



2023 AGM – Presidents Report

- In late 2022 following continued advice from Belmont 16s Sailing Club management that our club would no longer be able to meet at Belmont 16s following renovations the committee agreed to seek approval from the club membership to establish a new club.
- An Extraordinary General Meeting was held at Valentine Bowling Club on 11th January 2023. At this meeting the following motion was put:
 - To authorise the club committee to apply for registration of a new photography club as an incorporated association.
 - To transfer the assets of the Belmont 16s Photography Club to the new incorporated club at a date determined by the committee.
 - To cease operation of the Belmont 16s Photography Club at a date determined by the committee.

This motion was carried, and, on that basis, a new constitution and name was agreed by the committee and an application was submitted to the NSW Department of Fair Trading to establish an incorporated association under the name Lake Macquarie Camera Club Inc (LMCC).

- NSW Department of Fair Trading approved the establishment of Lake Macquarie Camera Club Inc. on 13th March 2023.
- Transition to our new club was affected by changing the appearance of the club's website. A new logo was created by Bill Chambers. Our newsletter became The Leading Line, a suggestion by one of our newest members with a new design and layout by our editor Julie Brooks. Some of our key club documents were revamped and rebadged by Greg Carruthers and Ruth Keech.
- Invitations to join the new club were opened on 28th March 2023 and closed on 30th June. Joy Thomas, Ruth Keech and Sue Slack oversaw this effort and our membership responded with 85 past members joining our new club.
- Funds in our Belmont 16s Photography bank accounts were transferred to new accounts at Newcastle Permanent Building Society and the old club accounts were closed.
- The Newcastle Photographic Society indicated their intention to wind up their club and for their members to join Lake Macquarie Camera Club and for their assets and accounts to be transferred. This process is underway.
- The balances in the club bank accounts at the end of June 2023 are shown in the Treasurer's Report for 2023. In the short term these balances will increase as funds from the Newcastle Photographic Society are transferred to our club's accounts. Going forward expenditures will be managed to achieve a sustainable position given the club's independent status and reliance on membership fees as our principal source of funds.
- Letters of thanks were sent to Belmont 16s Sailing Club management thanking them for their past support.

- The club has put in place Public/Product Liability and Personal and Accident/Volunteer Insurance.
- We acknowledge and thank the Valentine Bowling Club for their continued support and for allowing us to use their function room without charge. Most of the members of our new club are now social members of Valentine Bowling Club. In the coming year we will be exploring opportunities to undertake photographic assignments at the club to add value and promote their activities.
- The club is again offering a portfolio exercise in 2023. Two groups one facilitated by Roy Killen and the other by Craig Parker have been meeting throughout the year to produce a portfolio of images in line with PSA guidelines. As in 2022 a presentation will be made to the club at our October meeting. Our thanks to Terina Vale who is operating as Zoom Co-ordinator for one group.
- In addition to our normal club photographic competitions members have been entering external competitions and gaining awards – Maitland International, Newcastle International and National Photographic Federation.
- The club participated in the APS Australia Cup competition earlier in the year. Awaiting results.
- In past years Roy Killen ran Lake Macquarie National and International Salons. The money raised has been used to further photographic education for club members. Club members who have participated in PSA training programs during this year and presented their experience on their courses at club nights have had their PSA fees reimbursed. Members are encouraged to continue to leverage this opportunity.
- Our participation in PSA Interclub competitions has continued in 2023 with the club performing well and some members receiving individual recognition.
- A judging course was delivered to club members in August 2023 by Bill Chambers, Di Schofield and Roy Killen. Members who attended the course have gone through a subsequent mentoring program and are now judging for our own club and other clubs in the area. A further course in association with FCC will be conducted in October for those interested.
- LMCC acknowledges our continuing use of the MyPhoto Club website without charge. Our thanks to Colin Woods for his support through the year and in particular his guidance as we transitioned from one club to the other. The process went very smoothly, club operations continued uninterrupted throughout the changeover.
- The transition from Belmont 16s Photography Club to Lake Macquarie Camera Club Inc. has entailed a significant increase in work undertaken by the committee in the last year. I would like to acknowledge those efforts and the teamwork involved. The club can only continue to function if we have a committee prepared to provide the range of activities offered to its members.
- Finally, I encourage all club members to look for ways to support club activities and contribute to the club's growth and development.

Dennis Archibald

President

August 2023.