Oct 2012	Margaret and Mike Bold

## Warragul Camera Club National Photographic Exhibition - 2012

<http://www.warragulcameraclub.org>

The popular Warragul National competition is on again this year. It is their 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary.

The Exhibition Weekend is from July 13<sup>th</sup> – July 15<sup>th</sup> at St Pauls Anglican Grammar School, 150 Bowens Road, Warragul. The official opening is at 7pm on Saturday the 14<sup>th</sup>.

Entries close on Thursday June 14<sup>th</sup> and this year the prize for the Best Image of the competition has increased to \$500. Apart from the individual kudos for all members who enter, the title Doncaster most fancies is the "Most Successful Club" which carries prize money of \$300. This is for the Club that has the most entries accepted from its individual members.

This year Warragul has a special guest in Rob Smith B.Sc [Hons] AAPS [who spoke at APSCON in 2011] In addition to some of the judging, Rob will be presenting two sessions to interested photographers on Sunday June 24<sup>th</sup> [Note: this is 3 weeks earlier than the date of the exhibition weekend but no doubt coincides with his visit]

Rob was well received at APSCON and Warragul's website says that his presentation[s] on the Sunday will not be a repeat of APSCON and he has a lot of new material. A \$25 fee includes a light lunch. Bookings are essential.

The Club urges all members to enter this popular competition and to consider visiting Warragul over that weekend for some of the "frivolities" [consider accommodation in Drouin rather than Warragul itself – it's not far to drive in]

Entry forms for the competition are on the website [see above] as are details of the weekend and Rob Smith's presentation.

We will also have some entry forms available at the next meeting night – just check on the table as you collect your name badges.

## Member Success

At the Australian Photographic Society's Autumn AV Nationals Phil Ryan had a Merit Award in the Documentary Section for "A Grand Daughter's Journey". It deserved a win!

Congratulations to Phil.

Additionally, at the Toowoomba Royal Show, 3<sup>rd</sup> National Exhibition Of Photography 2012, Adrian Donoghue has achieved spectacular success!

Not content with having "Get A Room" adorning the front cover of the catalogue the image was also adjudged the Grand Champion Photograph of the Show and also Champion Digital Image!

In the Open DPI Adrian had a 1<sup>st</sup> for "Behind The Dream Wall" and an acceptance for "From Mud To Metropolis". In the People DPI Adrian had a 1<sup>st</sup> for "Get A Room" [see above re Grand Champion!] and a Merit for "Taxi Driver".

In Creative DPI Adrian had a 1<sup>st</sup> for "Of Men And Machine", and a Highly Commended for "The Ticket Sellers" and "A Road To Somewhere". There were Acceptances for all the above and "The Night Caller".

I looked in vain for something in the Nature DPI – but nothing!

What more can you say – congratulation Adrian!

If anyone has achieved success in external competitions [past or future] please let me know so I can tell other members. Your success informs others of what's on offer and may encourage them to enter.

## Alfred Nicholas Gardens Outing on Sunday, April 29<sup>th</sup>, 2012

An excellent day and 23 members attended!

The weather was fine and a good number managed to make their way right down to the lake at the Nicholas Gardens. Two only just managed to get back – it was very steep!

We enjoyed coffee and cake at Cloudehill where some stayed to look at the beautiful gardens and it was nice that everyone lunched at the Arboretum admiring the valley views.

Here is a photo of most of the members. You will recognise them. Missing are Arthur and Bev Lilley, Ken and Lin O'Sullivan [gone walkies!], Clive and Liz Watt and Pam Rixon, who took the photo.



Again, many thanks to Pam and Marg Bold for all their efforts to reconnoitre the area – it is very much appreciated.

For those who did not attend then you may like to bring a note from your parents saying why!

## Competitions On Offer

There is a continuous cycle of competitions on offer in Australia and overseas.

It's difficult to single out individual events although, from time to time, we do highlight ones that have proved popular to most Club members over time [see the promotion of the Warragul Competition and a "one off" for the Western Districts National]

If you are interested in external competitions then it may best to start with these links:

The Australian Photographic Society [APS] is at [http://www.a-p-s.org.au/index.php?option=com\\_content&view=article&id=172&Itemid=165](http://www.a-p-s.org.au/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=172&Itemid=165)

This takes you right to the page for competitions endorsed by the Society.

A further source is via the VAPS website at <http://www.vaps.com.au/>

[Note: some of the APS competitions may be replicated in the advice from VAPS]

FIAP is the International Organization. FIAP lists all it's approved competitions at [www.webplaza.pt.lu/public/suyswill/index.html](http://www.webplaza.pt.lu/public/suyswill/index.html).

## 25<sup>th</sup> Western Districts National Exhibition Of Photography

[http://www.a-p-s.org.au/index.php?option=com\\_content&view=article&id=172&Itemid=165](http://www.a-p-s.org.au/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=172&Itemid=165)

This is an APS approved Exhibition that has very little time to go – *entries close on May 18<sup>th</sup> 2012!*

There are modest costs of \$9 for each of the 10 sections on offer [5 digital and 5 print].

The judging panel looks pretty impressive – FIAPS's and APS's everywhere

All the details and entry forms are available from the web link above [it's the APS competition site – the internet appears not to have reached out to Dubbo just yet!]

Just be quick – the mail to Dubbo might be slow!

Adrian Donoghue was a successful participant at the last Exhibition [the 24<sup>th</sup>] and if he entered then it must have credibility.

## The Digital Show

[www.thedigitalshow.com.au](http://www.thedigitalshow.com.au)

The Digital Imaging "Convention" billing itself as the "The Biggest Exhibition Of Photos and Imaging Gear In the Southern Hemisphere" is on again at the Melbourne Convention And Exhibition Centre [Jeff's Shed"] from May 25<sup>th</sup> – 27<sup>th</sup>. It's trade only on the Friday and public on the Saturday/Sunday. If you go to the website and register you save the \$20 entrance fee.

The Exhibition runs concurrently with the Australian Institutes Of Professional Photographers [AIPP] "APPA" awards.

## " This Bothers Me"

[http://theonlinephotographer.typepad.com/the\\_online\\_photographer/this-bothers-me.html](http://theonlinephotographer.typepad.com/the_online_photographer/this-bothers-me.html)

I read this article [follow the above link] some months ago so the heading is not mine.

It was published in the Online Photographer and is a bit long to reproduce for the Newsletter [but not so long to read on the net!]

As I read it's about the author's [Mike Johnston] concern at comments often made by some people [critics/judges?] about individual photographs. He is particularly concerned at the frequent comment made of "this bothers me"! Cropping also comes in for some criticism although, in fairness, judicious cropping does enhance many photos!

Of course the author might just be a contrarian. But if you agree with him, even partially, you might perhaps ask yourself how difficult it is to deliver comment on various images when the judge/critic frequently has little or no idea of what the maker intended.

A simple comment such as "you could crop that pole out" could easily have the response that "I meant to have that pole there as it gives the main subject a sense of perspective"

Some time ago I printed an anecdote about the famous photographer, Edward Weston. I think it ties in well with this article.

"According to photographer [Merg Ross](#), "Edward Weston would shuffle through a group of prints separating them into two piles. All of this was in silence. At the conclusion, he would point to one pile and utter: These I like."

How would we react if the judges at one of our monthly competitions simply displayed, without comment, the images that they liked and then declared that they liked "these ones" best [or even just "this one"]

What is right and what is wrong? Is it correct to interpret without first asking the makers intentions?

Read the article and see what you think.

That's all for this month,

John