

Welcome back to our 2016 club! I hope you have had time and opportunities over the summer months to get our and about with your cameras. We have plans for some fantastic opportunities this year. A special thanks to the committee members and several older hands who have been working behind the scenes to get it all ready.

There is no newsletter this month. Instead we have decided to make this welcome back email the way to share our information. There will also be a copy of this on the website in coming days if you need to check on anything.

Information

1. Our **club weekend away** is early this year. We have decided on the weekend of **14-15 May** around the **Kiama** area. Anne Baker will let us know where she has booked. We always aim for a caravan park concept so we have a range of accommodation and prices. If you are thinking about coming, mention it to Anne on Monday night. Don't be shy if you haven't been before and are interested. We always have a great couple of days – very casual, lots of shooting, lots of laughs and good company.
2. **Dave Glazebrook** has kindly agreed to work with us on **POP as a mentor**. The draft dates are on the program on website but we may need to swap a couple once Dave checks his commitments. It would be helpful if you could let us know on Monday night if you plan to participate.
3. The **Theme definitions** have arrived. They are all on the website but I am including the one for next Monday here. I hope it you have already been thinking about this one – hopefully there aren't any surprises here.

Reflections

The reflection is a combination of a unique moment, with the intersection of people, events and places. Although the photograph is born out of a creative moment, the construction of the image is about planning and the chasing of light.

Using reflections in photography can lead to some amazing images, where the viewer often finds it difficult to distinguish between the 'real' image and the reflected one. Using water, windows, mirrors or any sort of reflective surface can change an image from something fairly straightforward to something much more interesting. Exceptional photos depend on the photographer being able to see things differently and being courageous enough to capture it.

When shooting reflections harsh light is your friend, in order to provide the contrast, tones and the three-dimensional effect that makes a good reflective image so compelling.

4. This is our **club's 60th anniversary** year. Ted is handling the work around this but I know he would love some help. Talk to Ted or be ready to volunteer as he asks for assistance. With Springwood Foundation Day being cancelled this year, we have had to rethink some ideas.
5. Thanks to Karen Coleman who has offered to put together a resource on our website of local **places that are great to visit to photograph**. Karen has started to complete ideas but has asked that we all make some suggestions. Catch up with Karen at club, email me and I can pass it on or bring along a list to hand to Karen. This sounds like a fabulous idea. I know I often get stuck for ideas. Thanks Karen!
6. Our monthly **club outings** are not always well attended but they offer a great chance for you to get to know other club members and make some connections. I know I used them a lot in my early times in the club and I found it so helpful to be able to ask more experienced people how to do things. I can still remember Greg Farmer being so patient with my pre dawn tripod and manual focusing problem at Yarramundi! **Jan Forrester is putting together a list** for the year

and we will allocate them across the program soon. In the meantime, if anyone has any suggestions, please let us know.

7. We have another section for our newsletter. We will be including a **profile of one of our club members** each month. Something about their photography and maybe a few ideas or inspirations as well as some of their images. **We'd love some volunteers**. In some cases, Jan will contact you and do a short interview and write it up. We are asking other members to put some thoughts in an email for Jan. We don't offer enough time to share our stories and this might be a great opportunity. We have a few suggestions already – I'll email you. However, we do want some volunteers to share some of their thoughts!!! Speak to Jan or Ann Wharton at club or email me.
8. **The 2016 Workshop has Tony Hewitt as a keynote speaker**. Tony is one of Australia's top photographers. He is based in Perth so to get him to our little club is an amazing opportunity. Stay tuned! We have booked him for **July 15/16/17**. It's the last weekend of the school holidays. Greg Farmer has agreed to chair the group. We need some other club members to help on the planning committee. So far we only have Graeme M and Angela. Email me if you are able to help out or speak with Greg or Ann Wharton at club.
9. A Photographer's **Identity Card** has been provided by the FCC. If you would like one please see Anne Baker or Mandy Ferretti. They are available as proof that you are a member of a camera club if you are out shooting.
10. We are expecting a number of new members or guests at the first few meetings. We all know how daunting it is to walk into our meeting for the first few times. This is just a request that if you notice any new folk at club, pop over and introduce yourself and ask them to sit with you or join the group you are chatting to. Every little bit helps.

Regards

Shirley

4 February, 2016