



BALLARAT CAMERA CLUB Inc.

Reg. No. A004054F

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Members Information Folder

This folder has been developed to provide new members with information about the Ballarat Camera Club's activities.

Introduction

- Welcome to the Ballarat Camera Club, a club which strives to encourage and promote photography. We hope that you have an interesting and informative time with us. The aim of the club is to provide opportunities for all members to learn about and improve their photography, regardless of their level of competence. We hope we can “help you in your photography journey” and meet your needs in photography. All members are willing to help you.
- The Club meets each month on the second Wednesday for viewing of the print & electronic digitally projected images (EDPI) competition at Djila-tjarriu Community Hub / Alfredton Community Centre, 18 Donegal Drive, Alfredton at 7.30 pm, and occasionally on the fourth Wednesday night for practical activities which are usually at an alternate venue.
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- Our syllabus is varied, providing competitions, demonstrations, lectures and practical activities including excursions and camps.
- The bi-monthly competitions provide an opportunity to get your images evaluated by an internal or external judge and should be regarded as a learning exercise. The judges come from a variety of backgrounds and interests, and judge from their own point of view. The judging is largely subjective so the score you receive is their opinion only. The judge will comment on each image and will offer constructive suggestions for improvement. Please do not be discouraged by a low score from one judge. Club members are happy to give advice on images and will offer suggestions for improving your photography.

Membership of the club entitles you to:

- Automatic membership to VAPS
- Participate in monthly digital club meetings and competitions
- Compete for our Annual Awards
- Participate in Interclub competitions with VAPS
- A copy of the Club's monthly newsletter, *Flare*, distributed via email
- VAPS *Newsbrief* – forwarded by email
- Obtain discounts from participating photography retailers.

Annual membership fees from February 2026 are:

- Adults \$55
- Full Time Students 18 years and over \$27.50

Fees are due 1st February each year. If you join from July onwards you pay for a six-month subscription.

Introduction Continued

VAPS - Victorian Association of Photographic Societies. Most camera clubs in Victoria are affiliated with this body which covers our insurance and organises a yearly convention with workshops, outings, annual dinner and awards. VAPS are responsible for awards for services to the photographic community.

Monthly Competitions – We have bi-monthly competitions for members to participate in if they wish. The details are outlined in the rules section, pages 5 – 7.

Newsletter – *Flare* is prepared each month, detailing forthcoming activities and recent events, including the results from last month's competitions. Members are encouraged to contribute articles. This is emailed just prior to the competition meeting of the month.

This is also available via the club's website at www.ballaratcameraclub.org.au

Annual Awards – Prints/EDPI's which were entered in bi-monthly competitions during the year may be submitted to the Annuals Convener. Entries will be judged by a well-qualified photographer. The Annual Awards night includes the presentation of the print and EDPI entries, with comments on the winning images. Presentation of awards and certificates is followed by a presentation of the guest judge's work. A special *Flare* is printed for this occasion.

Inter-club Competitions – These are hotly contested competitions usually between one other club and our own. Each club takes it in turn to organise the competition, providing the judge, venue and supper. Members are encouraged to enter several images for selection. There is a selection panel who choose the images to represent the club.

All prints must be mounted and backed as per the rules for monthly competitions.

Electronic images must adhere to the following sizing:

- Landscape images must be resized to measure a maximum of 1920 pixels wide and 1080 pixels high.
- Portrait images must be resized to measure a maximum of 1080 pixels on the vertical side. Allow your program to select width (horizontal side) with the constraint button ticked.
- Images must be jpeg's and no greater than 5mb, to upload to the Club's Website.

VAPS Inter-club: Most affiliated clubs enter this competition, which is held in conjunction with their annual convention. Sections include large prints, audio visual presentations and electronically projected digital images. Club entry numbers are fifteen large open prints and fifteen EDPI's. Entries are on show at the convention and a catalogue is also produced.

Australian Photographic Society: The national body hosts an annual convention – APSCON – held in a different part of Australia each year. You can join photographic folios for prints and online images whereby your peers can comment on your work.

National Exhibitions: There are also many National Photographic Competitions held around Australia, three of which are in Victoria.

Introduction Continued

Name Badges: We ask that members wear name badges so that new members and guests can get to know everyone more easily. Name badges can be obtained at member's cost from Ballarat Trophy and Gifts, Howitt St, Wendouree. Ph. 53391166.

Attendance Book: We ask members and guests to sign the attendance book at all club functions. This is one of the requirements for our club insurance. New Members and Visitors are always welcome.

Committee 2025 -2026

President	Trevor Bibby	0417 370 264	trevor.bibby2@gmail.com
Vice President	Jerry van Delft	0434 389 277	jvandelft1961@gmail.com
Secretary	Anne Wilson	0438 428 311	anniewilson60@gmail.com
Competition Steward	Steve Demeye	0427 012 873	13swinton@gmail.com
Treasurer	Betty Bibby	0458 533 217	betty.bibby@gmail.com
Flare Editor	Jerry van Delft	0434 389 277	jvandelft1961@gmail.com
Committee Member	Trevor Parry	0408 580 523	trevorandfaye@bigpond.com
	Sonia Bickley	0428 395 157	sjbickley@bigpond.com
Annuals Coordinator	The Committee		
Interclub Coordinator	Steve Demeye	0427 012 873	13swinton@gmail.com
Website	Betty Bibby	0458 533 217	betty.bibby@gmail.com
Print Steward	Sonia Bickley	0428 395 157	sjbickley@bigpond.com

Monthly Competition Rules

The Club conducts competitions in prints and EDPI's. On a bi-monthly basis there is an open, creative and set subject competition, that members may enter. Prints may be either large or small, colour or monochrome, commercially or home processed or digitally processed prints.

Competition year begins each September until the following August (inclusive).

1. Maximum of **five entries per person per month** to be spread over any or all sections or be entered in just one section.
2. Entries: All images must be original and the work of the club member.
3. Eligibility: Competitions are open to all financial members.
4. Topics and Definitions: When selecting topics for all competitions the Committee will prepare a definition for each topic and arrange for copies of these to be available for all members via the syllabus.
5. Competitions: will be held on the second Wednesday of each competition month, excepting December and January, when there are no competitions.
6. EDPI and Prints need to be uploaded via the website no later than the Friday following the second Wednesday of the competition month.

Entries close at 11pm on the closing date listed.

7. Monthly competitions shall be judged under the following conditions:
 - a. The score shall be within the range of 7 to 15 points. In practice, 7 is considered the minimum.
 - b. If three judges are scoring, each one will give a score out of 5, giving a total score out of 15.
 - c. After the score has been announced, the judge/s shall comment on the image.
 - d. "Fails to meet the criteria" is a score of 7. These scores are usually given if an image is entered into the wrong section or is badly focused or exposed, or if the prints aren't received by the coordinator yet the EDPI version is entered in the online system.
8. Look alike / substantially similar images: Entrants may not enter the same or substantially similar images into the monthly competition. This includes changing the image into monochrome or adding filters.
9. Prints/EDPI which have received an acceptance in monthly competitions may not be shown again in monthly competitions (either set topic or open).

Monthly Competition Rules contd.

10. Prints/EDPI, which are not accepted in monthly competition, may be shown a maximum of three times.
11. Copyright / model releases:
 - a) Members are responsible for collecting a model release for any person present in their images where applicable (see sample model release on club website).
 - b) The maker of an image will remain the copyright holder of the image.
 - c) The club may use images at the committee's discretion: e.g. Monthly Competitions, Interclub Competitions, BCC Website, Flare Newsletter, publicity materials. The club will only use limited resolution versions of images for electronic use.
12. Display of Images:
 - a) It will be at the print steward's and the committee's discretion as to whether an image will be displayed. The print steward and the committee reserve the right to decide if an image or its title is inappropriate.
 - b) Various image content, such as violent, sexual, voyeuristic, demeaning or derogatory subject matter, deliberate acts of actual and /or implied acts of cruelty, may be deemed as inappropriate for judging and presentation. The club asks that members be respectful with the images they submit for critique.
 - c) If time permits the maker of the image in question will be contacted by the coordinator and they will have the opportunity to replace the image in the competition.
13. All prints must be mounted and be clearly marked with relevant information regarding the print title and member's number (*you will receive a number on joining*) on the reverse of the print. Include an arrow to indicate the top of the print, if necessary. All prints must be backed with backing card or foam core to prevent damage to the print and other prints. Backing board or foam core should not exceed 3mm in thickness. If mounts are not the correct size or not backed, they will not be judged. While all care will be taken with images the club will not be liable for loss or damages.

Prints: These also need to include an EDPI sized file of the print sent to the EDPI Coordinator via the club website.

Sizing requirements for prints and the current monthly Syllabus can be downloaded by following this link

<http://www.ballaratcameraclub.org.au/information/syllabus>

14. Submission of an image into any club competition signifies acceptance of these rules and conditions of entry.
The onus will be on the maker of an image to ensure that he/she abides by club rules; it will not be up to the competition coordinator to check all images submitted.

Electronic Digital Projected Images

There shall be three sections each competition month: - Open, Creative and Set Topics.

You need to upload images (both your print - EDPI files and EDPI entries) to the club's website so they are available for judging. Follow the instructions on the website once you have obtained your member number (if you are a new member) and created a password for yourself following the instructions listed.

Follow these links for the Instructions:

<http://www.ballaratcameraclub.org.au/information/member-password-creation> <http://www.ballaratcameraclub.org.au/information/competition-upload-instructions>

Note: your images must be jpeg files and resized to no greater than 5mb to upload.

ANNUAL AND MONTHLY DEFINITIONS

Categories

Open – Any subject treated pictorially, i.e. good design, arrangement and composition.

Monochrome - Black and white prints and/or EDPI completely or partially toned, tinted or coloured by a single colour.

Nature – (*Australian Photographic Society - Definition.*)

Nature photography depicts living, untamed animals and uncultivated plants in a natural habitat, geology and the wide diversity of natural phenomena, from insects to icebergs. Photographs of animals that are domesticated caged or under any form of restraint, as well as photographs of cultivated plants are ineligible. Minimal evidence of humans is acceptable for nature subjects, such as barn owls or storks, adapting to an environment modified by humans, or natural forces, like hurricanes or tidal waves, reclaiming it. Any manipulation or modification to the original image is limited to minor retouching of blemishes and must not alter the content of the original scene. After satisfying the above requirements, every effort should be made to use the highest level of artistic skill in all nature photographs.

Creative – APS Definition.

Creative or experimental photographs display a novel effect because of an unusual combination of objects and or unusual viewpoint.

Photographs in which the images have been modified during or after exposure by using an experimental technique are also eligible in the Creative/Experimental sections.

The photograph must always have a basic photographic image, Digital manipulation processes may be employed provided the original photograph was exposed by the entrant.

Categories contd.

Landscape/Seascape - Photograph featuring the natural scenery of the terrain. A tree, people or buildings may be included, but not dominate, or a photograph in which the sea or waves dominate, coastal features or the shoreline may be included to a lesser degree.

People/Portrait - Photograph of a person or persons that may range from head to a full-length study. This includes candid photographs & formal portraits.

Portfolio – 3 images to be displayed and judged together and are to be print entries.

- These images may be tied together by topic, style, genre or technique and count as 1 entry of the 9 possible entries into this competition.
- The images are to be different to other entered images (i.e. NOT be entered in any other category in this annual competition).
- These images may have been, but need not have been entered, into Club monthly entries for 2026.
- The portfolio is to be given an overall title, which is to be used in the website upload.
- When entering this section on the website, take a single picture of all three images, to upload as one, label as A, B, C, left to right in display order.
- and prints should be labelled as follow; “A_Title_Member number”, “B_Title_Member number”, “C_Title_Member number”.

Annual Competition

The Annual Awards Night will be held in November of each year.

The competition night in August is the last month for eligibility into the current year's annual competition.

Entries for the Annual Competition must be submitted by the competition night in September, with information of print and makers (*Member number*) clearly marked on the reverse. The results are presented at the Annual Awards Night in November. All competitions are via the club's website, and you need to follow the guidelines given to you at the time the competition becomes open.

- All prints must be mounted and backed as per the rules for monthly competitions.
- There shall be no minimum number of competitors or prints/EDPI's for a competition to be held.
- Annual Competitions will be held in the sections EDPI's and large prints. Small prints may be submitted in only the novice division.
- All entries shall either:

Have been presented at monthly club meetings within the period preceding the Annual Award Night: September of one year to August of the following year. Or be modified prints or EDPI's made from the original image within the stipulated period. (i.e. cropped, enlarged, masked).

- Where images have been selected for outside competitions (such as VAPS, APS, our own Inter-clubs) and are not available at the closing date for the year in which they would normally be entered, they may be entered in the Annual Competition the following year.
- Annual Competitions shall be judged on the basis of first, second, third and 'Highly Commended' depending on the number of entries in each section.
- All large prints or EDPIs are eligible for the perpetual trophies.

Annuals Divisions

OPEN DIVISION

Total of 9 entries per member

Members can choose whether they enter 9 images as prints or 9 images as EDPI or a combination of both: i.e. 5 prints and 4 EDPI or 2 prints and 7 EDPI etc. Any print or EDPI entered throughout the year is eligible for entry in either print or EDPI but not both.

Images are to be entered within these 5 categories.

Open Colour or Monochrome: Large Print or EDPI

Nature Colour or Monochrome: Large Print or EDPI

Landscape Seascape Colour or Monochrome: Large Print or EDPI

People /Portrait Colour or Monochrome: Large Print or EDPI

Creative Colour or Monochrome: Large Print or EDPI

Portfolio Set of three prints, colour or monochrome Note: This group of three large prints need NOT have been entered into club competitions the previous year.

***NOTE: Images:** Any image entered during the year either as a small print, large print or EDPI **may** be entered in the Annual competition as a large print or EDPI.*

Small prints may be entered during the year but will need reprinting to large print format or converted to EDPI for the Annual Awards unless you are a Novice and plan to enter them into the Novice Section. Electronic Digital Projected Images (EDPI) will be accepted for the Annual competition.

NOVICE DIVISION

A member can enter images into the Novice section of the Annual competition if they have:

1. Never been a professional photographer.
2. Not received an acceptance in a national or international competition.
3. Not received an award at a club annual competition.

In the Novice section of the competition, there will be two categories in which members can enter their images.

- **Open Print**
- **Open EDPI**

Large or small format prints will be accepted in the print section, with measurements as for monthly competitions. Prints will be judged against each other, regardless of size.

A novice may also enter their work in the Open section of the competition, but it may not be a duplicate or edited version of any image submitted into the Novice section.

The total amount of entries allowed is 9.

Open: Small or large prints as per the club sizing and mounting.

Total of 9 entries per novice member overall in both Divisions.

Perpetual Trophies:

Herb Richmond Trophy: Print of the Year.

Roger Purcell Trophy: EDPI of the year.

Bon Strange Trophy: Novice.

David Grigg: Encouragement Trophy.

Judy Johnson: Memorial Award Best Australiana Content.