

Federation of Camera Clubs



Supporting Photographers and
Photography in NSW





NSW TopShot Winner 2024



Maria Mazo is a Spanish-Australian photographer whose work has been exhibited in more than twenty countries. She has won numerous awards for her nature photography and her unique vision in digital art. She has been a member of camera clubs in Sydney for almost a decade, and is a member of the Photographic Society of America, the Federation internationale de l'Art Photographique and the Spanish Association of Nature Photographers (AFONAS).

“Maria and the other TopShot winners have shown how vibrant photography clubs are in NSW,” said Michelle Kennedy, internally-awarded photographer and President of the Federation of Camera Clubs. NSW’s grass roots photographers today are shooting everything from everyday life in their suburbs and country towns to creating new ways to portray people and places,” she added.

The winning image was one of more than 900 entries. Prizes for winners included a Nikon Z7II valued at over \$4000 and a Sony camera.

Look out for a TopShot special edition of F/Stop coming soon!

Z 6 III



OUTPERFORM

Incredible autofocus. Blistering speed.
6K/60p internal RAW. 240p HD video.
Our brightest, most detailed electronic viewfinder.

A mirrorless camera in a class of its own.



AGM 2024



At our AGM, FCC President Michelle Kennedy, thanked Clubs for supporting the FCC over the past two years and outlined new plans for 2024-26.

More than 60 people attended the FCC's AGM in person or via Zoom in June 2024.

Achievements over the past two years included making it cheaper for smaller Clubs to enter InterClub competitions, publishing F-Stop every two months, revitalising the FCC Judges course and increasing the number of judges in the state from 59 to 80, and putting the FCC's accounts on a more business-like basis.

“However, we have much more to do. TopShot and the InterClub competitions are becoming a little stale and more can be done to make these into the best photography awards in the State. The FCC also needs to develop more learning resources for Clubs” said Michelle.
Information on these new developments will be provided to Clubs in coming months.

Many Club delegates asked the FCC Committee about Club insurance. Currently the FCC provides Public Liability Insurance (in case a member of the public is injured). Many clubs also want a new type of insurance to protect club members if they are injured on a Club outing. The FCC has been discussing the need for this new insurance with its insurance broker.

Michelle thanked outgoing Committee members who had served during the 2022-24 period: Albert Hakvoort, Alison Wong, Chris Kenyon, Nancy Morley and Russell Field.

The new FCC Committee for 2024-26 is made up of: Michelle Kennedy (President); Cathie Stubbs (Treasurer); Don Munro (Secretary); Andie Scibilia (F-Stop Editor), and Committee Members Allan Rose, Mark Ward, Peita Ward, Ray Williams and Robin Moon.

The Committee still has a vacancy for another Committee Member, and would like to fill that position with a member based in regional NSW, if possible.

Michelle also noted that this year the FCC turns 70, making it one of the oldest institutions in Australia supporting photographers and photography. “I am very proud the FCC is a strong seventy-year-old organisation – one that is in a good position to keep working for its members in the future,”



Winners Announced for Northern NSW Zone Competitions

On 11 May Peter MacFarlane, President, Club Taree Photographic announced the winners of the Interclub and Individual competitions organised by the Northern NSW Zone of Photographic Societies. The 9 Clubs in the Northern Zone entered almost 600 images, of which 450 were in the InterClub competition and 150 where in the individual competition.

Winning entries can be seen at the <https://northnsw.myphotoclub.com.au/>



Scorched – Winner of the Northern NSW Zone “Abstract” Competition.
Photographer: Barbara Sheppard



Northern Photographic Federation's Annual Showcase



Morning Light, by Rita England – Winner of the NPF Competition for Colour Prints, 2023

The Northern Photographic Federation's is holding its annual showcase of photography in the Hunter Valley on the 27th and 28th of July 2024.

The “NPF weekend” features a photographic competition and exhibition, guest speakers, workshops and a trade fair. The Northern Photographic Federation was formed in 1960 to foster cooperation and competition between the members of photography clubs in the Central Coast, Hunter and Northern regions of NSW.

Brad Le Brocque, the organiser of the event is currently finalising all the details. However, this year will include a competition where the two winners will have a free Studio Shoot Session with Tim Bauer. Tim is arguably Australia's leading portrait photographer with forty years of experience which includes photographing Prime Ministers and movie actors as well as everyday people. You can see the high quality of his work every Saturday on the front page of the Sydney Morning Herald's Weekend Magazine.

For more information, check out the NPF's website at <https://npf.myphotoclub.com.au/>



Dooleys wins the Ashes Trophy



Allan Rose, Off to Safer Ground, 2024

Forget cricket! This year Dooleys Camera Club beat Ryde Eastwood and Port Hacking camera clubs to win the coveted 2024 Ashes Trophy.

The Ashes Trophy is an annual competition between the three Clubs. This year the competition night was hosted by the Ryde Eastwood Leagues Camera Club and attended by around 30 people. The competition is hosted on a rotating basis.

Bob Stephenson, Secretary, Ryde-Eastwood reports that the Ashes commenced as a yearly competition when Bob Milojevic started the Dooley's Camera Club at the Lidcombe Catholic Club in 2005. Bob devised a competition between Dooley's and Ryde Eastwood camera clubs. It was a beginner's competition and only 'B' grade members could enter.

In 2010 when the standard of photography at Dooleys strengthened, the Ashes became an Open competition and all members were eligible to submit images. The Ashes trophy was originally a sealed trophy with a burnt print inside, but this trophy has now been replaced.

The Ashes became a three-way competition when Port Hacking joined in 2013. At that time, there was a separate three-way competition between Port Hacking, Dooley's and Lane Cove. When Lane Cove withdrew, Ryde Eastwood amalgamated the two competitions to establish today's three-way competition.

In recent years, all clubs have shared the wins, with Port Hacking winning in 2016; Ryde Eastwood in 2017 and 2023; and Dooley's winning in 2018, 2019 and 2024. It has been a great social competition between the three Clubs for all these years.



Western Districts Interclub

Entries close 31 July 2024

Each year the Western Districts Association of Camera Clubs hosts an Interclub event in August or September. This year, Orange Photography Club is hosting the Interclub weekend on 7 and 8 September 2024.

The weekend includes photography workshops (a workshop photographing ballerinas, and a bird photography workshop), guest speakers and a delicious dinner at The Remington. Keynote speakers include Scott Stramyk from the Canon Collective and The Photographers Collective, Grant Swinbourne from Grant Swinbourne Photography, and Don Munro, Secretary, NSW FCC.

The weekend is a great opportunity to meet up with other photographers from beginners to the experienced and is a highly recommended learning opportunity.

The weekend is also used to showcase the best photography of the region's Clubs and individual photographers.

Western Districts camera clubs include those in Bathurst, Dubbo, Goulburn, Grenfell, Harden Murrumburrah, Hay, Mudgee, Narromine, Orange, Parkes and Young.

These clubs, and members of these clubs, have been invited by the Orange Photography Club to enter digital and print photographs in the following categories:

- Iconic Central West Landscape or Landmark – Colour or Monochrome
- Native Australian Flora – Colour or Monochrome
- Native Australian Fauna – Colour or Monochrome
- Still Life – Colour or Monochrome
- Monochrome
- Sport/Action – Colour or Monochrome
- Macrophotography – Colour or Monochrome
- Open – Colour only

Entries in all sections close on 31st July 2024.

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



Last call for FCC Judges Course

Nowra, 27 & 28 July

Only a few places remain for the next FCC Photographic Judges course being held at Nowra on Saturday 27 and Sunday 28 July.

Although the course is open to all photographers, it is especially designed for Club members interested in judging photos. It is also attended by current FCC judges who wish to update their skills.

The course covers how to analyse, give positive feedback on, and score photographs. It is a practical course with presentations, discussions and numerous practice sessions.

People interested in becoming official FCC Judges will need to (i) successfully complete the 2-day course, (ii) have at least 12 months experience participating in a camera club or as a professional photographer, and (iii) carry out several judging sessions with the support of a mentor judge.

The two-day course costs \$75 per person which covers the cost of morning and afternoon teas and lunch organised by the Shoalhaven Photography Club, the FCC Judges' Handbook.

If you are interested in doing the course, please contact nswfccsecretary@gmail.com urgently.



Successful Judges Course at Coffs Harbour

Twenty people from seven Clubs in northern NSW attended the FCC's Judges Course hosted by the Coffs Harbour on 18 and 19 May. Clubs represented at the course came from Coffs Harbour, Lismore, Taree, Ballina, Lismore, Grafton and Nambucca.

Donna Baldwin, President, Cex Coffs Camera Club welcomed attendees to the Course, and Michelle Kennedy, President, FCC spoke on the important role skilled judges have in supporting Club members. Michelle also thanked the Cex. Coffs Camera Club which organised the venue for the course.

Sharron Sykes and Annette Brauer from the Coffs Camera Club and Don Munro from the FCC gave talks on judging a photo's content, composition and technical aspects. Allan Rose from the FCC gave a special talk on how to judge Nature photography.

The course, which covers ways to analyse, give positive feedback on, and score images, has been successfully run in Sydney and Newcastle. An innovation at the Coffs course was a discussion on how to judge different styles of photography a judge will come across (such as Pictorialism, surrealism and abstract photography).

People who successfully complete the Course are required to carry out several judgments with the assistance of a Mentor before they are added to the FCC Judges List. Assuming all applicants are successful, the Northern Zone is expected to have 14 new judges available in the coming months.



Sharron Sykes and Annette Brauer giving a presentation to participants at the Coffs Harbour FCC Judges Course.

Photographer: Juliet Munro



Get Shot



Linda Malden “Spring Ridge” station 1944,
photographed by N. Herfort, Provided by
courtesy of the Mitchell Library, State Library
of New South Wales and Courtesy ACP
Magazines Ltd.

Camera Clubs looking for an outing are welcome to visit the State Library of NSW to see the work of 200 professional, commercial, studio, press and amateur photographers, including the work by some of Australia’s most acclaimed photographers.

Shot: 400 photographs, 200 photographers, 3 centuries is the first exhibition to comprehensively review the Library’s photo collections – one of the largest, most diverse, and significant in Australia.

Chris Kenyon, FCC Committee Member and President of the Pennant Hills Photographic Club says this is a “unique exhibition that shows how Australian photography has changed over the last two centuries” and that it is “highly recommended” for interested Clubs. It includes examples of nearly every format used since the inception of photography in 1839, from the earliest surviving photograph in Australia, a daguerreotype taken in 1845, through to ambrotypes, calotypes, autotypes, glass-plate negatives, Paget plates, albumen prints, autochromes and digital photographs.

Individuals and Clubs can join a regular short tour with the Curator -

<https://www.sl.nsw.gov.au/events/discover-our-new-photography-exhibition-shot-2>

but Clubs such as Pennant Hills Photographic Club and Mosman Camera Club have organised private tours for their Clubs which can run for an-hour-and-a-half. For Clubs that can’t get to Sydney, the Library has a digital collection which can be accessed anywhere.

The exhibition ends on Sunday 20 October 2024. For more details see

<https://www.sl.nsw.gov.au/exhibitions/shot>



Club Insurance

Thirty-four representatives of member clubs attended a Zoom meeting on 20 June 2024 to clarify who was covered under FCC-brokered insurance and who wasn't.

Many clubs have public liability insurance, provided by the FCC, which protects clubs from personal accident or related claims made by members of the public.

However, following requests by member clubs, the FCC now also plans to provide Participant Insurance, a new form of insurance to protect Clubs from claims made by club members if they were injured or disabled on a Club outing, meeting or event. The cost to Clubs of Participant Insurance is expected to be less than the cost of Public Liability Insurance.

The need for participant insurance was a surprise to many club office bearers who thought personal injury claims by club members would be covered by public liability insurance – which they aren't.

The meeting also discussed Volunteer Insurance, which the FCC provides to all member Club Committees. Volunteer Insurance covers Club Committee members who may suffer a personal injury whilst carrying out their Club responsibilities.

The FCC Treasurer asked all Clubs to urgently provide her with their club membership numbers, and whether they were interested "in principle" in taking out Participant Insurance.

The FCC also undertook to clarify with its insurance broker questions such as whether regional interclub events (such as the Northern NSW Zone or the Western Districts organisations) would be covered by Participant Insurance.

Club representatives provided many practical suggestions on how to prevent their members from being injured, which the FCC will collate and provide to all clubs for their use.

Introducing the new

Alpha 7C II

Alpha 7C R

FE 16-35mm F2.8 GM II



Our Sponsors

JOHN RALPH'S
camerahouse



Panasonic



OLYMPUS

Canon



FUJIFILM