Issue VOLUME 20 NUMBER 11



Townsville Photography Club Inc.

Snap Shot

Volume 20 Number 11

November 2026

From the President

This will be a very short President's report! Heat, humidity and getting the carpet replaced with vinyl planks (Cecily), have kept us inside in air conditioning more than we would have liked.

We did attempt to have a workshop this month, only to discover that there was a problem with the locking and unlocking system at the hall! Early night for us. It was unfortunate as Cecily had researched and prepared some interesting videos for us to watch. Oh well, it was completely out of our control.

The big news from me is that I am a Granny again! My daughter Katie-anne and Angelo gave birth on Thursday the 12th in the afternoon to a beautiful baby boy. He has a full head of hair and is very cute (biased Granny). His name is Theo Raymon Exposito. Ramon is from Angelo's brother who is with us no more.

Needless to say, I have been spending a lot of time at the hospital these last few days helping where needed. He has been a long time coming and we are all very excited.

Not a great deal happening on Facebook either.

Well, that's it from me,
Karen Grice

IN THIS ISSUE

From the President Page 1
Competition Results Page 2
Editors Thoughts Page 3
Members Facebook Images Page 4
Schedule for 2026 Page 7
Competition Closing Dates Page 8
Tips on Shooting Birds in Flight Page 9

Issue VOLUME 20 NUMBER 11

Competition Results

The feedback and scores for 'Yesteryear' as well as the 'Open' competition are always welcomed by our Members.

Congratulations to all who received an Honour, Merit, Highly Commended or Acceptance.



THEME OF THE MONTH.....YESTERYEAR
From Long Ago .....Marcia Bacon

Theme - Yesteryear

Image of the Month -

Marcia Bacon

Honour – Marcia, Sharryl, Karen

Merit - Garry x2, Cecily, Kaye, Annette, Ray, Marcia, Elsbeth, Patricia

Highly Commended - Tracey x2, Cecily, Elsbeth, Karen, Lyn, Sharryl, Sue,

Acceptance - Howard x2, Bob x2, Annette, Lyn, Kaye, Patricia, Ray

PRINTOF THE MONTH..... THEME ABANDONED
Too Late to Renovate.....Tracey Street



Competition Results (Continued)

Theme - Open

Image of the Month – Cecily Jones

Honour 9 - Cecily, Annette, Marcia

Honour 8 - Elsbeth, Sharryl, Garry

Merit - Patricia, Tracey, Annette, Marcia, Karen, Ray, Lyn, Patricia

Highly Commended - Lyn, Elsbeth, Sharryl, Bob, Garry, Tracey, Ray, Kaye, Karen

Acceptance - Howard x2, Cecily, Bob, Sue, Kaye



OPEN THEME - IMAGE OF THE MONTH
Training in the Morning.....Cecily Jones

From the Editor

I think Karen said it all when she said 'hot and humid'. The other thing is that we are another year older or soon will be. Takes its toll!



I hope that all our members have had a good year, some more than others, but that is to be expected. We can look forward to next year and what that might bring us. A special thought as Christmas approaches, that one of our members, Ina, won't be with us to share Christmas. She could always bring a smile to our faces with her antics.



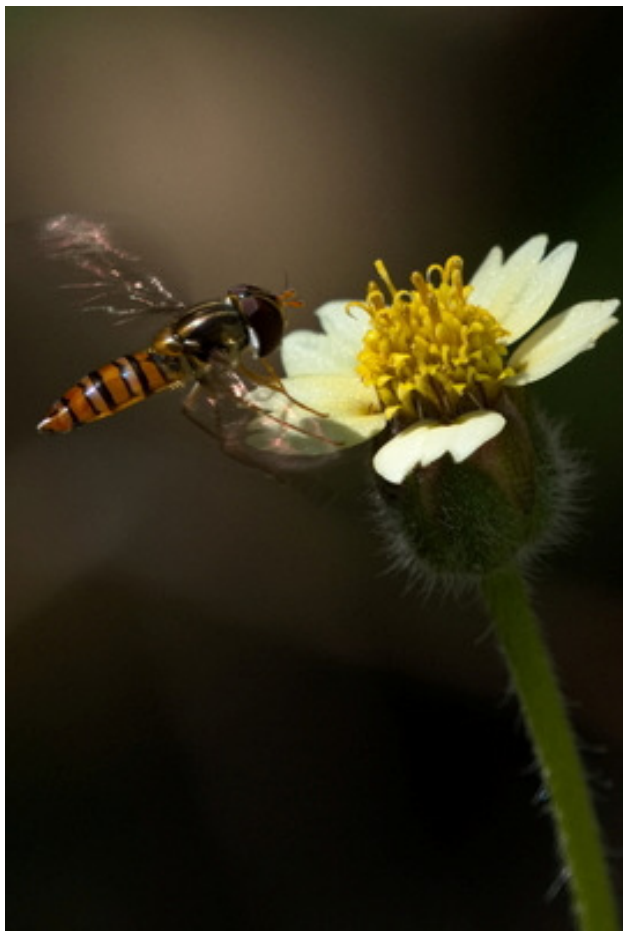
Christmas 2023.



Issue VOLUME 20 NUMBER 11

Members Facebook Images from their Travels.











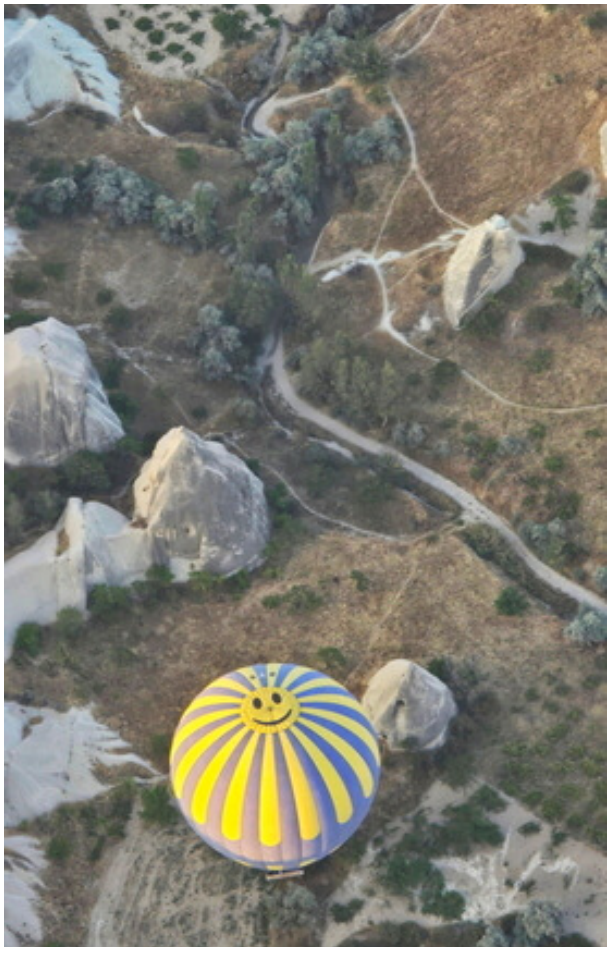
Issue VOLUME 20 NUMBER 11

Members Facebook Images from their Travels











Issue VOLUME 20 NUMBER 11

Members Facebook Images from their Travels







Schedule for 2026

FOR MONTH	DIGITAL THEME	DUE BY MIDNIGHT	PRINT THEME	HAND PRINT IN
JAN	Monochrome Open	9 DEC	Shapes	DEC
FEB	Rule of Odds Open	12 JAN	Open	19 JAN
MAR	Metal Open	9 FEB	Bridges	16 FEB
APR	Patterns Open	9 MAR	Open	16 MAR
MAY	Long Exposure ** Open	13 APR	Scapes	20 APR
JUN	Silhouette Open	11 MAY	Open	18 MAY
JUL	Colour Blue Open	8 JUN	Taken from Down Low	15 JUN
AUG	Sunrise or Sunset Open	13 JUL	Open	20 JUL
SEPT	Food Open	10 AUG	BlacknWhite	17 AUG
OCT	Any Scape Open	14 SEPT	Open	21 SEPT
NOV	Yesteryear Open	12 OCT	Abandoned	19 OCT
DEC	Shadows Open	2 NOV	Open	16 NOV
JAN 2027	Monochrome Open	14 DEC		21 DEC

** More than 2 seconds

FOR MONTH	WORKSHOP	CHALLENGE	RESULTS AT MEETING	ACDSee
JAN	No Workshop	19 Jan	19 JAN	No Classes
FEB	2 Feb	16 Feb	16 FEB	23 Feb
MAR	2 Mar	16 Mar	16 MAR	23 Mar
APR	No Workshop	20 Apr	20 APR	27 Apr
MAY	No Workshp	18 May	18 MAY	25 May
JUN	1 Jun	15 Jun	15 JUN	22 Jun
JUL	6 July	20 July	20 JUL	27 July
AUG	3 Aug	17 Aug	17 AUG	24 Aug
SEPT	7 Sept	21 Sept	21 SEPT	28 Sept
OCT	No Workshop	19 Oct	19 OCT	26 Oct
NOV	2 Nov	16 Nov	16 NOV	23 Nov
DEC	No Workshop	No Challenge	21 DEC	

Competition Closing Dates

January 2027	Send 2 Monochrome Send 2 Open	**In by 14th December**	Bring Print Scapes	**On 18th January**
February 2027	Send 2 Colour Red Send 2 Open	**In by 11th January**	Bring Print Open	**On 15th February**
March 2027	Send 2 Macro Send 2 Open	**In by 8th February**	Bring Print Flora	**On 15th March**
April 2027	Send 2 Fauna Send 2 Open	**In by 8th March**	Bring Print Open	**On 15th March**

Remember – Some themes may have guidelines …. check on the website

Post Processing Sessions

We will be running these sessions on ACDSee at the Aitkenvale Library at 7.00 pm on the fourth Monday of each month. What to bring - laptop with latest ACDSee installed. Notebook and pen if you need to take notes. Require further information - contact Cecily.

We will be showing videos at the next session.

The next session for 2026 at the Aitkenvale Library will be 7.00pm on Monday 23rd November

Photography Workshops

These are usually held on the first Monday of the month at the Oonoomba Hall at 7.00 pm. There could be some changes to these dates but you will be notified by email of any such changes. Please mark your Calendar for the next workshop.

Our next workshop at Oonoonba Hall will be 7.00 pm on Monday 1st February 2027

Tips for Shooting Birds in Flight

When you think about wildlife photography in Townsville, one species tends to come to most people's mind. Birds! With some great locations & a number of wetlands, bird photography is certainly a great hobby to get in to. As you start out with bird photography you quickly learn that one of the hardest aspects is capturing birds in flight. So today we are going to look at some handy tips on how you can get started.



Selecting the Right Location

Before you can attempt shooting birds in flight, you first need to find the birds. The best bet for a lot of species is finding a body of water. This time of year, there are a lot of seasonal wetlands that support an abundance of life, but the area with the most birds isn't necessarily the best.

There is a few additional things that you should be on the lookout for when hunting for a good spot.

1. **What is your background going to look like?** You need to be mindful of what is going on behind where you think the birds will be flying. Having a clean, contrasted background ensures that the birds are the main focus of the image; as well as makes it easier for your camera to lock on it's focus.
2. **What is the lighting going to look like?** The ideal time to shoot wildlife are during the golden hours (near sunrise and sunset) each day. When scoping out a desired location it is important to factor in where the sun is going to be at different times of the day. Are there big trees that are going to cut out the afternoon sun? Are you going to be shooting into, or away from the sun? etc.
3. **Study your subject** – No matter how much planning you do in regard to your background & lighting, if you haven't picked a location that birds come to, then you aren't going to get any shots! Take the time to go out to the location you are thinking of. Watch what the birds do, where they take off from, where they land. It doesn't guarantee that they are going to do the same thing tomorrow, but over time you get a much better understanding of where they will be.

Getting the Right Equipment for the Job

Once you know the location that you want to shoot, now you have to make sure you are packing the right gear for the job.

The most important part is going to be the lens that you select. At a **minimum** you want a 300mm lens, but ideally you will want something more in the 500-600mm+ range. (full frame equivalent mm). Essentially the more zoom you can get, the easier your life becomes.

The second most important thing is your tripod or monopod. This one comes a bit more down to personal preference, but if you struggle to hold your big zoom lens then these are a must! There are a big range of options but for larger lenses you will want to pick yourself up a 'gimbal' head. These making tracking the birds as they move through the sky a whole lot easier.



Basic Settings

Depending on the time of day, how fast the bird travels, and a range of other variables, there is never a perfect exposure setting you can plug into your camera. Whenever I'm doing bird photography, I like to think of my settings in term of most important to least.

Firstly, you **must** have a fast shutter speed to get a sharp photo, therefore no matter what I never let the shutter speed go below 1/1000 for birds in flight. I will do whatever I need to with my aperture and ISO to ensure that can be achieved.

Second, when possible I want to have a wider depth of field to make it easier for my camera to focus. I tend to start with my aperture around f/8 and adjust from there depending on the lighting. Although a wider depth of field is nice, I don't want the image to become too grainy by pushing up the ISO.

Lastly, we consider the ISO. Generally I run my ISO in auto with a upper limit that I am comfortable with the grain. This allows the camera some flexibility in helping you get your desired shutter speed & aperture, but prevents the ISO going too high and making it grainy. The actual value that you chose is going to come down to your specific camera & your level of tolerance, but on a full frame unit I tend to cap it between 6400-12800. There are a lot of great programs out there now days that can remove the majority of the ISO grain.

Ready to Photograph Birds in Flight

This article barely scratches the surface of everything there is to know, but it should arm you with enough to get out there and give it a crack. You can read all the photography articles in the world, but the best way to learn is to get out there and do it!

As always, if you have any questions about anything in the article, or need a hand picking out the right gear for your photography endeavours, feel free to pop into the store and have a chat.

Happy shooting!

Julian
Garricks Camera House
Domain Central
Ph: 4725 4711
julian.forsyth@camerahouse.com.au

GARRICKS camerahouse