



**DONCASTER
Camera Club**

NEWSLETTER

CLUB INFORMATION

President; Michael Walker 0412 252 387
Competition Steward;
Peter Salter 0419 484 839
Vice President; Graham Kay 0403 199 713
Secretary: Pam Rixon 0421 813 531
Treasurer: Robbie Carter 0415 047 988
Committee Members:
Margaret Walton, Peter Stone, Jason
Godfrey, Martin Lewis, Ean Caldwell

Meetings

The Club meets at 7:30pm,
3rd Friday of each month,
East Doncaster Baptist Church,
47-53 Tunstall Road, Doncaster East

Visitors welcome

MARCH 2026

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FROM THE PRESIDENT

Hello to you all, and welcome to the March edition of the Club's Newsletter.

Our February Portrait Workshop, facilitated by Alwyn Hanson, was very well received by the 20 members present on the evening. Alwyn arrived an hour prior to the workshop to ensure everything was properly set up before we kicked off at about 7.30pm. First up, Alwyn explained the process of lighting our professional model for the evening, River, who was there for participating members to photograph during the workshop. As evidenced by the enthusiasm of participants, I believe Pam has about 50 sample images to send to Alwyn, from our very productive portrait workshop evening.

On the Sunday evening, following the portrait workshop, an enthusiastic group of four met at Webb Dock in Docklands, braving the inclement weather for some more interesting, quality 'wet' themed Street photography. Thanks, Pam for organising this event.

Congratulation to Peter Stone for convening the inaugural Creative SIG. A good attendance on the evening ensured an excellent discussion surrounding the whole notion of what constitutes "Creative" photography? Thanks also to Peter Layton for his extremely valuable contribution of lateral thinking, and images that stretched the imagination. All the images displayed by various attendees were discussed, with commentary as to how they were created. Again, this met with great interest and wide-ranging viewpoints. The consensus was another informative and worthwhile learning experience.

Graham Kay convened another Mono SIG. Unfortunately, I was unable to attend the session, but others have told me the session was very well received by those present.

It is great to see the additional club activity that is occurring through our numerous SIGs. I am sure attendees are getting full enjoyment and some good ideas through attending these sessions.

I'm reminding all DCC members of the Annual VAPS Conference, at the Rich River Golf Club facilities in Moama at the end of May. After a show of hands at our February meeting, it would appear DCC will be well represented. As has been done with previous Conventions, there will be some pre, and post-opportunities, for members to enjoy time on the ground, with their own cameras.

Finally, I have done some extensive research into how the Club selects Life Members. I had mistakenly assumed there was some commentary in the Club's Model Rules related to Life Membership. Amazingly, the Rules are silent on the matter. As such, the notion of only having four Life Members is an historical policy (possibly articulated in a previous, now defunct, constitution) rather than a Constitutional matter. As such, the committee has passed a motion to award Life Membership to members based on a set of specific criteria. The criteria are as follows: -

- Person must have been a member of DCC for a minimum of 15 years,
- Person must have regularly participated in a variety of arranged Club activities,
- Person must have been an active member of the committee,
- Person must have actively contributed to the progress and success of the Club in any other way.

Having prepared and passed the motion as previously mentioned, this now gives the committee the ability to nominate members, based on specific criteria, for this award. This new policy will be implemented at the April AGM.

Cheers and kind regards,

Michael

LIGHTING STRIKES!!



Great capture Martin Lewis

For the third year now, DCC has organised a workshop for the members, in an area they might not otherwise try.

This year it was all stops out, at the club Portrait and Lighting 'studio', where Alwyn Hanson from Alwyn's Photo School convened a terrific workshop.

Introducing professional model, River, and using a variety of different lighting set-ups, Alwyn explained the pros and cons of each, encouraging members to get up "close and personal" to get plenty of photos of River.

The workshop was very well organised by Alwyn, and it was most rewarding to see the enthusiasm with which so many members embraced this opportunity.

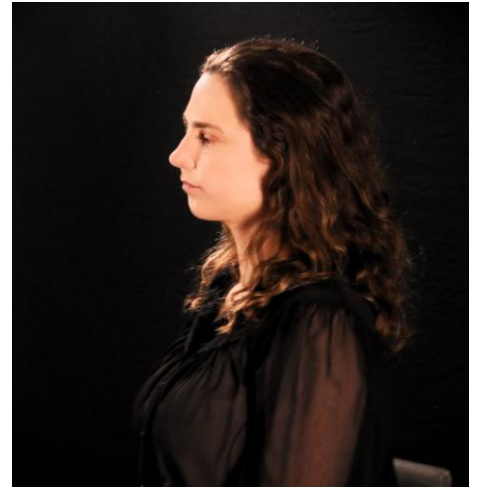




Richard Gay



John Wu



Felix Menke



Geoff Lowry



Bill Chan



Ros Osborne

Our sincere thanks to Alwyn, who is a very engaging and knowledgeable Presenter, who shared so generously with us, his students for the night.

As such, Alwyn mentioned a series of notes to help supplement the information delivered on the evening. Also, there is an Adobe photoshop program people can use to construct their own lighting set-up, and finally a list of the equipment used on the evening, and an indicative price for the equipment from Amazon. Alwyn does not endorse this company, nor receive any remuneration. It is an indicator of the price of the goods locally. They may be cheaper elsewhere.



River - Alwyn Hanson



The musician in Michael Walker is on show, with this post-production edit.

Blue River (Elvis P)

MEET OUR MEMBER – ROS OSBORNE

From the Committee:

This month our Meet the Member is Ros Osborne. It has been a pleasure getting to know Ros, enjoying her company, and images over the past 12 months at DCC. We look forward to sharing many more enjoyable experiences. Over to you Ros!



What was your occupation before retirement?

I was a secondary school Geography teacher.

What your earliest interest in photography?

My father was a keen photographer and when I was quite young, I was given a Brownie Box Camera for Christmas. Under his guidance my photography took off from there.

When did you join DCC, and why did you choose our club?

I joined DCC towards the end of 2024 because my former camera club, ESPS, was closing. I was looking at various options and had been advised that DCC was like ESPS, in many respects. This advice and winning a year's complimentary membership to DCC in the Eastsider News photographic competition, led me to join the group.

When it comes to photography, what do you consider your strengths?

Patience and persistence. I love photographing bugs and insects, and they don't pose for photographs!

What area would you like to improve?

My ability to produce prints of acceptable quality using my home printer. Despite many attempts using various computer and printer settings, I am yet to get consistently good results!

What Camera do you use and why?

I currently own an Olympus OM-D E-M1 Mark II, an OM-D E-M1 Mark III and an OM-1. Having three camera bodies is somewhat indulgent but it avoids the need to swap lenses when moving between close-up and landscape photography. That is a bonus as far as I am concerned. Secondly, having my husband John step up as porter extraordinaire for my gear, makes swapping between cameras easy.

What is one thing you have gained, and one contribution to the club, which has been most satisfying this year?

I have gained inspiration from the various images presented by other members and their different perspectives in relation to post processing. The most satisfying thing for me was having two of my small prints recognised in the end of year competition, especially given the club has so many very competent photographers.

What is something that DCC members do not know about you?

Although not related to photography, what I find amazing is that our little grandson was born on the day **both** his grandmas were celebrating their birthdays. This makes for a triple celebration each year and a kid's party on my birthday!

What is your favourite part of being a member of the club?

Discussing all things photographic with other members and mixing with people who are so passionate about their hobby.

Is there anything you would like from the DCC that is not currently available?

I think the club caters very well for all members so cannot think of anything else I would like from it. All I need is more spare time to be able to participate in the wide variety of activities on offer!

THIS MONTH'S MEETING – MARCH 20TH

This month's meeting is at the EDBC commencing 7.30PM.

The March STREET PHOTOGRAPHY competition will be judged by Liz Reen, Marg Walton, Peter Salter, with Martin Lewis as observer.

NEXT MONTH'S MEETING – APRIL 17TH – AGM

The AGM will commence at 7.30 pm. Details of the AGENDA and office holders' reports are to be found in the second attachment, accompanying this newsletter. Please familiarise yourself with the content prior to the meeting and advise Pam Rixon via the Club email doncastercameraclub@gmail.com of any matters you wish to table, before the AGM. Pam requires such notice by 25th March please.

Following the AGM, the Open topic will be judged by Graham Kay, Peter Stone and Bev Dillon

2026 VAPS CONVENTION

Tatalia Function Centre, Rich River Golf Club, Moama. 29-31 May.

A GREAT AUTUMN EXPERIENCE!

We encourage all our members to consider supporting and attending the VAPS Conference this year. The Presentations and Workshops are always interesting and varied. The Print display is always a highlight, and well worth viewing.

DCC will be entering 15 prints and 15 Digital images in the Competition. Plus, there will be Year Bars and Meritorious Awards presented to our members.

The VAPS Convention is a very social experience to enjoy with your DCC friends and offers many opportunities to meet with members of Camera Clubs from all over Victoria.

Our own member Joseph Maher is the Convention convener, who does an amazing job. Do talk to Joseph or other members who have previously attended the convention. Tatalia is an enticing venue for a splendid weekend escape, nestled in the gorgeous, culturally vibrant Echuca – Moama regions.

For more information go to the VAPS Website <https://www.vaps.org.au> Please **remember** you need to register **and** book your accommodation.

Join us for a great weekend! There will be additional photographic opportunities organised by the DCC committee on the Friday before, and the Monday following the Convention, for anyone who is interested. Pam Rixon pamrixon@gmail.com and Margaret Walton margw@australianscenics.com

UPCOMING EVENTS PROGRAM

March 17	Tuesday	Themes and Series SIG – Bev Dillon’s and ZOOM
March 20	Friday	Club Meeting – SET Topic - Street Photography – Liz Reen, Marg Walton, Peter Salter, with Martin Lewis as observer.
April 01	Wednesday	Committee Meeting
April 15	Wednesday	Creative SIG
April 17	Friday	AGM - Club Meeting – OPEN Topic – Graham Kay, Peter Stone, Bev Dillon
May 06	Wednesday	Committee Meeting
May 15	Friday	Club Meeting – OPEN Topic – John Russo
May 29 – 31	Fri-Mon	VAPS Conference – Moama
June 03	Wednesday	Committee Meeting
June 19	Friday	Club Meeting – SET Topic - Patterns in Nature – Ean Caldwell, Robbie Carter, Robyn Solum.

PRINTING SERVICES

For those members who would like to enter prints into the competitions Pam Rixon and John Smith have kindly offered their services. Only the cost of paper and ink would need to be covered.

CREATIVE SIG

WHERE TO NOW? ...



An example of how Generative Fill in Photoshop can be used to improve an image. Until now, the image below would not have been allowed in our normal DPI competition because of the use of AI.

Thanks to the new DCC CREATIVE SIG, and potential DPI competition category, such enhanced images will soon be entered in the club competitions, legitimately and without censure.

... STRAIGHT AHEAD, **WITH AI!**



The inaugural Zoom meeting for the new Creative SIG was held on Wednesday 18 February 07:30 pm.

Thanks to the eleven members who joined in the lively and illuminating discussion as the opportunities for creative licence, artistic expression, subjective viewpoints, the exciting potential of AI as a legitimate tool in creating images of imagination and potential not previously seen as an approved option in photographic competitions.

Special thanks to Peter Layton who played Devil's Advocate, as he pushed hard to ensure he, everyone present and all those who choose to venture into this exciting world of a new creativity in the future, would understand with clarity, the boundaries and differences of the processing of Creative images, to the traditional post-processing of photographic images.

An image gallery has been created specially to showcase your amazing artwork, and if you'd like to be a part of the next "exhibition" you are more than welcome. Please send your work to Peter Stone, crookedpaw@gmail.com any time before the next meeting, or via WeTransfer if the file is too large for email. We're really looking forward to viewing your creations at our next Zoom meeting on Wednesday, April 15, 2026.

IMAGE DEVELOPMENT SIG

The **Image Development** SIG is currently on pause. It will resume in a month or so and we will keep you updated.

View 'Image Development - Doncaster Camera Club, or via the DCC Website.

MONO SIG



Photography - Peter Salter



Edits - Pam Rixon

The recent **Mono Special Interest Group** was held on ZOOM, Wednesday Feb 25th. There were some great images and edits to view, discuss and consider. Thank you to all those members who contributed and/or attended the very successful meeting.

Thank you, also to Pam for sharing her screen and demonstrating some techniques she uses, when editing in Lightroom. Hopefully we will have another member volunteer for our next meeting, which is planned for some time in May, as Graham will be travelling. We wish you a great trip, Graham.

Graham will advise when to send him your images for the May meeting, probably around the 20th of April but this will be confirmed down the track.

All members are invited to take part, regardless of whether you submitted an image for processing. Always an interesting evening and lots on offer by way of learning.

Any queries, please contact Graham at grahambkay@gmail.com

SCENIC SIG

Our Scenic Outings, of which we have enjoyed two in the past few weeks, one in the CBD and the other at Docklands, are generally followed with a Zoom session, where images taken on the outing are shown and discussed. These sessions are a very enjoyable and effective way to talk about the outing and share ideas about composition and editing processes, and open to all interested Club members.

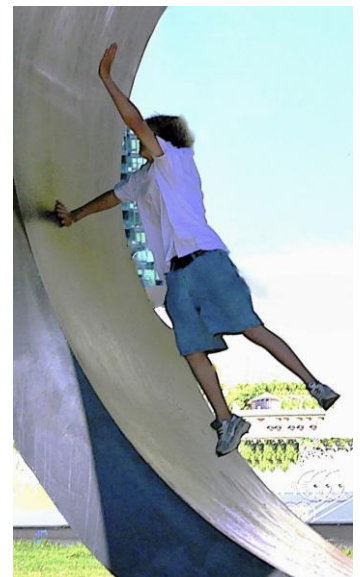
At the recent Zoom session, following the Street Photography Day Out in the CBD, a great variety of impressive and creative images were shared with other members. In the lead up to the March Street Photography competition, it is likely you will see some of the following in this month's competition.



Roger Godfrey



Liz Reen



Felix Menke



Martin Lewis



Richard Gay

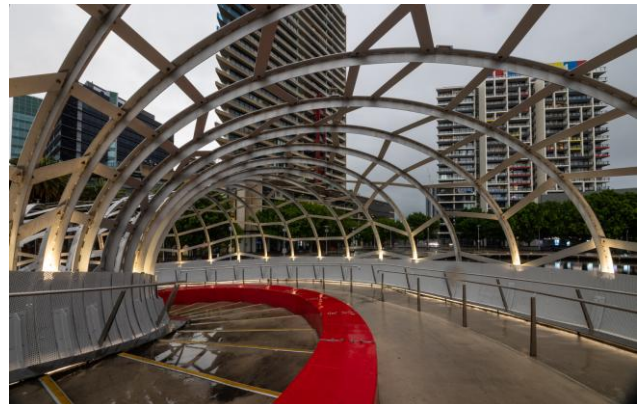


Margaret Salter

At our second city outing on Sunday 22nd February at Docklands, despite wet and wild weather, a small but enthusiastic group met at the Webb Bridge, to take photos in very challenging conditions. Fortunately, the Pizza restaurant was nearby, as were bridges to shelter under.

While wet weather photography is not for everyone, the lighting and sky can often create some very dramatic effects.

The date of the next outing is to be advised. Pam Rixon pamrixon@gmail.com



THEMES AND SERIES SIG

The next meeting is on March 17 at Bev's home and the topic is IRISH – St Patrick's Day – Green!



Everyone is welcome to join us.

Peggy peacefulpeggy@outlook.com Bev carldillon@optusnet.com.au

MENTOR WORKSHOP

The committee is still very interested to hear from any member who would like to run a single or multiple mentoring sessions for fellow club members. Don't be shy, we can all learn from each other, and it is all about continuous improvement for all our members.

JUDGING SCHEDULE

Judges for the following months are.

March	STREET PHOTOGRAPHY – Liz Reen, Marg Walton, Peter Salter, with Martin Lewis as observer
April	OPEN – Graham Kay, Peter Stone, Bev Dillon
May	OPEN – External- John Russo, Berwick Viewfinders Camera Club.
June	SET – PATTERNS IN NATURE – Ean Caldwell, Robbie Carter, Robyn Solum

SUPPER ROSTER 2026

March	Joanna Fu and Ian Game
April	Adrian Donoghue and Sharon Martynsen
May	Robyn Solum and Leonie Cann
June	Mark Knudsen and Margaret Salter
July	Koren Mitchell and John Wu
August	Don Stott and Liz Reen
September	Geoff Lowry and Bev Dillon
October	Adrian Lee and Ros Osborne
November	Liz Clarkson and Fabio Panarese
December	Keith Tull and Richard Gay

If you are on the roster and cannot attend, please notify Pam Rixon: pamrixon@gmail.com or 0421813531

SCAVENGER HUNT 2026



How are you going with your **Scavenger Hunt** collection?
Please don't forget to send those images to Peter Stone as they are taken!

crookedpaw@gmail.com

EXTERNAL COMPETITIONS

EXHIBITIONS OF INTEREST

MARCH

[Cheltenham International Salon of Photography](#)

Open 1 Jan

Closing 29 Mar

APS Approval 2026/03

[Outback International Photography Exhibition](#)

Open 1 Jan

Closing 30 Mar

APS Approval 2026/02

MARCH

[NGV Women Photographers 1900-1975](http://www.ngv.vic.gov.au/exhibition/women-photographers-1900-1975/)

Closes 3 May

www.ngv.vic.gov.au/exhibition/women-photographers-1900-1975/

JUNE

[38th Sutherland Shire National Exhibition of Photography \(SSNEP\)](#)

Open 6 Jun

Closing 19 Jul

APS Approval 2026/06 Upcoming Workshop

[WORKSHOP - LAST CHANCE](#)

David Simmonds and Ian Van der Wolde are running another workshop at **Port Campbell March 27-30th 2026**

Several of our members have attended previous workshops and found them to be a valuable experience, especially as there is a lot of focus on printing. More information from www.simmondsphotosafaris.com

[Warrandyte Art Show](#)

The **Warrandyte Rotary Art Show** is being held March 27-29th.

This year a **Photography Section** is included. For any members who wish to attend or enter photographs more information is available at www.warrandytedonvalerotary.org.au

FAMILIAL

The **Centre for Contemporary Photography** exhibition, presented in partnership with, and supported by Town Hall Gallery, Hawthorn Arts Centre, City of Boroondara.

Open - Wednesday 11 February

Close - Saturday 06th April

<https://ccp.org.au/exhibition/familial/>

GENERAL INTEREST

Hall of Frame has sponsored DCC for many years. To show our appreciation we encourage members to go there for matting and framing needs. They do an excellent job.