

NEWSLETTER



*“Rye Fireworks”
Tony Breen*

“Taking pictures is savouring life intensely, every hundredth of a second.”

Marc Riboud - Photographer

After a pretty slow start, it seems that summer is upon us with a vengeance, making for some pretty hot and uncomfortable days. It gives us a good excuse to stay indoors, and perhaps spend some time editing photos, reading some books, and perhaps just getting to know our cameras.

A couple of weeks ago, I went to the **Blue Lotus Water Gardens** in Yarra Junction (it's about an hour and a half drive). If you love colourful gardens and especially water lilies, it's worth the trip to this 15 acre garden (it also includes a retail nursery). Most of it is made up of various lakes and ponds, but there's also a bush walk along a creek; it's easy to walk around all the garden. There's a cafe, as well as places to sit and eat your own food, together with plenty of parking. Cost is \$15 an adult – \$12 for Seniors. The Sunday I went was very busy, so maybe a weekday visit might be a smarter way to go. The gardens are only open until April 6, from 10.30 am each day – now is peak flowering time.

Take your camera.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

WOLFRAM STEINKE

We are into the new year well and truly. I'm looking forward to seeing many good images from members this year. I would also like to welcome the members that have been promoted to the Advanced section.

We have some very good speakers lined up this year, so try not to miss them, especially David Harradine and Peter Walton.

It is time for us to select images for this year's VAPS Interclub Competition again. If you have an image you wish to have considered please contact Gail who is co-ordinating our entries. She may also be contacting you.

Considering how long it may take to prepare some Audio Visual entries, I'd like some of you to think about preparing one for next year. It can be a team effort if you wish. It can be good fun to do. Think of a fun topic and take the images to suit, select the music and go for it. We'll show your efforts at a club night.

I would like to start a debate in the club on having a section in our competition for images taken with mobile phones. The phones now have sensors with a large number of pixels and can take some very good images. The drawback tends to be lens because of the small size they have to fit in. This is similar to how, about a decade ago, there were arguments/debates about digital versus film. I think it is now time to have the debate on camera-versus-camera built into a phone or tablet. I am suggesting a separate section for next year because of the technical limitations these devices have at this stage compared to 'real' cameras.

I am still looking for more images to use on our website so please send them directly to me.

Happy snapping everyone!!



Congratulations to:

Lyn Haywood

February's Member of the Month



Photos from our Christmas Break-up
Jill Fidler



“WHAT’S YOUR NEW YEAR RESOLUTION?”

Well, here we are – a brand New Year – a time for fresh beginnings – and a resolution, or two. I’m not talking about the “lose weight”, “exercise more”, or “eat better” – type. What are your Photographic Resolutions?

If you’re stuck for inspiration, here’s a few you might like to consider:–

- Carry a camera with you, always (in the car, at least)
- Before you take ANY shot, make this your Mantra: **STOP and CHECK:**
 - Background (is it distracting?)
 - Lighting
 - Have you got the best angle available?
 - Right lens?
- **How about moving from the safety of “Auto”?**
- Improve your photography by:
 - Reading as much as possible – starting with the Manual
 - Ask questions – on-line and/or from fellow members
 - Spend time with fellow photographers
 - Try new places, new activities –
 - Go to some “Open Gardens”
 - The local footy or cricket
 - Yachting regattas
 - Classic Car Shows
- In photography, as with all aspects of life, it’s all too easy to stay within our comfort zone. Do you always take shots of the same subjects?
 - Ever tried: Macro?
 - Portraits?
 - Night Photography?
 - Fireworks?

Do your home-work, we’ve got a great library.

Haven’t got a computer? Use the Library’s – it’s free!

There’s really no excuse, is there? Give it a go!

MAKE YOUR NEW YEAR RESOLUTION TO BE A BETTER PHOTOGRAPHER

“Fireworks at Rye”
Tony Breen



“Oga Lotus Bud”
Trish McKeown



“Red Bridge”
Trish McKeown



“Rye Fireworks”
Tony Breen

2014 VAPS COMPETITION

The 2014 VAPS Competition is fast approaching, and we are looking for entries from Nepean Camera Club members.

Entries can be large or small prints, digital, Audio Visual, colour or black & white – any subject.

If you have any photos you'd like to have considered, please see any of the Committee members. These need to be submitted as soon as possible.

If you need any help in preparing a photo for submission, i.e. in mounting, we have the Club's own cutting tools, as well as several members with their own, who are more than willing to help you.

We'd like to have the Club well represented at this year's exhibition in Geelong.

Club Equipment

Please don't forget that the Club has equipment available for use by all members:

- Free use of Matt Cutting Tools (with matt card for sale)
- A Spyder Calibrator - for hire at \$5

Just ask at the desk for details.