Camera News

A monthly newletter from the Ballarat Photography Group

Clubrooms: "The Lions Den" at the Pinarc Centre, Otway Street, Ballarat.
Meetings: 8.00pm 2nd Tuesday each month at the clubrooms
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Happy New Year!

Events pencil into your diary

- Next monthly club meeting 8.00pm Tuesday 11th February. **This will also be the annual awards night. Members reminded to bring a plate of supper to share.**
- Ross and Gillian are hosting the pre season BBQ at 106 Windermere St midday on Sunday 2nd February 2020. BYO everything (including chair). Enter via the laneway.
- AGM Tuesday 11th March
- Interclub meeting with Corio Bay Camera Club – Sat 21st March. Corio Bay hosting. Members are encouraged to attend.

From the Committee

- **MEMBERSHIP FEES DUE FEBRUARY 2019**
  This year's membership fee are due 11th February 2020. Reminder that Life Members are required to pay their fess to maintain their membership.

$40	SINGLE
$75	COUPLE
$20	JUNIOR

- **AGM**
  If you are interested in joining the committee nominations are open for all positions on the committee. Please see Dianne for nomination forms. Nominations will close just before the A G M on Tuesday 11th March 2020

- **Club Safari/Camp 2020**
  Our weekend camp will be at the 'Star of the Sea' in Apollo Bay on the 4th to the 6th of September. $50 per person per night.

<u>**Bring to February 2019 Meeting**</u>:

<u>**2 Small prints (Open)**</u>
- *Any subject treated pictorially, ie. Good design, arrangement and composition.*
- *** Prints must not exceed 180mm x 125mm (7in x 5in), mounted on a board which must not exceed 300mm x 200mm (10in x 8in). Mounting thickness must not exceed 5mm.*

2 Projected images (Set Subject – Red)
A picture with the predominance of the colour red.
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- ** *Images must not exceed 1920 pixels wide x 1080 pixels high.*
- ** *File size for each image must not exceed 5mb. Save in JPG format.*
- ** ***Image file names*** *must begin with the member's code number, linked by an underscore, with the title of the image eg. 025_A Day at the Beach.jpg*

2 Large Prints (Open)
Any subject treated pictorially, ie. Good design, arrangement and composition.

*** Prints must not exceed 500mm x 400mm (20in x 16in) mounted on a board which must not exceed 500mm x 400mm (20in x 16in). Mounting thickness must not exceed 5mm.*
(Remember to keep image titles for all images to no more than 3 or 4 words)

New Rules from VAPS
1. EXIF Data
The following is an excerpt from the December 2019 VAPS Newsbrief.
- *"VAPS is aware that image post-processing workflow settings can lead to removal of EXIF or metadata from images, depending on the particular post-processing software and methods used.*
VAPS clubs are therefore asked to ensure that members are made aware that they should use image post-processing methods that retain the metadata against the digital images submitted. The process for ensuring retention of metadata within digital images will be proprietary software-specific."

What this means is that each images submitted to the VAPS competition in April will need to have its associated EXIF data intact.

So WHAT is EXIF data and how do you access it?
EXIF stands for Exchangeable Image File Format. It is also referred to as image "Metadata". Every time you take a picture with your digital camera or phone (typically a Raw or a JPEG), a file is written to your device's storage. It contains information specific to the image it is associated with. Information such as;
- Date and Time the image was taken
- The make/model of camera and lens that was used to take the image
- The exposure settings used to record the image
- Copyright information
- Whether a flash was used
- Geo-tagging for the location of where the image was taken

EXIF data can be viewed in a number of ways. You can view it in most image post processing software such as Photoshop or Lightroom or from Windows Explorer or Finder in Mac.

Viewing EXIF data is simple. If you're looking at an image in Photoshop, simply navigate to "File > File Info…" and you'll be able to see and edit all of the EXIF data there. If you're in Lightroom, then you'll see this in the Library under the Metadata panel.

Viewing EXIF data in Windows is easy. In Windows Explorer just right-click on the photo in question and select "Properties". Click on the "Details" tab and scroll down—you'll see all kinds of information about the camera used, and the settings the photo was taken with. On a Mac in a Finder window right click the image file and choose "more info".

What do you need to do?

Members need to check if their post-processing software is including image EXIF data in the final image being saved by the software or being exported out of the software. If it is not then it is usually just a simple process to navigate to the preferences section of the software and making sure that the preference for inclusion of EXIF data is selected.

2. Large Print Electronic Files

The following is also an excerpt from the December 2019 VAPS Newsbrief.

- *"As outlined at the VAPS AGM, there will be a requirement for digital versions to be provided for all prints submitted as part of the VAPS Interclub in 2020. This is to facilitate production of the VAPS Interclub Catalogue for participating clubs and members. It is also to allow selection and confirmation of the specific camera used to create the images submitted as part of the Interclub competition categories."*

This means that all large print images being submitted by the club to the VAPS 2020 Interclub competition will also have to have included an electronic version of that same image. As the interclub competition with Corio Bay Camera Club is directly prior to the VAPS Interclub, we usually just use the top 15 images from the same images selected for the Corio Bay competition for VAPS. This means that the large prints selected for the Corio Bay competition will have to conform to the new requirements for VAPS. How this is to be achieved is yet to be determined as it is a departure from our established workflow when dealing with large print entries. This will be a point of discussion at the February meeting.

Have something you would like to have included in the newsletter? Then pop it into an email and send it to 13swinton@gmail.com.

Any information not directly concerning this newsletter should be directed to our secretary.ballaratphotographygroup@gmail.com or to 'The Secretary'; Ballarat Photography Group C/- 405 Gladstone Street GOLDEN POINT 3350

Yours in photography,

Steve