



Newsletter

Winter 2026

Notices

This Years Interclub

Is being hosted by Colac Camera Club, Saturday evening on the 8th August. The address is 96 Pound Road, Ellimint, Colac. Corner Queen Street.

Some members have decided to stay over night and spend Saturday and Sunday photographing around the Otway Ranges. If anyone is interested in staying overnight, they will need to organize their own accommodation. Colac Otway Caravan Park (490 Princes Hwy Colac Ph: 5231 5337) or Otway Gate Motel (52-56 Murray St East Colac 5231- 3244)

EASTER EXHIBITION

A big congratulations to Gordon Barfield, Suzanne Fatchen, Darren Henry, Keith Evans, Debbie Hallows, Neil Smith, Michelle Gallagher, Lynn Cornell, Craig Wishart and Liz Furey. Between them all, there were \$1,140 in sales.

And a big thank you to all those who helped with the setting up and pulling down.

CLUB STUDIO LIGHTING

Don't forget, we have studio lighting equipment for members to borrow, just see a Committee Member to get the gear.



20% OFF ALL CLUB APPAREL !

For this year only, the Club will subsidize 20% of all purchases, so why not check out the Promote it Trophy and Clothing Co website and look at the range of Bellarine Camera Club items we have available.

They are located at.

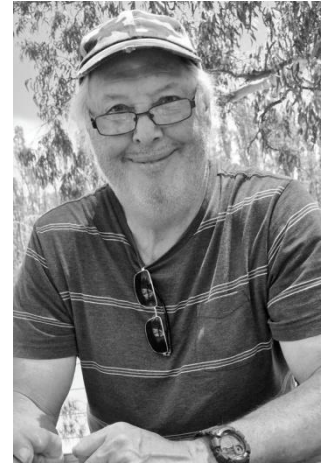
Factory 2/123 Balliang Street, South Geelong VIC 3220 - 03 5222 4734

You do need to order online: <https://promote-it.com.au/bellarinecc>



Member Profile

Darren Henry



I've always had a lot of interest in photography since a young age.

At home I really enjoyed family slide nights seeing family members, events and holidays in illuminated Kodachrome on the screen, and browsing old photo albums.

I'd grown up in a family that documented every important event, every holiday and other interesting things to remember. My Dad was the main photographer and used a box brownie, Kodak Instamatic, Polaroid and super 8 video. My mum's photos always looked great as she has a good eye for composition.

When I was 11 in grade 6, I won the weekly footy tipping competition by picking Richmond - 165 points as the highest score for the round. Each pick only cost 5 cents, but the winnings were enough to buy my own Kodak Instamatic camera from K Mart, a flash with a hot shoe, and a box of flash bulbs. That's where my photo journey started.

Initially I photographed people at home and family trips and spent most of my paper round pay on films and getting them developed at the chemist. From the 1970s to 2000 I still only used point and click film cameras with the later ones having basic manual focus zones, motor winder and built-in flash. I'd never experienced all the great 60's TLRs and rangefinders, or the 70's and 80's SLRs as I was happy with the family snaps I was taking on consumer level cameras.

Then in the late 90's early 2000's when digital photography took off, my photography interest kicked off in earnest when I bought a Pentax Optio compact digital point and shoot. I used every function that little camera had to the max and really started to take some creative shots; I was hooked. Eventually my Pentax died and I upgraded to a Nikon D5000 with a few kit lenses which was a whole new world for me. I knew nothing about lenses, focal lengths, shutter speed, aperture, exposure compensation etc.

One Sunday I was photographing at Edwards Point and I met some photographers from the newly formed Bellarine camera club, and I joined their club a few weeks later. Since then, I've been inspired, encouraged and I've learned how to do many things from fellow club members and competition judges. In the early days at the club, I just absorbed everything I could and soon became proficient enough to start taking better pictures. After a while it became more about how to get the photo I wanted, and less about how to use the camera. I'd become more comfortable with my kit and that gave me confidence to explore more genres of photography.

I photograph anything and don't have a particular genre that I stick to, but I do like B & W, low light photography, portraits and landscapes. When I look back at my early work when I didn't know "the rules", I can now appreciate more the uninhibited approach I had back then. Now, it's good to know the rules because I know where the lanes are and I use them when I need to, but I consciously go outside these when I just want to experiment and try something different. I've been in awe and absolutely amazed many times by the creative minds of my fellow camera club members and what they have produced.

I commuted to Melbourne from about 2000 for 20 years and worked many years in Melbourne city. This gave me the opportunity to pursue street photography, city landscapes and much more. At work I was a member of a

photography group and often covered work events with camera and video for media use, and I moonlighted as an event photographer for work functions.

These days I normally shoot with a full frame Nikon, or my Samsung phone, and although I love using digital, I sometimes miss the slower pace of film cameras where I take a lot of care composing a shot knowing I may only take a few photos in a day.

I've also been collecting old cameras for a few decades and spent many lunchtimes at Bernard and Lucy's 2nd hand Japanese old camera shop in the former Peony Garden takeaway shop near the State Library in Melb. I bought some rare old cameras from them, and others from eBay to form an interesting collection. I use some of these old cameras from time to time, and I taught myself how to develop B & W films at home by watching YouTube videos. Some cameras need restoring or repair and are on my ever growing to do list.

Photography has always been interesting for me as there's constant learning and good people willing to help along the way with advice. There's still many things I want to try, projects to complete and I'm sure I'll discover new directions to follow as my photography journey continues.

SYLLABUS

JUNE 1	Guest Speaker – Darren Henry – Explore the history & development of analogue cameras from the 1800s to 1900s. Including a hands on look at many unique vintage cameras with a summary of their attributes & functions.
JUNE 15	MONTHLY COMPETITION - Open
JUNE 29	SOCIAL NIGHT – Trivia Night at the hall
JULY 6	BYO Gear – Practicing Still Life – Bring some items you would like to photograph and your tripod!
JULY 20	MONTHLY COMPETITION - Action
AUGUST 4-25	Drysdale Library Exhibition with David Brewster - Music
AUGUST 3	<u>AGM</u> – Please bring a small plate to share for supper <u>MEMBERS CHOICE AWARDS</u> – One EDI & one Print may be submitted, any subject – no more than 12 months old. Must be submitted by 20 th July in the same format as our normal competitions <u>SOCIAL NIGHT</u> – Bring along your photo books to share. Bring along any photographic gear you wish to sell with your name and price on each item.
AUGUST 8	INTERCLUB COMPETITION – Hosted by Colac Camera Club
AUGUST 17	MONTHLY COMPETITION - Open
AUGUST 31	SOCIAL NIGHT - TBA

*Please check our web site for details, any updates and definitions for Set Subject

HOW TO CRITIQUE (JUDGE) AN IMAGE

The following steps are commonly used by many Photography Judges to evaluate images in competitions. This may help you to get an idea of what judges look for in our images when they judge our club competitions.

- S** Subject or Purpose of the image
- M** Mood – how it affects the viewer. Happy, sad, curious, angry, excited, puzzled, etc
- A** Aesthetic/Art – Do the elements bring out the fundamentals of the image? – Look for contrasts e.g. Soft/hard, Dreamy/realistic, Image proportions, use of Colour, Motion, quality of Light, etc
- R** Rarity – How often do you see it presented this way? Difficulty of capture? Does it make the viewer think about how to create it, etc
- T** Technical – Looks at all the technical aspects, such as Exposure, Shutter speed, Lens choice, Aperture, Depth of Field, Cropping, Ratio, Use of light, Editing, etc
- S** Story – Single or Multiple images containing elements of a story line or message

Also remember that our judges are just like us, have their own personal preferences, and even though they will try hard to be impartial and as fair as possible, they may not see the same things that we may see. Or vice versa. Therefore, take note of the judges' comments to help you see what they see, so that you can improve your own photography. And don't be disheartened if a particular judge does not see what you see in an image, as the next judge probably will.

This Newsletter is proudly sponsored by:-



FLEETWOOD
PRINT GROUP PTY LTD
For all your printing requirements

- Digital Printing · Graphic Design · Offset Printing
- Large Format Printing · Stickers & Labels · A Boards · Pull Up Banners

152 Myers Street, Geelong - Phone 5222 1200 - W: fleetwoodprint.com.au