

GEELONG CAMERA CLUB

NEWSLETTER

MARCH 2024

REG. NO. A4963

CONTENTS

PRESIDENTS PEN

FEBRUARY COMPETITION RESULTS

LIGHTSEEKERS SIG

CREATIVE SIG

BIRDS AND NATURE SIG

HISTORY OF GCC

SYLLABUS

CLUB APPAREL

CLUB NEWS



"Wheating Lines"

By Gerry Van der Meer

Awarded a Merit

Print Open B Grade

PRESIDENTS PEN

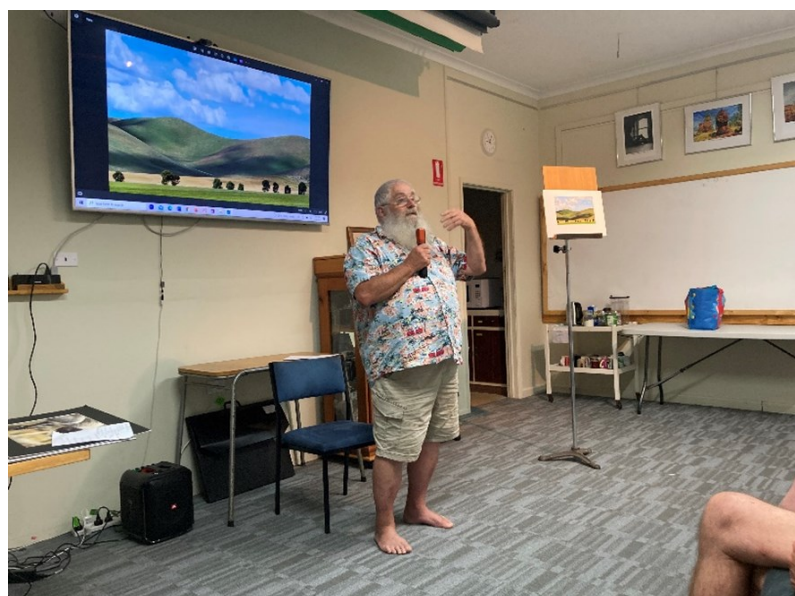
I hope you've all had a great couple of months of photography. The new calendar year of club activities has started off well with our customary BBQ, a late afternoon outing to Bancoora Beach, and plenty of other activities as part of our special interest groups.

As usual most members continue to enter our monthly intraclub competitions which provides an invaluable opportunity to have photographs assessed by an external judge. If you have not yet entered these competitions, I encourage you to have a go. As I have reiterated before, importantly the Geelong Camera Club promotes a strong print competition, with members applying all sorts of techniques and processes to get the printing job done. Some have their own inkjet technology, while others still manufacture prints via more traditional film and darkroom-based methods, and some use external labs of all apparent calibres. Either way, a photograph really isn't real until its printed! Our recent "Print makers reveal their print making secrets" evening saw eight of our members that regularly compete in print categories, speak each about a single image of theirs that they have printed or had printed. It was a great night of slowing down and only seeing eight images, and hearing all about not only the unique printing technique that came with each, but also the story and feelings behind each image and the reasons each photographer pointed their camera at each respective subject.

I wish you all the best with your photography for the remaining warm part of our administration year.

Yours Sincerely,

Robert L. Long AAPS



FEBRUARY COMPETITION RESULTS

PRINTS OPEN A GRADE

JUDGE: TUCK LEONG



First Place

“Along the River”

By Chris Reichl

Second Place

“Clematis Seeds”

By Chris Reichl



Third Place

“Security”

By Mick Kupresanin

FEBRUARY COMPETITION RESULTS

PRINTS OPEN B GRADE

JUDGE: TUCK LEONG



First Place

"Double Delight"

By Judy Medwell

Second Place

"Ringed Neck Parakeet"

By Judy Medwell



Third Place

"The Sugar Thief"

By Marion Best

FEBRUARY COMPETITION RESULTS

OPEN PRINT A AND B GRADE MERITS

JUDGE: TUCK LEONG



A GRADE

"The Orange Ball"

By Dee Kelly



A GRADE

"1 2 3 4"

By Sam Neumann

B GRADE

"Orbost Trestle No 3"

By David Rendle



B GRADE

"The Trollshaw"

By David Rendle



FEBRUARY COMPETITION RESULTS

EDI OPEN A GRADE

JUDGE: TUCK LEONG



First Place

"Eagle in the Snow"

By Phillipa Alexander

Second Place

"Gazania Rigens Flowers"

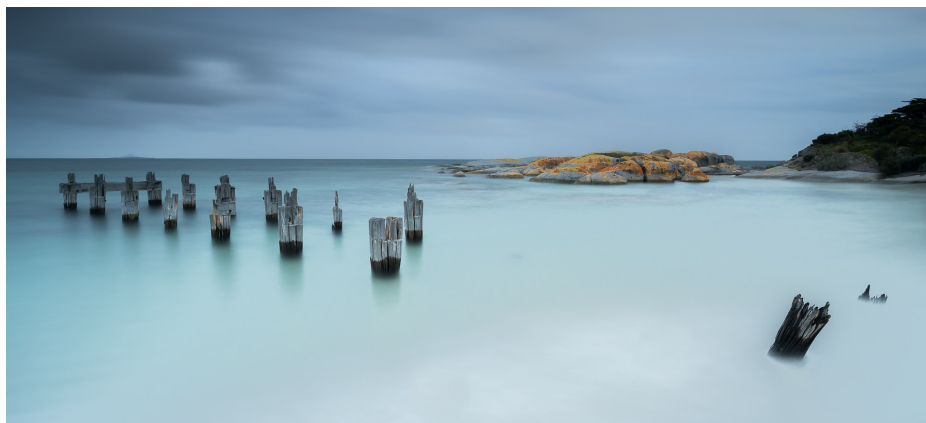
By Darryl Martin



Third Place

"Lillie Beach"

By Paul Franks



FEBRUARY COMPETITION RESULTS

EDI OPEN B GRADE

JUDGE: TUCK LEONG



First Place

"Delivering the Building Materials"

By Marion Best

Second Place

"Fight Club"

By Robert Clark



Third Place

"Foggy Evening in Queenscliff"

By Heather O'Flynn

FEBRUARY COMPETITION RESULTS

OPEN EDI A AND B GRADE MERITS

JUDGE: TUCK LEONG



A GRADE

"Little Morsel"

By Peter Roupas



A GRADE

"Yellow Lillium"

By Frank Kennedy

B GRADE

"Family Love"

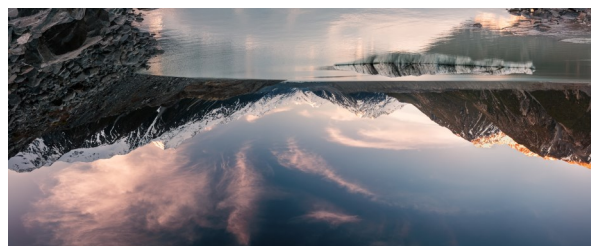
By Shelley McKiernan



B GRADE

"Sunset Lake Tasman"

By Meredith Bain



FEBRUARY COMPETITION RESULTS

SET SUBJECT A GRADE—DOORS AND WINDOWS

JUDGE: TUCK LEONG



First Place

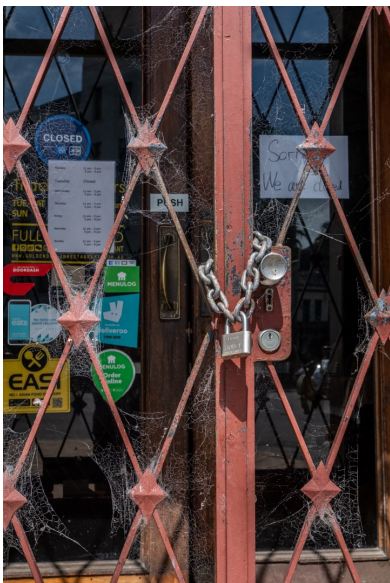
“15th Century Tearooms”

By Paul Franks

Second Place

“Behind the Flinders St Clock”

By Sheryle Griffiths



Third Place

“Closed Indeed”

By Judith Wood

FEBRUARY COMPETITION RESULTS

SET SUBJECT B GRADE—DOORS AND WINDOWS

JUDGE: TUCK LEONG



First Place

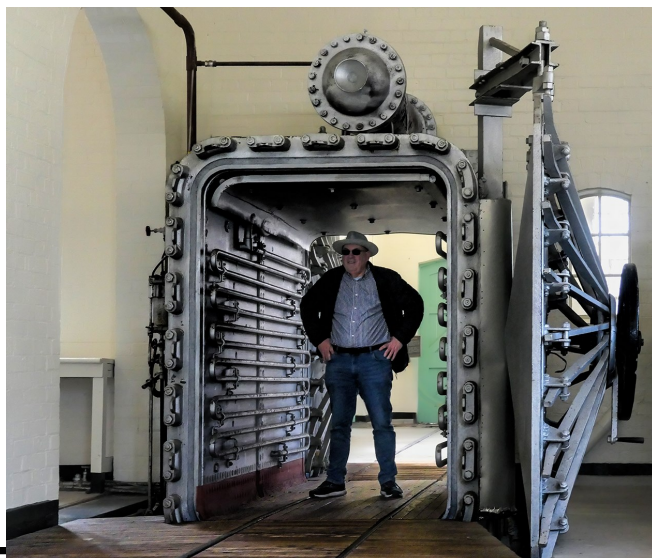
"Window Heights"

By Heather O'Flynn

Second Place

"Chocolet Maker"

By Gerry Van der Meer



Third Place

"A Dynamic Entry"

By David Bridge

FEBRUARY COMPETITION RESULTS

SET SUBJECT—DOORS AND WINDOWS—A AND B GRADE MERITS

JUDGE: TUCK LEONG



A GRADE

“One Solid Door”

By Sheryle Griffiths



A GRADE

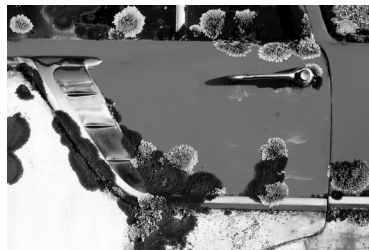
“Tea in the Garden”

By Peter Roupas

B GRADE

“Evidence of Time

By Steve Davies



B GRADE

Only one B Grade Merit

LIGHTSEEKERS

SPECIAL INTEREST GROUP



February has been a busy month for the Lightseekers Group, returning after our end of year break.

The first outing was to Lavandula Lavender Farm up past Daylesford. The lavender was being harvested, and the farm has many photo opportunities, with old buildings and implements. The trip home also provided the opportunity to call into

the Garden of St Erth, near Trentham. This is one of the Diggers Club gardens, and has range of garden areas, trees, and tempting seeds for sale.

A very popular day was Morning Tea at the Black Cup in East Geelong. The weather was good, and their outdoor area provides a good opportunity for us to catch up with friends.

Lastly, we had a tour of the Fort at Queenscliff. This had taken some time to organise, and despite the forecast of a very hot and windy day, it was interesting. We were able to photograph the Lighthouses, Barracks, Keep, Cellars, and Museum at close hand. It also provided the opportunity to gather photos for our Challenge for first term, which is "Architecture".



The photos of the Fort at Queenscliff were taken by Allan Wilkins and myself.

Chris Reichl

On Holidays



Creative Work
In Progress

BIRDS AND NATURE

SPECIAL INTEREST GROUP



Our first meeting for 2024 was attended by quite a few members. Many of whom submitted some photos that they took over the Christmas break.

Sue Wilson also showed a slide show of the vast range of birds she encountered on her 4 month trip up to far north Qld and back.

There was some discussion of where and how far we would travel for our bi-monthly outings. The first being local to the Blue Lake in Ocean Grove on March 16th.

As the club camps fall on our outing months of May and November it was decided to combine to 2 and have our outing in the vicinity of the camp.

Gannets – Brian Cohn

Butterfly – Darryl Martin



Little Kingfisher – Sue Wilson



Elephant Seals – Pam Colenso

A History of Geelong Camera Club

Extract reproduced from
"A History of Geelong Camera Club 1889-2000"
Published December 2001
Compiled by Ken McKaown OAM, AFLAP, AAPPS, ESAPS, SSI/APS
Forward by Charles T Radway | Edited and Published by Irene Sady



PART 4

KEEPING UP WITH THE TIMES

In addition to the usual annual election of office bearers of the Gordon College Photographic Society, one of the other main appointments was that of three "Lantern Engineers". Minutes of the early 20th century frequently refer to the purchase of pieces of equipment for the Lantern such as burners and arc lamps. In 1913 some traditionalists made a gallant attempt at stalling progress, when on the moving of a motion to install electricity to the clubrooms, they insisted on the gas burners being left in the darkroom for the use of some members. Needless to say, the motions to connect electric power was passed, although the minute book some 12 months later records that gas mantles were still being purchased for the enlarging lantern.

As far back as the 1895 Congress, mention was frequently made to the viewing of lantern-slides and the definite advantage of viewing them by limelight. This reference to limelight puzzled us until investigation showed that for many years, apart from an electric arc, the only satisfactory source of a highly concentrated and powerful light was a piece of lime or rather zirconia heated by an oxy-acetylene flame. No wonder they appointed three Lantern Engineers each year; one wonders if they were paid danger money!

Most of the prints being entered in the monthly competitions in this era were probably contact prints, which is understandable considering that the majority of members were using either medium, or large-format cameras, but in 1913 a special enlargement section was introduced into the competition.

The first mention of Colour Photography occurs as early as 1914, but it must have been referring to the delicate art of hand colouring, for it was at least another 40 years before colour film made it's mark on the organisation.

A change of direction in 1914 seemed to be the beginning of an age of enlightenment within the Society. In a fit of liberal thinking, we read in a motion of November that year, that the proposed lecture by Mr. Purnell on the "Life of Birds" be open to the male portion of the general public. As if the private lives of birds was not daring enough, less than six months later the 26 year male domination of the Society was finally broken with the introduction of its first three ladies as full members, which no doubt must have added another dimension to the Society's outings.

The first mention of colour transparencies came in the society's minutes in the early 1930 and although Kodak introduced Kodachrome to the photographic world in 1935 the society was still holding lanternslide-making workshops as late as 1944. A Mrs. Alma Ling is a name well remembered within the club for her excellent work in colour transparencies.

No doubt the members were heartened to hear the guest speaker at the 1931 Annual General Meeting, Chief Art Inspector Mr. W. Dean telling the gathering that photography had advanced to the stage where it was definitely considered as works of art.

Cine Film was beginning to capture the attention of the amateur photographer by the late 1930s, as it was decided in 1939 to form a Cine section of the Society, with one night per month devoted to the photographic side of Cine film. Whether it was due to the outbreak of war or perhaps other unrecorded factors the Cine section was short lived having gone into recess by July 1940.

With the advent of litigation came the requirement for the Camera Club to become incorporated for the protection of the committee and members. So in 1985 we became the Geelong Camera Club Incorporated.

Again the world of technology was expanding and several members felt it was time Geelong Camera Club allowed the inclusion of computer images to the monthly competitions. A motion was put to the 1995 Annual General Meeting, which after a heated discussion was defeated. An amended motion was put forward that computer images be allowed in monthly competition in a separate category –this motion was carried.

PART 5

IMP OR DEVIL



"We Grasp The Shadow"

From the mid 1920s the syllabus carried the Society's logo of a Photographic Imp (or more correctly a Devil) together with the rather dramatic motto "We Grasp the Shadow". The logo was then cast as a statuette and become the Society's mascot. Such was the formal nature of the meetings in those days, that they could not be commenced until the statuette was ceremoniously carried out and placed on the table, when the President then declared the meeting officially open. Unfortunately the statuette has been lost over the years, despite a plea in the newspaper for its return. The Imp and motto are still an important part of the club's tradition and appear on our stationery, syllabus and monthly newsletter.

...cont'd next page

PART 6

THE DEPRESSION AND WAR YEARS

The joy of achieving 25 years was soon marred by the outbreak of World War 1 which was brought closer to home with the first enlistment of a member, Mr. Turnbull, and then not long after, the solemn noting in the minutes of a member killed in action. As in other areas of Australia, the war left an indelible mark on the Geelong community, and perhaps for the first time brought the problems of a troubled world to our otherwise isolated existence.

As attendance at meetings continued to be strong, the Society appeared to have survived the depression years reasonably well, whereas it had devastated the community at large. Out of the gloom of the depression years came the first mention of the Society's venture into figure photography, which must have raised a few eyebrows amongst some of the more conservative members of the Geelong community nearly 60 years ago. Either the male members were a little shy or more likely were short of willing models, but the first competition in figure studies was dominated by a Miss Miles who took out not only first prize but was also placed second and third. However there was no doubting Miss Miles photographic ability because the next month she won the Argus newspaper Camera Supplement competition.

Just as the society's 25th anniversary in 1914 had been clouded by the outbreak of World War 1, it's 50th Jubilee in January 1939 was held in the midst of growing tension as the world appeared to be moving closer to global conflict. It was a special moment at the January Jubilee meeting when in the presence of the founding president Mr. Roebuck, the current president Mr. Potter spoke with great feeling about the achievements of the Society over the previous 50 years. He noted that prominent amongst its achievements had been the club's part in hosting the

1895 Inter-Colonial Exhibition, its activities during the war years with it's participation in the 'Snapshots From Home League' and its status as the oldest amateur photographic association on the Australian mainland. Undoubtedly the members entered the Society's second 50 years with a feeling of pride and enthusiasm.

The 1940 Annual General Meeting records the fact that members were enlisting in the Armed Services and a motion was passed that money belts be presented to members who were posted overseas. Once again the Society worked closely with the 'Snapshots from Home League' as it had done during the First World War. Official cards were issued to participating members and the Society agreed to supply printing paper and developer. The December 1941 entry of Japan into the war brought the conflict closer to home and during 1942 an invitation was extended to all servicemen stationed, or on leave within the Geelong area, to attend the meetings or make use of the society's facilities.

The Battle of the Coral Sea in May 1942 intensified wartime sentiment. The 1942 Annual General Meeting moved that club members enlisting in the services be kept financial, and returned servicemen were offered one year free membership upon their return.

Despite obviously depleted numbers, a 1943 members display attracted 150 prints which is a little surprising as a common plea through the 1930s had been for greater members participation in print competition. Presumably in an attempt to boost numbers and also to foster new photographic talent, students at Geelong High School (Geelong's only high school in 1942) were offered free membership during that time, with their work to be judged by Society members.



The Jubilee Reunion – 1939

...cont'd next page

PART 7

WANTED: A NEW HOME

The Society's President Mr. G.R. King retired as Principal of the Gordon Institute in 1934. The appointment of Mr. Pavia as the new principal the following year appears to mark the start of deterioration in the relation between the two bodies. By mid 1938 the clubrooms had been reclaimed as classrooms although members were permitted to use the darkroom in the evenings and Saturday afternoon but definitely not on Sundays.

By July 1945 the society's long-standing relationship with the Gordon Institute had broken down. In January the principal suggested that the Society should look for other clubrooms, and by April even the private darkroom had been commandeered by the Institute, and members were required to store items of equipment in their homes. With no darkroom and all equipment in storage it was the start of a difficult few years for the Gordon Amateur Photographic Society. The outcome of a special general meeting in December 1947 to discuss the future of the society was to change to monthly meetings instead of weekly, which had been a tradition since the formation of the Society. In June 1948 the President was still appealing to members to pull together until the Society had passed through this difficult period.

In mid 1948 the Society was still meeting once a month for business purposes that were interspersed with demonstrations and practical nights and as well as a bi-monthly competition. Meetings were held in the Bostock Memorial Lecture room at the Institute while the new clubrooms promised by the Institute were being built; although it was 1952, four years later before the Society was finally re-accommodated.

The festering relationship between the Society and the Gordon Institute was finally brought to a head in 1957 when the Society was asked to vacate the clubrooms by the end of the year. The interim landlord became the Geelong and District Cultural Institute that was located in the Band of Hope Buildings in Ryrie Street (now part of the Performing Arts complex). The 68th Annual General Meeting was held at these premises, this being the first time in the Society's history that it had been held away from the Gordon Institute. The Society obviously prospered after leaving the Gordon Institute as a photograph taken in 1950 at the 60th anniversary shows that membership had grown to 53 members. However this move to the Cultural Institute was only a temporary measure for in January 1961 the Society was on the move again, this time to the Reformed Presbyterian Church Hall at 8 Fenwick Street and ironically directly opposite their original home at the Gordon College.

PART 8

BE IT EVER SO WET, THERE'S NO PLACE LIKE HOME

It was more than eight years before the search for a new permanent home came to an end in 1969 when the Society moved to its present site on the Barwon Common which for many years had been an airfield.

However the move didn't come without much anguish and discussion. The building which the club managed to obtain was unused and almost derelict, with no ceiling or wall lining, one half having a concrete floor whilst the remaining floor was just plain dirt. A great deal of work and finance was required; eight members were needed to act as guarantors for \$1600 from the bank to secure the necessary funds. Some members felt that the onus of such a loan was too much for only eight members, so the offer was extended, allowing more members to become guarantors. This resulted in sixteen members acting as guarantors. The bank was amused at the trickle of people who came in to sign the contract. At least they became aware our members cared about the future of their club. In an attempt to reduce the debt, the club sub-let the newly renovated rooms to various groups such as Geelong Chess Club, Society for Growing Australian Plants, Scandinavian Society and the Sporting Motor Cycle Club. These arrangements were not satisfactory but the debt was finally reduced to a manageable level and with the commencement of an annual Introduction to Photography Course as a source of income, the club eventually was able to regain sole use of the rooms.

One problem, which although predicted still remains a problem, is that the rooms are located on a flood-prone area, and on two or three occasions flood-waters to a height of approx. 1-1/2 metres have swept through the rooms, thankfully not leaving any permanent damage.

Jubilant members outside the newly acquired clubrooms



...cont'd next page

Now situated in permanent clubrooms and the threat of eviction removed after almost 30 years the club consolidated its activities through the 1970's with a reasonably large and enthusiastic membership for most of the decade. The prediction that a permanent home would enhance club life proved correct. Monthly competition for both prints and slides continued to be the backbone of club activity, special exhibitions were held to highlight members work both at the clubrooms and at other venues throughout the city.

During the 1970's the club darkroom was completed and whilst many members have their own facilities, the darkroom is much appreciated by those who require it and by those participating in the annual photographic course. Likewise the clubrooms are equipped with backdrops, floodlights etc. which enable special interest groups to use it as a studio on non-club nights. Geelong is one of the few camera clubs in Victoria which has the rooms open during the day on two occasions each month to enable retirees, shift workers, unemployed people and housewives to enjoy the facilities of the Club at a time convenient to them.

Around the late 1980's two major working bees were held by club members with the exterior of the clubrooms being rubbed down and painted, and the entire building being re-roofed. Both of these activities were conducted with the assistance of the South Barwon Council supplying the materials and the club providing the labour. Both were extremely well organised particularly the roofing and it was considered by all as a job well done.

In 1994, the committee, being always conscious of the need to provide additional facilities for the members, purchased a set of Manfrotto backdrops for use in the main hall when it was being used as a studio. Members were most appreciative of these purchases and thanks were expressed to Frank Sady for the part he played in their acquisition. 1998 saw the purchase of a further set of



Clubroom renovations

Manfrotto backdrops for the use of members. Another coup in the equipment stakes was the purchase of a dry mounting press. This disappointed members from Essendon Camera Club who were trying to purchase the same bargain-priced press.

The committee decided that it was time that the Club purchased its own crockery and cutlery instead of hiring it whenever there was a function such as an interclub visit, for which to cater. This resulted in a set of fifty being purchased, which has proved to be of great benefit to the club. Now the clubrooms were really starting to feel like home.

Front row: Ken Tyas, Terri Graham, Bruce Ketchen, Jill Turner, Ken McKeown, Audrey McKeown
Second row: Frances Poole, John Boocock, Kevin Wilson, Jim Coutts, Elizabeth Wohlers, Carol O'Laughlin, Ann McElhinney, Moya James, Max Wilson, Eric Gold, Joe Saliljac
Third row: Rob McKinlay, Beryl Wood, Otto Rieckhoff, John Moore, Louise Rough, Graeme Burns, Charles Radnay, Ken Beckworth, Denise Drews
Fourth row: Paul Moore, Laurie Santispirito, Richard Crisp, Frank Davies, Roy Ellery, Ian Littler, Steve Cooper, Col Munday, Christing Radnay, Cheryl Brunger, Jenny Gold, Robb Hooper



To be continued next month...

SYLLABUS

This is the club syllabus for the next month. Please note and be aware that the syllabus is subject to change after publication within this newsletter. Visit the GCC website to keep up to date on the syllabus front.

March 2024

Wed 6th Mar Competition Night.

- Open Prints, Open EDI and Altered Reality.

Thurs 7th Mar Lightseekers Outing.

- MCG tour.

Wed 13th Mar Studio Lighting Demonstration.

- In house 7:30pm—9:30pm

Mon 18^h Mar Committee Meeting.

- 7:00pm-9:00pm

Wed 20th Mar Ballarat vs. Geelong Interclub Competition.

- Geelong Camera Club rooms 7:30pm—9:30pm

Thurs 21st Mar Lightseekers Outing.

- Gellibrand / Dahlia Farm

Wed 27th Mar Team Challenge.

CLUB APPAREL



Great news! The range of clothing available to all members of Geelong Camera Club has been expanded upon.

All existing items remain but we have added more colours where available AND we have added two shirts to the range – one outdoor specific shirt and one casual shirt, suitable for either indoor or outdoor wear.

We increased the prices modestly on a few of the existing items where cost price had overtaken the price we were asking but prices remain extremely reasonable.

Updated apparel details complete with pictures and prices, are accessible from our home page or via this link - <https://promote-it.com.au/geelongcc>

Those members who already have GCC apparel have found it useful to explain their presence with a camera in their hands whilst on a photoshoot – and of course, it's good to wear when we get together or any time.

If you want to make sure you are ordering the correct size, it is a good idea to visit our apparel provider: Promote-It, 2/123 Balliang Street, South Geelong (not far from the clubrooms). They have items in stock for you try on. Check their website for opening hours.

MEMBERSHIP FEES 2022/2023

Full Year, from July

- > Single: \$65
- > *Concession Single: \$55
- > Full-Time Student: \$55
- > Family (2 people): \$95
(Additional members \$35 each)
- > *Concession Family (2 people): \$80
(Additional members \$30 each)

**Concessions: Aged Pension, Govt Seniors Card, Unemployed, Full-Time Student, Disability Pension.*

** See Treasurer for pro-rata rates applicable from January-July.

Studio Hire: \$20.00 using your own studio lights.
\$40.00 + \$50 refundable bond,
if using the Club's studio lights.
(conditions apply)

Darkroom: \$ (currently unavailable)

PRO RATA MEMBERSHIP FEES **2023**

January to End April = 50% of Full Year fees

- > Single: \$32.50
- > Concession Single: \$27.50
- > Full-Time Student: \$27.50
- > Family (2 people): \$47.50
(Additional member \$17.50)
- > Concession Family (2 people): \$42.50
(Additional member \$17.50)

May to 30th July

All Fees = \$nil

Or, 25% for Voting & Competition Rights

- > Single: \$17.50
- > Concession Single: \$17.50
- > Full-Time Student: \$17.50
- > Family (2 people): \$27.50
(Additional member \$12.50)
- > Concession Family (2 people): \$22.50
(Additional members \$12.50)

To pay by EFT: submit your payments to

Westpac Bank
Geelong Camera Club
BSB: 033622
Acct: 400835

Or go to any Westpac bank and pay your membership subscription directly.

You Must Include Your Name and Member Number in the Transaction

Cash and cheques will no longer be accepted by the treasurer.