



**Victorian Association of Photographic Societies Inc**

Postal Address: PO Box 2010, South Melbourne 3205

Incorporation No.: A000 7142B ABN 84 252 668 335

[www.vaps.org.au](http://www.vaps.org.au)

**President:** - Ian Rolfe

**Secretary:** - Lorraine Holden

**Notice is hereby given of the 2016 Annual General Meeting of the  
Victorian Association of Photographic Societies Inc.  
to be held on Sunday 6 November 2016 at 1:30pm  
The meeting will be held at the ST PETER'S CHURCH,  
CNR NEERIM ROAD & AMES AVENUE  
MURRUMBEENA (MELWAYS: 68 K5)**

## **MINUTES**

### **1 Present, Proxies and Apologies**

**Present:** Paul Robinson & Peter Kewley (APJA), Barry Povey & Stephan Ferran (Berwick Viewfinders), Lorraine Holden (Camberwell CC), Linda Fox & Vanessa Sanvoort (Casey CC), Sue Rocco & Tony Harding (Caulfield CC), Karen Fowler & Andrew Haysom (Craigieburn CC), Allan Burfitt (Diamond Valley PS), John Smith (Doncaster CC), Alan Mackinlay & Joseph Maher (Eastern Suburbs PS), Alan Wilson (Essendon CC), Brendan Edwards (Frankston PC), Liesel McGregor, Chris Reichl & David Rendle (Geelong CC), Sara Knight & Rocky Zampaglione (Ivanhoe PS), Alfred Zommers, Margaret Zommers (Knox PS), Ron Mathews (Macedon Ranges PS), Ian Bock (Melbourne CC), Graeme Wagener (Mornington Peninsula CC), Danielle LeGassick (Pakenham CC), Jan Burt, Jan Baker & Kevin Baker (Rosanna PS), Peter Calder & Ian Rolfe (Southern Suburbs PS), Gary Wakeling (South Gippsland CC) and Nola Kelsey (Williamstown CC)

**Apologies:** Betty Bibby (Ballarat CC), Rebecca Nicolandos (Camberwell CC), Dennis Morgan (Casey CC), Donna Cockfield, Jim Szabo & Lisa Kenny (Corio Bay CC), Ian Logan (Craigieburn CC), Damien Lewis (Diamond Valley PS), Pam Rixon (Doncaster CC), Vicki Jesty, Bruce Jennings & Elden Marshall (East Gippsland PS), Deborah Mullins, Bob Date (Frankston PC), Rita Brown (Ivanhoe PS), (Macedon Ranges PS), Lesley Bretherton & Gary Richardson (Melbourne CC), Joe Meirmans & Wilma Meirmans (Warragul CC), Bruce Irvine (Whittlesea PC), Cathy Buchanan & Tania Chalmers (Williamstown CC) and Brian Paatsch (Wodonga Albury CC)

**Proxies received from:** Robert Sloane & Gary Dawson (Knox PS) and Geraldine Gore (Rosanna PC)

**2 Minutes of the previous meeting (emailed to delegates)**

Moved: Ron Mathews (Macedon Ranges) **Seconded: Margaret Zommers (Knox PS)**

**3 Business arising from the minutes**

2015 AGM Secretary's Report should have been seconded by Noni Shugg (Central Highland Imaging) and not Irene Giannelli as stated (she was an apology that day)

**4 Secretary's Report (Lorraine Holden)**

There is not much to report but I am happy to say that a new club, Hills Photographic Society Inc, has affiliated recently, which brings the number of clubs affiliated with VAPS to 72 clubs with 2883 members. We did have three clubs not re-affiliate this year.

This is my last report as Secretary and I would like to thank present and past members of the committee for their help and I would particularly like to thank "go-to-man" Peter Kewley for all his assistance over the years I have been secretary. What he doesn't know about the running of VAPS is not worth knowing and VAPS would be in dire trouble without him.

I would ask that delegates give it some thought about joining the committee as VAPS does not run itself and the committee could use help in running VAPS.

**5 Treasurer's Report (Jenny Colson)**

A copy of the financial statement for the year ended 31 July 2016 was distributed to delegates, together with an independent review report.

A couple of queries were raised, including for the treasurer to check with the auditor regarding the wording on the transfer of \$10,000 to the Investment Account to cover up-coming club insurance costs and a query about the computer expenses, which were explained as being mostly the one-off cost of new upload system for the Interclub

Jenny asked permission from the meeting to pay the Honorarium to the Secretary of \$300 and the Web Master \$250 for 2016/17 **Carried**

Moved: Jenny Colson **Seconded: Peter Calder (Southern Suburbs)**

**6 President's report (Ian Rolfe)**

It has been a very busy and successful year for VAPS and my sincere thanks to all members of the committee for their hard work and diligence in the running of the organization. Some members of the VAPS committee have worked tirelessly for many years and their work is really appreciated.

Our in-house publication Newsbrief is, I feel, now better than ever, being extremely informative, our website is up to date and working well and every member of the committee has worked as a team to make VAPS the best it can

be.

My sincere thanks too, to Alfred Zommers and Peter Kewley, for the constant workload they have both carried in their roles as vice presidents.

Victoria has a large and vibrant photographic community and I feel that VAPS does a wonderful job overall, in keeping the clubs and societies well informed and up to date with insurance and other queries that constantly come in.

This year has seen the running of perhaps the most successful convention to date in Albury, with a great team in place and terrific support from the Albury-Wodonga Camera Club. Good preparations for both 2017 and 2018 within the committee for the planning of conventions is solid and well advanced.

With the strong support of VAPS, the newly formed APJA has gone from strength to strength, offering courses and improving judging skills for members throughout Victoria. It is my sincere hope that VAPS will continue to offer as much support as it can to promote this well meaning and valuable resource within the photographic community.

For VAPS, I hope that the next year of 2017 proves to be as successful in every way as the last 12 months has been.

Moved: Ian Rolfe

**Seconded: Ron Mathews (Macedon Ranges)**

## **7 Portfolio reports:**

### **7.1 Badges & Awards (Margaret Zommers)**

The committee was looking at changing the Year Bars to pins but after considering the matter, it has been decided to leave the Year Bars.

If you need to check when any award recipients were received, a list has been posted on the webpage.

### **7.2 Newsbrief (Barry Povey)**

It has been 12 months since I accepted the task of editing the Newsbrief for VAPS.

The Newsbrief has been produced by online software (Mail Chimp) over the last 12 months. It is distributed to 350 subscribers. This includes affiliated clubs where it is further distributed. Hence it has a potential distribution to approximately 2900 individuals.

Not all personal emails, no matter where they come from, are acted on by the recipient or even opened. In our case about 61% of the emails are opened at destination. The internet average for this sort of email is about 22%. It would be pleasing, however, to see a greater proportion of emails opened. It is deceptive however, as the contents can be viewed directly from the VAPS website and also by forwarded emails to another members via clubs. These are not included in the statistics.

Hence it is difficult to determine the real number of individuals that view the contents.

With the move to an email-type Newsbrief the format of the content has to change. No longer is it designed for high quality printing and probably close to 100% of readers read it online. VAPS no longer formally supplies a hard copy of the Newsbrief to subscribers.

Instead of just text and graphics, as in printed format, the Newsbrief can contain links within the email to help navigation and links to the internet to add information to which readers have access.

This means a very different approach is needed by the reader and the editor. Readers on the internet are resistant to a great amount of scrolling. This would normally be absolutely necessary in a long, linear-type format as we have. Hence there is a Table of Contents with links that can take the reader to and from the contents. Readers also have to be prepared to use the links to get access to external resources and information. There is a natural reluctance to do this and we really need to overcome this and deliberately be active so that information is not missed.

By having links, the length of the Newsbrief can be reduced without leaving out content. It has been a leaning year for the editor in coming to grips with this and to make the Newsbrief inviting enough for readers to explore. Nevertheless it relies on the reader to be interactive with the Newsbrief to get the best out of it.

Reading online material is very different to reading hard copy. Have you noticed that the paragraphs are shorter than might be normally expected? This makes readability easier.

The purpose of the Newsbrief is to support affiliated club/societies in their activities. Indirectly individuals are supported as well. It is an interesting task for the editor to keep an appropriate balance in these two aspects and I hope this is being achieved.

Improvements depend on the editor being alert to comments from individuals about the Newsbrief and its contents. Hence it is important that readers and clubs/societies express their thoughts to the editor about the direction the Newsbrief heads. The editor also relies on individuals and clubs/societies supplying content for editions. This can be done by directly supplying material to the editor, forwarding club newsletters to the editor or simply by alerting the editor to interesting things and supplying the link to such information.

You are reminded that you can subscribe personally to the Newsbrief on the VAPS website.

I would like to thank the VAPS committee members for the support they have given me in this 12 months. Thanks also go to individuals, clubs and societies who have supplied material and comments.

### 7.3 Judging (Alfred Zommers)

Alfred reported that VAPS conducted two Level 1 judges' training courses in 2014 and since that time, the APJA was formed in 2015. Since their inception, there have been 180 Level 1 participants, 68 Level 2 participants and 46 Level 3 participants. The APJA now manages the Judges List and VAPS distributes it.

### 7.4 History (Alan Wilson)

I looked at some V.A.P.S. clubs.

Firstly, which are the oldest clubs?

#### Western Suburbs Camera Clubs, aka The Footscray Camera Club

The Footscray Camera Club was formed about 1896. No photographers from Melbourne's western suburbs gained recognition at the 1895 Intercolonial Photographic Exhibition and Congress in Geelong. The club survived until about 1918.

The club was re-formed in 1956 by Reg Goble who ran a chemist/photography shop in central Footscray. It was still known then as the Footscray Camera Club, and affiliated with VAPS in 1958. Attendances then were in the mid-30s.

The club had many moves, including one to Deer Park. In 1986, there was a name change to the Western Suburbs Camera Club.

The club was going quite well in the early 2000s and its prospects looked bright (according to Gary Rourke). However, a few years later, it folded.

#### Geelong Camera Club

This club was formed on Thursday, 10<sup>th</sup> January 1889, making it the oldest club in Victoria. A meeting was held at Gordon College on that day to consider forming an amateur photographic group. Post-cards were even sent to people known as "amateur photographers".

Those involved decided to name their club "The Gordon College Amateur Photographic Society". This club title remained in place for 70 years (So it was in about 1970 that the name "Geelong Camera Club" came into use).

The club had many homes and the search for a permanent home was fulfilled in 1969 when an unused, almost derelict building on an abandoned airfield on the Barwon Common was found.

During the 1980s, the entire building was re-roofed with the South

Barwon Council supplying the materials and members supplying the labour. The club continues to meet there each Wednesday.

### The Melbourne Camera Club

This club was formed on the 7<sup>th</sup> April 1891, making it Victoria's second oldest camera club.

In 1887, the Working Men's College (now the RMIT Uni.) was opened and the formation of a camera club at the College was the inspiration for the instructor in photography, Ludovico Hart. He convened a meeting on the 7<sup>th</sup> April 1891 with the result that the Working Men's College Photographic Club was born.

The 1890s were a time of depression but the photographic Club continued to flourish. In 1900, membership was over 150.

Over the years, the Club had numerous moves, until 1980 when it bought the Old Freemason's Hall in South Melbourne which was then renovated.

#### 7.5 Website (Rebecca Nicolandos)

The website is continuing to function well with our daily 'visits' still sitting at between 80-120 views per day.

Recently the 2017 Interclub Rules and Forms were loaded onto the Documents page for all to download. The 2017 award nomination forms are now also available. Thank you to the committee members who take the time to review these documents each year.

The website features a "What's On" page, so if you have anything you would like to notify the general community about please forward this information to me.

The VAPS Facebook page has 342 people who follow the page.

#### 7.6 Policy Review (Peter Calder)

The major review of documents had been seen revised Model Rules approved and accepted.

#### 7.7 Assets Register (Peter Kewley)

Only change to assets is the purchase of an additional flat bed trolley and a second set of shelves for the container.

We will purchase two Urns and two food warmers for the 2017 convention.

#### 7.8 Convention & Interclub 2017 (Peter Kewley)

The 2017 Convention will be held at the Monash University Frankston

Campus over the 27/28<sup>th</sup> May weekend, with the exhibition being open from midday Friday 26<sup>th</sup>.

There is free parking over the weekend in the University grounds.

The 2017 Convention and Interclub is being strongly supported by the Frankston Photographic Club who are fully behind the event and are well organised to make this convention a really great event.

Lunches will be provided on both days along with teas and refreshments.

Facilities are excellent and a great line up of Key Note speakers, presenters and workshops will be on the programme.

We are working on post convention photo tours and these will be announced as soon as we can, the programme will be finalised soon and all convention documents posted on the VAPS website.

I am expecting additional clubs to enter the Interclub competition next year, and clubs should be working on their Print and Digital submissions now.

Submission to the Interclub will be through the VAPS upload system, it worked very well last year and certainly reduced the work load at our end considerably.

Please keep your club members informed of the Convention and Interclub, it is for you the clubs, it is your opportunity to come together and present your members works for all of the clubs to enjoy.

I also ask that you circulate the VAPS Newsbrief to your members or encourage them to subscribe for a free email copy which is available from the VAPS website.

Newsbrief contains important information for clubs and it is also a place where clubs can advertise their activities and exhibitions and members own presentations or exhibitions.

All reports moved: Ian Rolfe                      **Seconded: Jan Baker (Rosanna PC)**

## **8. TESSELAAR'S COMPETITION:**

Melanie Rankin-Smith (from Tesselaar's was one of the judges) and she advised that 12 clubs had attended the Tulip Festival and the following were awarded prizes in each of the following categories.

Tulips – Yellow & Orange – Margaret Edwards (Southern Suburbs)  
Festival/Culture – Dutch Dancing – Margaret Edwards (Southern Suburbs)  
People – Red Umbrella – Andrew Fenwick (Knox)  
The club with the most attendees – Knox

## 9 General Business:

- 9.1 A paper detailing some suggested changes to the AV category will be presented at the AGM by John Spring and Peter Kewley.

John Spring unable to attend but Peter Kewley presented the following:

There are no changes to the AV rules for 2017 other than requesting MAC users to export their files as MP4 files so that they can be played without having to change computers.

We feel it is time to form a new AV sub-committee to fully review and develop AV Interclub rules for the future. The VAPS Committee has agreed that this new sub-committee be formed.

We thank any member of a previous AV sub-committee for their input in the past.

The new Sub-Committee will consist of current active AV makers, the initial sub-committee will have no less than 5 members, John Spring has had initial discussions with a number of makers regarding the sub-committee makeup and it will include Country and Metro makers so that there is a good mix and Country clubs can have input.

Any interested AV maker can apply to be part of the sub-committee and the sub-committee can have additional interest groups so that a wide cross section of AV makers can have input.

The sub-committee will be responsible for re writing the AV rules taking into account new technologies and process in use in different parts of the world.

The inclusion of Multi Media in an AV category will be reviewed as part of that process.

The sub-committee will be open to comment and suggestions at all times.

The sub-committee will be tasked in preparing a draft of changes/new rules hopefully for circulation to clubs early next year.

There will be adequate time to explore and review the AV process so that we have a sound standard to go forward with.

It is an opportunity to explore the future and provide the best possible platform for AV makers in Victorian Clubs.

Any requests questions or queries can be forwarded to John Spring or myself.

- 9.2 Paul Robinson, President of APJA, gave a presentation on what their criteria for judges is.
- 9.3 Ian Bock (Melbourne CC) spoke briefly about Photo Books and was prepared to attend clubs to speak on Photo Books
- 9.4 David Rendle (Geelong CC) requested advice from clubs on a general matter of websites and intended to speak to delegates after the meeting.

## **10 Other Business:**

- 10.1 Motion from APJA (see below)

**To The Secretary, VAPS**

**From The Secretary, APJA**

**RE: Motion being submitted to the VAPS Annual General Meeting**

The Committee of the Australian Photographic Judges Association requests that the below Preamble and Motion be included in the agenda of the VAPS Annual General Meeting.

And that attending delegates be given the opportunity to vote on the Motion.

### **Preamble**

The Australian Photographic Judges Association (APJA) has taken on the role of educating, developing and formalising accreditation for photographic judges to service the needs of Victorian Camera Clubs.

This involves various levels of quality training and education for new and existing judges, consistent with the 6 levels of training provided. It is the intention to develop and accredit Novice, Intern, Licentiate, Associate, Fellow and Master Judge Accreditation.

This level of training and commitment to the development of judges is of significant value to the Victorian Camera Clubs.

Broadening the Judging supply/list with people who have undertaken a degree of training and have received instruction in all the elements of judging, understanding and appreciating the presented image is crucial to improving the standards of club judging and the standards of available judges.

This of course comes at a cost; the APJA is in its infancy and solely dependent on income from course fees to provide the facilities, quality presenters and training that the task requires.

Initially we have received funding from VAPS to help with the first wave of training through 2016. This has been most appreciated and greatly beneficial to the attendees at the 5 workshops held so far.

A total of 190 interested and proactive potential new and existing judges have attended these courses and in the main have all learnt and advanced in their knowledge of club judging.

### **THE MOTION**

To enable APJA to continue this work for the betterment of club judging we are asking that VAPS continues to support the APJA, and optimally the Clubs that it represents with a continuation of a \$1000 annual grant plus complementary affiliation with VAPS.

That grant is to be used to invest in the education of judges for the primary benefit of Victorian Camera Clubs.

We ask that VAPS and the Clubs support this initiative and vote in the affirmative for the motion.

President  
APJA

After discussion, it was suggested than an amendment to the motion be put to the meeting as follows:

To enable APJA to continue this work for the betterment of club judging we are asking that VAPS continues to support the APJA, and optimally the Clubs that it represents with a continuation of a \$1000 annual grant plus complementary affiliation with VAPS for a period of three years from the AGM 2016 after which it will be reviewed and a new motion put forward.

Amendment moved: Joseph Maher (Eastern Suburbs PS)  
**Seconded: David Rendle (Geelong CC) Carried**

Amended Motion: Moved: Ian Rolfe (Southern Suburbs)  
**Seconded: Alfred Zommers (Knox) Carried**

**10. Election of 2017 Committee**

The following nominations were received:

<b>President</b>	<b>Ian Rolfe</b>
<b>Vice President (1)</b>	<b>Peter Kewley</b>
<b>Vice President (2)</b>	<b>Alfred Zommers</b>
<b>Secretary</b>	<b>Tony Harding</b>
<b>Treasurer</b>	<b>Jeanette Colson</b>
<b>Committee Member</b>	<b>Danielle LeGassick</b>
<b>Committee Member</b>	<b>Margaret Zommers</b>
<b>Committee Member</b>	<b>Barry Povey</b>
<b>Committee Member</b>	<b>Alan Wilson</b>

As no other nominations were received, the above named were elected to the 2017 VAPS Committee

**11. Date & Time of Next Meeting:**

**Sunday, 19 March 2017 at 1:30pm**

**Meeting closed: 3:05pm**