

GEELONG CAMERA CLUB

NEWSLETTER

FEBRUARY 2026

REG. NO. A4963



NEW HORIZONS
By Brian Farey

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FROM YOUR COMMITTEE

Your ever-busy (and occasionally caffeinated) Committee is pleased to report that the End of Year Award Sub Committee has officially kicked off planning for the club's biggest night of the year. Yes, it is that magical evening when members bravely unleash their finest images upon the world, applause flows freely, and we all reflect fondly on "the year that was" while wondering how the judge didn't see that obvious brilliance. Keep your eye on emails for entry forms, dates and the like and start thinking about entering. (The awards are judged in June)

On the domestic front, the long-awaited kitchen upgrades are now complete. The Committee can confirm that kettles boil more efficiently, cupboards close properly, and spirits are high. Further improvements are planned, because nothing says photographic excellence like a well-organised tea station.

Adventure also beckons. The next club camp will be held in Warburton in mid-May, promising fresh air, flowing rivers, towering trees, and at least one person forgetting a tripod plate. Keep an eye on the noticeboard for details in the coming months.

Some terrific in-house training and mesmerising guest speakers, such as Jay Collier, are on the syllabus over the next few months, providing great learning opportunities and entertainment.

The Introduction to Photography Course has commenced with a solid and enthusiastic group of 18 attendees. Over the next eight weeks, they will learn a great deal about cameras, creativity, and why manuals are thicker than expected.

Remember to consult the club by laws to establish criteria for competition entries. It is preferable that you do so prior to entering images to minimise the workload of the competition secretary.

Finally, the Committee will soon circulate a roster for members to assist with some minor housekeeping. Many hands make light work, and possibly cleaner carpets.

Smile nicely, you're all doing great.

Regards

The Committee

DECEMBER COMPETITION RESULTS

PRINTS OPEN A GRADE

JUDGE: MARGARET ZOMMERS



First Place

HAIRY FLY

By Ketut Suwitra

Second Place

ANNE BOLEYN

By Dee Kelly



Third Place

MAN WITH A HAT

By Mick Kupresanin

DECEMBER COMPETITION RESULTS

PRINTS OPEN B GRADE

JUDGE: MARGARET ZOMMERS



First Place

MADDIE

By Chris Scott



Second Place

WHO'S HAVING FUN

By Sam Neumann



Third Place

DUNES

By Sam Neumann

DECEMBER COMPETITION RESULTS

A AND B GRADE OPEN PRINTS MERITS

JUDGE: MARGARET ZOMMERS



A GRADE

CRUMBS

By Jennifer Gold



A GRADE

AEY EYE

By Judy Medwell

B GRADE

No merits

B GRADE

No merits

DECEMBER COMPETITION RESULTS

EDI OPEN A GRADE

JUDGE: MARGARET ZOMMERS



First Place

SPRING BLOOM

By Brian Farey

Second Place

GRANDFATHER'S POCKET WATCH

BY Shelley McKiernan



Third Place

JUST HANGIN'

By Sue Wilson



DECEMBER COMPETITION RESULTS

EDI OPEN B GRADE

JUDGE: MARGARET ZOMMERS



First Place

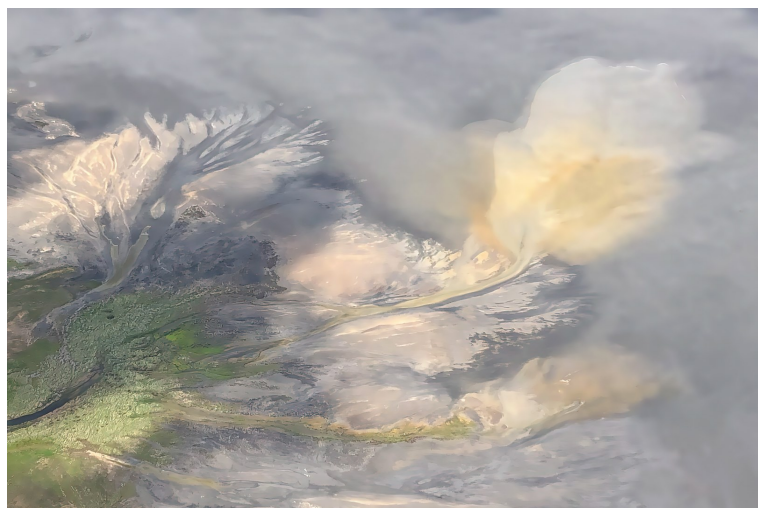
GYPSY INK @ BIKE NIGHT

By Sharon Steele

Second Place

CORANGAMITE DRAGON

By Bob Medwell



Third Place

MOSTLY REINFORCED

By Steve Davies

DECEMBER COMPETITION RESULTS

A AND B OPEN EDI MERITS

JUDGE: MARGARET ZOMMERS



A GRADE

MY REFLECTION

By Ketut Suwitra



A GRADE

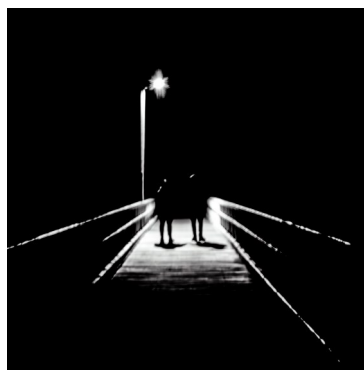
PRIVACY PLEASE

By Judy Medwell

B GRADE

NIGHT WALK

By Chris George



B GRADE

Only one merit

DECEMBER COMPETITION RESULTS

PRINTS ALTERED REALITY

JUDGE: MARGARET ZOMMERS



First Place

GOOD DAY TO YOU TOO

By Mick Kupresanin



Second Place

SUNSET

By Ketut Suwitra



Third Place

OBLIVIOUS

By Judith Wood

DECEMBER COMPETITION RESULTS

ALTERED REALITY MERITS

JUDGE: MARGARET ZOMMERS



SHE STAYED
By Julie Begg

UNDER THE DOME
By Heather O'Flynn



INTERCLUB REPORT

PHOTOGRAPHIC SOCIETY OF AMERICA

Photographic Society of America Interclub Report

Geelong Camera Club has scored highly in Round 1 of the 2025-2026 PSA Interclub Season. Thanks to all selectors and entrants mentioned in the GCC December 2025 Newsletter. There is still time to submit images for Round 3 by 15 March 2026.

- *Phillipa Alexander*

Colour Open

The Club has placed 3rd out of 16 clubs and received 1 award.



Standings PID Color InterclubD

Club Name	Location	Round 1	Total	Standings
Sun City Texas Photography Club	TX	138	138	1
Pittsburgh Photography Club	PA	130	130	2
Geelong Camera Club	Australia	129	129	3
The Evolve Group	England	127	127	4
India International Group	India	125	125	5
Plano Photography Club	TX	124	124	6
Riviera Camera Club	IN	123	123	7
Housatonic Camera Club	CT	119	119	8
East Valley Photo Club	AZ	117	117	9
West Chester Photo Club	OH	112	112	10
Houston Camera Club	TX	108	108	11
Lake County Camera Club	IL	108	108	11
Greater New Braunfels Photography Club	TX	102	102	13
Bowie-Crofton Camera Club	MD	99	99	14
Topics Camera Club	OH	99	99	14
Pikes Peak Camera Club	CO	93	93	16

PSA INTERCLUB REPORTcont'd

Nature

The Club has placed 8th= out of 21 clubs and received 1 award.

Standings Nature Division InterclubB

Club Name	Location	Round 1	Total	Standings
New Haven Camera Club	CT	123	123	1
Suncoast Camera Club of Clearwater	FL	121	121	2
Assabet Valley Camera Club	MA	120	120	3
Grand Rapids Camera Club	MI	120	120	3
Greymouth Photography Club	New Zealand	118	118	5
Jiahua Elite Photography Association	Canada	118	118	5
Oklahoma Camera Club	OK	118	118	5
East Valley Photo Club	AZ	117	117	8
Geelong Camera Club	Australia	117	117	8
Mayslake Nature Study and Photography Club	IL	116	116	10
The Evolve Group	England	116	116	10
F67 Camera Club	WA	115	115	12
Stella Polaris Photo Group	Denmark	114	114	13
Ridgewood Camera Club	NJ	112	112	14
Simsbury Camera Club	CT	112	112	14
Wangi Workers Camera Club	Australia	111	111	16
Charlotte Camera Club	SC	110	110	17
Minnesota Valley Photography Club	MN	106	106	18
Loveland Photographic Society	CO	105	105	19
Houston Camera Club	TX	104	104	20
South Shore Camera Club NY	NY	99	99	21



Monochrome

The Club has placed 2nd out of 21 clubs and received 3 awards

Standings PID Monochrome InterclubC

Club Name	Location	Round 1	Total	Standings
Royal Photo Club Gominiois	Belgium	112	112	1
Geelong Camera Club	Australia	111	111	2
Boise Camera Club	ID	110	110	3
Plano Photography Club	TX	106	106	4
South Shields Photographic Society	United Kingdom	106	106	4
New Haven Camera Club	CT	105	105	6
East Valley Photo Club	AZ	104	104	7
Photography Club of Assam	India	103	103	8
Monmouth Camera Club	NJ	102	102	9
Wirral 20 Photographic Club	England	101	101	10
Assabet Valley Camera Club	MA	98	98	11
West Chester Photo Club	OH	97	97	12
Topics Camera Club	OH	96	96	13
Photo Club of Greater Cincinnati	OH	93	93	14
Sun City Texas Photography Club	TX	93	93	14
Greater New Braunfels Photography Club	TX	91	91	16
Pittsburgh Photography Club	PA	89	89	17
Riviera Camera Club	IN	85	85	18
Coastal Carolina Camera Club	NC	80	80	19
Photochromers	CA	66	66	20
Berks Photographic Society	PA	59	59	21



PSA INTERCLUB REPORTcont'd

Photojournalism

The Club has placed 5th= out of 20 clubs and received 2 awards.

Standings Photojournalism Division InterclubA

Club Name	Location	Round 1	Total	Standings
The CCPST	Canada	146	146	1
India International Group	India	142	142	2
Keswick Photographic Society	United Kingdom	142	142	2
St. Louis Camera Club	IL	140	140	4
Geelong Camera Club	Australia	138	138	5
Wangi Workers Camera Club	Australia	138	138	5
Youth Photographic Society	India	135	135	7
Asociación Fotográfica Objetivo 2.0	Spain	134	134	8
Grand Rapids Camera Club	MI	130	130	9
Shutter Bugs Creative Forum	United Arab Emirates	130	130	9
Jiahua Elite Photography Association	Canada	128	128	11
Photography Club of Assam	India	128	128	11
Wirral 20 Photographic Club	England	126	126	13
Delaware Photographic Society	DE	125	125	14
Forster Digital Photography Club	Australia	122	122	15
Science Museum Camera Club	NY	121	121	16
Lancaster Photography Association	CA	120	120	17
Lake Macquarie Camera Club	Australia	117	117	18
Charlotte Camera Club	SC	116	116	19
Photographic Guild of Nova Scotia	Canada	114	114	20



Photo Travel

The Club has placed 14th out of 23 clubs.

Standings Photo Travel Division InterclubA

Club Name	Location	Round 1	Total	Standings
Youth Photographic Society	India	106	106	1
India International Group	India	100	100	2
Wangi Workers Camera Club	Australia	95	95	3
Jiahua Elite Photography Association	Canada	94	94	4
St. Louis Camera Club	IL	94	94	4
Asociación Fotográfica Objetivo 2.0	Spain	93	93	6
Delaware Photographic Society	DE	93	93	6
Shutter Bugs Creative Forum	United Arab Emirates	93	93	6
The CCPST	Canada	93	93	6
East Valley Photo Club	AZ	92	92	10
Lake Macquarie Camera Club	Australia	88	88	11
Photographic Guild of Nova Scotia	Canada	87	87	12
Photography Club of Assam	India	87	87	12
Geelong Camera Club	Australia	84	84	14
Keswick Photographic Society	United Kingdom	84	84	14
Loveland Photographic Society	CO	84	84	14
Charlotte Camera Club	SC	83	83	17
Forster Digital Photography Club	Australia	82	82	18
Ridgewood Camera Club	NJ	82	82	18
Victoria Camera Club	Canada	81	81	20
Assabet Valley Camera Club	MA	80	80	21
Cape Cod Viewfinders Camera Club	MA	79	79	22
Science Museum Camera Club	NY	70	70	23

LIGHTSEEKERS

SPECIAL INTEREST GROUP

Hi Lightseekers,

Happy New Year to all GCC members and families and let us all have a great 2026.

Well our first outing on 5th February 2026 is a get together for a coffee and chit chat at The Hub in McKillop Street, East Geelong meeting at 10am.

Every member of GCC is welcome not only on this occasion and please feel free to come along on any Thursday and join in.

At the following meeting in the club rooms many following activities will be discussed and the necessary arrangements made. A syllabus has been circulated by our esteemed leader Chris George however please keep in mind that such syllabus is flexible. So if you have an idea or suggestion your thoughts are welcome.

REMINDER

Last year we held a very successful Exhibition at THE HUB which so impressed their administration that we have been invited to participate in their major fund raiser "Christmas in July".

We have accepted that invitation which is a feather in our cap as the aim of that event is to raise funds and for any organisation to be involved is highly sought after.

At this stage the conditions of our involvement will be unchanged i.e. if members wish to offer their image/s for sale it is such member's choice.

I will circulate an E Mail in the near future seeking the names of members that wish to be involved.

Looking forward to catching up with members at 10am Thursday, 5th February 2025 at The Hub,

Regards,

Frank Kennedy.

BIRDS AND NATURE

SPECIAL INTEREST GROUP

The holidays have been a perfect time to build your nature portfolio! In preparation for our first meeting in 2026 please send 6 of your best to Chris Reichl tcreichl@bigpond.com ready to share on Tuesday Feb 17 7.30pm. Please get them to Chris by Friday 13 Feb at the latest.

Geelong Camera Club have again been invited to compete in the Camberwell Nature Competition. Last year we were Runners Up- this year we want to win!!

The competition has several sections

- Landscape/Seascape
- Botany
- Birds
- Mammals
- Invertebrates
- Other Nature
- Urban Wildlife

Closing date to submit to Sue Wilson suevietnam@yahoo.com is March 15 2026

Images then will be selected to enter the competition.

Duade Paton – award winning photographer, prolific YouTuber, based in central Victoria with a great story to tell.

All images must comply with APS/FIAPP/PSA nature and meet the definitions

DEFINITIONS:

LANDSCAPE/SEASCAPE DEFINITION (Source: The Australian Photographic Society).

Applies to Category 1

The Australian Photographic Society (APS) defines a landscape photograph as one that depicts natural scenery with land and sky-based elements in a pictorial fashion. While it can include evidence of human presence (people, animals, or man-made structures), these elements should not dominate the image. A seascape is a specific type of landscape focusing on coastal scenery, with the sea as the central subject.

NATURE DEFINITION

(Source: The Australian Photographic Society. Last updated 27th May 2025)

Please note the APS have updated their nature definition from last year. Where possible the definition has been edited to align with our interclub competition which is not an APS exhibition.

Applies to Categories 2-6

BIRDS AND NATURE

SPECIAL INTEREST GROUP

OTHER NATURE (Category 6) includes any subject not included in the previous categories (1-5), and as such includes amphibians, reptiles, marine, frogs, axolotls and fungi.

URBAN WILDLIFE (Category 7)

The subject(s) must be photographed in a setting showing built form or other evidence of human activity. This can be a portrait or behaviour shot. The subject(s) depicted may be either native or feral but must be shown in a setting that indicates the presence of human activity. Captive species are allowed. Domestic animals are not allowed.

COMING UP....

Feb 17 7.30pm Clubrooms- Sharing images and planning the year

Camberwell Nature interclub – images due to Sue, March 15

First Outing March 21- Location to be decided



CREATIVE

SPECIAL INTEREST GROUP

Our challenges for the next 4 weeks are:

3 words : empty room, key, scary. You can add other objects to your story of course.

I would also like you to keep having a go at a series like we discussed before Christmas.

I think it is a good exercise to tone your brain muscles!

Pick one object like a key, a window, a door, an apple, a ghostly figure and put it in three different stories.

Good luck!

See you all at our next meeting on Tuesday March 3.

Cheers, Heather

FIRST DAY BACK BBQ 2026

Wednesday 21st January saw the traditional first day back Barbeque for all club members.

It was well attended and members could admire the kitchen renovations.

Members could also drop off their images for the February competition.

Images provided by Gerry Van der Meer



2026 - GCC KITCHENETTE REFRESH. PROJECT

Proposal

Following a few years of discussion by successive Committees to either replace or refresh the Kitchenette, a proposal to refresh was developed and presented to the Committee. The final plan/proposal was presented and accepted at the November 2025 Committee Meeting. Approval for a budget of \$1,800 was passed and that a team be established to undertake the Project.

Furthermore, the 'Project, is to be completed post the last activity of 2025 (18 Dec 25) and to be ready for use by the first activity of 2026 (15 Jan 26).

The Team

In planning the Project, a significant number of activities were broken into discrete tasks that members could undertake individually on or off-site. Regarding support, 13 members flowed through this confined space, and did their bit.

I would like to thank the following members for their assistance:

Larry Devenish, Chris George, Glenn Floyd, Gerry Van Der Meer, David Bridge, Ian Chambers Gloria Van Der Meer, Sheryle Griffiths, Judy Medwell, Shelly McKiernan, Brien Cohn, Marion Best, Sandra McArthur and a special thankyou to Sheryle and Jenny Gold for morning tea.

Tasking

The primary elements of the refresh Project were to paint the ceiling, walls and cabinetry; plus, if funds and time permitted replace the bench tops.

As the Project evolved, it was decided (with the able assistance of Larry) the kitchen sink would be removed for intensive stainless-steel polishing. Consequently, the polishing activity required the replacement of the sink outflow plumbing.

Following significant research into the procurement of replacement bench tops, it was decided that stock tops from Bunning would be suitable from a procurement time-line perspective and cost.



After considering options for the mounting of the bench tops, Gary's suggestion to place the new right-hand top over the existing, and by the joining of two pieces together achieve the required length for the left-hand top was accepted. This approach would minimise the risk to the structural integrity of the cabinets and would be well within our capability. The next task was to cut the purchased tops to the required size. Gary Cain offered to take the tops to his workshop and cut them to size – his support was much appreciated (I would have no hesitation in recommending Gary and his crew for any cabinetry support).

Conclusion

Overall, the team work well and achieved all assigned tasks. Furthermore, the Project was completed within time and for approximately \$1,500, under budget.

There are two follow-on tasks that need to be considered. The first is to repurpose the back storage area (through the kitchenette) and replace the flooring. Given the complexity of the levelling and laying tasks for the floor it is considered this task should be completed by a professional.

Bob Medwell



BEFORE



AFTER



GEELONG CAMERA CLUB FUNDRAISING SAUSAGE SIZZLE REPORT

a few words of smoky, onion-infused truth.....

The day began at the kind of hour normally reserved for astrophotographers and insomniac wildlife shooters: 6:00am. Two brave cars, each packed tighter than a tourist bus at the Twelve Apostle, set off toward Bunnings, groaning under the weight of four battery powered fridges filled with snags and onions, four es-kies, twelve boxes of soft drink, two slabs of water, more aprons than a MasterChef finale, a camping hot-water service, BBQ tools, tubs, buckets, cloths, enough sauces to impress a Heinz sales rep, plus sanitiser and soap. We left precisely one tiny, human shaped gap for the driver to wedge themselves into. Every inch filled. Every suspension system tested.

After navigating the highway like two travelling condiment caravans, we arrived at approximately 8:10am. By 8:15am before the BBQ was even warm enough to toast a marshmallow the first customer ambled over and asked, with great optimism, whether we “might have any snags ready?” I politely explained it would be five or ten minutes. He responded, “That’s ok, I’ll sit in the car!” That, friends, is commitment. Some people love their BBQ snags; others *live* for them. We had people arrive with lunchboxes, insulated bags, all ready for their Bunnings snags. Who knew?

From there the day only grew busier. Thankfully, we had a rotating roster of enthusiastic helpers, six at any given time, each proudly sporting an apron that told its own story. Some aprons were floral, some were plain, some looked like they’d survived decades of culinary warfare. Each volunteer brought their own special gift to the task: precision tongs technique, elite onion-stirring form, or the uncanny ability to make correct change while balancing a loaf of bread under one arm.

We operated with military style efficiency across three stations:

Station 1: Sausage grillers; heroes forged in heat and smoke.

Station 2: Order takers; part cashier, part diplomat, whilst many were inducted into the new way of money taking, the dreaded QR Code.

Station 3: Assembly line; architects of the perfect snag in bread.



This system worked beautifully, with only two sausages hitting the deck all day, which is practically a world record in sausage sizzle land.

By close of business, the stats were impressive enough to make a mathematician weep with roughly 90 kilograms of snags sold, 60 loaves of bread transformed into handheld happiness, and a slightly disappointing number of drinks sold. (Apparently the cool, wet weather made people thirst for warmth, not soft drink). Several volunteers later reported that they expected to be “turning snags” in their dreams for the next week, which is a known side effect of high-volume grilling.

As the sun dipped and we packed up, the entire team smelled gloriously of onions and sausages, arguably the true fragrance of Australian fundraising. The smell was worth it, we raised around \$3,000 for the club!

A massive thank you goes to everyone involved: the organisers who planned the day, the helpers who worked tirelessly, those who donated cash, goods, fridges, or eskies, and of course Bunnings for letting us take over their footpath with tongs, cheerfulness, and a mountain of snags.

What a brilliant team effort and what a sizzling success

Thanks to all involved

Shelley and Mal McKiernan



FEBRUARY 2026			
WED	4	7:30 PM	Competition Night - Open Prints; Open EDI; SS EDI: WINDOW LIGHT <i>Competition Entries Due for Open Prints; Open EDI; Altered Reality EDI - " THIS WILL BE AN IN HOUSE JUDGING"</i>
THUR	5	10:00 AM	Lightseekers - Welcome Back (at The Hub) ** Term 1 Challenge; Panorama
THUR	5	7:30 PM	<i>Introduction to Photography Course - Week 4: Photographing People</i>
TUE	10	7:30 PM	Birds & Nature SIG: Clubrooms
WED	11	4:30 PM	Committee Meeting
WED	11	7:30 PM	WORKSHOP / TECH NIGHT - Frank Kennedy - "Cropping is Not a Dirty Word" "Focus Stacking" etc. This will be a look at how we might improve our images to focus on what is really important in the shot - Audience participation is encouraged ..
THUR	12	10:00 AM	Lightseekers - Club Rooms (review images from holidays)
		7:30 PM	Analogue SIG - David Rendle TO BE MOVED DUE TO INTRODUCTION TO PHOTOGRAPHY
THUR	12	7:30 PM	<i>Introduction to Photography Course - Week 5: Night Photography</i>
SUN	15	TBA	<i>Introduction to Photography Course - Week 5a: Landscape Outing</i>
TUE	17	7:30PM	SIG Bird & Nature Group.
WED	18	7:30 PM	GUEST SPEAKER - Jay Collier confirmed (7:30pm start 2 hr presentation + Q&A)
THUR	19	10:00 AM	Lightseekers: Outing - Blue Lake, Ocean Grove
THUR	19	7:30PM	<i>Introduction to Photography Course - Week 6: Still Life & Close Up.</i>
WED	25	7:30 PM	WORKSHOP / TECH NIGHT - Optical illusions (bring your camera) - Sheryle Griffiths & Portland Camp photos being shown.
THUR	26	10:00 AM	Lightseekers: Club rooms (review images)
THUR	26	7:30 PM	<i>Introduction to Photography Course - Week 7: Image Editing</i>

MEMBER INFO

MEMBERSHIP FEES

ANNUAL FEES

Membership fees are paid annually and are due by 31st July each year; fees below are effective for the club year 2025-2026. Payment process is advised to members prior to the due date.

\$75.00 Single

\$65.00 Single Concession*

\$65.00 Full Time Student

\$110.00 Family (2 People - \$50 each additional family member)

\$100.00 Family Concession* (2 People - \$45 each additional family member)

(*Concessions: Age Pension, Government Seniors Card, Unemployed, Full Time Student, Disability Pension)

ProRata Membership Fees:

January to 30th July = 50% of full year fees as listed above

May to 30th July = membership fees nil, or 25% of full year fees for voting and competition rights

MEMBER FACILITIES

STUDIO HIRE

Studio facilities are available to those who have been members for at least three months and must be booked through the club treasurer.

The main hall of the clubroom may be used as a studio. GCC have their own lighting equipment and three backdrops (white, black and green screen); backdrops must be cleaned after use.

Club lighting is available only after the member has been instructed in the use of the lights and equipment; it is not available to non-club members.

Fees are as follows:

\$40.00 per session for members using their own studio lights

\$50.00 + \$50.00 refundable bond per session for members using the club's studio lights

DARKROOM

The darkroom manager is the contact person for organising use of darkroom facilities - please see a committee member who can advise contact details.

MEMBER APPAREL

We have a range of club logo clothing including jackets, tops, caps and beanies available to members for very reasonable prices. These are available for ordering from a local supplier via our website.

LIBRARY

Instructional, special interest and general photographic books and magazines are available to borrow. Limit three books for two weeks. When borrowing, the library register is to be completed, recording borrower's name, book title and date borrowed.

There are two cabinets - one that all members can access; the second is a locked cabinet and requires one of our library officers to be in attendance for access.
