



**Meetings:** 1<sup>st</sup> Monday of the month 1.30 - 4pm (Easter & Melbourne Cup Eve are exceptions)

**Website:** <http://www.phillipislandcameraclub.com.au>

**Facebook Page:** <https://www.facebook.com/groups/382689165127848>

**YouTube:** <https://youtube.com/channel/UCCPK8oUGGI0C2xRY2OhFOyg>

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## [CHRISTMAS MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT](#)

Hard to believe 2024 is fast drawing to a close. It has, in so many ways, been a huge year for the club.

Of particular note, of course, was our 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Exhibition. This was a great showcase of the Club's History and the talent we have within us. Thirty Years is a significant milestone for a Community Group and I think we did the occasion justice.

The VAPS Convention and Interclub Competition was also a highlight. The images we submitted were of a commendable quality that was reflected in our overall score. More importantly though, it was wonderful to see so many of our members attend the Convention in Berwick and experience the atmosphere of a Statewide forum. The exhibition and presenters were inspirational. Events such as this can only help us with our photographic pursuits.

I have also been very pleased with the participation in our other Interclub Competitions. The Warragul Interclub and Gippsland Interclub showed that we have a solid base of very talented photographers among us. Interclub events, however, are not just about the images and scores, they are also a great opportunity to mix with other like minded photographers to share ideas and experience the myriad of images and genres they offer. It was pleasing to see so many of our members take that opportunity; equally gratifying to hear that many want to continue this in 2025.

In October we held our Inaugural 'Walk for Wellness' as part of the Bass Coast Senior's Festival. This is an initiative that we hope to expand on in 2025. The day itself saw PICC members and other Bass Coast residents join in a Photographic Walk around the Churchill Island Historic Precinct. This event not only produced some inspired images, it was also a positive showcase for the Club and cemented our position as a vibrant group within Bass Coast. Well done to all who took part in the event.

There have also been many excursions and workshops providing opportunities for members to get together and socialise, as well as extend their photographic talents. There are more of these outings in the planning stage for 2025. I encourage all members to attend our field trips and excursions when they can, as they provide the opportunity to spend time with other members in a practical setting. These are the occasions where we have the time and opportunity to share knowledge and skills and provide guidance and tuition if needed.

We have also seen a very pleasing participation rate in our Monthly meeting Challenges and on our fortnightly Facebook Challenge. These platforms are a great way for members to share their images in a fun and supportive way. I encourage everyone, but particularly members who may find Evaluations a bit daunting, to take advantage of these forums to show your images. There is no pressure or review with these; we just want to see your images.

I extend my sincere thanks to all who have helped make 2024 such a great success and wish everyone a safe and Happy Christmas. Looking forward to seeing you back in 2025.

Happy Snapping - Graeme

## 2025 SYLLABUS (WIP)

The 2025 syllabus is taking shape and is shown below. The intent behind the syllabus is to provide a varied choice of topics that will, hopefully, encourage members to expand their photography skills. We have, within PICC, an incredible range of photographic skill sets that we would like to draw on and share. With that in mind, members are encouraged to participate in our challenges and share their personal photographic passions. Above all, though, enjoy your photography!

Thanks to those of you who have contributed suggested evaluation/challenge topics via our Facebook page. These will be given careful consideration.

There are still gaps in our 2025 syllabus but we want to spend some time over the Xmas break creating a coherent and meaningful program. Hopefully, most of the blanks will be filled in time for the start of our Photographic Year.

### NOTE:

Images for the February 'Open' Evaluation are due in to Gary Parnell [parnellg@yahoo.com](mailto:parnellg@yahoo.com) by 5<sup>th</sup> January 2025.

Images for the 'Mobile/Tablet' Challenge due to Gary Parnell [parnellg@yahoo.com](mailto:parnellg@yahoo.com) by 5pm 2<sup>nd</sup> February 2025

<b>Date</b>	<b>Activity</b> Main activity for the meeting. Evaluation, Workshop or Presenter	<b>Judge</b> (if applicable)	<b>Challenge</b> (image slideshow) Due in day before meeting at latest	<b>Five Minutes of Fame</b>	<b>Brief for next month's challenge</b> Explanation and discussion of next challenge
3 <sup>rd</sup> February	Evaluation - Open	Johanna Botman	Mobile/Tablet Global edits only		Structure
3 <sup>rd</sup> March	Matting Workshop		Structure		
7 <sup>th</sup> April	Evaluation – Black and White (to be confirmed with judge)	Jeffrey Nankervis			Blue Hour – There will be a 'Blue Hour' excursion during April to help with this challenge.
5 <sup>th</sup> May	Workshop/Presenter		Blue Hour		
2 <sup>nd</sup> June	Evaluation - Open	Trish McEwan			
7 <sup>st</sup> July	Workshop/Presenter				
4 <sup>th</sup> August	Evaluation/Theme				
1 <sup>st</sup> September	Workshop/Presenter				
6 <sup>th</sup> October	Evaluation - Open				
10 <sup>th</sup> November	Workshop /Presenter				
1 <sup>st</sup> December	Evaluation (4 image Portfolio) Maker's personal theme		PICC 2025 Images of PICC members during club outings or activities		

## DECEMBER EVALUATION - PORTFOLIO

Thanks to all who participated in our December 'Portfolio' Evaluation; we had a great selection of superb images submitted. The portfolios consisted of four images per entry, plus a title page if desired. These were then judged as a Group of Images.

Our thanks go to Gary Smith who judged our evaluation of 99 images representing 20 Portfolios. Gary is a very experienced judge and an excellent photographer in his own right.

Judging a collection of images is a daunting task that inherently carries a great responsibility. To put this into some sort of perspective, in any Club evaluation, the judge must make decisions based on a comparison between the images presented to them. The task is not just to say if an image is good, it is to assess whether an image has merit in comparison to the other images in the evaluation. When a judge is faced with a collection of images that are all of a high calibre they are faced with a very difficult task that often boils down to splitting the proverbial hair.

Looking at the scoring systems in use, some Clubs allocate a numerical score. Normally scores will range between 8 and a top score of 15. There will usually be a couple of High Scoring images, a couple of lower scoring images, with the remainder falling somewhere in the middle of these extremes. A standard ratio of approximately 30% awards will, when plotted, produce a normal 'Bell Curve' distribution.



PICC opt for a simpler and arguably less imposing system of awarding either a 'Commended' or 'Highly Commended'. The intent is to take away some of the 'Competitive Pressure' associated with the evaluations. To make any evaluation meaningful, however, there is a limit to the number of images, or in our December case, portfolios, that will achieve recognition awards.

Given there were 20 Portfolios of exceptional standard, Gary Smith was faced with a difficult job to keep to a meaningful ratio and this was reflected in the number of awards presented. If plotted on a graph, this would produce a reasonably skewed curve.

Congratulations to those who were awarded 'Commended' or 'Highly Commended' ...

HC - Colleen Johnston	→	<i>'Frozen In Time'</i>
HC – Will Hurst	→	<i>'Flowers with Filters'</i>
HC – Gary Parnell	→	<i>'Cooper Pedy '</i>
HC – Susan McLaughlan	→	<i>'Insect Life'</i>
HC – Andrew Keir	→	<i>'Backyard Birds'</i>
C – David Cook	→	<i>'Within 5 Minutes'</i>
C – Phillip Johnstone	→	<i>'Wilson's Prom'</i>
C- Jon Hogan	→	<i>'The Homestead and the Decline'</i>
C – Karen Cashen	→	<i>'Melbourne Zoo'</i>

A selection of images from these Portfolios is shown below.

Please go to <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=uAvVWk7thso> for the full slideshow. Thanks to Gary Parnell for putting this together.



Orangutan – Karen Cashen



Flowers with Filters – Will Hurst



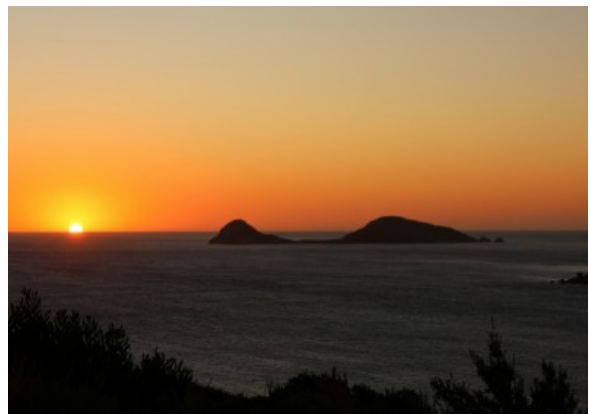
Insect Life – Susan McLaughlan



Coober Pedy – Gary Parnell



The Homestead – Jon Hogan



Wilson's Prom – Phillip Johnstone



Within 5 Minutes – David Cook



Backyard Birds – Andrew Keir



Frozen In Time – Colleen Johnston

## [DECEMBER CHALLENGE: PICC](#)

Thanks to all who submitted images for the December Monthly Challenge 'PICC'. Below is a selection of some of the images that were submitted. Please go to <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9SdpmC8AZ5M> to view all the PICC images. Thanks again to Gary for putting the slideshow together.



## EXCURSIONS

- **PICC Great Ocean Road Excursion** – Scheduled for last week in March. Graeme is hoping that interested members will form a group to organise the excursion. Stay tuned for updates.  
If you are interested and haven't put your name on the Expression of interest form, please let Graeme know via [graeme.lawry@gmail.com](mailto:graeme.lawry@gmail.com) as we will need numbers shortly.

## VAPS NEWSBRIEF

The Victorian Association of Photographic Societies (VAPS) December Newsbrief is available at

[VAPS Newsbrief December 2024](#)

Among other items, this edition has some information on the 2025 VAPS Convention. This is something to think about, as the 2024 Convention was very informative and rewarding.

### **VAPS CONVENTION 2025 - CASTLEMAINE**

**13 – 15 June**

**Town Hall / Phee Broadway Theatre  
Awards Dinner at Castlemaine Golf Club**

## WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW ABOUT SUBMITTING IMAGES FOR EVALUATION

### DIGITAL IMAGES (EDI):

- Images may either be created with a digital camera (including a mobile phone camera) or created with a conventional camera and scanned into electronic format.
- Images may be enhanced or manipulated using image editing software, but the original image must have been made by the entrant.
- As per VAPS specifications ([www.vaps.org.au](http://www.vaps.org.au)), maximum horizontal dimension is 1920 pixels and the maximum vertical dimension is 1080 pixels.
- Each image file must be in sRGB JPEG format and a maximum of up to 5 Mb in size (5000kb).
- Images should be recent (generally taken within the last 2 years).

Name your data image with Title of photo and your Club member number, separated by an underscore, followed by the topic and month when the judge will present the images to the members at the monthly meeting eg: **Sunset on Woolamai Beach\_126\_Open\_Feb2022**.

Maximum of **three** entries in total either in PRINTS, EDPI or a combination of the two. (Note that the December Portfolio comprises 4 images.)

### **NOVICE CATEGORY REINSTATED:**

To encourage new members to participate in the monthly evaluation, it has been decided to re-instate a NOVICE section. This will be in the EDPI (Electronic Digital Projected Image format. We would like to emphasise that this is not a competition but a learning opportunity. If you need assistance to get started please speak to one of the Committee Members, who are only too happy to help. Maximum of three entries.

Label your entries **NOV\_(Title of image)\_(PICC membership number)\_Topic\_Month2020**

## ARE WE HAVING PRINTS?

Prints may be submitted for the evaluation topics in 2025. A total of **three** images only can be entered into the evaluation. **Three** prints or **three** EDPIs or a combination prints/EDPIs totalling **three** can be submitted. The exception to this is the Portfolio topic, where a combination of four prints or four EDPIs or a combination of prints/EDPIs can be submitted.

When entering prints, we ask that an EDPI of the print be entered also as our plan is to have the prints displayed but to show them in the slide-show so that everyone can see the detail on screen. It is important that print EDPIs be labelled with PRINT e.g. **PRINT\_Title of image\_Membership No\_Open 202\_Feb2022**

Please bring the actual print of the image along to the Newhaven Yacht Club Clubroom on the day of the meeting for it to be displayed for the judge's final perusal and for members to view.

## PRINTS

- Prints may be ANY size, up to a maximum of 40cm x 50cm (16in x 20in) when mounted.
- ALL prints MUST be mounted.
- Panoramic print formats are acceptable, but must fit on a 40cm x 50cm (16in x 20in) board.
- Prints mounted to a total thickness greater than 5mm will not be accepted.
- Please also include a digital image of the photo you send in labelled as for the EDPI, but starting with **PRINT: e.g. PRINT\_Sunset on Woolamai Beach\_126\_Open\_July2018**
- Images should be recent (generally taken within the last 2 years).

Please note: If an image does not receive Highly Commended, it can be submitted into only one more club evaluation. This allows the maker to adjust the image following the judge's recommendations.