



# Prism NEWSLETTER



## President's Piece

### It's a Brave New World



**CLOSED**

#### Inside this edition

President's Piece	1	How is everyone after such an uncertain and turbulent month of COVID-19 lockdown? I feel like we have been in a washing machine on a spin cycle, hopefully having come through a bit wrung out though largely intact.
Themed Images Ben Stoffl	3	It's wonderful writing this piece, with restrictions starting to ease. What freedom to go beyond an exercise routine to now being able to take images outdoors again or just sit in the sun.
Anne's Blogs	4	Our lives have changed as a result and will continue to change. Photography does the same, constantly evolving and adapting to new technologies generating new levels of creativity. Each and everyone of us has been forced to change in some way, as has QCG.
Focus Group—Post Processing of Portraits	5	We thank our QCG event champions for focussing our attention indoors to inspire creativity in a way many of us have not done so before. The Gallery says it all. The images tell a story of this time now embedded in history, particularly those captured for ANZAC day photoshoot. The speaker events do the same.
Song or Film Title & Open B&W Judging	6	It includes the successful Zoom speaker events, with Ben Stoffl and the Focus Group - Portrait Post-processing, with Gaye, Gosh and Anne. We also learned much from the judging night, and appreciate the significant effort and constructive feedback by Warren Veivers on 140 images!
Song or Film Title— Honours	7	We have Zoomed our way into 2020 unexpectedly. All events have exceeded attendance expectations with up to 55 attendees. This would have been standing room only (unsocially distanced) at our usual venue, Bowman Hall.
Open B&W— Honours	8	We've learned through each of these events and taken what's worked and what needs further adjustment. Hopefully this makes your member experience just that much better.
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Who knows how long we will be meeting on line. It may be a few months longer, so stay connected and enjoy learning from your lounge. We will give updates as the COVID situation unfolds.

## President Piece—Cont. “What to Look Forward to Next”

What's on next? Lots. Check into the Calendar on the QCG website for more detail, and pop the dates in your diary so you don't miss out.

7 May: Guest Speaker Rob Heyman, Portrait and Group Photography using Natural Light  
16 May: Portrait Group  
21 May: Competition Judging - Still Life and Open  
28 May: Focus Group  
31 May: Photoshoot

Also, feel free to share your thoughts and images on Facebook, what you have you learned during the lockdown experience?

*Go to the website*      [www.qcg.org.au](http://www.qcg.org.au)

*Go to Facebook*      <https://www.facebook.com/QueenslandCameraGroup/>

*Go to Instagram*      <https://www.instagram.com/queenslandcameragroup/>

Look forward to continued sharing - whether through Zoom, email, Critique Corner or Facebook.

Wishing everyone continued health and wellbeing, and fabulous image taking.

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## QCG 1st Online Meeting and Guest Speaker—Ben Stoffl

### *“How to Create a Portfolio or set of Themed Images”*

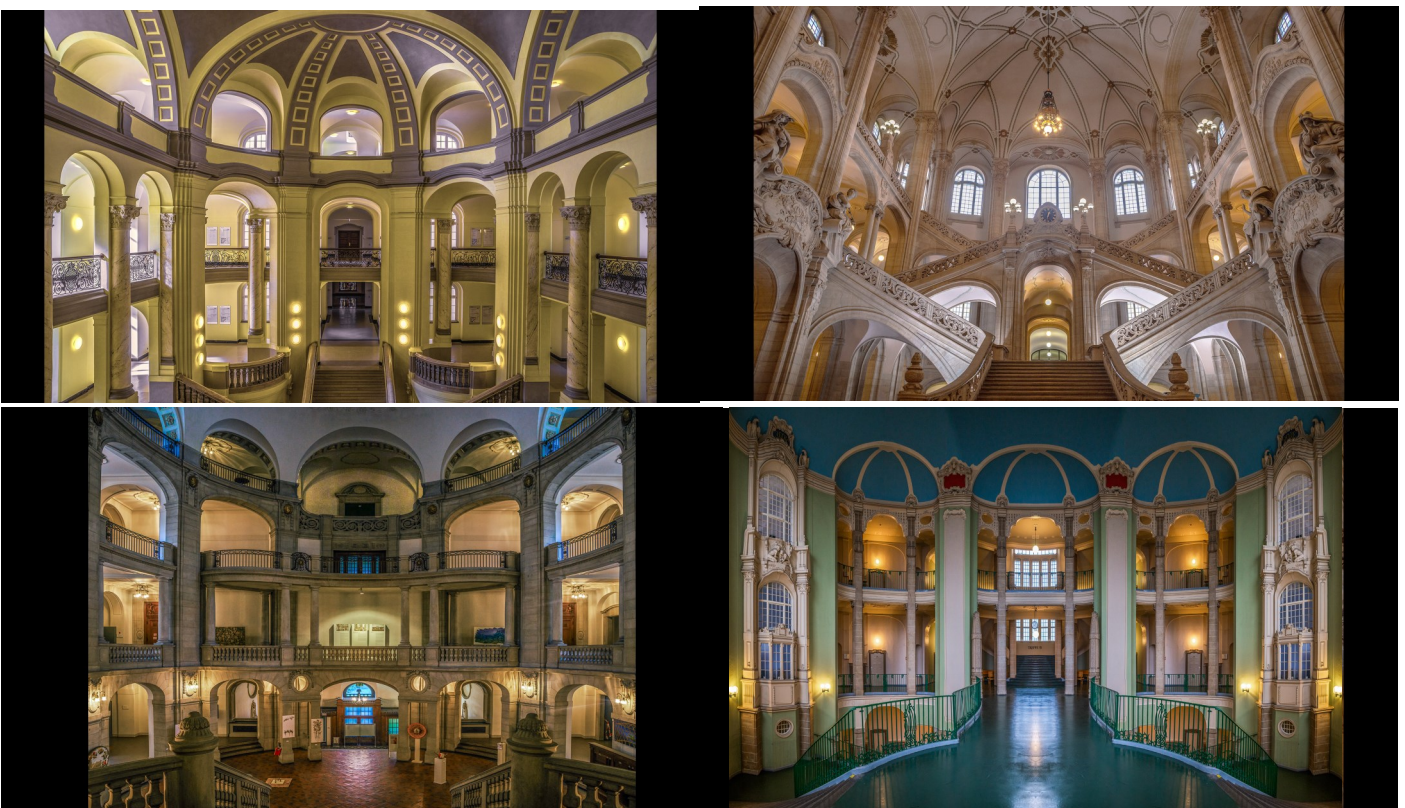
On Thursday evening 2<sup>nd</sup> of April QCG ran its first ever virtual meeting run over the Zoom web-based video conferencing platform. Ben Stoffl, who is well known to QCG agreed to be our first “guinea pig” guest speaker for the evening.

Ben is a former member of the QCG, talented photographer, exhibitor and PSQ accredited judge. Ben spoke to us about putting together a cohesive collection of images, or a set of images which support each other. Ben used a wide selection of his own personal images, which were all fantastic in their own right, to demonstrate what made a cohesive and impacting small collection. He led us through a progression of collections of four images starting with those demonstrating some obvious similarities, but which clearly did not hang well together as a collection and finished by showing us a series which displayed very obvious creative harmony and cohesion.



Ben’s presentation was very well received and is one of the best presentations the club has had on collections. It will prove extremely helpful for those members who have been struggling to get their heads around the concept of a cohesive set of images for the club’s Print Project, aka Collections 2020 which unfortunately has had to be postponed due to COVID 19. Beyond this though, many members frequently assemble other collections including for example, the Three Related Images competition, our AVs and photo books to name a few. Working on a collection or body of work is a great way to take your photography to the next level.

It is always a privilege to listen to Ben. So, keep tuned to the QCG Zoom channel, as we may have another Ben Stoffl surprise for you in the not too distant future.



## “Blogs”

The “Blogs” about QCG members have proven to be very popular in this time of social isolation. They give insights into the lives of your fellow photographers highlighting their skills, talents and interests. Such a great read. Check out these created by Anne Pappalardo this month.

### On The QCG Virtual Couch With Ross Miles



[www.qcg.org.au/new-blog/2020/4/7/on-the-qcg-virtual-couch-with-ross-miles](http://www.qcg.org.au/new-blog/2020/4/7/on-the-qcg-virtual-couch-with-ross-miles)

### On The QCG Virtual Couch With Ray Shorter



[www.qcg.org.au/new-blog/2020/4/14/on-the-qcg-virtual-couch-with-ray-shorter](http://www.qcg.org.au/new-blog/2020/4/14/on-the-qcg-virtual-couch-with-ray-shorter)

### On The QCG Virtual Couch With Gaye Slade



[www.qcg.org.au/new-blog/2020/4/15/on-the-qcg-virtual-couch-with-gaye-slade](http://www.qcg.org.au/new-blog/2020/4/15/on-the-qcg-virtual-couch-with-gaye-slade)

### On The QCG Virtual Couch With Judy Greer



[www.qcg.org.au/new-blog/2020/4/20/on-the-qcg-virtual-couch-with-judy-greer](http://www.qcg.org.au/new-blog/2020/4/20/on-the-qcg-virtual-couch-with-judy-greer)

## Focus Group—Post Processing of Portraits

Our April 2020 Focus Group saw our first on-line zoom session, and it was an outstanding success!

The session on Post Processing of Portraits using Photoshop was run by three of the clubs most talented portrait photographers, Gaye Edwards, Gosh Slominski and Anne Pappalardo.

Our club has a proud history of portraiture, distinguishing itself through our investment in studio equipment and the monthly Portrait Group sessions run by Gaye. Examples of the great work of these three ladies are seen every month through our monthly competitions and the output from the portrait group sessions. We were all very keen to see what techniques were used by the 'portrait queens' that made their work so special.

Each of Gaye, Gosh and Anne took us through a step wise process of the three images shown here. While all images were perfectly captured in the first place with great composition and lighting, it was magic to see the image taken to the next level with their precise processing. One thing each of the ladies had in common was the attention to detail in their post processing. Whether it was the fact every small blemish was removed to the fine detail, or shadow and light and colour in the eyes or other parts of their image that helped create a mood or helped make the image pop. While this attention to detail each lady also bought an individual style:

Thanks overall to Gaye, Gosh and Anne for making our first on-line Focus Group a great success.

Our May Focus Group will hopefully also be eagerly awaited with Ray Shorter and Nick Lefebvre presenting 'The Art of Black and White Photography'. Just last month we saw the great work of Ray and Nick in this form with our Open – Black and White competition. More details on the evening will be sent soon.



Article by Martin Riley



Gaye painted her light and alterations like an artist on a canvas



Gaye Ewdards



Gosh used many of the advanced techniques offered by Photoshop to enhance her image



Gosh Slominski



Anne used modern day filters to create an overall effect on the image



Anne Pappalardo

## Competition Judging—Song or Film Title and Open (B&W)

We are now well and truly launched into the brave new world of online meetings. We Zoomed into our April Judging night with around 55 keen attendees enjoying the show from the comfort of their own living rooms. This number included committee members from Photo Arts Club Tweed, who are considering MyPhotoClub for their own competition management. Our guest judge Warren Veivers rose to the technology challenge admirably, and his comprehensive and thoughtful comments were enjoyed by all. The set subject 'Song or Film title' was a creative and intellectual challenge for everyone, with many beautiful images and clever scene or word associations emerging. Some images could only have represented one thing, while others elicited many different interpretations. The 'Open' competition for this month was limited to Black & White, also a new creative challenge for many of us.

Don't forget to start thinking about Still Life and Open for our next club competition. This competition is judged by a practising artist, rather than a photographic judge. For Still Life, composition and lighting will be very important. Although your approach need not be any different to any other competition, a general reminder, taken from the handbook, is that the Open category should contain qualities of pictorialism, impact, appeal, story-telling or interest. You may consider this as an opportunity to be more creative in taking or postprocessing than in normal monthly competitions. Because there will be no print entries again this month, members may enter 2 DPs in each category.

Many members have taken advantage of Critique Corner in MyPhotoClub to ask for feedback or to offer their suggestions on uploaded images. It was good to see some of these images appearing and doing well in competition.

MyPhotoClub has launched a new initiative to keep us even busier while socially distancing. 'Everyone at MyPhotoClub' gives all members of all MyPhotoClub clubs a chance to enter a series of friendly, free competitions each week. Judging is done using online scoring – even if you don't want to enter, feel free to score the entries! You can access the competition at <https://everyone.myphotoclub.com.au/>.

And keep an eye out for information from QCG about the Australian Photographic Society's 2020 Australian Cup, a chance for clubs to showcase their members' best images. We will be using MyPhotoClub to preselect our club's entries and then submit them to the competition. More to come!

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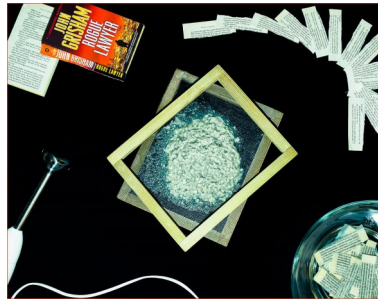


*B-Set-Hon-1-Rob Champion-Country-road--take-me-home*

## Song or Film Title—*Honour Winners*



*AB-Set-Hon-2-Paul Cook-Tinker-Tailor-Soldier-Spy*



*A-Set-Hon-2-Elizabeth Riley-Pulp-Fiction-1994*



*AB-Set-Hon-3-David Bullock-At-The-End*



*A-Set-Hon-3-Betty Collerson-As-Time-Goes-By*



*A-Set-Hon-1-Ray Shorter-The-Guitar-Man*



*A-Set-Hon-4-Philip Lawrence-The-Wall-Pink-Floyd*



*A-Set-Hon-5-Ray Shorter-Don-t-Fence-Me-In*



*A-Set-Hon-6-Gaye Slade-The-Gambler-Song-1978*

## Open B&W—Honours Winners



*B-Open-Hon-1-Meron Crane-Bells*



*A-Open-Hon-4-Jane McMenammin-Those-Eyes*



*AB-Open-Hon-2-David Bullock-Sarah*



*A-Open-Hon-5-Ray Shorter-Eilean-Donan-The-Storm*



*AB-Open-Hon-1-Paul Cook-Double-Up*



*A-Open-Hon-6-1Tony FitzGerald-Pier-Group*



*A-Open-Hon-3-John Kelly-Surfers-Sunrise*



*A-Open-Hon-1-Nick Lefebvre-Misty-morning*



## Portrait Group

Last month's Virtual Portrait Group challenge was for members to take a SELF PORTRAIT ... WITHOUT YOURSELF. So, there was no room for excuses like "Oh, I hate Selfies" or "I never go in front of the camera".

Those photos had to be ABOUT a member, but WITHOUT SHOWING them as a person. It made them think how to portray their personality, their interests, career, hobbies, etc. I was thrilled by the variety of submissions showing a range of photographic and still life styles. Make sure you take a look at that particular gallery of images now on the club website.

Shown here are two photos with a similar vein but different execution - one by Harvey Kramer (single boot) and another by Ken Marchant (many shoes). Thank you to all who entered the spirit of the event.

May 2020's Virtual Portrait Group Challenge will be coming your way by email soon! I'm sure you'll enjoy it so get those batteries charged.

Stay Safe and Keep Clicking.

*Article Gaye Edwards*



*Trek 2012 not 2020— Harvey Kramer*



*Missing bare—Ken Marchant*

## ANZAC DAY Photoshoot—“Isolation 2020”

Photoshoot **Outings/Innings** are a new feature this year - like so many other things at this weird and wonderful time!

March we stayed in our own backyard or equivalent. See the variety of images on our website gallery page.

April is done on Anzac Day, and usually the images are full of lots of people in uniform and street parades. Well, 2020 threw a spanner in any repeat of this! So after much thought and some discussion with those around me I set the parameters wide and waited.

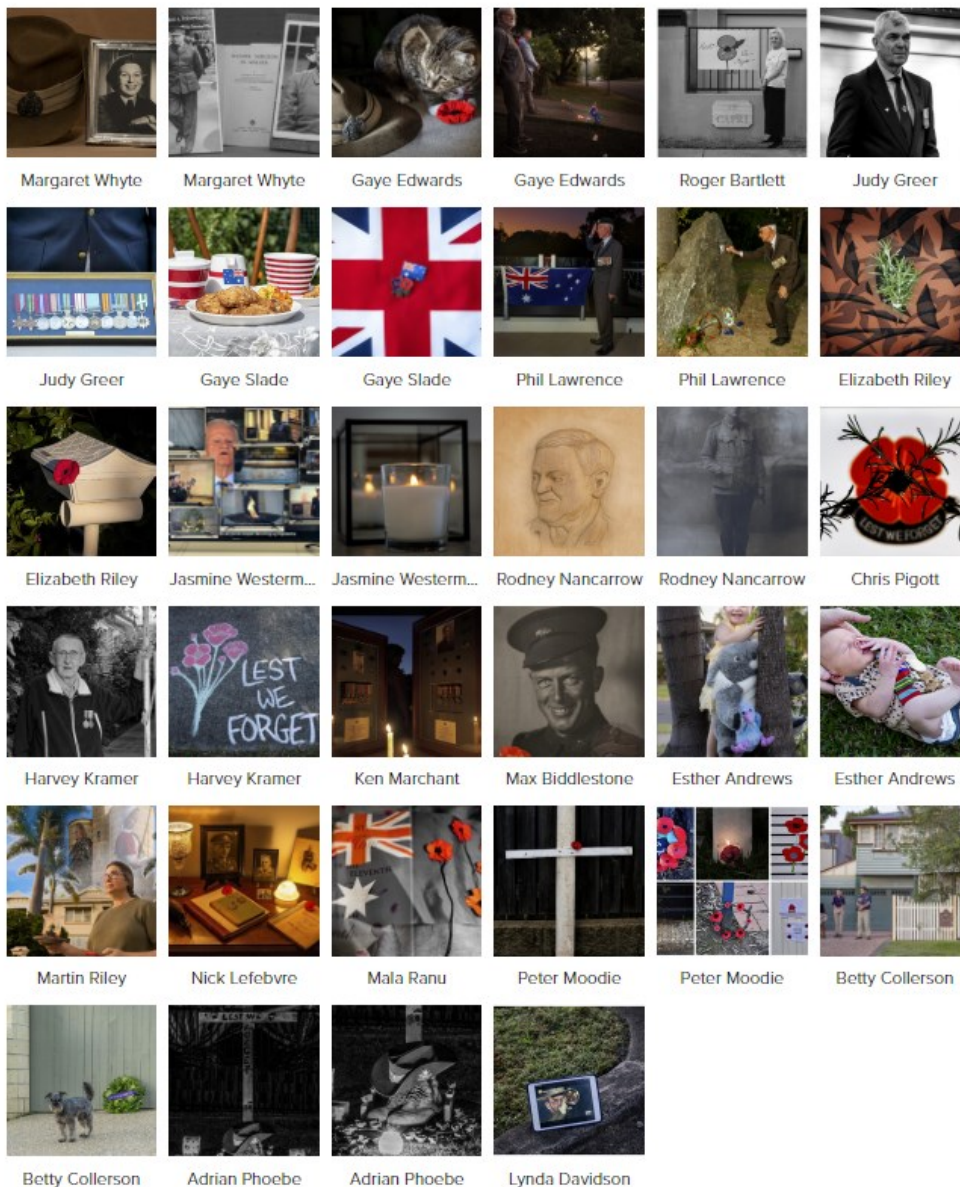
See the varied images that were created for this one below. As far as I can tell, these shoots have gone down well. Certainly, those who have commented have been happy enough. If anyone has any suggestions for the next Shoot, I would be very pleased to hear from you!

It will be interesting to see what we are allowed to do by the end of May and then how we can have another successful Photoshoot!

Await the email!!

Esther Andrews

Photoshoot Outings Co-ordinator



## ZOOM Etiquette

### Zoom Etiquette

#### Before the call

- Join early – up to 5 minutes before the meeting start time
- Familiarise yourself with any zoom features you may need to use on the day – mute/unmute microphone, stop/start video, screenshare etc. Find a quiet space without interruptions / background noise
- Have a plain background – avoid backlight from bright windows, or use
- Have good lighting on your face so you can be seen clearly
- Adjust your camera to be at around eye level if possible – especially take note of the angle of your laptop screen if using the built-in camera.

#### During the call

- If there is a main speaker or presentation - turn off your video & mute your mic to avoid disruptions to others.
- Mute your microphone when not talking
- Try to avoid talking over, or at the same time as other participants
- Practice speaking to the camera and not the screen.
- If you have your camera on try to avoid doing other tasks, checking emails, looking at your phone etc.
- When using a mobile device limit your movement while your video is on. It is best to place your phone or tablet in a fixed position as it is less distracting for others.
- Use the chat feature to ask questions to the speaker.



## Results: April 2020 – Song or Film Title and Open (Black & White). Guest Judge Warren

### A Grade - Song or Film Title - DPI

The Guitar Man	Ray Shorter	Honour
Pulp Fiction 1994	Elizabeth Riley	Honour Most Apt Title
As Time Goes By	Betty Collerson	Honour
The Wall - Pink Floyd	Phil Lawrence	Honour
Don't Fence Me In	Ray Shorter	Honour
The Gambler Song 1978	Gaye Slade	Honour
Water For Elephants (2011)	Martin Riley	Merit
Kung fu fighting	Nick Lefebvre	Merit
Midnight in Moscow	Malcolm Bunzli	Merit
Under the Milky Way by The Church	Louise McDonald	Merit
Up Up and Away by The 5th Dimension	Louise McDonald	Merit
Cars	Joy Melchiori	Merit
Pretty Woman - Roy Orbison	Phil Lawrence	Merit
Into The Mystic - Van Morrison	Rodney Nancarrow	Merit
Sing Us A Song You're The Pianoman	Geoff Lawrence	Merit
Running on Empty - Jackson Browne	Max Biddlestone	Merit
Breakfast At Tiffany's	Gaye Edwards	Merit
The Autumn Leaves	Paul Harrop	Merit
I'm Forever Blowing Bubbles	Paul Harrop	Merit
Here Comes the Sun	Tony FitzGerald	Merit
Love Is All You Need by The Beatles	Martin Riley	Merit
Lady in Red	Anne Pappalardo	Merit
I Wanna Hold Your Hand	Esther Andrews	Merit

### AB Grade - Song or Film Title – DPI

Singing in the Rain	Geoff Shortland	Honour
Tinker Tailor Soldier Spy (Film)	Paul Cook	Honour
At The End	David Bullock	Honour
Bird on a wire	Mandy Watson	Merit
Brown Eyed Girl	Mandy Watson	Merit
Dog Day Afternoon	Geoff Shortland	Merit
Tight Rope Walker	Jasmine Westerman	Merit
Kiss Me Kate	Margaret Whyte	Merit
Song Sung Blue	Debby Talan	Merit

### B Grade - Song or Film Title - DPI

Country road, take me home	Rob Champion	Honour
Love you Brisbane!	Rob Champion	Honour
Fireworks (Katy Perry)	Anne Munro	Merit
The Sound of Silence	David Cain	Merit
Fly Me to the Moon	Chris Pigott	Merit
Around the World in 80 Days	Mala Ranu	Merit

**Results: April 2020 – Open (Black & White). Guest Judge Warren Veivers**

## A Grade - Open (Black &amp; White) - DPI

Misty morning	Nick Lefebvre	Honour
Time for a Refill	Phil Lawrence	Honour
Surfers Sunrise	John Kelly	Honour
Those Eyes	Jane McMenemy	Honour
Eilean Donan ... The Storm	Ray Shorter	Honour
Pier Group	Tony FitzGerald	Honour
Zebras Crossing	Gaye Edwards	Merit
Valencia opera house	Nick Lefebvre	Merit
Advantage	Louise McDonald	Merit
Almost Standing	Louise McDonald	Merit
Lost In Play	Geoff Lawrence	Merit
Down on His Luck	Phil Lawrence	Merit
Graduation Boy	Gosh Slominsky	Merit
Spider lily	Dorothy Bunzli	Merit
Corvins Castle - Transylvania	Roger Bartlett	Merit
The world we currently live in	Roger Bartlett	Merit
Viola	Betty Collerson	Merit
Lurking Around the Corner	Max Biddlestone	Merit
Yin and Yang	Betty Collerson	Merit
Futuristic	Gaye Edwards	Merit
Moody Perito Moreno	Martin Riley	Merit
Amsterdam Rush Hour	Anne Pappalardo	Merit & Most Apt title
A Shining Light	Gaye Slade	Merit

## AB Grade - Open (Black &amp; White) - DPI

Double Up	Paul Cook	Honour
Sarah	David Bullock	Honour
Balls Pyramid	Mandy Watson	Merit
Red Necked Wallaby	Mandy Watson	Merit
Fine Lines	Jasmine Westerman	Merit
What's In The News	Debby Talan	Merit
We are in this together	Ray Eisenmenger	Merit
Las Curenos	Peter Moodie	Merit

## B Grade - Open (Black &amp; White) - DPI

Bells	Meron Crane	Honour
Sunshine Coast Sunbeams	Chris Pigott	Merit
Birds Eye View	Harvey Kramer	Merit
Twisted, Stunted and Beautiful	Harvey Kramer	Merit
Looking UP	David Cain	Merit
Final Resting Place	Judy Greer	Merit
The Road Ahead	Rob Champion	Merit
Prickle Head	Chris Pigott	Merit

## Last Word

This month's last word in the image below says it all!



*ANZAC Day PHOTOSHOOT—Image by Harvey Kramer*



### **QUEENSLAND CAMERA GROUP INC.**

**QCG meets 7:30pm – 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursdays (Currently online only)**

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