



F/STOP

JUL/AUG 2023

OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE FEDERATION OF CAMERA CLUBS (NSW)

Topshot 2023

**Congratulations to our Topshot Winner for
2023**

Trung Cang Nguyen!



Belly Dipping by Trung Cang Nguyen

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A note from our President



Wow this year is flying by!

Our Topshot Interactive Exhibition and Presentation Day was a great success with many of our club members coming along to see the amazing display of digital and printed images by our talented entrants, as well as taking advantage of the great deals on cameras, lenses and accessories made possible by our sponsors and John Ralph's Camera House. A huge thanks goes out to everyone involved in the day and the generous donations by Nikon, Sony, Canon, Fuji, Panasonic, Olympus, Maxxum, CR Kennedy, ProPhoto and John Ralph's Camera House.

Big Congratulations to all our winners and thank you to all the entrants. Without the entries, there is no competition!

The FCC Committee have plenty to keep us busy over the coming months with another Judges Course being held a little further north in Adamstown at the end of September and our Annual Interclub Competition to be held towards the end of October. Keep an eye out for more information on both these Events – Entries for Interclub will open very soon so start thinking about your club entries!

All our affiliated clubs have now been sent their membership renewal forms. The committee has been busy talking with Insurance Brokers to make sure we have the best cover for our clubs and their members. The Public Liability Insurance has been paid and clubs have current cover. It would assist the committee if the completed renewal forms could be returned as soon as possible so we have accurate information while we are making enquiries.

Looking forward to giving another update on what your FCC Committee have been up to in the next issue!

Happy Snapping
Michelle Kennedy
President



Congratulations to our all our first place winners for Topshot 2023.



1st Place Nature Digital
Belly Dipping by Trung
Cang Nguyen



1st Place Mono Digital
By the Waterhole by
John Olewicz



1st Place Nature Print
Fill Me Up by Brd Le
Brocque



1st Place Colour Print
Perfect by Paul Prouzos



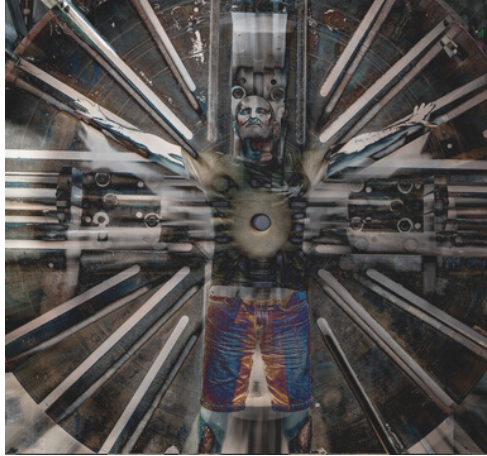
1st Place Mono Print -
Storm Over St Basils by
Kerry Boytell



Congratulations to our all our first place winners for Topshot 2023.



**1st Place Australian
Landscape/Seascape
Tasmania Footprint by
Timothy Moon**



**1st Place Creative
Digital
Industrial Crucifixion
by Bruce Wallace**



**1st Place Colour Digital
Agile Adelie by Robin
Moon**



**1st Place Drone/Aerial
Salt Flames by Timothy
Moon**



Congratulations to our all our first place winners for Topshot 2023.



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NEW FCC PHOTOGRAPHIC JUDGES COURSE

NEWCASTLE

The FCC is holding its next course on how to become a photographic judge in Adamstown on Sat 30 September and Sunday 1 October.

The course covers how to analyse, give positive feedback on, and score photographs. After successfully completing the course, judges may join the FCC Judges' List which is used by photography clubs around NSW and regional and international competitions.

The Hunter course has been developed by the FCC in conjunction with Bill Chambers and Roy Killen.

Places are limited, and the cost for the 2-day program will be finalised in August.

If you are interested in doing this course please send an expression of interest to Don Munro, nswfccsecretary@gmail.com stating in a sentence or two (i) how long you have been photographing and (ii) why you would like to do the judges' course.

An FCC photographic judges' course is also planned in Coffs Harbour in early 2024.

Don Munro
Secretary
NSW FCC



New FCC definition for “Art Appropriation”

The FCC has changed its definition of “Art appropriation.”

In general, taking a photo of another person’s artwork is not permitted in any competitions. If, however, the photograph transforms the original artwork in some significant way, then the photo is permitted. Photographs of buildings are also permitted. The following discusses the reasons for this new definition.

The FCC’s new definition of art appropriation is:

The use of another person’s artwork in an image with little or no transformation of the original artwork is not permitted. Fair use of another person’s artwork is allowed where the image transforms the original artwork by recontextualising it, parodying it or by noticeably adding to, removing parts of, or altering the original artwork.

Art appropriation occurs when someone photographs, reproduces, cuts-and-pastes or in some other way makes a copy of an image that is a similar or identical copy of another person’s artwork. Copying someone else’s artwork is not permitted in competitions. A related, but separate, issue is that copying someone else's image, putting it in your photograph and claiming the photograph is your own work (plagiarism, or theft) is also not permitted. Plagiarism can result in the photographer being banned from state, national and international competitions.

The new FCC definition also clarifies you can make a photograph of someone else’s artwork if you transform the original artwork. For example, your photograph of an artwork could put the artwork into a different context, or parody the artwork, or modify the artwork in an obvious and recognisable way.

By making noticeable changes to the original artwork, the photographer has created a new image that is not similar or identical copy of the original artwork. The other exception is a photograph of a building. Is a photographer taking a photo of a building appropriating someone else’s artwork (the architect’s design)?



New FCC definition for “Art Appropriation”

Under the new FCC definition, photographs of buildings are permitted. Why? Art appropriation involves copying: making a similar or identical version of another’s artwork. However, a photograph – a two-dimensional print or digital image of a building – is distinctly different from and cannot reasonably be considered a “copy” of a building – a three-dimensional brick, cement, iron and glass edifice. That is, because a photograph of a building is so different from an actual building it cannot be a “copy”, and therefore is not art appropriation. A similar argument can also be made for photographs of statues, sculptures, ceramics and other three-dimensional objects.

For more information about “Appropriation, Copyright and Consumer Protection” see: <https://www.artslaw.com.au/article/appropriation-art-an-overview-of-copyright-and-consumer-protection-for-art/>.

For a discussion about whether photographing a building is “appropriation” see: <https://bwvision.com/architectural-photography-derivative-or-fine-art/>.

Don Munro
Secretary
NSW FCC.



Western Districts Clubs Bouncing Back!

After years of hardship from COVID, drought, flood and mice plagues which caused some clubs to fold, the Western Districts Association of Camera Clubs is bouncing back with its 2023 Interclub and Salon competitions.

This year, more than 440 digital images from seven clubs were entered into the WDACC competitions. They include colour and monochrome images in the Open Subject, People, Nature, Sport-Action, Still Life and Creative-Altered Reality-Photo Art sections, and colour-only images in the Australian Landscape-Seascape salon.

The WDACC is made up of affiliated clubs from Orange, Bathurst, Dubbo, Parkes, Young, Narromine, Narrandera, Hay and Cudgegong (Mudgee). In the past, the WDACC also included clubs from Goulburn, Grenfell, and Harden Murrumburra.

In 2022, an Interclub weekend was hosted by Bathurst Camera Club. However, given the membership difficulties facing some clubs, the WDACC decided to make 2023 a digital-only competition hosted by Cudgegong (Mudgee) Camera Club. . A weekend of workshops, guest speakers and a photography exhibition planned is for 2024.

Entries closed on 30 July. Judging is now underway and is expected to be finalised in September.



NSW International Circuit



All photographers are invited to enter the inaugural NSW International Circuit. This exhibition is recognised by the Photographic Society of America, the International Federation of Photographic Art (FIAP), the Global Photographic Union (GPU) and the Australian Photographic Society (APS).

This new international circuit is supported by the FCC.

Closes on 30 September 2023.

For more details: <https://nswint.myphotoclub.com.au/>



FCC AGM 2023

Delegates from 17 member clubs raised some important questions to the FCC committee at the annual general meeting held on 29 June 2023.

President Michelle Kennedy reported on the achievements delivered by the FCC Committee in its first 11 months since being elected. The FCC had organised three successful state-wide competitions: NSW Topshot 2022 and 2023, and the NSW Interclub 2022. After a break of two years during COVID, six editions of F-Stop had been published. The FCC supported regional clubs including the very successful Northern NSW Zone of Photographic Societies convention in Coffs Harbour in May, and the Northern Photographic Federation which holds its annual showcase in July in Kurri Kurri. A very successful two-day judges' course in Sydney in February had trained in seven new judges based in Sydney, five in Wollongong and the south coast, four from the Blue Mountains and two from the Central Coast. Resources for Clubs produced by the FCC included its first Code of Conduct, and an expenses guide on compensation to judges, and a handbook for Photographic Judges.

Club Delegates were generally very positive about the work done by the FCC. Several regional clubs congratulated the FCC on its activity and especially for having a strong interest in clubs in regional NSW. However some club delegates criticised the FCC for its limited communication with them. The FCC agreed to improve communication with member clubs. Subsequently, the FCC found a problem with its email system which affected a small number of clubs. This problem has now been rectified.

As the FCC Committee is elected biennially, the next election of FCC office-bearers will take place at the AGM planned for June 2024.

Don Munro
Secretary
NSW FCC



Northern NSW Zone of Photographic Societies Convention

More than 50 people celebrated the best of amateur photography at the first in-person meeting in three years of the nine clubs that make up the Northern NSW Zone of Photographic Societies.

The two-day convention, held in May 2023 at Coffs Harbour, included a sunrise photo rally, presentations, dinner and an Inter-Club exhibition with 310 printed images and 180 digital images.

The Zone's Inter-Club competition was judged by the FCC, and winning clubs were announced at the dinner on Saturday night. First place individual winners were Angelina Nelson (small colour prints), Giang Duong (large monochrome prints), Fay Braunisch (large colour prints), Jill Smith (monochrome digital), Marie Cook (creative/altered reality prints) and Grahame Wilson (colour digital). Competition between the Clubs was very tight, often with only one or two points difference between the winning Clubs and the runners-up.

Members heard presentations on creativity led by fine art photographer and educator, Len Metcalf; extreme macro-photography by Steve Young; and Gary Bell talked about how his experience as an amateur underwater photographer led to a 40-year career as a professional wildlife photographer.

The convention was also attended by FCC Committee member, Nancy Morley and Secretary, Don Munro. Don gave a presentation on the topic "What Judges Look for" after which many people expressed an interest in holding a FCC photographic judges' course in the region. The AGM of the Northern NSW Zone of Photographic Societies was also held at the convention. The AGM decided to align its competition definitions to those used by the FCC, and to run two major events per annum rather than a single annual convention.

The Northern NSW Zone of Photographic Societies is made up of the C. ex Coffs, Foster, Grafton, Kempsey, Lismore, Nambucca Heads, Port Macquarie, Tamworth and Taree camera clubs. These clubs represent more than 200 photographers. Given the geographical size of the region, some participants had to drive for up to three hours to attend the convention. Epson was a major sponsor of the convention and provided a P706 printer as a raffle prize.



New initiative promoting Photography Clubs in NSW

An article promoting the value of photography clubs was published in the NSW Senior's Card e-newsletter in July. It will be read by up to 1.1 million people who receive the e-newsletter. The article, prepared by the FCC, talks about the benefits of photography, and invites the public to go to the FCC website to find the address of their nearest photography Club. The article included photographs of winners of the 2023 NSW Topshot competition. For more information on the Senior's Card-related article, contact Chris Kenyon on nswfccmedia@gmail.com.

In the future, the FCC also wants to promote photography and photography clubs to other groups in NSW as well as to seniors. Given members of the public will search the FCC website to find their nearest club, all Clubs are asked to check their contact details on the FCC website are up-to-date. This can be done by going to the "Update Club Details" tab on the FCC website (<https://fccnsw.myphotoclub.com.au/>). If there are any problems updating your Club's information, contact the FCC Secretary (nswfccsecretary@gmail.com).

AND We are always on the lookout for great recommendations to pass onto Members.

If you have a recommendation or an event you would like to advertise please contact Andie (Editor) at nswfccmedia@gmail.com for more information.

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