



New Members

Information Pack

December 2024

www.berwickviewfinders.com.au

Welcome

At the Berwick Viewfinders Camera Club our aim is to actively encourage and promote photography in all its aspects, to improve the photographic abilities of its members and to promote fellowship between its members, friends, and the general community. We hope that you have a good time getting to know our members and have an interesting and informative time with us.

We will provide you with opportunities to learn about a wide range of photographic techniques related to your current skill level. Members of our club love sharing their knowledge and would be very happy to support you in any way they can.

We meet at 7.30 pm most Mondays of the year at St Michael's Parish Support Centre, 121-123 High St., Berwick. Please check the calendar of events on our website

<https://berwickviewfinders.com.au/>



Location: St Michael's Parish Support Centre, 121-123 High Street Berwick (on service road, entrance at the rear facing Bain Street)

From Berwick centre go through the roundabout at top of High Street and veer left into service road. PSC before the church.

From Beaconsfield end turn right into Peel street, left into Scanlan, left into Bain.

Parking along service road residential side **only**. Parking also in Bain Street – please note this is a one way street from Scanlan St **not** the service road.

Our club engages in a variety of activities. We usually meet at the clubrooms for competition nights, guest speakers and practical nights. Occasionally, we head out for location shoots and there are regular weekends away that are always very eventful.

Our competition nights are a time to get in there and showcase your work, admire others work and gain a better understanding of photography. These nights are judged by an independent person from another club. Just remember, photography is subjective and the views of one judge might not necessarily be the same as another judge.

Why Join Berwick Viewfinders Camera Club?

The Club was formed about 33 years ago and so has a great deal of experience to offer new members.

When you join the Berwick Viewfinders Camera Club Inc, you will get to mix with all types of people, all with different skill levels in photography. We have members who have just started out with photography through to members who have participated in national competitions, along with members whose chosen profession is photography. Our members are more than happy to share their experience and ideas.

Our regular competitions are a chance to have your photos constructively critiqued, which can only help improve your technique. On non-competition nights we hold talks and workshops on a variety of subjects to improve and practice your camera craft.

The Club organises a variety of field trips throughout the year, for the specific purpose of visiting new and interesting places for photographic opportunities.

Why Compete?

A little friendly competition never hurt anybody. And when you can learn and improve your photographic skills because of it - all the better!

Do I Have To Compete as a Member?

No, you don't however, our friendly competitions are painless. The photographer/maker is anonymous during competition. Members find competitions fun and a great learning tool.

When Do I Join?

We encourage guests to visit as often as they would like, however competitions are limited to financial members only. It would be expected that you join the Club after 3-4 visits as a guest.

Fees are payable in August before the Annual General Meeting. If you join part way through the year, fees are adjusted accordingly ([See Membership Fees](#)).

To join our Club, fill in the membership form at the end of this pack and send it to:-

The Secretary
Berwick Viewfinders Camera Club Inc.
3430 Ballarto Rd
Bayles, 3981
Vic

or email to: berwickviewfinders@gmail.com **or** bring the completed form to a Club meeting.

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Subscription Fees

Adult \$ 55.00

Family \$ 70.00

A "Family" is regarded as a single adult, or as a couple, and their children under the age of 18.

(When one or more family members are either a Life Member or an Honorary Life Member, then each subsequent Family Member will have an Annual Fee of \$10.00)

Junior \$ 40.00

Pensioner/Student \$ 40.00

Pensioner Family \$ 50.00

****Pensioners must hold a valid Government concession card****

Life Member \$ Nil

Subscription Fees are due by the 1st July. Members who join after January 1st shall pay one half of the full annual subscription. Members joining after April 1st shall pay the full subscription and shall be financial for the ensuing year.

There is a \$3.00 (Via EFTPOS) door charge for each meeting to help cover insurance and venue charges.

Berwick Viewfinders Camera Club Inc. Bank Account Details

Account Name Berwick Viewfinders Cheque Acc.

BSB No. 633-000

Account No 150793271

Competitions

The Club holds in-house competitions throughout the year on a regular basis. These are open to all financial members of the Club. These competitions can either be an Open or Set topic.

The Club also participates, with several other Clubs, in Interclub competitions each year. Our Club currently competes with Pakenham, Mornington, and Frankston Camera Clubs.

Details and guidelines for these competitions are listed in the Club By-Laws on the Club website

www.berwickviewfinders.com.au

Thursday's Snappers

Members can join a group known as the "Thursday's Snappers", who meet most Thursday's and visit interesting

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places for photography. The calendar of events is listed on the website.

Ways You Can Help Out In The Club

The Club would not survive without its dedicated members. We can always do with more help though. Ways that you can help are:-

- Offer assistance with setting/packing up at meetings
- Consider joining the Committee when it is elected at the AGM
- Offer to organise a day out/weekend away for Club members
- Participate in outings/weekends away
- Join the Facebook Group and post photographs and comments
- Forward useful web links for the Club website and Facebook page

On The Net

Website: www.berwickviewfinders.com.au

It is strongly recommended that new members make themselves thoroughly familiar with the Club By-Laws, and the Club Constitution which are available on our website www.berwickviewfinders.com.au

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/463196480393354/>

Your Committee for 2024/2025

Our Committee consists of a group of volunteers who help to make our Club run smoothly. Their efforts are greatly appreciated.

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|------------------------|--|--------------|
| ● President | Chris Grylls | 0414 806 279 |
| ● Vice President | Stephen Ferran | 0425 607 397 |
| ● Secretary | Gail McTaggart | 0414 904 589 |
| ● Treasurer | Richard Darnell | 0411 249 020 |
| ● Assistant Treasurer | Pierina Di Stella | 0409 514 274 |
| ● Print Stewards | Kevin Perry, Alan Boyd, Pierina Di Stella,
David Norris (as a consultant) | |
| ● Social Secretary | Tara Bau | |
| ● VAPS Representatives | Laurel Box | |
| ● Website Admin | Gary Bau | |
| ● Committee Members | Tania Neale, Simon Hearn, John Russo | |

All members can be contacted via email: berwickviewfinders@gmail.com.

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Victorian Association of Photographic Societies (VAPS)

VAPS is an organisation of Victorian Camera Clubs to which most Clubs in this State contribute. This organisation arranges insurance for all associated Clubs and organises a yearly convention, which gives Camera Club members an opportunity to get together and attend workshops, outings, an annual dinner, and awards. "Newsbrief" is their monthly newsletter.

<http://www.vaps.org.au/>

Australian Photographic Society (APS)

This is a national organisation, which anyone in Australia can join. It provides a number of photographic activities of interest to photographers of all levels. There are folios, electronically, in print form and slides, where peers comment on works for self-improvement. The APS publishes the magazine 'Image' and hosts an annual convention that runs for a whole week in a different state each year. APS members receive a free 12 months subscription for the Australian Photography magazine and other discounts are available for all publications by Yaffa.

<http://www.a-p-s.org.au/>

National Exhibitions

National Exhibitions are held throughout Australia with three in Victoria. More information about National exhibitions can be found on the APS website.

When photographers, who enter these exhibitions, obtain acceptances, they can accumulate points that count towards receiving APS honors. If you would like to enter these higher-level competitions, you must be a member of APS. If you are interested in entering these competitions, there are members in our Club who can offer more details.

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Berwick Viewfinders Camera Club Inc. – Application for Membership							
First Name		Surname					
Address							
City / Suburb					P/code		
Contact Phone Number				DOB: (optional)			
Email Address							
Emergency Contact				Mobile Phone			
Partner's Name: (optional)							
I permit the following to be distributed to other club members – delete those not permissible					Contact Phone	Email	
How did you hear about Berwick Viewfinders Camera Club? Tick all that apply.							
Internet		Word of Mouth		Advertisement			
Club Member – who referred you?							
Other – please specify							
Are you, or have you ever been a professional photographer?							
How long have you been involved in photography?				Years		Months	
Have you entered National or International Photographic competitions?				Yes		No	
Are you, or have you been a member of another photography club or association?							
If YES, Club Name						Grade	
Have you previously been a member of Berwick Viewfinders Camera Club?							
Do you shoot in	Digital		Analogue		Both		
Please list the cameras & lenses you currently use							
Please tick/list areas of interest	Hands-on workshops			Photo outings/weekends			
	Know your camera			Other			
Any other ideas?							
If accepted for membership of BVCC, I have read and agree to observe and abide by the club constitution and by-laws and be of good standing within the photographic community.							
Signature of Applicant						Date	
Parent/Guardian Signature (if under 18)						Date	
BVCC USE ONLY							
Application approved by the committee			Y / N	Date		Method	Meeting Circulation
Membership Number				Membership Type			
Receipt Number				Amount Paid	\$	Date	