

PRISM

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Black & White Photography Focus Night

Photo by: Anne Pappalardo



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Image generated by Midjourney: prompt "dreamy photo of caucasian woman photographing city buildings, captured through a prism, light and airy feel, summer time"

Martin Riley AFIAP MAPS

President's *piece*



With a nice influx of new members during the first few months of the year; our membership has clocked up the 100 milestone! It is always great to see the energy of the club continually refreshed and for those that have recently joined, I hope you are enjoying the experience.

March kept up the busy pace at QCG with another great month. I marvel at the talent we have in our club and the willingness of members to give back through various avenues.

Black & White Focus Group

This month's Focus Group was a great example, with five talented photographers (well four if you exclude me!) willing to share their post-processing techniques in Black & White photography – and wasn't there some diversity!

“ Kris is such a dynamic personality, and it was a treat to watch him in person as he talked about his work. ”



Decorated Sugar Cookies made by Zoe McGrath



Kris Anderson and Mel Sinclair

Speaker Night with Kris Anderson

The month's highlight for me though was Speaker Night with the amazingly talented event and portrait photographer Kris Anderson. Kris, coming fresh off being a Grand Award winner in the In-Camera Division at the internationally acclaimed Icon Awards held in Las Vegas, gave us a great presentation on 'Ten Things I wish Someone Had Taught Me About Portraiture'. Kris is such a dynamic personality, and it was a treat to watch him in person as he talked about his work.

I noted that a number of members are reverting to Zoom for Speaker Nights – I really do encourage members, if possible, to attend SPACE face to face to get a fuller experience. Quite apart from the great community atmosphere, some of our members have been providing special treats for supper lately!!

The month concluded with a great photoshoot at the Celebration of Cultures event at Old Petrie Town – a perfect opportunity to put into practice some of Kris's tips!



Prints collected by Martin & Elizabeth Riley for SEQ!

Speaking of Kris, he will be one of the keynote speakers and workshop providers at the annual PSQ conference held over the May Day long weekend. Tickets for this are selling fast so if you would like to attend, jump on the website soon.

QCG is also gearing up to host the associated Salon of Excellence (SEQ) competition held in conjunction with the conference. Thank you to all those QCG members who have entered the competition – QCG has been the top club for the last five years, primarily due to our participation rates.

Our competition team of Elizabeth, Georgie, Esther, David and others have their work cut out as we have had in excess of 2500 entries from across the state to arrange judging for!



Damien Bredberg

Damien Bredberg at BCG

QCG members were also lucky enough to be invited to the Brisbane Camera Group speaker night to hear Damien Bredberg. Damien, who is also a talented creative portrait photographer, set up a live demonstration with a model, and in real time inserted her portrait into an amazing scene created through prompts in Artificial Intelligence software (Midjourney).

It certainly was an eye-opening demonstration on the power of AI and the emerging importance for commercial photographers. The use of AI is a huge topic in the world of photography at present and can't be ignored. While its use in competition, using prompts, will continue to be banned, we are keen to keep members educated on the subject and might try a fun exercise for members later in the year.

The committee will continue to discuss the right approach to AI as well as other ethical principles associated with our club. While at BCG we also collected an armful of BCG prints for the SEQ competition!

Collaboration with other clubs such as BCG is something QCG is investigating further. We'd also love to hear from our members on other ways we can improve our offerings. I look forward to seeing you at one of our events in April!

Martin Riley
President



Model with Helper at BCG



Final result of model inserted into AI generated background

picture perfect:
the monthly roundup



Speaker Night with Kris Anderson



Photoshoot Outing at Old Petrie Town



Black & White Photography - Focus Group



Focus Group Black & White

Being a member of the Queensland Camera Group (QCG) offers unparalleled access to a wealth of diverse knowledge, with club members always eager to share their expertise. This was vividly showcased at our recent Focus Group meeting, dedicated to the art of Black & White photography.

Elizabeth Riley set the tone for the evening with her presentation, sharing her journey with the image that earned her the Nick Caris trophy for Black and White Print of the Year. Her piece, titled “Seat of Learning” captured on an iPhone at the State Library of Adelaide, is a prime example of how modern technology can intersect with traditional photography to create something truly impactful. Elizabeth’s ability to post-process the RAW image into a high-quality print offered practical insights into achieving excellence in Black & White photography.

Martin Riley, Anne Pappalardo, Nick Lefbvre, and Tony FitzGerald also took the stage, each delving into their unique approaches to Black & White photography. Utilizing Photoshop or Lightroom, they shared their workflows, demonstrating the transformation of raw shots into stunning Black & White images. These presentations provided attendees with a range of techniques and perspectives, from the initial capture to the final touches in post-processing.

This Focus Group meeting highlighted the benefits of being part of such a vibrant and sharing community like QCG.



Elizabeth Riley preparing to share her processing techniques



A keen set of members



Speaker Night with Kris Anderson

IFSWPP M. Photog I M. WPPI MNZIPP (Dist.)

Kris Anderson, renowned for his expertise and dynamic presence, took us through what he affectionately called his “10 Things I Wish Someone Had Taught Me About Portraiture” which funnily had expanded to 15 points by the time Kris fleshed out his presentation. (& 16 by the end of the night!)

Kris’s discussion was not really about the technical side of photography but was a story on the essence of connection. “Interestingly, many of the points tied together and related to building rapport with the person you’re capturing,” shared Zoe, highlighting a central theme of Kris’s enlightening presentation.

“Everyone was super welcoming and had great questions, and our re-creation of that rainbow circle image using Ray instead of a dancer would have been pretty spectacular. ~ Kris”

What made the evening particularly engaging was Kris’s interactive approach. He welcomed and encouraged questions throughout his presentation, transforming the event into an interactive learning experience, enriching the attendees’ understanding and appreciation of portrait photography.

A pivotal takeaway from Kris’s talk was the paramount importance of the photographer-subject connection. Zoe reflected on this, saying, “I learned it’s more about how you connect with the



Zoe McGrath & Kris Anderson

person, making them feel comfortable and quickly adapting to their personality to help draw them out slowly if needed.” This insight underscored the fact that capturing a great portrait goes beyond just camera settings and lighting—it’s about capturing the spirit and essence of the individual.

Kris’s engaging manner and depth of knowledge made a profound impact. “I found Kris to be really engaging and often found myself leaning in to hear more,” Zoe added, echoing the sentiment of many who found Kris’s session not only educational but also deeply captivating.

This speaker night with Kris Anderson illuminated the art of portrait photography in a way that resonated with our club members, providing valuable insights into not only improving their craft but also understanding the importance of the human element in photography. Kris’s generous sharing of his journey and the lessons he’s learned along the way was a source of inspiration for all, reminding us that the journey in photography is always evolving and there’s always more to learn.

Photoshoot Outing Old Petrie Town

Our club's recent outing to Old Petrie Town for the Celebration of Cultures event turned out to be a memorable expedition into photography, culture, and camaraderie. Set against the backdrop of a quaint, restored historic village north of Brisbane, this gathering saw 13 of our members come together to explore, capture, and share experiences that spanned the spectrum of Australia's diverse cultural heritage.

The day started under welcome overcast skies, which, as Jay noted, "turned out to be a blessing in disguise," offering soft, diffused lighting that enhanced the photos. This natural diffuser was particularly appreciated as we embarked on capturing the essence of Old Petrie Town and its celebratory ambiance.

“ The overcast skies turned out to be a blessing in disguise ”

Initially, there was a collective hesitation to photograph people, a common sentiment among photographers when stepping into the public sphere. Steve captured this early feeling, saying, "Some of us were a little shy to photograph the public and performers at the outset." However, the presence of seasoned photographers in our group soon inspired everyone. Witnessing their ease and approach, we found ourselves growing more confident, eager to capture the unfolding moments.



Zara Azizi, Maziar Kazemi, Sawindar Ranu, Jim Watters, Martin Riley, Ray Eisenmenger, Jay Mooney, Sandy & Steve Andrews, Zoe McGrath



Captured by Jay Mooney



Eric - Captured by Zoe McGrath



Captured by Zoe McGrath

The heart of the event was undoubtedly the performances. From the Indigenous act performed by Eric, who not only shared his music but also stories with his didgeridoo, to the vibrant dances of the Māori and Pacific performers, each act added a layer of depth and colour to our outing.

Steve remarked, “All of the cultural performances were very enjoyable,” with a personal highlight being the Scottish band’s formal performance, capturing his interest with their drums, bagpipes, and military uniform.

“ Some of us were a little shy to photograph the public and performers at the outset ”



Captured by Zoe McGrath



Captured by Zoe McGrath



Sandy Andrews

The markets and food stalls provided a delightful diversion from our photographic pursuits, offering a taste of the world through flavoursome dishes like Jakarta curry and Japanese gyoza, as Steve fondly remembered.

Jay echoed this sentiment, highlighting the communal joy found in sampling various cuisines. This exploration of tastes was complemented by the array of crafts and goods on offer, from precious stone jewellery that caught Sandy's eye to the unique finds in the Olde Candy Store and Vinyl LP Record store, which Steve noted as a personal favourite.



Elizabeth Riley

“like-minded photographers,” Steve summed up the day, reflecting on the blend of learning, exploration, and shared experiences that characterized our outing.

As we left Old Petrie Town, it wasn't just the memory cards that were full but also our hearts with the joy of photography and the beauty of capturing moments.

This outing reaffirmed the magic that happens when passion meets opportunity, and how, through the lens of a camera, we're able to capture and celebrate the diverse tapestry of cultures that enrich our community.

“ It is always great fun to attend QCG field events to connect with like-minded photographers ”



Sawindar Ranu, Ray Eisenmenger, Elizabeth Riley, Chayvis Zhang, Zoe McGrath

Beyond the photography and cultural immersion, the event was an opportunity for us to connect and chat, sharing stories and tips. “It is always great fun to attend QCG field events to connect with like-



Elizabeth & Martin Riley

Monthly Club Portrait Session

The March Portrait Group meeting was another fun opportunity to practice studio lighting skills, and to try out new ideas and techniques. This month we were accompanied by Irish folk songs from a live band in the adjoining space – and we all joined in with “In Dublin’s Fair City”

Our model for the morning was Lara, who travelled down from the sunshine coast. Lara has been modelling for a while, and as well as her infectious enthusiasm and energy, she was comfortable and well-practiced at posing – a great help to those of us less confident in directing a model. And she had a real interest in the whole process, asking why we were setting things up in a certain way, and very understanding of any technical issues we had. She brought along a couple of different outfits and I can’t wait to see the results at the [QCG Portrait gallery](#).

It was great to see Gaye back in the saddle, full of ideas as usual . My sincere thanks to Calvin for transporting the kit to and from The Hub at Mt Ommaney and to all the members who helped set up, and pack away, all the equipment.

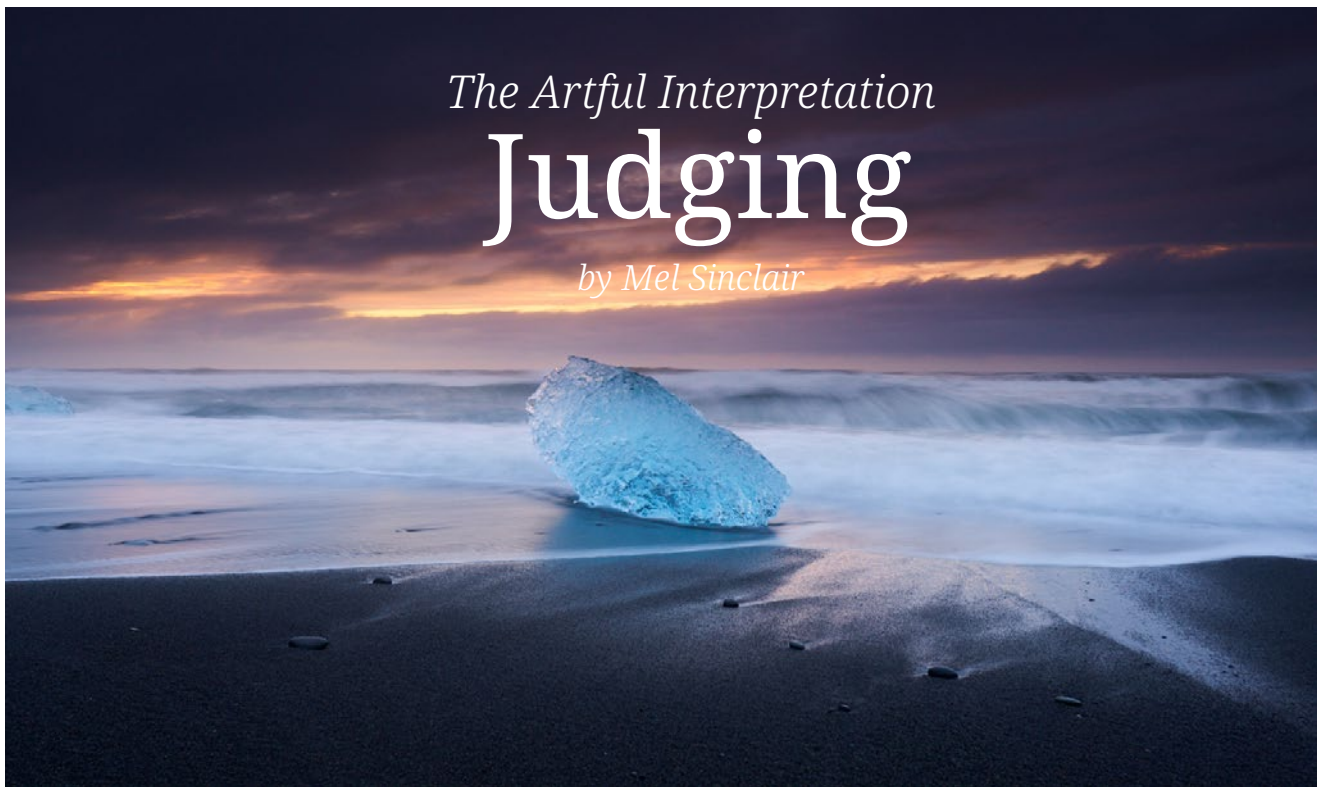
The next Portrait Group will be on Saturday 20th April – so keep an eye out for the registration email.

Geoff Lawrence
www.creativefutures.net.au
facebook - [creativefuturesphotography](https://www.facebook.com/creativefuturesphotography)



Behind the scenes with our model Lara - Geoff Lawrence

Lens Life:
Photography & People



Gaye Edwards



Kerrie Wall

The Artful Interpretation Judging

by Mel Sinclair

Judging at its core is quite an easy task, everyone has opinions, and this is merely an informed one.

What is more difficult is summarising why you gave it that particular score and how can the entrant improve. When consistency, transparency and accountability are taken into account it bumps up the difficulty level.

In this article, I hope to give an insight as to what it's like to judge, why I love it so much, and

What does it take to be a judge?

I've recently undertaken the PSQ Judges training and passed, being appointed to the PSQ Judges panel in February 2024. Though, this isn't my first time undertaking judges training, as I have previously been trained in the AIPP system and done multiple interstate and international judging prior.

“ It is these varied backgrounds that make every judge different. Some judge technically, some creatively, some both. ”

I love it because the ability to read and create images that hit their mark quickly is a valuable skill to have! It helps you make better images for yourself, give more involved feedback, make better prints and of course, give entrants the fairest go they can possibly get.

I derive not just enjoyment, appreciation or benefit of undertaking, but a humble warmth that someone has trusted me to make that determination for that competition.

Being a good judge, a respected and thoughtful judge, takes a lot more. At the heart of being a judge, I feel, is having;

- A surety of self (but not being egotistical)
- Debating skills and impromptu talking experience.
- Be willing to stand by your opinions, but also yield when overruled.
- Being able to quickly summarise and explain the reason for the score or comment.
- Humility – being able to admit you were wrong or didn't read an image or story openly and honestly without responding indignantly.
- Professionalism – being sensitive to the entrant's feelings, but always giving feedback about the image where possible, and being sensitive to those who read that comment.

A judge brings with them a certain creative or technical background, lots of experience and sometimes, study in the area/s of expertise. They are all masters of their craft – wherever that craft is.

It is these varied backgrounds that make every judge different. Some judge technically, some creatively, some both. It is a thing of beauty to see a panel of judges take on a series of images. In the PSQ system, when you see a panel of judges, it is mostly always Impact judging, (like we had most recently for Animals at QCG) where no comments are given.

You may only hear comments or debate when picking a top 3 for placing, and only if those adjudications are made public.

It can be hard to pass on judging feedback in this manner, so it is important that if you are seeking to do better, you consult your peers or club mentor (hint hint) to ask for feedback about what you could have improved.

This means that as a judge you have mere seconds to read, arrive at a score and be able to identify the parts of the image that work and which don't, and possible comment for the entrant if you're called to talk. I've always likened it to being in the Olympics of judging. It's fast paced, quiet, poised and although you don't know what the judges are thinking, your score arrives immediately.

“ I've always likened it to being in the Olympics of judging. It's fast-paced, quiet, poised, and although you can't see what the judges are thinking, your score arrives immediately. ”

In most cases of club judging, we do what is called Considered Judging. We often get 3-4 weeks with DPIs or Prints, depending on the competition being judged. Often, we go back and forth reading, scoring, commenting and picking top titles and awards for that month. In this method, I am able to sit with an image as long as I need to, in order to give it a score.

Prints are my favourite to do 'considered judging' on, as the print speaks volumes about the photographer, their workflow, process and attention to detail. Nothing delights me more than finding the entrant having used Fine Art paper such as Ilford, Canson or other paper, aside from regular glossy lab paper, as this usually means someone has spent some time, love and attention to detail in choosing this paper stock.



David Bullock displaying Prints for Impact Judging

What's a judge thinking when they look at my work?

While this process usually depends on the judge as to whether they lean to creative or technical, I can only speak for my experience. I know that I am firstly a creative judge, and if I cannot read a story, nor find a creative aspect, I switch to technical. If I can read a creative story without having to defer or lean into technical, I am almost always in the award ranges.

So my process would usually follow as:

1. Immediate impact: story, colour, refinement,
2. Subject, meaning, editing or resolution of message
3. Symbolism, semiotics, juxtapositions

If the print isn't creative or I can't read or understand the story, I will switch to the technicality of what is before me;

4. Technical – Exposure, highlights, shadows, saturation, focus, editing, composition, printing (if applicable) presentation



Impact Judging at QCG

If I can find fault in the technical, I am almost always arriving at an Acceptance, sometimes a commended. This is not a locked-in scale, but it has been a reliable scale for me in my years of judging.

Now this is not necessarily true for all judges. Some are technical first and either don't know how or don't choose to read into creative images. And that's totally fine too. This is often why a panel may be a mix of technical and creative judges.

Commenting

I love a comment. If you've seen me judge before, it's likely you've received one of my comments. I think the right comment is an art in itself. I know I might not always get it right, but I hope that if you disagree you have at least a look from my point of view and try to see where I'm coming from.

“ I think the right comment is an art in itself. I know I might not always get it right, but I hope that if you disagree, you have at least a look from my point of view and try to see where I'm coming from. ”

I almost always have to visit camera clubs and read these to an audience, knowing that the creator is in the seats in front of me. That really helps me structure my feedback as I always imagine myself reading it, as if I'm telling a friend what to work on.

I will always start my comment with something that I like about the image.

If I have things to say next, I'll give a max of 3 correction suggestions, often 2 is enough. Followed by another comment about giving something a go, having a play, or telling you I think these corrections are easy and will make a big difference.



Live Print Judging event at QCG SPACE

Yes it is the compliment sandwich, but I think it is better than just saying “needs a crop” and not giving you something to action. Not all judges think like I do, and some struggle to make their comment sound palatable and actionable.



Captured by Mel Sinclair

It's important to remember that in these cases, they are not trying to be mean, so please go easy on them and understand that the time we give to judging is purely volunteered, and not always paid.

So far, I've been paid for my time with; a fruitcake, several coffee mugs, a club's photobook, a Coles voucher, a few bottles of wine, a box of chocolates and fuel expenses reimbursed. I'm thankful for anything given as I know that this is not a money making business. I'm here for the entrant and to help everyone make better, impactful, enriching and engrossing images.

Addressing “Judging Inconsistencies”

I hear this a lot, and perhaps instead of thinking of various judging opinions as ‘inconsistencies’ we should call them judge differences. You might have a judge that was or is a lover of traditional film. Perhaps they had their own darkroom and are a book of knowledge on these older processes.

Their opinion would be different to someone who grew up in the advent of digital photography, who may have scant experience of these traditional experiences. Neither one's knowledge nor experience is less valuable.

These two are equal, as it is the beauty of these varying backgrounds that make the adjudication more level, to give the image its best chance at a balanced score.



Captured by Mel Sinclair

These comments likely come from entrants who are disappointed in a judge's ruling, perhaps they're disappointed that they didn't get an Honor that they so desperately thought they were owed.

These attitudes need to take a step back as it's not in the spirit of good competition and hey, there's always another competition just around the corner. Have another go.

Other Judging systems:

In the former AIPP system, and many subsequent ones like it, such as NZIPP, ICON (former WPPI), APP (Australian Photographic Prize) usually a panel of 3 or 5, each judge scores an image, and if the final average score is more than 5 points higher from a judge, an elective debate can be triggered.



App Judging Sample

If the final score is more than 10 points higher or lower than what a judge has scored, it can trigger an automatic challenge, whereby each judge on the panel debates what worked or didn't work for them and this discussion often highlights things not seen by a particular judge and in most cases, the image scores better.

But it's that debate that is invaluable for the entrant to hear. Below are some videos that are

recorded from these judgments, and the feedback is so interesting to watch.

AIPP Awards Youtube channel:

<https://www.youtube.com/@aippawards3886>

Hours upon hours of judging in this system

Australian Photographic Prize:

[https://www.youtube.com/@](https://www.youtube.com/@AustralianPhotographicPrize)

[AustralianPhotographicPrize](https://www.youtube.com/@AustralianPhotographicPrize)

similar to AIPP judging, different terminology.

This competition is on again this year July 12-13.



Always thankful to our judges for their time.

Left to right: Pia Jessen, Margaret O'Grady and Charlotte Reeves

In wrapping up, the journey of a judge is multifaceted, filled with moments of rapid decision-making, deep contemplation, and the delicate art of feedback. Through this article, I've shared a glimpse into the world of photographic judging - a role that brings me immense satisfaction and a profound sense of responsibility.

Remember, every judge brings their unique lens to the panel, informed by their experiences, expertise, and personal preferences. This diversity is what makes the judging process so enriching for both judges and entrants alike.

To all entrants, I encourage you to receive feedback with an open heart and curiosity. The comments, whether they resonate or challenge your view, are offered with the intention to support your creative exploration.

I hope you've found this insight into the world of photographic judging helpful. Here's to the continued exploration, learning, and sharing that makes photography so profoundly impactful.

Mel Sinclair

B.Vis Dip.FineArt M.Photog ANZIPP PSQ-A

www.melsinclair.com.au



Spotlighting Club Member Gaye Edwards

Gaye Edwards' story starts in 1948 in the vibrant landscapes of Wagga Wagga, NSW, where her days were filled with adventures—cycling miles on end, enjoying pony rides, and basking in the warmth of loving parents that cherished and nurtured her creative spirit.

From an early age, Gaye was introduced to the joys of music, art and books. She remembers taking photos too! One memory of capturing her dog listening to the old transistor radio.

Tragically, the sudden loss of her father during a pivotal moment in her life—while she was preparing for her Leaving Certificate—meant putting aside dreams of formal art education in Sydney. She wanted to stay home and close to her mother.

“During and after school years I nearly always had a pencil or paintbrush in my hand and enjoyed every moment of my art journey.”

Growing up with a joy for the arts in a country town, it's no wonder that Gaye finds joy in the simplicity.

A good coffee with a friend, all creatures great and small, unwinding with a good book and wine, native birds visiting her garden, the company of friends and family, and the rejuvenating power of spring. Despite her claim to being complicated, these preferences reveal a person deeply in tune with nature and the beauty of life.

Books hold a special place in Gaye's heart, being both a source of escapism and a bridge to worlds unknown. From the thrill of British crime novels to the intrigue of espionage, her bookshelves are a testament to a lifelong passion for reading, a journey that began with her being the first to read in kindergarten.

This love of storytelling, combined with her artistic talents, has crafted a life rich in creativity and exploration.

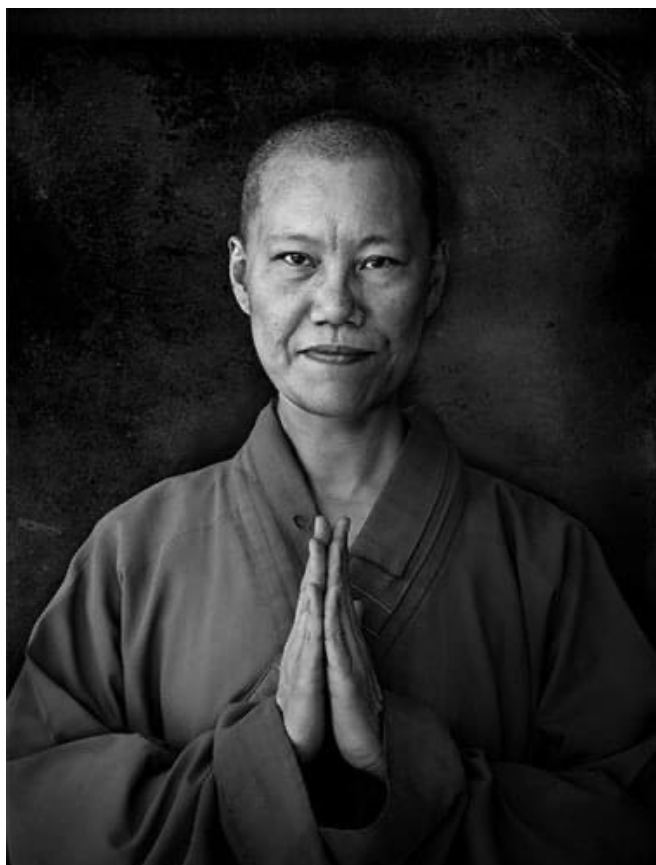


A favourite portrait - Sarah by Gaye Edwards

Gaye found companionship and love with John, who shared her adventurous spirit and desire to explore the world. Married in 1969, they ventured beyond the familiar landscapes of Australia to the vibrant and diverse cultures of the UK and Europe. Back then, travel was by sea and although the travel time was long, there were many stops along the way that enriched their understanding of the world around them.

“It was love at first sight. Plus, he was from out of town (Qld) and I thought I sensed travel opportunities!”

Settling down to family life back in Sydney, Gaye and John had two beautiful children, who have grown into creative individuals themselves, each carving out their own unique paths. Gaye speaks of her children with immense pride, her daughter, an architect in Melbourne, soon to design their new home, and her son, whose creative endeavours have always been a source of inspiration. This deep family bond and shared creativity have been central to Gaye's life, offering joy, challenges, and endless opportunities for growth.



Buddhist by Gaye Edwards



Winning entry Olympus camera comp 2019 by Gaye Edwards

As their children grew, they made the decision to move to Brisbane in 1988, seeking a healthier and safer environment for their growing family. John had transitioned from an electrician in the Air Force to a role in IT, and found a new venture in starting a small computer business, which continues to operate under new ownership today.

With the stress of owning a small business, Gaye looked for an avenue for both her and John to relax and so they found themselves members of the Queensland Colour Group in 1995. Since moving to Brisbane they were looking for a new creative outlet, and QCG offered a platform to connect with like-minded individuals passionate about photography.

The early days in QCG were shaped by influential figures within the club, notably Joan and Bruce Robinson, a talented and welcoming couple who lived close by. Their guidance and friendship helped Gaye and John quickly integrate into the club's activities. Joan, recognising Gaye's potential and enthusiasm, invited her to assist on the committee, marking the start of Gaye's active and sustained involvement with the club.

This period was a time of learning and growth for Gaye and John. The dynamic of QCG, a club that then focused primarily on 35mm slides as it was originally named Queensland Colour Group, provided a vibrant environment for exploration and development in photography. Gaye, starting in B Grade, progressed through the ranks, fuelled by the inspiring atmosphere of the club and her supportive husband John offered.

Over the years, Gaye's involvement with QCG deepened, serving in every committee role available (except Treasurer - God forbid!) and celebrating over 20 years of continuous service with a beautiful glass trophy.



PSQ SEQ 2023 - Sultry by Gaye Edwards

Her husband, John, equally embedded himself in the fabric of QCG and the broader photographic community. Though less inclined to be behind the camera, John's contributions were invaluable, particularly in administration and supporting club activities. His efforts were pivotal during his tenure with the Photographic Society of Queensland (PSQ), where he served, including a term as President, demonstrating his commitment to the photographic arts.

Together, they were instrumental in nurturing a culture of inclusivity and learning within QCG. Gaye's personal journey within the club also saw her embracing studio lighting, inspired by John Lomas from Brisbane Camera Group whose basic studio lighting demonstration that ignited her passion for portraiture.

Gaye's passion for understanding and mastering studio lighting marked a significant milestone in her photographic journey. This intrigue led her to open her own home studio, a space where she could experiment with lighting setups and refine her portraiture skills.

It was here that Gaye captured countless faces, each with their own story, illuminated under her careful direction. Her studio became a haven for creativity, a place where light and shadow danced at her command, and where she could delve deep into the art of portraiture.

About 15 years ago, Gaye helped to begin the QCG Portrait Group. Raising funds for some entry level lighting gear, initial meetings were held in church halls, scout halls and even member's homes. The monthly portrait workshop continues to be a valuable resource for both beginners and professionals alike.

However, the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic imposed new limitations on traditional studio work, compelling photographers everywhere to adapt and explore new realms. For Gaye, this period of restriction became an unexpected gateway into the world of bird and nature photography.

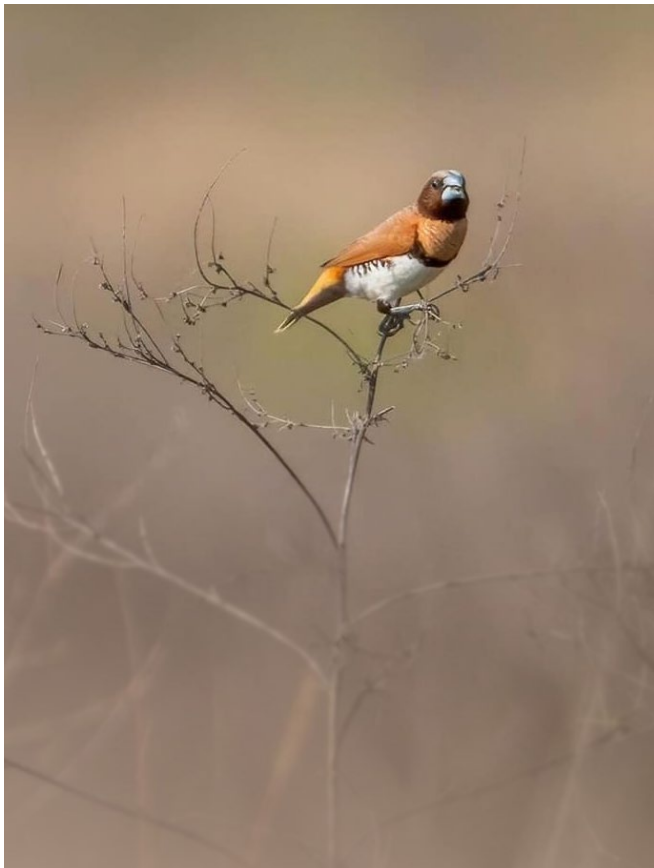
Encouraged by fellow QCG members Jane McMenamin and Lynda Davidson, Gaye embarked on a new chapter. Their guidance and support were instrumental in easing her transition into this genre, offering insights into bird behaviour, ideal locations for birdwatching, and techniques for capturing the fleeting moments of avian life.

“ I carried my camera with curiosity and compassion, so subjects were everywhere. ”

Gaye has experienced a range of photographic equipment. Initially starting in the club with a Pentax SLR camera, she then progressed to a Minolta, a gift from former member Richard Roxborough. As technology evolved, so did Gaye's gear; the Minolta brand transitioned to Sony,



PSQ SEQ 2022 - Caught In The Act by Gaye Edwards



Chestnut Breasted Mannikin by Gaye Edwards

leading her to follow suit with Sony's digital path. However, a turning point came a few years ago when Gaye won a mirrorless Olympus camera and lens in a photo competition run by Ted's Cameras. This prize became her "go anywhere artistic tool of choice", perfectly suited for the spontaneous nature of bird photography. Her older Sony's still hold a place in her studio, capturing portraits with precision and grace.

“Wish I could remember who once said: It's only a file until it's printed - THEN it's a photograph!”

Gaye's guidance for budding photographers is simple yet profound: know your camera inside and out. Mastery over your equipment allows you to capture moments as they unfold, a skill Gaye cherishes deeply. This proficiency, she notes, is indispensable in the fast-paced world of photography, where the perfect shot often lasts but a second.

With some health scares and a serious fall late last year, both Gaye and John have had a little break from the club to heal. Gaye mentioned a special

thank you to a close friend she has made at club Lynda Davidson for helping her to get back out and about photographing the local birds, as well as to David Bullock, Twiggy Daniels, Geoff Lawrence for stepping up to help with the Portrait workshops whilst she has been away.

Looking ahead, Gaye is excited about the evolving nature of photography, ready to embrace new technologies and techniques. Her commitment to lifelong learning shines through her eagerness to continue exploring the realms of portraiture and bird photography.

To follow Gaye's ongoing photographic journey and view her latest projects, visit her website at GayeEdwardsPhotography.com, or connect with her on [Facebook](https://www.facebook.com) and [Instagram](https://www.instagram.com) at [@gayeedwardsphotography](https://www.instagram.com/gayeedwardsphotography).

Gaye and John have dedicated nearly three decades to QCG. Their commitment has fostered enduring friendships, offered unwavering support, and shared invaluable advice, all driven by a mutual passion for creativity, learning and a sense of friendship and community.



Eastern Yellow Robin by Gaye Edwards



Spotlighting Club Member Kerrie Wall

A relatively new face at Queensland Camera Group (QCG), Kerrie Wall has been a member for about a year, but is no stranger to camera clubs, having been a member of Rockhampton Camera club in the past.

Reflecting the simple joys of country living, sunsets, and the loyal companionship of dogs, Kerrie's photography is as much about capturing the essence of a moment as it is about celebrating the everyday wins, especially those of her children.

Kerrie's approach to unwinding might not fit the traditional mould—jokingly questioning, “Unwind? What’s that?”—yet she finds solace in the simple pleasure of enjoying a Kombucha as the day winds down.

“ I love spring. All our cows start calving and the weather is kinder. ”

Spring brings her particular joy, marking a time of renewal on her farm with the calving season and gentler weather, scenes that often find their way into her photographic work.

Her passion extends beyond photography to horse training, a skill she's developing with an enthusiastic spirit.

Currently, Kerrie is breaking in an 8-year-old brumby from Kosciuszko National Park, a challenge she embraces as part of the Springsure Brumby Challenge. “You can find everyone's progress on Facebook [‘Springsure Brumby Challenge,’](#)” she mentions, highlighting her commitment to both her hobbies and her community.



A property we lived at called “Tilpal” which is owned by Defense force.



My Favourite Photo. Club champion photo whilst at Rockhampton Club

Kerrie's creative inspiration draws heavily from nature, her kids, and the animals around her, a reflection of her life's passions. With a year's membership at QCG under her belt, she credits astrophotography as her gateway into more advanced photographic techniques. Her dedication to documenting her life and her children's growth through her blog, www.anythinggoeshere86.blogspot.com.au, underscores her belief in photography as a powerful journal of life's fleeting moments.

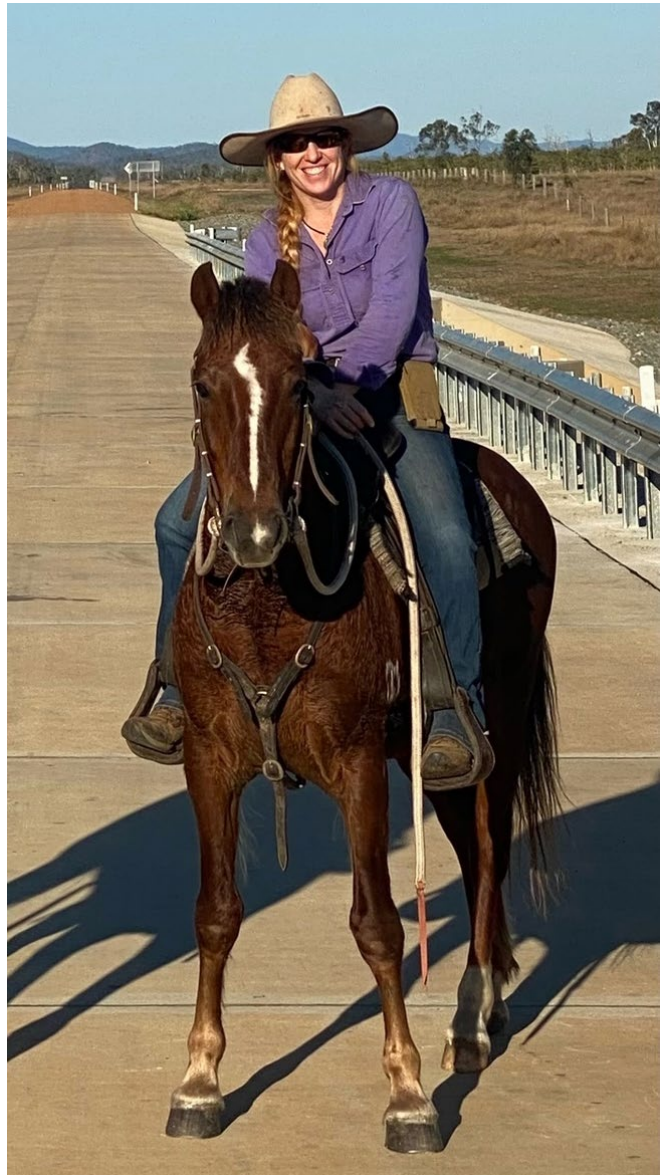
A Canon enthusiast, Kerrie favours the 24-70mm lens for its versatility, a choice that complements her preference for capturing the beauty of nature, from the changing skies to the wildlife that inhabits her surroundings. She finds inspiration in the QCG club, her friends, and other photographers, including the aspiration to collaborate with her cousin, whom she admires greatly.

Kerrie's approach to editing in Photoshop is about maintaining realism, "I usually try to keep my images as realistic to the scene as possible," a philosophy that guides her whether she's creating composite images or enhancing a single shot.



My family fishing in the broadsound. This was my family property where I grew up with beef cattle. (My husband and I have wagyu and Brangus cattle now near Bogantungan).

While she's ventured into local calendar competitions, Kerrie's photographic journey is marked by a memorable club champion win at Rockhampton Camera club, a moment that holds special significance for her.



Dartanian from 2023 Challenge

Kerrie’s experience at QCG, particularly the support and knowledge shared by members like Anne, has been invaluable, offering her a platform for growth and learning.

For those starting their photographic journey, Kerrie advises, “Crop to your story,” a tip that reflects her practical approach to composition and storytelling.

Looking ahead, she’s excited about her contract with Beef Australia for stud cattle photography, a recent accomplishment that marks a new chapter in her photographic career.

To keep up with Kerrie’s journey and her work, follow her on Facebook and Instagram @smokostumpimages, a nod to her unique blend of interests and her connection to the land.

Kerrie Wall embodies the spirit of QCG—passionate, skilled, and ever willing to explore the vast landscapes of photography, from the stars above to the stories that unfold in the countryside she loves.



A property we lived at called “Tilpa” which is owned by Defense force.



Social Documentaey Champ for B Grade (2019 I think)

“ Crop to your story...it makes a huge difference! Also, enter lots of club comps! The feedback will grow your portfolio. ”



A wedding I was asked to photograph

the competitive lens:
Photo Contest Scene

March Photo Competition: Animals and Open



Captured by Jasmine Westerman



Captured by Chayvis Zhang



Captured by Leanne Sinclair

Competition

2024



Every year since 2013 QCG has taken part in the Tri Nations competition, a friendly three nation photography club event.

The Stoke Poges Photographic Club in the UK, the Westville Camera Club in South Africa and QCG all submit 20 images by club members.

The 60 images are judged in three rounds, one in each country, to determine the winner.

Despite differences in judging methods and scoring totals (this year Westville scored their images out of 30 using a panel of three judges; Stoke Poges had a single judge scoring out of 20 and QCG's impact judging used a 3 judge panel scoring out of 27), the overall results were very similar.

Amazing that QCG and Westville tied in two out of three rounds! Congratulations to Westville, the overall winner.

Nick Lefebre's Sam scored perfect marks in both the Stoke Poges and Westville rounds, and Elizabeth Riley's Late light on Vestrahorn was the highest scoring image in the QCG round.

Highly scoring images from Stoke Poges included Droplets on a dandelion (Ken Grant), and from Westville, Odd one out (Shirley Gillitt), Homeward bound (Andrew Pike), Mohamed and camel (Kazalette Pike) and Maiden in the wheat (Wayne dos Santos Niz).



17_Sam_Nick Lefebvre_QCG.jpg



06_ODD ONE OUT_Shirley Gillitt_WCC.jpg



04_DROPLETS ON A DANDELION_Ken Grant_SPPC.jpg

Scores	QCG	Westville	Stoke Poges
Stoke Poges (Single judge; images scored out of 20)	349	349	343
Westville (Three judges; total score for each image out of 30)	450	472	405
QCG - (Three judges; total score for each image out of 27)	423	423	397

QCG images which came equal second in various rounds were Chris Pigott's Skye sunrise, Martin Riley's The Outliers, Tony FitzGerald's Winter calm, Jane McMenamin's Mirror mirror on the wing and Esther Andrews' Splendid Fairywren preparing to land.

Thank you and well done for contributing to the club's total score to all of the 20 members of QCG represented in our club's entry. We have such a depth of ability in the club that it makes choosing entries very difficult!

And thanks to our judges Pia Jessen, Margaret O'Grady and Charlotte Reeves who, in a marathon effort, judged the Tri Nations on top of our regular monthly competition.

Elizabeth Riley
Competitions Officer



07_Late light on Vestrahorn_Elizabeth Riley_QCG.jpg



02_Sky sunrise_Chris Pigott_QCG.jpg



08_Mirror mirror on the wing_Jane McMenamin_QCG.jpg



12_The outliers_Martin Riley_QCG.jpg



18_Winter calm_Tony FitzGerald_QCG.jpg



03_SplendidFairywren preparing to land_Esther Andrews_QCG.jpg

Elizabeth Riley FAPS

Competition *update*



For our March competition night, 25 members turned up to SPACE to watch not only the impact judging of Animals and Open (print and DPI) but also the judging of the Annual Tri Nations competition between Stoke Poges Photographic Club in England and Westville Camera Club in South Africa.

Our judges for the whole evening were Margaret O'Grady and Pia Jessen, both highly respected PSQ judges, and Charlotte Reeves, an award-winning Brisbane pet photographer. We were very appreciative of Charlotte's presence as a recent fall from a horse meant she was still in considerable discomfort.

The evening kicked off with judging of Animals and Open Prints, with David Bullock managing the lightbox and Rob Champion the sound system.

MyPhotoClub's Live Scoring system was used throughout the evening, with very few glitches. The internet lag (with three judge phones, an audience score monitor and the competition manager laptop all needing to be updated before moving on to the next image) was noticeable but after a short time an even flow developed. Thank you to the willing helpers who stepped in when my usual team disappeared to more attractive locations, including southern Africa and a bird photography conference in Adelaide. Karen Miles, the guru of our previous impact judging system gamely observed and assisted, and Hamid Rahnama was the able scrutineer.

After the print judging, members enjoyed a cup of tea and some scrumptious treats from Leanne Sinclair, Zoe McGrath and Hamid, while the competitions team set up the projector for the DPI judging of Animals and Open. Compared to the very restrictive Nature definition, we appreciated the wider use of editing techniques allowed by the Animals definition – everything from removal of

distractions to creative interpretations.

Finally the audience was treated to the 60 Tri Nations images showcasing talent and scenery from across the world. At the end, Hamid revealed the results of the Queensland round of judging – a dead tie between QCG and Westville Camera Club for first!

After competition night, the scores out of 27 for each image in Animals and Open were converted to the awards required by the monthly Aggregate Competition and results were published. Don't forget to go into QCG's MyPhotoClub page to view all the images, and to make your own constructive comments!

What did you think of impact judging?

Given increasing challenges in sourcing judges, the Photographic Society of Queensland's Judges Executive has suggested that clubs consider this as an occasional option; it can be attractive to judges as no preparation time is needed and the time commitment is just a couple of hours. It is also valuable to enable members to experience the method by which many national and international competitions are judged. Members can also extend their own critical abilities by mentally judging each image as it comes up (and then marvel at how three judges can see things so differently to each other, or to you!). On the other hand, we miss out on the considered critique of individual images, also a valuable part of improving our photography.

After a face to face only meeting this month, next month we will all be at home watching the judging of People and Open via Zoom. Variety is the spice of life!

Elizabeth Riley
Competitions Officer

March Animals & Open Competition Results

B Grade Animals Print

Good Dog	Honour	Steve Andrews
Relaxed	Merit	Barb O'Connor
Charlie	Merit	Leanne Sinclair

B Grade Open Print

Barossa morning	Merit	Leanne Sinclair
Sky High	Merit	Steve Andrews

AB Grade Animals Print

Nature in Harmony	Merit	Zara Azizi
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AB Grade Animals DPI

Dipped Gator	Merit	Maziar Kazemi
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AB Grade Open Print

Vintage View finder	Merit	Maziar Kazemi
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AB Grade Open DPI

Now, which shoes are mine?	Merit	Sawindar Ranu
Alone	Merit	Chayvis Zhang

A Grade Animals Print

Migrating	Honour	Jasmine Westerman
Egret Preening	Honour	Anne Pappalardo
Titivating	Honour	Jane McMenamin
H-2-Go!	Merit	Mel Sinclair
Braveheart	Merit	Yvonne Hill
Black Kite	Merit	John Roberts
Snug	Merit	Martin Riley
King Parrot perfection	Merit	Charlotte Carter
Teenage attitude	Merit	Elizabeth Riley
Devouring	Merit	Lynda Davidson
To Infinity And Beyond	Merit	Georgie Crossley
Getting sleepy	Merit	Heleen Daniels

March Animals & Open Competition Results

A Grade Animals DPI

Over Rover	Honour	Zoe McGrath
Can you hear me now?	Honour	Heleen Daniels
Wedgetail With Peacock	Honour	Sally Cuthbert
Gut Wrenching	Merit	Chris Pigott
Togetherness	Merit	Diane Foley
Playful Kite Chick	Merit	Deb Myles
Relaxed but Ready	Merit	Gaye Edwards
Tasty toad	Merit	Lynda Davidson
Lulu Finds a Friend	Merit	Georgie Crossley

A Grade Open Print

Well Buttressed	Honour	Chris Pigott
Isolation	Honour	Martin Riley
Sam the hair man	Honour	Heleen Daniels
Sky Tower lines	Merit	Charlotte Carter
Green on green	Merit	Lynda Davidson
Anzac Pride	Merit	Georgie Crossley
Faithful Fur Friend	Merit	Kate Stock

A Grade Open DPI

Portrait of Beauty	Honour	Michele McDougall
Gently Please	Honour	Georgie Crossley
Desert Wave	Honour	Heleen Daniels
Taking a Break	Honour	John Roberts
The Campdraft	Merit	Ray Shorter
Snowline	Merit	Martin Riley
Cruising sunrise	Merit	Charlotte Carter
The Piano Player	Merit	Yvonne Hill
Shene	Merit	Nick Lefebvre
Solemn Promise	Merit	Gaye Edwards
Sunrise Boat Launch	Merit	Sally Cuthbert
Bushland Sentry	Merit	Zoe McGrath
Drawing the Line A Self Portrait	Merit	Harvey Kramer

Most Apt Title

There must be more somewhere	Geoff Shortland
Can't see me	Roger Bartlett
A Goatie With A Goatie	Ray Eisenmenger
Happy as a	Esther Andrews

B Grade Animals Print

For full viewing pleasure, please visit the [Scapes & Open Online Gallery](#)



Mar-B-Animals-Print-Honour--Steve-Andrews--Good-Dog.jpg

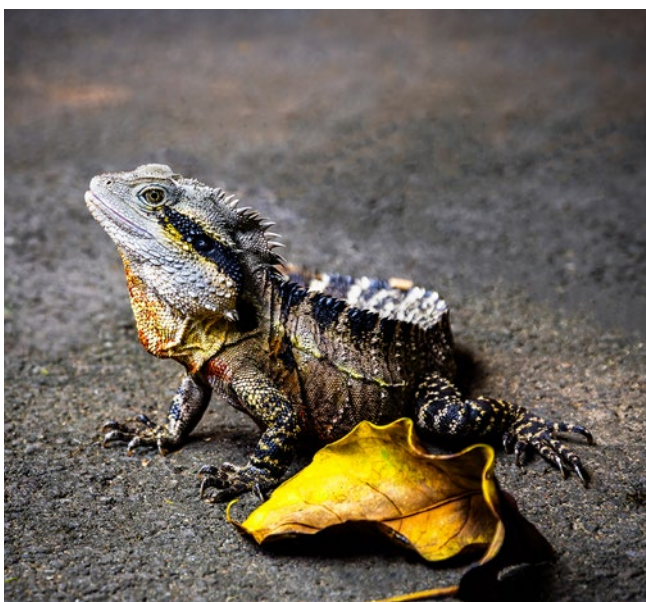


Mar-B-Animals-Print-Merit--Barb-O-Connor--Relaxed.jpg



Mar-B-Animals-Print-Merit--Leanne-Sinclair--Charlie.jpg

AB Grade Animals Print & DPI

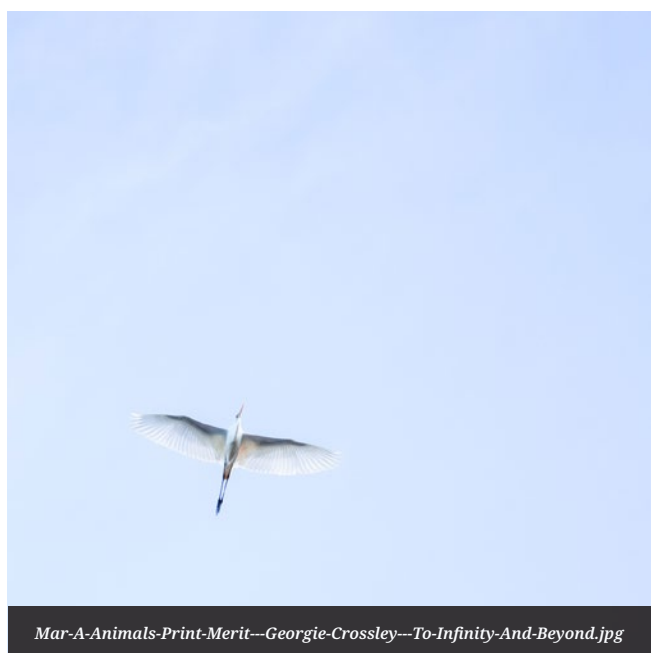


Mar-AB-Animals-Print-Merit--Zara-Azizi--Nature-in-harmony.jpg



Mar-AB-Animals-DPI-Merit--Maziar-Kazemi--Dipped-Gator.jpg

A Grade Animals Print





Mar-A-Animals-Print-Merit—Elizabeth-Riley—Teenage-attitude.jpg



Mar-A-Animals-Print-Merit—Heleen-Daniels—Getting-sleepy.jpg



Mar-A-Animals-Print-Merit—Lynda-Davidson—Devouring.jpg



Mar-A-Animals-Print-Merit—John-Roberts—Black-Kite.jpg



Mar-A-Animals-Print-Merit--Martin-Riley--Snug.jpg



Mar-A-Animals-Print-Merit--Mel-Sinclair--H-2-Go-.jpg



Mar-A-Animals-Print-Merit--Yvonne-Hill--Braveheart.jpg

A Grade Animals DPI



Mar-A-Animals-DPI-Honour---Sally-Cuthbert---Wedgetail-With-Peacock.jpg



Mar-A-Animals-DPI-Honour---Heleen-Daniels---Can-you-hear-me-now-.jpg



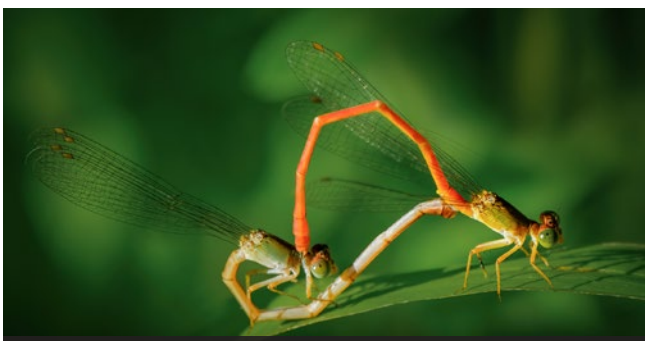
Mar-A-Animals-DPI-Honour---Zoe-McGrath---Over-Rover.jpg



Mar-A-Animals-DPI-Merit---Chris-Pigott---Gut-Wrenching.jpg



Mar-A-Animals-DPI-Merit---Deb-Myles---Playful-Kite-Chick.jpg



Mar-A-Animals-DPI-Merit---Diane-Foley---Togetherness.jpg



Mar-A-Animals-DPI-Merit---Gaye-Edwards---Relaxed-but-Ready.jpg



B Grade Open Print



A/B Grade
Open Print & DPI



Mar-AB-Open-Print-Merit--Maziar-Kazemi--Vintage-View-finder.jpg



Mar-AB-Open-DPI-Merit--Sawindar-Ranu--Now-which-shoes-are-mine-.jpeg



Mar-AB-Open-DPI-Merit--Chayvis-Zhang--Alone.jpeg

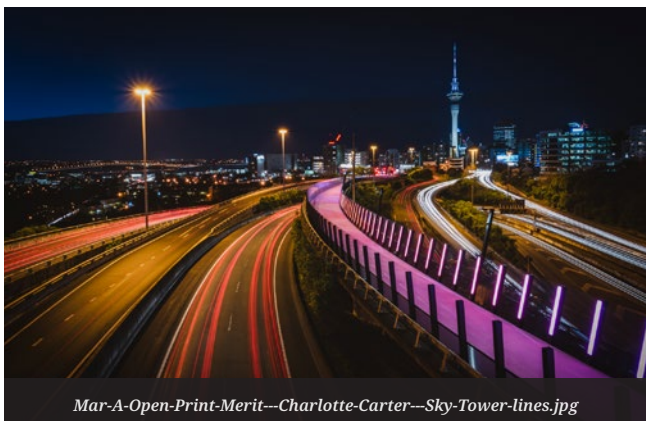
A Grade Open Print



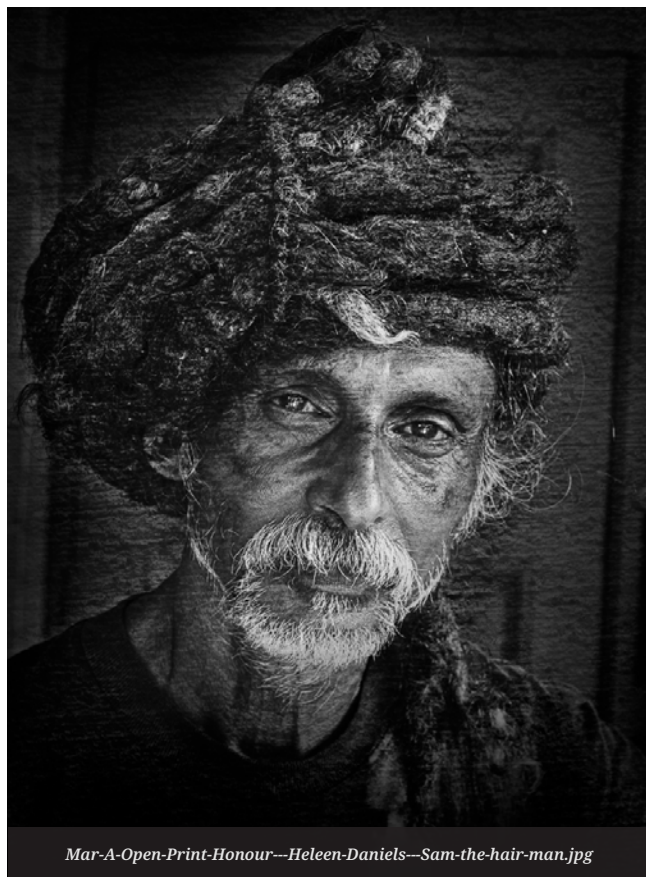
Mar-A-Open-Print-Honour---Chris-Pigott---Well-Buttressed.jpg



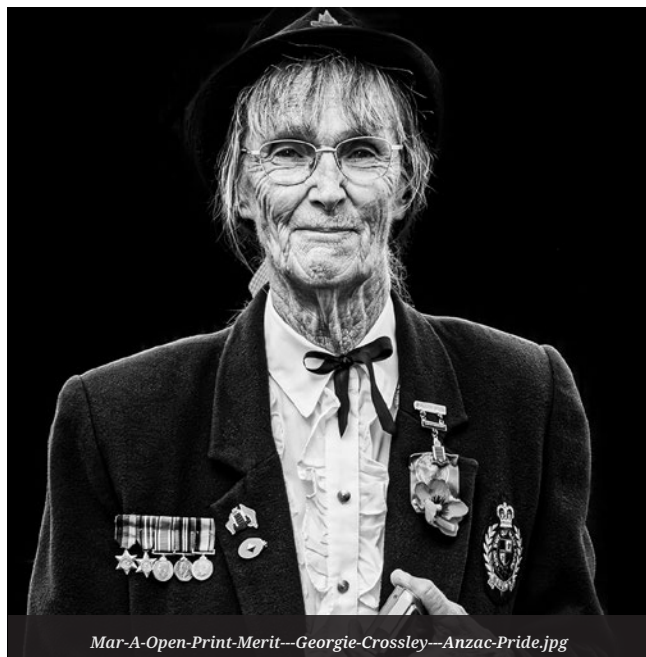
Mar-A-Open-Print-Honour---Martin-Riley---Isolation.jpg



Mar-A-Open-Print-Merit---Charlotte-Carter---Sky-Tower-lines.jpg



Mar-A-Open-Print-Honour---Heleen-Daniels---Sam-the-hair-man.jpg



Mar-A-Open-Print-Merit---Georgie-Crossley---Anzac-Pride.jpg



Mar-A-Open-Print-Merit--Kate-Stock--Faithful-Fur-Friend.jpg



Mar-A-Open-Print-Merit--Lynda-Davidson--Green-on-green.jpg

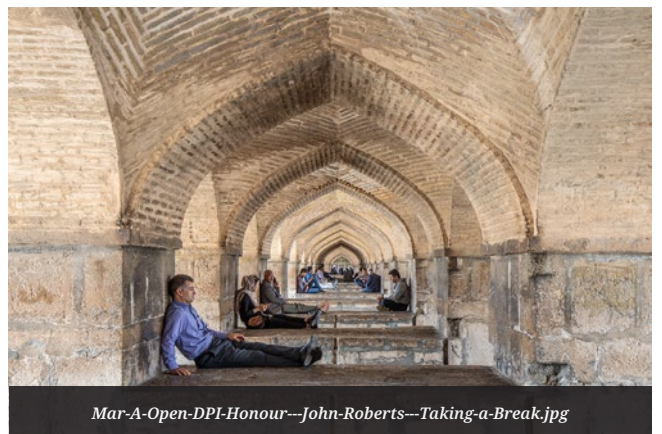
A Grade Open DPI



Mar-A-Open-DPI-Honour--Georgie-Crossley--Gently-Please.jpg



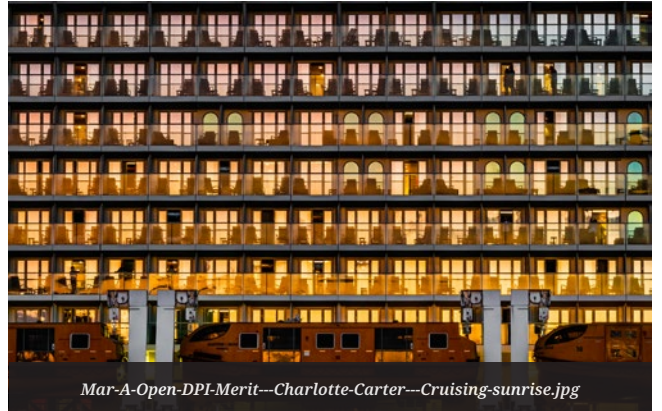
Mar-A-Open-DPI-Honour--Heleen-Daniels--Desert-Wave.jpg



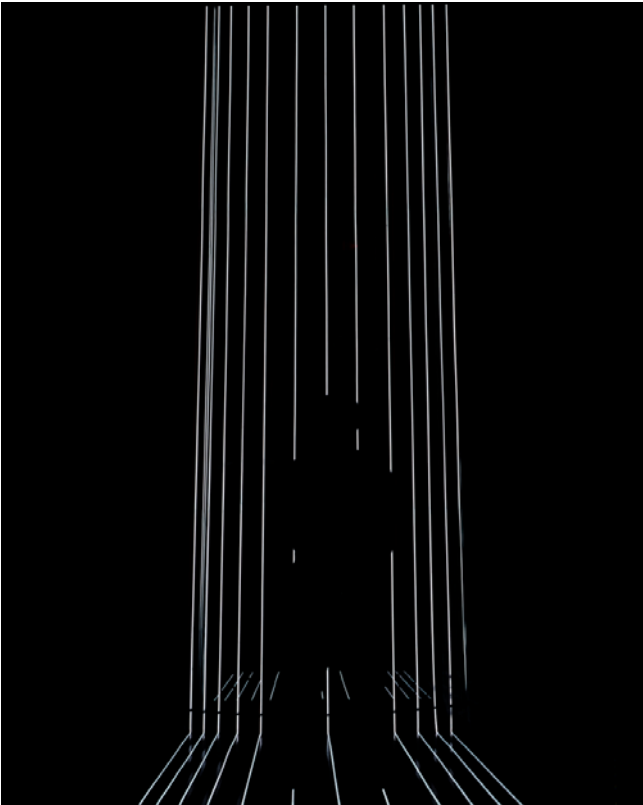
Mar-A-Open-DPI-Honour--John-Roberts--Taking-a-Break.jpg



Mar-A-Open-DPI-Honour--Michele-McDougall--Portrait-of-Beauty.jpg



Mar-A-Open-DPI-Merit--Charlotte-Carter--Cruising-sunrise.jpg



Mar-A-Open-DPI-Merit--Harvey-Kramer--Drawing-the-Line-A-Self-Portrait.jpg



Mar-A-Open-DPI-Merit--Martin-Riley--Snowline.jpg



Mar-A-Open-DPI-Merit--Nick-Lefebvre--Shene.jpg



Mar-A-Open-DPI-Merit--Ray-Shorter--The-Campdraft.jpg



Mar-A-Open-DPI-Merit--Sally-Cuthbert--Sunrise-Boat-Launch.jpg



Mar-A-Open-DPL-Merit--Yvonne-Hill--The-Piano-Player.jpg



Mar-A-Open-DPL-Merit--Zoe-McGrath--Bushland-Sentry.jpg



The Next Interclub Competition

The APS Australian Cup

The next opportunity for QCG to showcase our photography through interclub competition is the APS Australian Cup, a national club competition.

This year's theme is THIS IS AUSTRALIA.

Definition: Any image that shows a flavour of life in Australia including landscapes, people, events and places including architecture, birds and animals.

- Images may be taken in any of Australia's territories.
- Entries must be a single image as captured by the camera.
- Images must not be 'composite images' that combine subjects or elements from different scenes – replacing a background or sky, for example.
- HDR, focus stacking etc that has been performed in camera is permissible.

Selecting the QCG club entry

Do you have an image you would like the club to consider?

If so, please upload up to 2 images for consideration, into QCG's MyPhotoClub website <https://qcggroup.myphotoclub.com.au/>, into the APS Australian Cup Preselection competition in the Members area (open from April 1 to April 20).

Members in any grade are welcome to submit images.

This competition has nothing to do with the monthly QCG competitions. As long as your image meets the theme, it can be one you have entered into club competition already, or it can be a new image.

The only restriction – don't enter anything that was used in QCG's APS Australian Cup entry in previous years.

Note that image dimensions allowed are slightly higher than for our club entries - 1920px by 1200px but the maximum size is still 2 MB. If you don't want to resize your image, but upload it from an existing image in MPC, that's okay.

Later we will then ask members to 'be the judge' and score images (a completely anonymous process) to help select the club's entry.

Note: do not enter your images into the APS Australian Cup MyPhotoClub page. (The club entry is uploaded by the club, not by individual members.)

Apart from the club competition with the theme 'This is Australia' that QCG ran last year, there have been many great Australian images in other club competitions - give them a go!

2024 QCG Photobook Competition

Anne Pappalardo



Now is a great time to start working on a photobook for the upcoming QCG & APS competitions this year!

Let's start the planning process, beginning with selecting our subject. I will talk you through this stage of the plan, so by the end of April (depending on how much time you have) we're at the same point in our photobook plan.

Together, we can then go to the next two planning stages (figuring out your book's purpose and style), in May.

But before we start, let us review key dates and important jobs...



Martin Riley, 2022 Winner of the Portfolio category

Key Dates:

Now

Entries are open for the QCG photobook competition. Yes, you may enter an existing book. (entries are not yet open for the APS competition).

Thursday 2 May

Focus Presentation on photo books; what to do, when and how! Presented by me (but you can get a head start by following along now).

Thursday 4 July

Critique of your draft photo book in either pdf or digital version. PDF feedback provided prior to Focus meeting on Thursday 4 July. Digital versions can receive Zoomed or over the phone feedback.

Thursday 11 July

Your book should be completed (or almost completed) so that it can be printed in time, and

delivered back to you, for the QCG closing date. Put this date in your diary because it is Ground Zero.

Thursday 8 August

QCG photobook competition closes

Saturday 17 August

Winners announced at a late afternoon cocktail party at 'Scrumptious Reads' Gallery, Red Hill. All QCG members and their guests are invited to attend.

Monday 30 September

Entries due for Australian Photographic Society's photobook competition. Free to enter and you do not need to be a member of the APS. I would encourage all QCG members to consider entering this competition as feedback is provided by the judges regardless of placings.



'Last to Leave': Winner of the Story Telling Category.
John Doody, Roger Bartlett, Anne Pappalardo & Warren Veivers

Important Jobs:

- Read the rules/guidelines for the QCG photobook competition, [here](#).
- If you are planning to print your book using a commercial photobook company, download their photobook making software, and if necessary, create an account so that when it is time to upload your book, you are all set. Familiarize yourself with the software AND the styles of books (landscape v vertical orientations, size, paper stocks) that will be available to you.
- If you are planning to print with our sponsor, Momento Pro (and there is absolutely no obligation to do so), go to their website and join their camera club program to receive a 15% discount on your book. Use this link: <https://bit.ly/momqldcg>

The fun part

OK - let's get started on your photobook.

There are three key areas in planning your photobook:

- Choose your subject;
- Identify the purpose of your book (all humans need to have purpose in their lives, and so do photobooks);
- Choose the style of your book (portfolio or story telling).

This month, we'll begin the planning process and select the subject of your photobook (we'll do purpose and style next month).

So. What is your photobook going to be about?

The QCG photobook competition features either the set subject of 'Travel', or you can enter your

book in the 'Open' category.

If you've got a travel book in mind, now is a great opportunity to get one started (and finished!).

Have a look at the winning entry in last year's APS competition, [here](#).

If it is the Open section you plan to enter, here is a list of ideas:

- Colour (your favourite colour, or maybe you've noticed that many of your images share similar hues or tones?).
- Family (portraits, family history, parents, grandchildren, year in review). Family is always a great topic, but to do well in a photobook competition, the images most likely need to be elevated from simple grab shots of your favourite people. See Di East's beautiful [tribute to her grandson](#), which placed second in the Open category of last year's Australian Photobook Competition.
- Favourite photography subject (birds, abstract, ICM, conceptual, creative landscapes); have a look at QCG member, Chris Pigott's amazing book on [Brisbane buildings](#).
- Favourite time of day (sunrises/sunsets/after dark);
- Best/favourite images submitted in your club year;
- A cause that is close to your heart (global warming, food waste, local issues).

My advice to you when choosing your subject is pick something that is close to your heart - a subject that you can spend hours and hours with.

But mostly, a subject that, because of your passion for it, will shine in a photobook.

Once you have decided your subject, and if you are choosing from existing images, put all images relevant to your subject in a folder. In Lightroom, you would create a catalogue.

Notice I did not recommend putting your best or favourite or top 25 images into a folder. I recommended putting ALL of your relevant images into a folder.

Photobooks need to be more than a collection of your best images. They are nuanced documents, that need to show sequence and flow, patterns, beginnings, endings, middle parts. I'll help you figure out how we do all of this next month, but in the meantime, trust me. Stick everything related to your subject into a folder.

And that's it! That is the first part of your planning done!

Sounds simple, and it is. Take the opportunity to delete images and tidy up folders at the same time. A couple of years ago I made a photobook about ospreys. I finished up with 3,000 images in my catalogue, which is ridiculous. So whilst my purpose was always to get all of my osprey images into a catalogue so that I could start planning my photobook, I also took the opportunity to delete many, many dud images!

Shooting new material for a photobook

If you are planning your photobook from scratch and shooting new material, you are now officially my favourite QCG member.

How wonderful!

You will obviously still need to figure out your subject, so once you have decided that, go forth, brave photographer, and start shooting.

Before you go, just think about a couple of things:

- Orientation: are you thinking you will make a square, landscape or portrait style book? Shoot accordingly.
- Black and white or colour? Either way there will be post processing to be done, but good to think about these things at the start, and shoot accordingly.
- Is your book going to be story telling in style, or portfolio in nature? Create a shot list, and shoot accordingly.

Last word

Next month when we move to the subsequent stages of planning we'll obviously begin to narrow down the myriad images you will have in your subject catalogue.

So, until then, get stuck into this part of the plan now. Believe me when I say, a few hours spent now in the planning stages will mean that putting your photobook together is fun!

Chat to you in a few weeks....

Anne Pappalardo



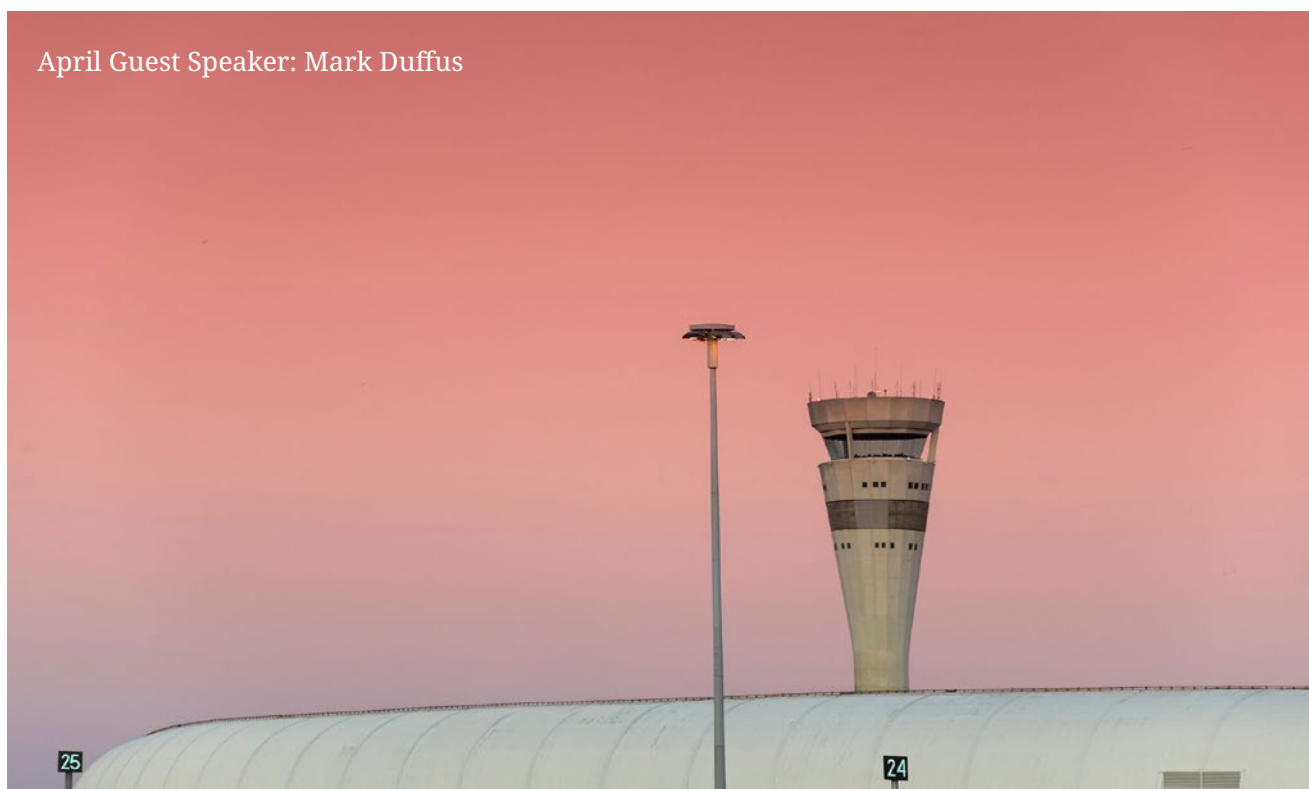
The 13 entries from 2022



Anne Pappalardo, Martin Riley and John Doody

snapshot ahead:
upcoming highlights

April Guest Speaker: Mark Duffus



Black & White with Ray Shorter

2024 PSQ Convention

Join us in Brisbane for this
exciting 3 day event 4th, 5th
& 6th May



Kedron Wavell Services Club plenty of parking, accommodation close to venue

Kittyhawk Drive Chermside

Registration opens in February

Enquiries: Pete Law 0400 065 714
president@aspleycameraclub.org.au

2024 PSQ Convention

April 2024 Event Schedule

APR

4th

7:30 PM

Focus Group - Black & White

Thursday, April 4, 2024

7:30 PM - 9:30 PM - Kenmore Library

Join our second Focus Group on the subject of black and white photography with our very own Ray Shorter. Ray will initially discuss a few of the many things that could be discussed under the heading "The Art of Black & White Photography" answering questions such as "Why convert an image to black and white?", "When do you start thinking about producing a B&W image?" and more

APR

11th

7:30 PM

Speaker Night Mark Duffus

Thursday, April 11, 2024

7:30 PM - 9:30 PM - SPACE or Zoom

Join us F2F at SPACE, Kenmore Hills or via Zoom. Mark Duffus has crafted a niche for himself in the realms of commercial, industrial, architecture, fashion, and corporate photography. Watch for the club email with details and registration link, provided closer to the event.

APR

18th

7:30 PM

Competition Night: People & Open

Thursday, April 18, 2024

7:30 PM - 9:30 PM

This month our competition evening will be held over Zoom Only. Keep an eye out for the club email with registration details.

APR

20th

10:00 AM

Portrait Group

Saturday, April 20, 2024

10:00 AM - 12:00 PM

Join our monthly Portrait Group session at The Hub Mt Ommaney this April. Gaye always finds a fabulous model for us to capture. Look out for the club email with event details and the registration link, provided closer to the event.

APR

23rd

7:30 PM

APS Honours Special Interest

Tuesday, April 23rd, 2024

7:30 PM - 9:30 PM

For those with questions about attaining Honours through the Australian Photographic Society. Hear about the experience of members and secrets to success in international competition. Also, hone your critical skills by helping the club to select images for the APS Australian Cup. Watch for the club email with details and registration link, provided closer to the event.

APR

25th

Photoshoot Outing - ANZAC Day

Thursday, April 25th, 2024

4:00pm - 8:00pm

Location and Time to be confirmed.

Entries due: DPI: Architecture and Open (Maximum of 3 entries. Your choice - either 1 Set subject and 2 Open or 2 Set subject and 1 Open)



2024 PSQ Convention 4th, 5th & 6th May

Just a reminder that registrations for the PSQ Convention close this Saturday 6th April.

If you haven't booked yet, get in quick, there are still sessions available!

The Trade Show brought to you by CameraPro is open on the Saturday and Sunday

Don't forget the EIZO Gala Buffet on the Sunday evening.

Two informative and inspiring sessions that have been added very recently are:

Sunday 5th May @ 2.45pm to 4pm

CameraPro & Aquatech Ambassador Ray Collins - "My aim is to show the ocean as a living, breathing thing. To document it in all its intimidating strengths; and to bring awareness to its delicate fragility. My deep passion for the ocean and my desire to showcase its awe-inspiring power and delicate fragility drive my work."

raycollinsphoto.com

Sunday 5th May @ 4.15pm to 5.30pm

Nick Clarke

Creating Audio Visuals with Impact and Emotion
Nick started his first personal photographic project in 2022. This culminated in an AV entitled 'A Day at the Races' which tells the story of a day at a typical Queensland country horse race meeting. Nick entered his AV (the first he had ever created) into the Australian Photographic Society's 2023 Autumn AV National Competition. Nick's entry won the gold medal – first place overall – and he also took away the Herbert Medallion for Top Novice. Nick has continued to create story-telling AVs with impact.

To register or to add to your existing booking simply follow this Trybooking link

<https://www.trybooking.com/CNZTG>



upcoming speaker
Mark Duffus

I'm thrilled to introduce our next speaker, Mark Duffus APPLM M.Photog.IV PPAQ -CPP, (<https://www.mdphotog.com.au>) a professional commercial photographer whose exceptional flair for architectural photography couldn't come at a more perfect time, aligning brilliantly with our upcoming club competition category - Architecture DPI Entries due on the 25th April

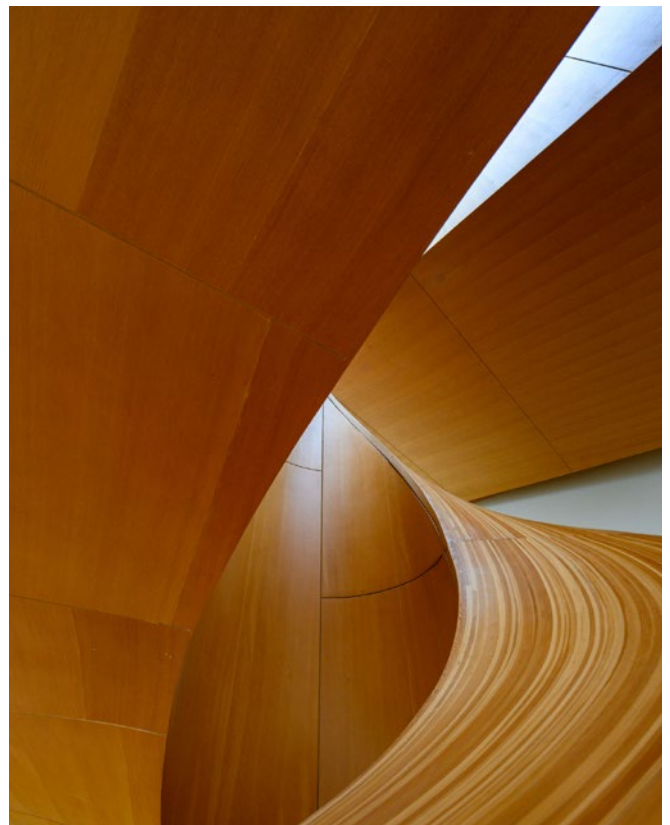
With a career spanning over three decades, Mark has crafted a niche for himself in the realms of commercial, industrial, architecture, fashion, and corporate photography.

His work is a testament to his belief that a great photograph arises from the intricate balance of design, light, shape, form, and the unique individuality of the subjects involved.

Mark's approach to photography is driven by his passion and a relentless pursuit of creativity. He challenges perceived realities, strives to reveal the true essence of his subjects, and insists that the journey towards creating beautiful imagery should be filled with fun and endless exploration.

“ Creativity never stops. Think beyond – New is everywhere. ”

His philosophy is simple yet profound: “Creativity never stops, and when you think you're finished, you're not.”



Captured by Mark Duffus

A Brisbane-based talent working across Australia, Mark is not only recognised for his technical skills and creative flair but also his significant contributions to the field, as evidenced by his impressive collection of awards and recognitions. From being a runner-up in the Editorial Photographer of the Year category at the AIPP awards to clinching the title of QLD AIPP Commercial Photographer of the Year multiple times, Mark's accolades speak volumes of his mastery and vision.

As a graduate of the Queensland College of Art and a distinguished Master of Photography, Mark's journey is nothing short of inspirational. His work has been celebrated with 193 state and national awards with the AIPP, alongside 35 international awards, marking him as a luminary in the photography community.

“ Design, light, shape, and form, combined with individuality, create imagery that sustains the test of time and makes an impact within seconds. ”

We can't wait for Mark to dive into his wealth of knowledge, sharing insights and maybe even a few tricks of the trade that have made his architectural photography stand out. This session is set to be a treasure trove of inspiration for all of us, regardless of how long we've been behind the camera.

It's the perfect chance to gather fresh ideas and spark your creativity, especially with our Architecture & Open competition just around the corner. Don't miss this fantastic opportunity to learn from one of the best, get inspired, and maybe even discover a new angle for your next great shot.

Mark your calendar for April 11th with your choice to attend in person at SPACE or via Zoom.



Captured by Mark Duffus



Captured by Mark Duffus



Captured by Mark Duffus

Prism Editor

Hello everyone!

Oh boy this edition has had me working hard to bring it all together. Throw a wonderful Easter break in the mix and I'm a little later than I had hoped this month.

We had another amazing month full of inspirational events, incredible speakers, tough but fabulous judges (it's always more rewarding when judges are not easy to please I think) and as always a great community spirit within the club.

Last month I introduced the Member Spotlight and I truly hope you enjoyed learning more about Michelle and Twiggy. This month I am excited to share Gaye's long history with the club and one of our newer members Kerrie.

“ Sometimes it can be difficult to find the right words to start a conversation, and just maybe you will resonate with one of the stories and have the perfect topic to discuss at the next club meeting. ”

I am hoping this feature will help us learn more about each other and potentially spark conversations and new friendships. Sometimes it can be difficult to find the right words to start a conversation, and just maybe you will resonate with one of the stories and have the perfect topic to discuss at the next club meeting.

I'm also excited that this month Mel Sinclair has written an article to share about what it is like to be a judge, giving us an insight into what happens behind the scenes and the types of things judges may be thinking when they are looking at our photos.

Now, as for the questionnaire. I had a couple of discussions this month with some members and it seems that I haven't quite explained how you can help me. One member thought that I wanted them to write the whole article, another wasn't sure how best to answer the questions, so I thought



Lexie & Zoe McGrath

this would be a great opportunity to explain a little more.

1. You absolutely do not need to write me a full length article.
2. You can answer the questions with as little or as much detail as you feel comfortable.

When I receive the answers to your questions, I ask for help from ChatGPT to help me write an article about the event. A lot of massaging is required so that it sounds the way I want it, but I use the content you provide to help add in the finer details as well as include key quotes by the member who has shared the information.

On the next page I am going to share some versions of what I have received from club members to help provide you with an idea of how you can help me.

If I received 3 questionnaires after each event, it would really help to round out each article and provide a community driven magazine for all of us to enjoy and be a part of.

Warmly,

Zoe McGrath

Example 1:

1. Welcome Event
2. The event showcased the amazing macro photography talents of long serving QCG member Paul Harrop who delivered a comprehensive talk to members. The members had a great opportunity then the put into practise their learnings on some very cooperative reptiles. To finish off the event QCG members enjoyed catching up with some gourmet food and a few drinks on the terrace.
3. For me the most pleasing aspect was a record attendance with over 50 people registering for the event and ten new members enjoying their first face to face QCG event.. The QCG community spirit clearly lived on with all members enjoying each others company and so many people willing to put in a helping hand. Favourite bit (well most relaxing)was the beer on the terrace with a prawn slider in my sweat soaked shirt sharing stories with fellow members. I also loved the way many members initially said no way to snakes but ended up loving getting close to them with the camera on the lawns below the clubhouse.
4. I think for me it was the techniques Paul shared for macro photography. The importance of soft light, an F Stop of F11 and shooting in manual. Paul's images were devine!
5. A great kick off to 2024!

Example 2:

1. Welcome event 3rd Feb
2. Wonderful speaker on macro photography, who gave us many useful tips and tricks and made his presentation both entertaining and informative.
3. Loved the lizards but especially liked the grinning green tree frog.
4. How to use flash for insect photography.
5. Had a lot of fun and learned some new techniques – great company and lovely food.

Example 3:

1. Photoshoot - Old Petrie Town market
2. Old Petrie Town is a quaint restored historic village with heritage buildings located 30 minutes north of Brisbane city.

Old Petrie Town Market included a Celebration of Cultures Event, recognizing Harmony Week. Harmony Week is observed annually in Australia on or around 21 March and coincides with the United Nations International Day

for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination.

The market provided for a balmy, family-focused evening with numerous food and craft stalls and a number of cultural performances including indigenous, Mauri and Pacific, Lion dance and Scottish bagpipes.

3. Highlights for Steve included the various food stalls – notably flavorsome and spicy Jakarta curry and Japanese gyoza, as well as a visit to the Olde Candy Store for licorice allsorts dessert. Sandy (my wife) was drawn to the various craft stalls, including a particular interest in the precious stone jewelry. A tarot card pack was acquired along the way.

All of the cultural performances were very enjoyable. Colorful Mauri / pacific performers were probably the crowd favorite. But my own favorite was the more formal performance provided by the Scottish band replete with drums, bagpipes and military uniform.

The Vinyl LP Record store was also a personal favorite – exploring the various album racks provided a kick back to the 80's. I barely resisted purchasing an original Kylie single LP "Do the Locomotion".

4. We enjoyed solid club participation, with a dozen or more eager photographers participating in the event. Suffice to say that some of the less seasoned photographers including myself were a little shy to photograph the public and performers at the outset. But experienced photographers immediately launched into proceedings and following their example we were soon all jostling to capture the best frames!

The time of day with evening light provided some more interesting technical challenges and there was some considerable photography banter about best film ISO, camera speeds, aperture, the merit of various lens and sensors etc.

5. It is always great fun to attend QCG field events to connect with likeminded photographers, share a few stories and pick up new technical tips along the way.

Old Petrie Town presented a range of surprisingly diverse photo opportunities – including for food, crafts, multicultural performers, historic buildings and machinery, families at play and more.

As you can see, I have received a range of styles of answers to the questionnaire and each set of answers offers me an insight into how that club member experienced the event.

So I am hoping by seeing these examples, you will feel comfortable to send me a quick email within a couple of days after attending a club event, sharing your experience.

If you have any questions, please do tap me on the shoulder next time you see me, or feel free to send me an email.

Capturing Your Experience

Contribute to the 'Prism' article by sharing your unique insights about this event with Zoe.

Send an email to hello@zoemcgrath.com.au

The questions below can help guide your thoughts about the event.

1. Event Name
2. Describe the main activities or discussions of the event, including any key points or techniques, location, speakers, or models?
3. What aspect of the event did you find most engaging, enjoyable, or funny and why?
4. Please share any key moments or interesting skills you learned at the event.
5. What was your overall impression of the event, speaker, focus group, photoshoot outing?

Please share any accompanying photos from the event that you captured and would like to share.

Please note: Due to the limitations of the publication, I can't promise all photos and feedback will be included but am very grateful to receive lots of options to choose from.