



Prism

The Newsletter of the Queensland Camera Group
Issue: 391, August 2023



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President's Piece

Martin Riley, AFIAP FAPS



A big thank you to members who attended the AGM on August 24. It is always great to recognise those who have given their time to make QCG what it is today. I'd like to thank Georgie Crossley, who is stepping off the committee in 2024, for her huge contribution. Don't worry—Georgie will be as busy as ever in her contributions as print officer and setting up for meetings, as well as taking on the membership officer role in 2024! I'd like to welcome both Mel Sinclair and Heleen Daniels onto the 2024 committee – the future of the club will be in great hands with both these passionate photographers and supporters of QCG. Mel has brought such a wealth of experience to QCG since joining early this year, and her contributions on the committee will be even more valuable. Mel will also be assisting members in a new role as 'club mentor', such a valuable resource for all our developing photographers (read Mel's article in this Prism edition). It will be an honour for me to serve as President of this great club for a third and final year in 2024.

The main priority for the committee in the coming months will be the planning of the 2024 program. To that end I would like to thank all the members who contributed to our 2023 survey – your input and suggestions have been invaluable for our planning! As a general statement, members are very satisfied with the program content and delivery as presently experienced. I am most pleased that people thought the friendly and supportive nature of the club was the thing they liked most! As usual, we will endeavour to put together a program that meets most peoples' requests and within the constraints of our volunteers time.

August had a great feeling of travel as a theme! I loved the virtual travel and behind the scenes look at the fascinating country of Namibia brought to us over zoom by British photographer Scott Hurd. I know a number of members have been lucky enough to travel to this unique country, including myself, and Scott's imagery brought back some great memories but also gave a unique insight into the culture of Namibia and a reminder how good photography can bring a place to life. Book ending the month was yet another great weekend away, this time in our event organiser Rodney Nancarrow's back yard at Boreen Point. Boreen Point is such a tranquil backwater to the Sunshine Coast and was the perfect place for members to enjoy each other's company in a more social environment while giving plenty of photographic opportunities. A big thanks to Rodney for opening up his house, and together with John Edwards, organising a great weekend – plenty of pictures and stories in Prism!

Speaking of travel – Elizabeth and I will be off in September in search of some Guinness and northern lights! You will look forward to Tony Fitz seamlessly taking over the reins and thanks to Twiggy for stepping up in the Competitions role for the first time. We look forward to seeing everyone in October with some new images to display in future QCG competitions!

A big welcome back to QCG this month after an absence from the club of around 10 years, Barb and Brian O'Connor, and a warm welcome also to new member Peter Einersen. I trust you will be made welcome by all our members!

What's on in September?

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun
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				1	2	3
4	5	6	7 Focus Group with Mel Sinclair—Data Management. Kenmore Library. 7.30 pm. F2F only.	8	9	10
11	12	13	14 Speaker Night: Renee Brazel. 7.30 pm to 9.30 pm. F2F and Zoom, at Space.	15	16 Portrait Group. 10.00 am to 12.00 pm. The Hub, Mt Ommaney. Look for Gaye's email.	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28 Competition Night: Creative and Open (and entries due for Photoshoot Outings and Open). This is a print only judging so F2F only.	29	30	



Month in Review– August!

Another fab QCG month with plenty to see, do, and photograph.

Image above is from the Scott Hurd's speaker presentation on Namibia, and left is Michael Arenson from Ted's who led August's Focus meeting on off-camera lighting. Below: this image was sent through by Ekka photography judge and QCG member, Mel Sinclair. It's Georgie Crossley's, 'My Father, my hero' which took out the Un-Packer's prize at this year's Ekka. Read on to see what else QCG did in August!



Focus - Off Camera Assisted Lighting for Portrait Photography

Ted's Cameras Brisbane City Store Manager - Michael Arenson

Thursday 3 August, Kenmore Library

Michael Arenson from Ted's Cameras gave an animated and thoroughly entertaining presentation to QCG members interested in taking their portrait photography to the next level.

Just under 30 participants (that's quite a record for Focus meetings) filed in to the Kenmore Library to understand how to add a 'pop of light' to their portraits.

Michael is well acquainted with the camera club environment—his parents were both members of one, so his presentation was particularly well received!

Michael demonstrated three styles of off camera lights: A Godox V1 high speed flash and its associated soft box; and a Rotolight mini and AEOS, mounted on their respective stands.

As Michael explains, off camera lighting should be used simply to complement existing lighting, or to take away shadows created by harsh, overhead light.

Michael demonstrated how the Godox and soft box could add just a little pop of light to his models, including when shooting outside and on location, with the handy battery feature of these lights.

The Rotolights provide both flash and a continuous light source, with colour to boot!





Above: Michael in action and right, one of his beautiful portraits featuring off-camera lighting.

Speaker - Living and Working as a Professional Photographer in Namibia

Scott Hurd, Thursday 10 August, F2F

Story by Nick Lefebvre

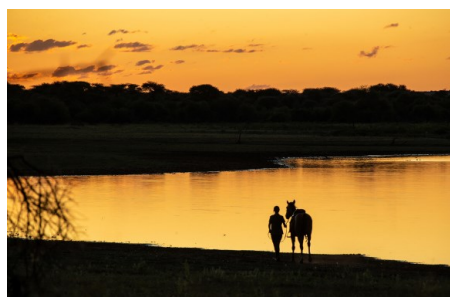
Scott Hurd's talk reinforced what I already knew – Namibia is a magnificent country.

We met Scott (pictured right) when he photographed Randal Hinze (he presented an astro- photography talk May 2021) and his wife Mel's wedding back in 2012 in the bush, south of the capital Windhoek. At that stage, Scott and his wife had been living and working in Namibia for five years, previously living in the UK.

Scott began his chat by talking about where Namibia is (NW of South Africa) and how desolate the country is. The population is 2.5 million of which just over half live in urban areas with the rest living on farms, lodges and in the bush. The country's area is 824,000 sq km, about 45% of the size of Queensland. The population ratio is thus just three people per square kilometer (compared to 425 in the UK) and from experience, you can drive for half a day and see only a few 4x4s and fences - no farmhouses and no people in sight.

Scott only took up photography once settled in Namibia having given up his previous career as a motivational speaker. Initially he assumed that his work would only comprise of shooting lodges and game park accommodation, of which there are many in the country and he illustrated them in some of his photographs.

Soon though, the residents of his hometown Otjiwarongo were enquiring about his photographs and he branched out into wedding, portrait, family and baby photography.



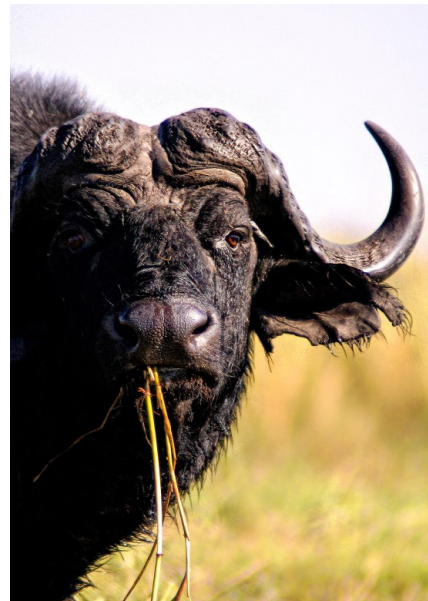
Scott talked about the unique Namibian countryside which includes the Namib Desert a 50- to 70-mile wide belt along the entire coastline. Included in the desert is the Sossusvlei area where Scott showed images of some of the highest dunes in the world and the Deadvlei pan containing skeletons of dead trees believed to be up to 600-700 years old.



A dry and mountainous plateau covers the central part of the interior reaching down to the Fish River Canyon in the south. The canyon, 160 km long is the second largest in the world after the Grand Canyon and Scott discussed the difficulties in photographing it early in the morning because of the contrasting shadow and light areas.



Scott showed us pictures of members of both the local Himba and Herero tribes. The Himba, particularly the woman, cover their skin with a distinctive *otjize* paste, a mixture of butterfat and ochre pigment. *Otjize* cleanses the skin over long periods due to water scarcity and protects the skin from the hot dry climate.



We saw photos of the distinctive long dresses and horn-like head gear of the Herero women and Scott described the plans for and photos of a Herero wedding and the events preceding it.

Game viewing and photographing is an important part of Namibia's tourist industry and Scott presented several photos taken in the Etosha National Park including some of the magnificently horned kudu.

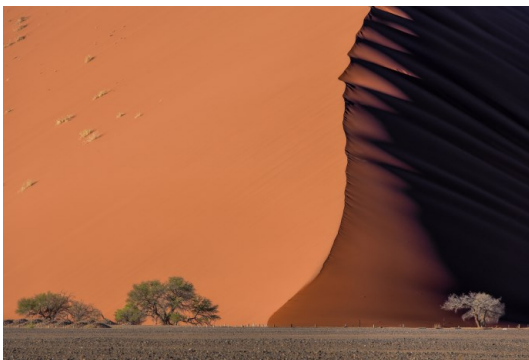
Scott described the settings he uses to take both static and moving subjects and showed us a photo of his battered and well-used DSLR camera and lens (still obviously working well!)



Namibia is a unique and beautiful place and I enjoyed being reminded of it again.

All images this page and page 7: Scott Hurd.

Jenny and Nick Lefebvre traveled around Namibia for two months in 2015 and Nick developed a four-part photo blog of our trip. If anyone is interested in seeing it, contact Nick at nick1212@tpg.com and he will send you the links. The images below are from Nick's travels.



Top left: *Dune 45—Sossusvlei*; top right: *Himba girl*; above middle: *Deadvlei*; above: *Fish river canyon*; right: *Etosha lion*.

Portrait Group

Saturday 19 August, by Gaye Edwards



Saturday August 19th was World Photography Day and the Portrait Group celebrated by focusing on member Hamid's beautiful young daughter.

Ella was absolutely charming, very cooperative and extremely patient. We tried different lighting setups, backgrounds and props to help achieve a narrative in our portraits. My thanks to all who attended and contributed to another enjoyable session. Please check members' efforts on the club website Gallery.

Next Portrait Group meeting is on 16 September. Watch for my registration email on the Monday before.



Isn't she lovely? Top: Hamid and Ella; middle, Zara and our model; above, QCG president Martin Riley with our delightful model. All images, the equally lovely, Gaye Edwards.

2023 Ekka Success

Congratulations to QCG the club, and many of its members, for their recent successes at the 2023 Ekka Photography Competition.

QCG took out the prize of *Highest Aggregate Points—Camera Club—Digital Image* (see trophy, right) thanks to Nick Lefebvre and Zoe McGrath. Their placings, in *Colour or Monochrome Digital Image - Any subject - Restricted to Camera Club Members Only*, put QCG into the top spot, and included these images:

- ‘Annaliese’ by Nick Lefebvre, **First** (six points)
- ‘Just up there’ by Zoe McGrath, **Second** (five points)
- ‘Solitary Sunset State’ by Zoe McGrath, Highly Commended (three points)
- ‘Karlee’ by Nick Lefebvre, Commended (two points)
- ‘Feathered Focus’ by Zoe McGrath, Commended (two points).



There were plenty of individual achievements too. In addition to Nick’s first placing above, there were three additional firsts for QCG members! All results (hopefully!) listed here:

- ‘My Father, My Hero’ by Georgie Crossley (see above right), **First**, *Colour Print Portrait or People* as well as *Champion, Packers Prize*;
- ‘Sugar Milling’ by Ray Shorter, **First**, *Monochrome Prints*;
- ‘Intensity’ by Zoe McGrath, **First**, *Colour Open Digital*;
- ‘Animal by name, animal by nature’ by Anne Pappalardo, **Third**, *Digital, Creative*;
- ‘Blurred vision in red’ by Anne Pappalardo, **Third**, *Colour or Mono Print—Creative*;
- ‘Landing the catch of the day’ by Anne Pappalardo, **Third**, *Monochrome Prints*;
- ‘Always was, always will be’ by Esther Andrews, **Third**, *Colour or Monochrome Prints, Open Subject*;
- ‘Dawn glow’ and ‘Pathway to their future’ by Anne Pappalardo, Highly Commended, *Colour Any Subject—Print*; ‘Waiting for my Prince’ and ‘Quiet please’, Anne Pappalardo, Highly Commended, *Colour Print Portrait or People*; ‘Underneath the Manhattan Bridge’, Anne Pappalardo, Highly Commended, *Monochrome Print*.
- ‘Breakfast at Tiffany’s’ by Ray Shorter, Highly Commended, *Monochrome Print, Portrait and People*.
- ‘Science Museum—Valencia’ by Nick Lefebvre, Highly Commended, *Monochrome Digital*;
- ‘Doing the pelican hop’ by Geoff Shortland, Commended, *Colour Open Digital*;
- ‘Golden Glow Watchdog’ by Zoe McGrath, Commended, *Colour Open Digital*;
- ‘Pigeon Pair’ by Yvonne Hill, Commended, *Monochrome Digital*;
- ‘Wet’ and ‘We can march with good helpers’ by Esther Andrews, both Commended, *Colour or Monochrome Prints, Open subject*.

Club Mentor Role—Mel Sinclair



Hey QCG,

Thanks for welcoming me into your club. These past few months have been so rewarding that I have decided to take on the role of Club Mentor (General Committee Member). By why wait 'til 2024? Let's start now!

It's a role that I have proposed to the committee, and it can serve you in a number of ways. I want you to think of me as someone you can turn to, for straight, concise advice about a number of things, such as;

- * Preparing a portfolio for review and making it as strong as possible
- * Entering competitions for QCG
- * Entering non-QCG Competitions (ie Local art shows, Art Prizes and Internationals)
- * Improving creative concepts
- * Doing 'arty' things to, or with, your images...

If you wish me to review any of your work, please send me an email (mel@melsinclair.com.au) outlining the following:

(do not attach the images in email, my inbox will get too full)

1. What competition are you entering - name and links help :);
2. What is your creative concept / what are you trying to show / improve on - explain in as much detail so I can help you fine-tune this;
3. When is your deadline (helps if we have 2+ weeks);
4. Where will you upload photos to; Google Drive (preferred), Dropbox, or the clubs "Critique Corner" in MyPhotoClub - nominate one.

If Google Drive (preferred) or Dropbox is selected, I will reply with a link to a folder I have created just for you to put your files.

Or, if you have your own Google Drive or Dropbox, add my email address for access or send me an access link; mel@melsinclair.com.au

If you have selected "Critique Corner" please upload here prior to sending me an email, so it's there waiting.

Please size your images to club guidelines.

Please no images attached in email

There is no cost, but please be mindful that I do have an 8am-5pm job and so I can't answer phone calls or emails during the day.

I hope you will take up this opportunity, I love to see people grow through the creative process.

Mel Sinclair

Competitions Update

By Competitions Officer, Elizabeth Riley FAPS



Warren Veivers, who has been judging QCG competitions for many years, took on Photomontage and Open for us in August. Although this was one of the more challenging subjects that members have faced for a while, I was very impressed with the range of ideas and techniques that everyone produced, and even more by the number of things Warren could see in an image that the maker may not have thought of.

Warren mentioned the importance of cohesiveness in photomontage, before discussing three approaches to creativity – that of seeing something differently, of using in-camera techniques and through processing and post-production, the last of which carried more weight in his judging. Warren also managed to find examples of the ‘Toyota school of composition’, i.e find a gap and fill it, which may become a new buzz phrase around the club.

Warren’s comments are available in MyPhotoClub, and remember you can also add your own comments (constructive or appreciative) to other members’ images.

Voting at the AGM before the Competition Judging



Image by Tony Fitzgerald

Results for August Print Competition Night: Photomontage and Open
Judged by Warren Veivers

A Grade Photomontage DPI

Kate Stock	Floral Dream	Honour
Martin Riley FAPS	Dreaming of Japan	Honour
Yvonne Hill FAPS EFIAP/b BPSA OAM	Outside the Square	Honour
Chris Pigott	Beauty and the Beast	Honour
Gaye Edwards	Domestic Memories	Honour
Anne Pappalardo AAPS	Poised and posed	Merit
Esther Andrews	Teddys Birthday	Merit
Diane Foley	Forest Queen	Merit
Georgie Crossley	I Once had A Dream	Merit
Diane Foley	Sorrow	Merit
Chris Pigott	Book Learning	Merit
Roger Bartlett	Brisbane - Jacaranda capital	Merit
Gaye Edwards	The Eyes Have It	Merit
Angela Gregory	Bird Montage	Merit
Anne Pappalardo AAPS	Animal by name animal by nature	Merit
Mel Sinclair M.Photog ANZIPP	The Magic Eye	Merit
Geoff Shortland	A Day in the Life of an Australian	Merit

A Grade Open DPI

Philip Michael	Peace be upon you	Honour
Nick Lefebvre	Sam	Honour
Martin Riley FAPS	Corner Tree	Honour
Jasmine Westerman	Reflections on Just Another Sunrise	Honour
Anne Pappalardo AAPS	Grand Central Station	Honour
Mel Sinclair M.Photog ANZIPP	Swanning Around	Honour
Kate Stock	Vespa Love	Honour
Jane McMenamin	It itches right here	Merit
Jane McMenamin	Mirror mirror on the wing	Merit
Philip Michael	18th August Vietnam Veterans Day	Merit
John Roberts	Cairns Birdwing	Merit
John Roberts	Regent Bowerbird	Merit
Peter Moodie	Punamii Uunpuu Man	Merit
Peter Moodie	Best Seats in the House	Merit
Tony FitzGerald	Cleared for landing	Merit
Diane Foley	Tesselated Landscape	Merit
Yvonne Hill FAPS EFIAP/b BPSA OAM	Mini Muster	Merit
Martin Riley FAPS	Electrifying	Merit
Roger Bartlett	The window looking out	Merit
Elizabeth Riley FAPS	Binalong memories	Merit
Ray Shorter FAPS	Silver Gull Takeoff	Merit
Zoe McGrath	Urban Puppy	Merit
Angela Gregory	Under the Bridge	Merit

Results for August Print Competition Night: Photomontage and Open
Judged by Warren Veivers

AB Grade Photomontage DPI

Kerrie Wall	Ghost Rider	Honour
Maziar Kazemi	Struggle	Honour
Hamidreza Rahnama	Coffee Time	Merit
Maziar Kazemi	My gaze	Merit
Heleen Daniels	Trapped	Merit
Zara Azizi	Shattered Identity	Merit

AB Grade Open DPI

Kerrie Wall	Nag Nag Nag	Honour
Heleen Daniels	Grass growing in volcanic rocks	Honour
Zara Azizi	The fisherman's tale	Merit
Ray Eisenmenger	Pick A Fruit And Join The Party	Merit
Ray Eisenmenger	World at Ones Fingertips	Merit
Hamidreza Rahnama	First Real Photo with R5 !	Merit
Margo Wade	Dreamscape	Merit

B Grade Photomontage DPI

Steve Andrews	Medieval Europe	Honour
Steve Andrews	Monet Garden	Merit

B Grade Open DPI

Chayvis Zhang	Colour of Autumn	Merit
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Most Apt Title

Ghost Rider	Kerrie Wall
Swanning Around	Mel Sinclair

QCG Weekend Away - Afloat

25, 26, 27 August, Boreen Point

Story by Rodney Nancarrow

The stars must have been in perfect alignment when we chose the date for our Weekend Away at Boreen Point. We were blessed with beautiful weather and just enough clouds to add some drama to our skies. But it was the good fortune of the Lake Cootharaba Sailing Club holding their season opening All Boats Regatta, on our weekend, which put the icing on the cake. The buzz and spectacle the regatta provided was an added bonus for our photographers.

No amount of buzz and spectacle will guarantee a great event, it requires the participants to show up with their fun hats on and they did that in spades. John and I have taken on the opportunity of organising the last couple of Weekends Away at Toogoolawah and Bribie Island. Prior to that John has been the main driving force of growing the tradition of this event and I know that he is rightfully very proud of what we achieved. This year was a little different as the committee agreed to allow me to indulge my passion for the quirky little village that I now call home. I am very grateful of the support from John and the committee that allowed us to showcase the Boreen Point village, Lake Cootharaba and the greater Noosa district. As always the QCG members pitched in at the appropriate times to make sure the event ran smoothly and I won't try to name you all, as I fear I would overlook someone, but you know who you are and I greatly appreciate your assistance.

I will name the Boreen Point locals who got behind the event and were critical to its success. I am always in awe of the organisation skills of my beautiful wife Jennifer. The fine time enjoyed by all on Friday night's BBQ at our house, was very much the results of her efforts. My good friend Keith not only loaned us his BBQ and he also stepped in to cook for us. Our next door neighbours Monique and Yancy loaned us chairs and an esky, however it was their offer of putting their boat "Hugo Ross" in the water, to take groups of our members out to photograph the racing that greatly added to the experience of the weekend. Troy, who is a long-time friend of mine, kindly offered his services to assist some of our participants to try out kayaking on the lake. It was very gratifying to hear that Troy found the experience as rewarding as those who took part. The feedback from Monique, Yancy, Keith and Troy was that they thoroughly enjoyed the company of the QCG members and being part of our weekend.

One of the many valuable things I have learnt from the weekend, when catering for QCG allow for more whipped cream and less lettuce!

Saturday Night Judging



Images by Diane Foley & Tony Fitzgerald

Afloat (cont.)

QCG Members out and about at Boreen Point

Images by: top—Peter Moodie; Middle—Ray Shorter; Bottom—Jasmine Westerman



Afloat (cont.)

A Day in the Life of a QCG'er



Afloat (cont.)

QCG Members thank Rodney and Jennifer for the extraordinary effort they made to host the “Afloat” Weekend



New PSQ Competition—Zephyr Photographic Awards

Opens 18 September and closes 22 October

At last! A new national competition for creative photographers—the Zephyr Photographic Awards.

And the judges selected, Lisa Kurtz, Marian Drew, Brett Lethbridge and Sue Gordon, are at the forefront of the creative genre.

The definition for the competition is 'any image where the artist has demonstrated innovation in photographic expression', which gives photographers almost unlimited scope for works to be entered.

First prize is \$1500, and there are three Judge's Encouragement awards of a \$200 gift voucher from CameraPro in Brisbane.

This is a unique opportunity for those photographers who like to explore beyond the traditional realms of the art, and to have their works judged by judges who are deeply involved in creative expression.

Entries open on 18 September and close on 22 October, with final judging to be held on 4th November.

Cost per entry is \$25 for one image, \$30 for two images and \$35 for three images.

Visit the web page for further information.

<https://zephyr.myphotoclub.com.au/>

Ralph Brown

President, PSQ

QCG Merchandise

Hi Everyone

Just a quick word about our merchandise. We have Men's and Women's T-shirts in S, M, L, XL, XXL. Available in Black or White. White caps with a printed design and black caps with an embroidered design. Notebooks (which can be personalised) and tote bags. There are several slogans/designs which can be selected for any of the items with two exceptions. The camera icon and the circle logo with photographer cannot be used on black items. Our slogans are:

- QCG Smile Please
- QCG Stay Focused
- QCG Leave Only Tripod Prints
- QCG (with camera icon)
- And a circle logo with a photographer and a tripod with the words QCG est 1956

If you would like to place an order, please email me: georgie.crossley@icloud.com

If we place a bulk order we will qualify for free shipping, so if you would like to take advantage of that please place your order by April 14th. All orders should be paid for in advance by direct deposit to QCG and confirmation of payment to be emailed with your order please.

I am happy to do individual orders, but please note the shipping will be additional. If you live outside Brisbane, this might be the best option anyway. Please make sure you let me know in your email if you would like me to have the order sent directly to you.

Thank you so much for your support. It will be lovely to see everyone in their QCG gear, whilst raising a few dollars for the Club.

Many thanks

Georgie



Size	S	M	L	XL	XXL
WOMEN'S					
Length (cm) (top of shoulder to bottom of t-shirt)	63	66	69	71	75
Width (cm) (across bust)	43	48	53	58	63.5
MEN'S					
Length (cm) (top of shoulder to bottom of t-shirt)	69.85	73.03	75.57	78.11	81.28
Width (cm) (across chest)	45.72	50.80	55.88	61	66



Who does what?

Photos of our hardworking committee for 2023 are shown here, and overleaf, you'll find non-committee members who do hold various positions in the club. Don't forget, if you need to contact a member of the committee there are many contact details listed [here](#). If the person you want to contact is not listed, just email the secretary for their details.



Martin Riley, President



Tony FitzGerald, Vice President, Focus Coordinator



Chris Pigott, Treasurer



Judy Greer, Secretary



Elizabeth Riley, Competitions Officer



Georgie Crossley, Speaker Liaison & Print Coordinator



Peter Moodie, Photoshoot Outings



Louise McDonald, Membership Officer



Esther Andrews, PSQ Representative



Gaye Edwards, Portrait Group, Web Master



Anne Pappalardo, Prism Editor, Events



Jasmine Westerman, Immediate Past President, Judges Liaison



Geoff Shortland, Floktu, IT Desk



Rob Champion, IT Desk



John Edwards, Catering



Sharon Hobbs, Skills Seeker Special Interest Group



David Bullock, Back up Competitions, Library