



warragul camera club Inc.

www.warragulcameraclub.org

WCC 2025 DATES TO REMEMBER

January

January Competition - **"Abuse of the Environment"**

Monday 29th December- Entries close -11:30pm

Monday 29th December. Online Member Voting Opens- 11:30 pm

Sunday 4th January. Online Member Voting closes 11:30 pm

Monday 5th January - Club Meeting at VRI Hall – 7:30pm

Competition Entries for **"Open"** close at 11:30 pm

Wednesday 14th January Midweek outing -NGV see WCC calendar for details

Monday 19th January - "Pastel Colours" Workshop VRI Hall 7:30pm

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CONGRATULATIONS TO
THOMAS GRUBER AND SHARYN SWANPOEL
ON MOVING FROM 'B' GRADE TO 'A' GRADE.



From the President ...

Russell writes....

This is the January newsletter, as the pre cursor to our January competition, and leading up to the resumption of our program with

- our monthly competition night on **January 5**, at the VRI / Bbaa Artspace
- the outing to the National Gallery on **January 14**, at the VRI / Bbaa Artspace and
- our Pastel Colours workshop with Gary Smith on **January 19**.

As usual, please register for these events on the club website calendar.

The January committee meeting has been deferred until January 29 and will take the form of a review and planning meeting for 2026.

2025 Awards

Congratulations to all members who were successful in the various sections of the images of the year. (Results elsewhere in this issue). Congratulations are also due to all those whose standard of work and consistency in entering monthly competitions resulted in their nomination as one of the various categories of Photographer of the Year.

Congratulations to Cathy Tisdale for receipt of the 2025 *In The Frame* Award in recognition of her contribution to the life and work of our Club.

Hallora Marathon

Thanks to Des and his team of volunteers who represented the club by offering photography services for the annual Hallora Marathon, which in raises funds for the Peter Mac Cancer Centre

Our Special Event on November 24

Members clearly enjoyed the change in pace offered by this event, which featured a presentation by David and Jane Woodcock on their adventures in Pakistan and provided an opportunity to elicit some feedback from members regarding future directions for the club (see below).

Members also enjoyed the supper generously provided by David and Jane.

What's happening in 2026

THE WEBSITE HAS SCHEDULES FOR 2026 COMPETITIONS, WORKSHOPS AND OUTINGS POSTED, WITH RELEVANT DETAILS ALSO IN THE CALENDAR. (ROBYN IS KEEN TO HEAR FROM ANY MEMBER(S) WHO ARE PREPARED TO SHARE THEIR SKILLS AND / OR ENTHUSIASM BY LEADING A WORKSHOP.)

The discussion with members at our 'Special Event' on November 24 also provided a very clear request for the club to offer something more than our existing program, in particular a *project (or individual projects) (photo essay, portfolio, book)*.

The following chart shows the responses from members to each of the propositions considered in the discussion:

A project (or individual projects) (photo essay, portfolio, book)
Bring your camera and be prepared to share a feature / skill
Simply social, coffee and catch up
Garage' sale , ie bring your no longer needed gear for sale / swap
Travel related presentations (similar to David and Jane's)
Software related 'courses' eg Lightroom, Photoshop, Capture One, Affinity
Reinvigorate the 'Interest Groups'
Competitions
Drone photography
AV
Printing and Printers



The January Committee meeting will be discussing this feedback more fully, so watch for updates in the newsletter or in your email.

THE NEW CALENDAR YEAR IS AN IDEAL OPPORTUNITY TO BE *INSPIRED*, *MOTIVATED*, *EDUCATED* AND TO *ENJOY* PHOTOGRAPHY.

Take care, and keep taking good photos,

Russell

Russell Monson presenting Cathy Tisdale with her IN THE FRAME Award.



R

Committee 2025/26	
President:	Russell Monson
Vice President:	Robyn Rosenboom
Secretary:	Bruce Langdon
Treasurer:	Jane Woodcock
Membership Coordinator:	Jan Bennett
Competition Coordinator:	Des Lowe
Competition (Print) Coordinator:	Robyn Wright
External Competition Coordinator:	Ruth Burleigh
Sponsorship and Fundraising Coordinator:	Pete Juers
Public Relations Coordinator:	Kayren Browne
Newsletter Editor:	Kathy Burslem with Denise Whittaker as assistant
Outings Coordinator:	Cathie Langdon
Workshop Coordinator:	Robyn Rosenboom
Web Coordinator:	Des Lowe
Strategic Planning:	Russell Monson and Robyn Rosenboom
Outside Committee	
Social Media:	Ron Paynter
Competition Data Coordinator:	David Woodcock
Projection Team:	Mike Sanderson, Jan Bennett,

WCC Monthly Competition “Image of Year”

Judges: Frankston Panel (Sally Rule, Max Lane, David Little)

A Grade Print

Member Name	Award	Image Title
Jane Woodcock	First Place	Vedda Man
Russell Monson	Runner-Up	By the Stream

A Grade Digital

Member Name	Award	Image Title
Paul Robinson	First Place	Mad Hatter
David Woodcock	Runner-Up	NGA from Ouroboros

A Grade Creative

Member Name	Award	Image Title
Greg Mitchell	First Place	Releasing the Book Moths
Terrie O'Dwyer	Joint Runner-Up	Swipe to play
Ruth Burleigh	Joint Runner-Up	Chimney Stack

B Grade Print

Member Name	Award	Image Title
Cathie Langdon	First Place	Amazing Grace
Michael Owen	Runner-Up	Bark

B Grade Digital

Member Name	Award	Image Title
Sharyn Swanepoel	First Place	Eyes On You
Michael Owen	Runner-Up	MJO09634_DxO_3

B Grade Creative

Member Name	Award	Image Title
Thomas Gruber	First Place	In the Zone
Jan Bennett	Runner-Up	Autumn's colour



XMAS BREAK UP 2025





WELCOME TO NEW MEMBER: WAYNE POLLARD



A Big Thank You to David and Jane Woodcock for their Photography Presentation about their recent travels to Pakistan. They looked fabulous in their authentic clothing. They also provided a beautiful supper for the members from NAPA BLISS restaurant in Mason Street Warragul.

Jane looking dangerous



HALLORA MARATHON

A BIG THANK YOU to all members who assisted at the Hallora Marathon.

Hallora Marathon Photoshoot.

For the third year in a row Warragul Camera Club has provided a team of photographers to cover the Hallora Marathon and provide a record of the event plus an opportunity to contribute to the funds raised for the Peter Mac Cancer Research Centre through photo sales.

With a record number of 930 signed up online (though some didn't turn up) there must have been close to 900 runners, which was huge. The amount raised as of 18th (19th December) stands at \$58,000. A new record amount!



START OF 42KM AND 24KM EVENTS AT HALLORA

The club photography team consisted of 9 members: Lynne Farrely, Thomas Gruber, Robyn Rosenboom, Mike Moore, Geoff Smith, Garry Smith, Bruce Langdon, Russell Monson and Des Lowe.

Des, Thomas and Russell covered the early Hallora start and Main South Road. Robyn, Lynne, and Mike covered the section in Civic Park, Drouin. Bruce, Gary and Geoff covered the starts of the shorter events and the finish line for all in Western Park, Warragul.

The team's task didn't end with capturing the images of course, there followed a significant number of hours of culling, processing and exporting. Even though the brief was to do the minimum amount of work in post, between us it still added up to quite a few hours' work. In the end 5,283 photos were uploaded to Geo Snapshot ready for sale. There have already been over 230 photos sales.as I write.

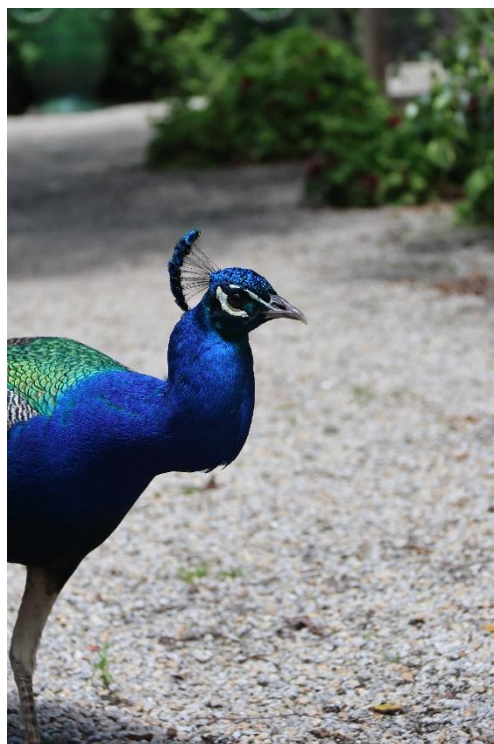
Thankyou team for a great effort which is appreciated by the committee as a significant positive promotion for the club in the general community. It is also highly regarded and much appreciated by the Marathon organisers, and not least of all by the participants in the event.

Des

BROUGHTON HALL EXCURSION

An excellent day out for Club members arranged by Cathie Langdon. Members met at the Hall and were free to wander and photograph at leisure, as we had the grounds to ourselves. The peacocks provided colourful subjects for our keen photographers and the stunning grounds provided excellent opportunities to practice various skills such as ICM. The weather was kind to all and then all members adjourned to the Robin Hood Inn for lunch.

The next outing is to the NGV in Melbourne. See Club calendar to register.



Affinity is now Free (but there are some gotchas!)

A European company, Serif, has sold its products to Canva, a US company. This included the notable Affinity Photo. Despite being sold retail for a surprisingly small sum (\$49 on the Microsoft Store), Affinity Photo is widely considered to be a superior alternative to Adobe Photoshop. (Dr Les Walkling, a Photoshop ambassador for many years, told me he considered Affinity Photo to be what he always wanted Photoshop to become but hadn't.)

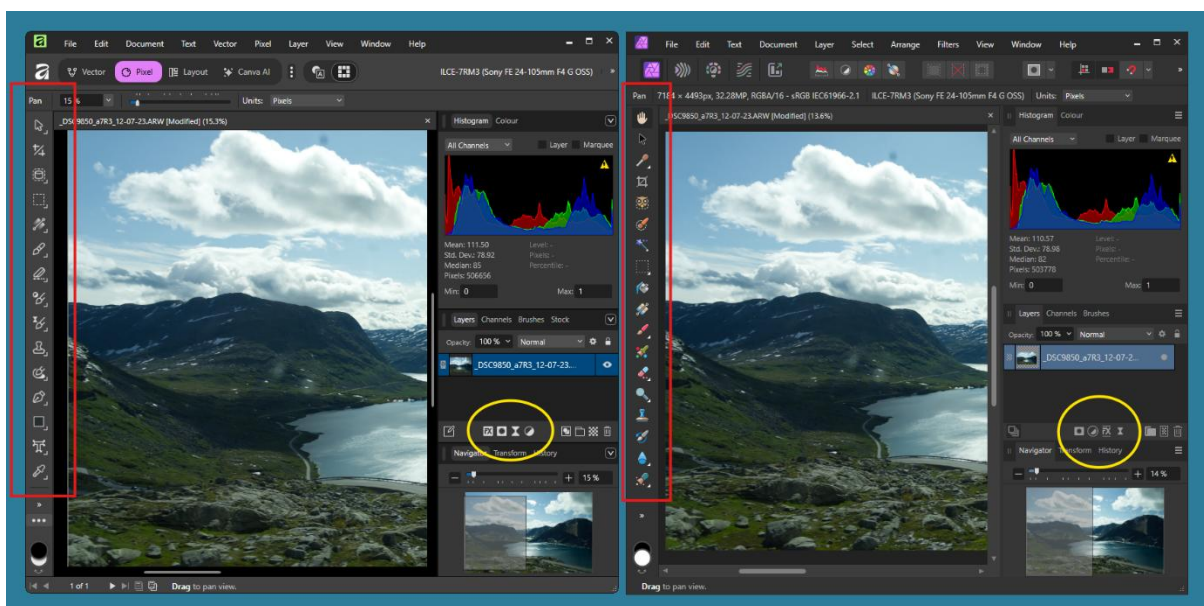
With the Canva purchase, the Affinity suite (Designer, Photo and Publisher) are all now free. The Photo “persona” is now called Pixel in the Canva version.

Canva wants to make its money by hooking customers on the Affinity suite and then on-selling their AI add-ons to work with it.

I have used the original Serif Affinity Photo for several years, mainly for its very capable in-built focus stacking and panorama functions plus the odd bit of creative manipulation.

The Canva version looks very similar but the new owners seemed to have felt the need to put their stamp on it and, unfortunately, these changes are not actual improvements.

The original Affinity Photo is on the right and the Canva Affinity in Pixel (Photo) on the left.



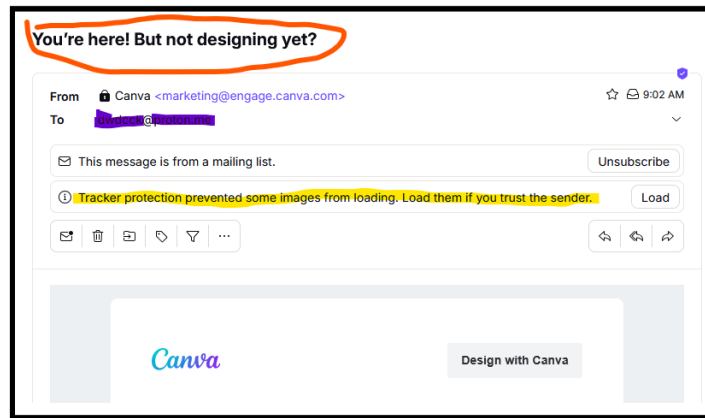
On the left of the interface (red boxes), Canva have removed the colour from the icons making them harder to distinguish, in my opinion. On the right (yellow circle), they have rearranged the icons for no good reason that I can see other than to make it theirs.

Also, Canva seems to be monitoring everything you do with the Affinity suite. I received this email. *Are they using your work to train their AI, I wonder?*

Remember, if something is free, you are the product.

With all that said, Affinity Photo/Pixel is still a very capable and useful bit of software well worth considering by serious photographers.


David Woodcock



Thank you to all our generous sponsors!

The Warragul Camera Club appreciates the continued support of all our sponsors for this Newsletter and for the National Competition and Exhibition.


The competition and exhibition would not be possible without their support, and we encourage members (and other readers) to consider them when making purchase decisions.



Louise Sedgman
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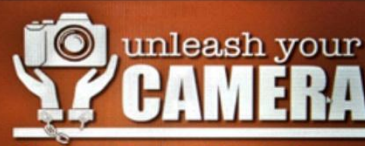
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