

Skiffy

Belmont 16s Photography Club



Welcome to the February 2022 Edition

Welcome to the bumper edition of our Photography Club newsletter. skiffy16sphotographyclub@gmail.com

Welcome to the New Year. I know we were all hoping for less Covid-19 interruptions but, it looks like the virus will be with us for some time 🙄 Never fear, your Photography Club Committee have been working very hard to bring photography to life in 2022. Keep up-to-date here, our website and keep an eye on your email for the latest updates.

If you are interested in something a bit different you could try reading up on Bill Chamber's excellent tutorial night presentation last year on Extreme Macro there is a short [article](#) on this specialised and fascinating area of photography.

Another creative idea for photographers of all shapes and sizes is levitation photography. How do you do it? Is it magic? Photoshop? Or, in camera? Check out this [article](#) for some examples and tips on how to get the best out of your shot.

CONTENTS

Judging & EDI
Set Subjects

Extreme Macro

Presentations &
Workshops

Photography
Society of
America (PSA)

2021 IOTY

Buy, Swap &
Sell

What's On?

Club Instagram

2022 Portfolio
Project

Committee
Details

Lake Macquarie
International

Judging and EDI Set Subjects

Next Club Competition - February 2022

With Di Schofield

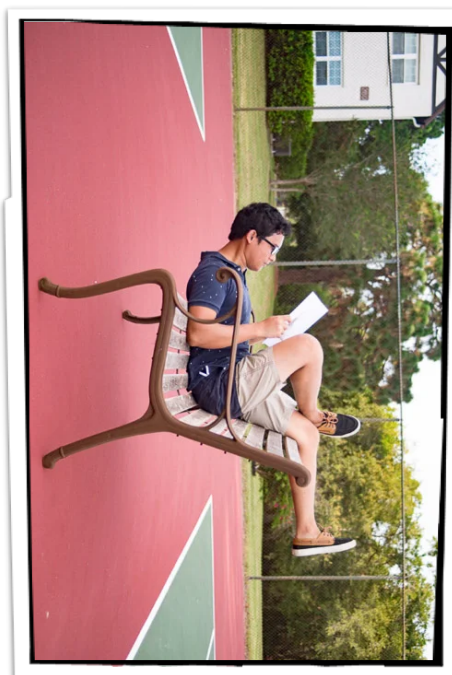
Our EDI judges for February will be:

- Open Colour - Colin Schofield
- Monochrome - Margot Hughes

Set Subject: Forced Perspective

With Bill Chambers.

Following are a few examples of Forced Perspective.



SET SUBJECT FEBRUARY 2022

Forced perspective is a photography technique that uses the space between your subjects to create an interesting or unusual relationship between them. This photography treatment manipulates the viewer's perception of the space and distance between two objects, creating an optical illusion.

Forced perspective manipulates our own perceptions and challenges what we see with how our brain can process it. In effect, it is the intentional creation of a certain perspective to make our brains think in a certain manner.

For example, an object could be positioned in such a way that it appears much larger or smaller than it actually is. The object obviously is exactly the size that it should be, but the way that it has been framed creates a perspective that is unusual and thus confuses our mind. Forced perspective photography is some of the most creative and imaginative of its kind.

2021 Image of the Year Competition (IOTY)

With Dennis Archibald

The year 2021 finished with high expectations that we would be able to put Covid restrictions behind us as everyone looked forward to a Christmas with family and friends and perhaps some holidays. Given these distractions it is likely that members may have missed seeing the results of our 2021 Image of the Year (IOTY) competitions and some of the winning images, as well as the overall winning entry of the 2021 IOTY competition.

Members who enter are allowed to enter up to four images that they have entered in the monthly digital competitions in 2021 in either of the Open Colour, Nature or Monochrome categories in the club's three grades, Advanced, A and B Grade. Images that were entered in one of the Set Subject competitions can also be uploaded into an appropriate IOTY category.

A panel of three judges are then used to score the images with the aim to establish the top 10 placed images in each competition. The nine images that were placed first in each of the individual competitions then go forward and club members then vote to determine the overall 2021 IOTY.

The image that was then selected as the 2021 overall IOTY by club members was Di Wood's Magical Daisy. Congratulations Di and welcome to A Grade!

So, here they are. The nine images that were placed first in their respective competitions and the final IOTY selected by club members. Enjoy.

B Grade Open Digital winner is Mystical Daisy, from Di Wood.



B Grade Digital Mono, Banksia Beauty, from Di Wood



B Grade Digital Nature, Cicada Standup, from Di Wood



A Grade Digital Open Colour, A Drop of Red from Steve McGrath



A Grade Digital Monochrome, Lounging Around from Carol McGrath



A Grade Digital Nature, Down the Gullet from Susan Hansell



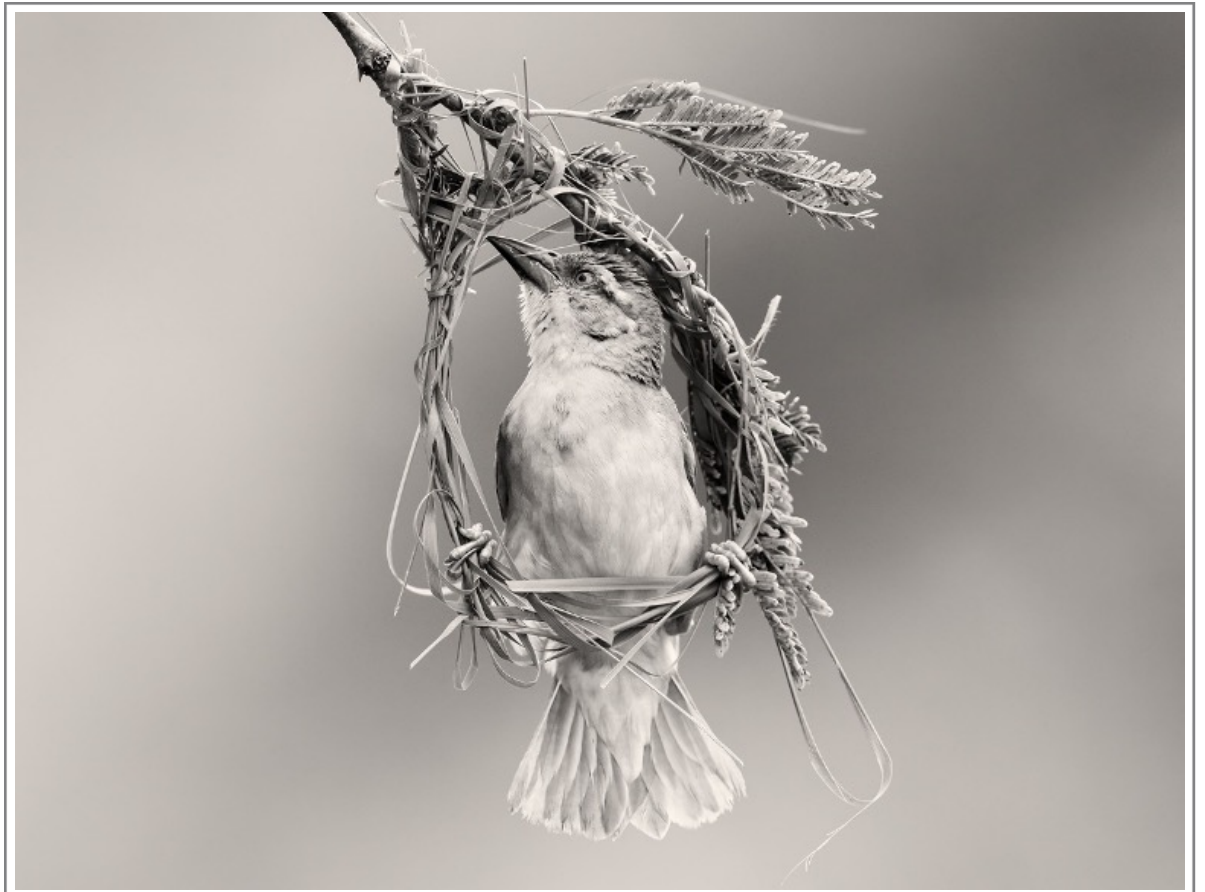
Advanced Digital Open Colour, Mountain to Climb, from Chris Prior



Advanced Digital Nature,
Nearly Complete from Roy Killen



Advanced Digital Mono, Careful Weaving from Roy Killen



Zoom Report

With Greg Carruthers

Zoom presentations occur on 2nd and 4th Wed of each month at 7pm and everyone is welcome

The calendar for future workshops can be found on the website under the Zoom Presentation Calendar link

REMINDER: the link for all club Zoom workshops can be found on the website

Like to join in and not sure how? Please contact Greg Carruthers

See the latest post on the website for more information and how members can become involved.

Upcoming Presentations and Workshops

With Greg Carruthers

Here is a chance to have your images evaluated by others. To participate simply upload between 1 and 3 EDI images to "January Image Evaluation" in the Members area. Now simply login for the Zoom meeting on **Wednesday 26th January** from 6.45pm. We will divide into small groups led by Roy and Dennis and everyone can discuss and comment on the images that have been uploaded. This is a great way to improve your composition, camera skills and gain insights as to how judges and other members might view your images. Everyone is welcome! Make sure you pencil this workshop into your diaries.

If you have any ideas for future workshops or, would like to try presenting please give me an email.

January Raw Image Challenge

With Greg Carruthers

View this on our [website](#).

It's time to practice up on those editing skills! The raw image challenge will occur each month for 2022. To become involved simply go to the competition entry area and find the "January Raw Challenge " Find the blue "download file" button to download the raw file to your device or computer.

Now edit the file using your favourite editing program and upload the EDI before the last day of the month. Members will be able to view and score the images.

You can easily see how others have edited the same image and pick a winner. This months image is of a flowering gum.



Extreme Macro

With Bill Chambers

What is Extreme Macro? There is no standard definition for extreme macro, but there is a tentative definition which gives some insight into its unusual nature.

Macro photography (1:1) is usually pursued using off-the-shelf lens and camera equipment, whilst microphotography (10:1+) is undertaken using microscope equipment. Extreme macro covers the range between these two, and borrows apparatus used by both specialties to make images.



Macro photography, and especially macro photography of insects, is one of the most popular types of photography around. A lot of macro photographers want to move onto extreme macro focus stacking - but they don't really know where to start. I had much the same problem; useful information about this photography niche is hard to find... Certainly there are many Extreme Macro

images on the 'Net - just no information on exactly how to go about taking them.

In terms of first steps, in order of difficulty and expense: to do extreme macro, move on from standard 1:1 magnification macro into more extreme macro by using close-up Raynox 150 lenses (these clip to the front of standard lenses) first because they give you nice in-camera control. Then, if greater magnification is for you (approx. between 1:1 and 4:1), consider taking the next step in your extreme macro photography by doing some reverse lens macro: with old 35mm enlarger lenses on a simple set of bellows. (Les Porter, our Club Patron has a good selection of used enlarger lenses for sale).

You can download a trial copy of either Zerene Stacker or Helicon Focus and try some macro focus stacking.

Beyond this, look towards an infinite microscope objective lens on a conventional 200mm lens, driven by an electronically controlled stacking stage such as a WeMacro or Cognysis Stackshot.

Depending on the equipment you already have, other routes like stacking two lenses will also work for you if you have them, but the sequence above is probably a reasonable progression path for most people both in terms of cost and in terms of picking up gradual know-how.

It is possible to do Extreme Macro imaging with quite modest equipment, but I guarantee it will open your eyes to photographic possibilities you never realised were within your grasp!

Photographic Society of America (PSA)

Interclub Photographic Competitions

With Roy Killen

In Round 1 of the PSA Interclub competitions our Club members achieved the following:

Open (Colour and Mono)

We came first out of 23 clubs in Group C.

Individual results:

- Bill Chambers received a Merit for "Bull Ant Hunting"
- Jennifer Carrigan received a Merit for "Elder"
- Phil Whiteman received an Honourable Mention for "Roger S"
- Sheila Stanley received an Honourable Mention for "Shire Horse Sale 2"

Creative

We came 15th out of 19 clubs in Group B.

Nature

We came 5th out of 23 clubs.

- Bill Chambers received a HM for "Waiting in ambush"

Photojournalism

We came 7th out of 18 clubs in Group A.

Photo Travel

We came 10th out of 23 clubs in Group A.

Would you like to try your luck? Enter now!

Please submit your **entries for Round 2 by 30th January**. Entries are made on the website where you make normal club competition entries. As of today, there are not enough entries to make up our 6 club images for each section – please submit!

An overview of the PSA Interclub competitions and the definitions for all sections can be downloaded for the "Club Documents" page of the club website. If you have questions about any of these definitions please contact Roy Killen.

Please remember that you cannot enter any image that has been used to represent the club in any previous PSA Interclub competition. If you are a member of several clubs (e.g. Belmont and Wangi) you can enter for only one club.

Lake Macquarie International Circuit

With Roy Killen

The LMIC was a success again last year. A total of 3843 entries were received from 250 entrants from 24 different countries. Our club was well represented, with entries from 18 members.

The Circuit consisted of three separate exhibitions, which meant that the images were all judged three times by different panels of judges. There were six sections in each exhibition (Colour, Monochrome Nature, Wildlife, Photojournalism and Photo Travel).

The catalogues (one for each exhibition), which contain all the award-winning and accepted images can be viewed on the [Circuit website](#). It is worth spending some time reviewing the catalogues to get a good idea of the standard of image that is necessary for acceptance in an international exhibition.

As you work through the catalogues you will see that many of our club members were very successful, with the following members gaining awards: Susan Slack, Margot Hughes, Jennifer Carrigan, Phil Whiteman, Annette Collins, Dennis Archibald, Helen Walker, Susan Hansell, Ian Marriner, Trevor Cotterill, Carol McGrath, Rob Oyston and Chris Mannweiler.

Roy Killen, who Chaired the Lake Macquarie International for the past two years and the Lake Macquarie National for the three years before that, is stepping down from that role. If the LMIC is to continue we need new Chair. If you are interested, please contact Roy and he will be happy to explain what is involved.

Our Photography Club Instagram

An excellent opportunity to strut your photographic stuff online. Instagram is a social media site that was developed specifically for people to post, share and comment on photo's from Club members.



2022 Portfolio Project

With Dennis Archibald

A Photographic Portfolio is a body of work that reflects the photographers personal style and photographic interest.

Last year the club ran a "Portfolio Competition" for the first time to allow members the opportunity to expand their skills into another area of photography. This "competition" encompassed a presentation early in the year by Craig Parker who outlined his approach to his Portfolio Grading submission to PSA, the "competition" itself and subsequent judging by Craig and club ZOOM session where the results were presented by Craig and the entrants had an opportunity to discuss their work. There was very positive feedback from members and the club decided to run something similar in 2022.

This year rather than a competition the club will provide an opportunity for members to work in a collaborative mentored group to develop a portfolio of images that could be presented to club members later in the year.

The 2022 Portfolio Exercise will be based on:

Working collaboratively in a study group

The groups will operate as learning groups, not competitive groups

The emphasis will be on participation and contribution

Each group will have an experienced facilitator/leader, not a controller who will mentor the members of the group

Each member will be expected to produce a portfolio of images that includes a title, composite image and a statement of intent. Guidelines for the Portfolio Exercise will allow some flexibility:

- Up to 5 Word Title;
- Up to 75 word Portfolio Statement;
- From 6 to 10 Images as an "Overview Image" with maximum dimensions specified.

During the year:

- Members indicate they wish to participate
- Members are placed into groups. Group size to be determined to allow good participation and involvement.
- Groups have a kick-off meeting (via Zoom) where each person talks briefly about what they are thinking of as a Portfolio Topic; Also establish group ground rules at this session;
- Progress meetings monthly or bi-monthly via Zoom; share, discuss, provide feedback to others; Evaluating others work and giving feedback is also part of the learning process. Limit number giving feedback (say 2 or 3) on each project, but everyone has to give feedback on at least 1 project;
- Could have a guest mentor/speaker once or twice during the year;

At the end of the year, those willing, present their work to the Club, show it and briefly talk about it

If you are interested in becoming involved in the 2022 club Portfolio Exercise please contact myself by the end of February by sending an email to bicton36@gmail.com

If you already have an idea of what your portfolio will be about please provide a short description.

Buy, Swap & Sell

With Julie Brooks

Email me a photo or two of your item, a brief description including the important tech specs, your price and contact details.



For Sale

Sigma 18-35mm F1.8 DC HSM Art series lens for Nikon crop sensor camera (ie Nikon DX cameras)

Overview

Truly a revolutionary product, the Sigma 18-35mm 1.8 DC HSM is the first wide-angle to standard zoom lens to achieve a large aperture of 1.8. Designed specifically for APS-C sized sensors, the Sigma 18-35mm 1.8 translates to 27mm-52.5mm on 35mm camera. Tapping into Sigma's long history of lens innovations, the 18-35mm 1.8 DC HSM incorporates a wide glass moulded aspherical lens with Special Low Dispersion (SLD) glass to compensate for aberrations and curvature at the widest angle. Internal focusing and zooming allows for more usability and functionality.

The 18-35mm is ideal for landscapes, portraits, still life, snap shots, casual, and close-ups and the Hyper Sonic Motor (HSM) ensures smooth, fast and accurate autofocusing. The use of Thermally Composite Material (TSC) reduces size and weight but increases the lens durability. Its new Global Vision design works with its compatibility with the Sigma USB dock for further customisation. A 9 blade rounded diaphragm also creates beautiful background blur. The Sigma 18-35mm 1.8 DC HSM is a new benchmark in photographic history and a must have for every camera bag.

This lens is in perfect condition and comes with

1. Hoya Fusion antistatic UV protection filter 72mm
- 2, Hoya Pro ND64 6stop ND filter 72mm
3. HoyaPro1 digital circular polarising filter 72mm

Asking price \$440

All enquiries and try before you buy for camera club members

Only selling due to upgrade to full frame

Greg Carruthers

0410629620

gkcarruthers@gmail.com



What's On

2/02/2022, 7pm Committee Meeting (Conducted over Zoom)	9/02/2022, 7pm Zoom Presentation
No Monthly Print Competition Due to the impact of covid :(23/02/2022, 7pm Zoom Presentation

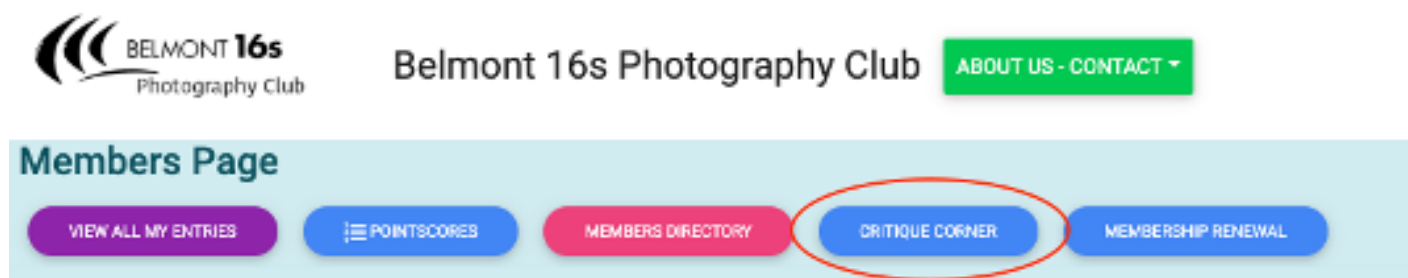
Critique Corner

Critique Corner aims to help members to fine-tune potential entries by gaining feedback from other members before the image is entered into a competition.

All members, regardless of experience are encouraged to upload images and make comments on images. The aim is to help each other to develop both your image capture and processing skills, and to take the judges' point of view when assessing an image. There are no grades within this activity.

Each member can upload one image per category. Once uploaded you can use this image in an upcoming competition. You can remove the image and replace it with another image whenever you choose.

The critique corner is accessible from the Members page as shown below:



Club Equipment

With Greg Carruthers

Please contact Greg if you would like to borrow any of the club's equipment, so if you need to borrow the mat board cutter, Spyder, scanner or, you would like to purchase mat boards to mount your images.

Greg's details can be found in the members link on the club website.

Normally, Greg would bring some boards along to competition nights for members to purchase at \$2 per board. However, as we are not having competition nights at the moment and you'd like to get ready for when we do please contact Greg via text or email to arrange supply and pick up.

Stay Connected

Club Website



Belmont 16s Photography Club

Support Belmont 16 Footers

Please remember when visiting [Belmont 16 Footers](#) to present your membership card when having a meal and/or something to drink as all of these purchases are credited to our overall membership purchase tally and, if we reach the average spend per member, as determined by 16 Footers, Belmont 16s Photography Club becomes eligible for sponsorship to the value of \$1,000 each financial year. This sponsorship allows us to keep membership prices low, gives us funds to purchase Club equipment and to put on events for members.

The Photography Club Committee would encourage all members to consider the 16s when planning a night out and don't forget to present your membership card when making purchases!

Committee Details

President	Vice President	Secretary	EDI & Judge Co-ordinator
Dennis Archibald	Vacant	Susan Slack	Di Schofield
Treasurer	Membership Co-ordinator	Webmaster	Zoom Coordinator & Equipment Loans
Liz Woods	Joy Thomas	Colin Woods	Greg Carruthers
Presentations Co-ordinator	Social Activities	Newsletter Editor	Club Patron
Greg Carruthers	Barb Hunter & Katherine James	Julie Brooks	Les Porter 4958 5840 www.Lesporter1.com.au

Committee Members

Barbara Hunter, Bill Chambers, Bob Todd, Diane Schofield, Greg Carruthers, Julie Brooks, Katherine James and Roy Killen.

Please feel free to contact any of the Committee members to discuss club matters and to have those matters raised at a Committee meeting.

The Committee meets at 7pm on the first Wednesday of each month.