President’s Report

Hello everyone.

Firstly, Vanessa and I would like to extend our best wishes for the festive season to everyone, and wish you all a healthy, safe and prosperous New Year!

2019 has been a very successful year for the South Gippsland Camera Club and both Vanessa and I have enjoyed being part of the club!

We also both enjoyed the outing to the Wonthaggi State Coal Mine, as I’m sure everyone did, especially the underground tour. It was amazing to find out the information regarding the number of tunnels and how the workings were done. However not a job for the timid person or a person suffering from claustrophobia! It would have been very hard work, and in the sub-light too! After seeing the slide show from Linda, I must agree we all took some amazing photos. (We do enjoy Linda’s slide shows!)

Speaking of photos, Martin Curwain is presently having an expo in the Stockyard Gallery and Vanessa and I called in to have a look-see and we were very impressed with his work. I recommend everyone spare a few minutes to have a look.

What about the Christmas meal we had in the hall? What a great night, with a very good turn-out of members, and a brilliant atmosphere! I was surprised to see so many different dishes of food there for all to share, it was a great evening (although my sunrise photo didn't get a mention, I'll have to take some more next year!!!)

Thanks to all the committee members for their input over the last year, much appreciated. We look forward to another interesting year in 2020.

Don’t let your cameras be idle over the holiday season!

See you all on the 8th January, not the 1st!

Cheers,
Noel.

Last Meeting

Tony Harding (VAPS Secretary) judged our last competition, “Architecture” and his deliberations are as follows:

General DPI

1st: “State Library Dome” by David Hosking
2nd: “Bathing Box Simplicity” by Joan Fawcett
3rd: “Fixer Upper” by Kay Rodda
HC: “A Bit of Everything” by Joan Fawcett
**Advanced DPI**

1st: “Red Earth” by Ross Garner
2nd: “Looking Up” by Roger Keagle
3rd: “Red Earth Mono” by Ross Garner
HC: “Roman Courtyard” by Linda Keagle
HC: “Bendigo Cathedral” by Gary Beresford
HC: “Bendigo Townhall” by Gary Beresford
HC: “Home Sweet Home” by Colin Nicholas
HC: “State Library” by Gary Beresford

**Creative**

1st: “Class Will Out” by Gary Beresford
2nd: “Lost in NY” by Roger Keagle
3rd: “Gollum’s Ghetto” by Colin Nicholas
HC: “Flower Tower” by Colin Nicholas
HC: “Gateway to Heaven” by Linda Keagle
HC: “Into the Void” by Joan Fawcett
HC: “State Library Graffiti” by David Hosking

**Image of the Year: “Star Gazing” by Gary Beresford**

**Congratulations and well done Gary!**

The club outing to Wonthaggi Coal Mine showed us the dangers and hardships the miners had to overcome as part of the job. The DVD gave us all a glimpse of these hardships.

Colin provided information about next year’s competition scoring system. This will be 2 points for each entry, 3 points for Highly Commended, and 2 points for Commended results. The committee hopes this might encourage more entries from members who have not competed before. (Competition and feedback are the best ways of improving your skills.)

The 2020 Activity sheet has been issued.

Ralph Gallagher has pointed out that he thanked the committee on behalf of all members, and that the minutes should reflect this.

**Linda’s Photo Project (reprinted for your information)**

If you haven’t started yet, time is running out very quickly.

The project was proposed in May.

You now have until the end of the year to take up the challenge, with the goal of 10 pictures (of the same theme) by the January meeting (on the 8th). It can be presented as a slide show, book or print presentation.

The meeting highlights were the award to Gary Beresford for **Image of the Year, Photographer of the Year and Member of the Year**.
Linda’s Photo Project (cont)

Looking for the perfect photo project can sometimes be as challenging as searching for the perfect shot. Personal photo projects are a good way to motivate yourself to shoot more pictures, stretch your creativity, or even support the causes that are important to you, but how do you find the right ones?

1. **What are your hobbies?**
   
   This should be obvious, but you want your project to be something you will be motivated to continue over the long term. What better motivation than something for which you already have an interest? Take your hobbies and look for ways to document them, explain them, or showcase them.

2. **What are your communities?**
   
   Churches, clubs, or informal groups can also provide options for personal projects. Because you are a member of these communities, you have access to get in close and share what attracts you to them. Alternatively, you can help them tell their story.

3. **What skills do you want to master?**
   
   Let’s say you want to get better at portrait photography, a project that allows you to focus on that skill would be ideal. Maybe you want to perfect your slow shutter speed photography. How about macro shots, or still life images? The possibilities are endless, but the idea is to explore one thing fully.

4. **Who inspires you?**
   
   This could actually be a portrait angle or a values angle. A theme that follows the people who inspire you can be rewarding. One of my friends created a personal heroes project that is similar to this idea. Another approach would be to mimic the style of a photographer you admire, or even an artist.

We hope you decide to take up this challenge. Maybe as more incentive, we will vote on the best presentation, with a resulting prize. Put your photography thinking caps on!

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**Christmas Tree Zoom Photography Trick**

Looking to get in the holiday spirit? This starburst zoom trick shared by photographer [Chelsea Northrup](https://www.chelseanorthrup.com) will make your festive family photos in front of the tree more interesting than ever:

No, Northrup wasn’t forced to rig her living room up with industrial-grade lights to get this breathtaking image. All it takes to pull off this technique is a tripod, a long shutter speed, and a little bit of creativity.

The first order of business is setting your composition. For this shot, you’re actually going to want to disregard the rule of thirds entirely. Instead, your lit subject should be in the centre of your frame (so that you can see as much of the light streaks as possible). Once you’re satisfied with the preview display, secure your camera to a tripod.

As far as your setting go, you’ll want a narrow aperture and a long shutter speed. Start with an exposure that’s at least five seconds long. Depending on how the image comes out, you can experiment with exposure times and f-stops. When you’re ready, snap the shutter just as you normally would. However, while the exposure is still recording, carefully zoom into the frame.

The result? An amazing picture that’s surprisingly easy to pull off. No photoshopping or complex editing is necessary—this technique records the effect directly in-camera.

Consider this quick tip a gift from us to you this holiday season! When the family is gathered around the tree in your living room, take a moment to pull out your camera—you may just capture an unforgettable magic moment.
**Some Tips for B&W Photography**

**Look for these elements in B&W subjects**

**Shape**
Look for leading edges and contrasting tones.

**Form**
Look for a sense of depth and tonal variation.

**Patterns**
Look for uniformity of shape, sequencing of shapes, different types of shapes and tonal variation.

**Texture**
Smoothness or roughness of the surface, variation of texture and tonal distribution.

**Setting up your camera for B&W**

Firstly, shoot in colour and convert later. Also, capture simultaneously a RAW and jpeg file for the shot. This will give you flexibility if the B&W image does not work out.

Choose ISO value to give as much quality as possible, this will be an advantage in post processing.

The exposure mode should suit the situation but if possible, shoot in manual.

Select a white balance rather than Auto. If one colour dominates the scene, try another white balance setting.

Confirm the scene in B&W by selecting the mono picture style (using camera menu) and view on the camera screen.

On camera filters change the image and can be used for different effects.

- Polarising filter will make the blue skies more vivid, and heighten the dramatic impact of landscape shots.
- Red filter makes blue skies darker and to make foliage crisper and brighter.
- Green filter depicts grass, foliage and vegetation more vivid than normal. Skin tones and lips will appear muted.

On the subject of white balance, here is a chart showing colour temperature and Kelvin scale. Hope you can read it.

**Facebook Page – Daily Challenges**

The club Facebook page is available to all members. This page is a closed members only viewing. To join, contact Linda Keagle.

The creative contest on the page has some interesting images for you to work on and develop your skills with Photoshop.

The daily topic from the Calendar below can be shown on the page.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>January 2020</th>
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<tr>
<td>1 Wednesday</td>
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<td>11 Saturday</td>
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<td>12 Sunday</td>
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### Facebook Page – Daily Challenges (cont)

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Day</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>13 January 2020</td>
<td>Monday</td>
<td>Throwback</td>
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<tr>
<td>14 January 2020</td>
<td>Tuesday</td>
<td>An Important Person</td>
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<tr>
<td>15 January 2020</td>
<td>Wednesday</td>
<td>Smile</td>
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<td>16 January 2020</td>
<td>Thursday</td>
<td>Inspirational</td>
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<td>17 January 2020</td>
<td>Friday</td>
<td>Inspiring Word</td>
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<td>18 January 2020</td>
<td>Saturday</td>
<td>Something Fun</td>
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<td>19 January 2020</td>
<td>Sunday</td>
<td>Something You Bought</td>
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<td>20 January 2020</td>
<td>Monday</td>
<td>Something Man Made</td>
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<tr>
<td>21 January 2020</td>
<td>Tuesday</td>
<td>A Building</td>
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<td>22 January 2020</td>
<td>Wednesday</td>
<td>Pattern</td>
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<td>23 January 2020</td>
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<td>Lunch</td>
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<td>Saturday</td>
<td>Evening</td>
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<td>Written Word</td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
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### Free Darkroom Equipment
Roy Fisher has darkroom equipment available. Contact Roy if you are interested.

### Next Meeting – Wednesday 8th January at Uniting Church (Note the date – Start time is 7:00 pm)
Don’t forget to work on your ‘project’ for this meeting.
Entries for “Open” competition are due at the meeting.
2 DPIs, 2 Prints and 2 Creative images. These entries will be considered for the VAPS Interclub challenge.

![Picture Framing, Printing & Photo Editing](image)