

From
1981
to
2006



OUR FIRST
25
YEARS

*A History of the
Aspley Camera Club Inc*

Compiled by Roy Anderson
to celebrate the first 25 years of the Club

The President's 25th Anniversary Roadshow

As I set pen to paper to write these words I reflected on two memories that drove the foundation of the Aspley Camera Club. They are Prophecy and a Great Debate. The prophecy was that the Aspley Camera Club would not last longer than two years. Sadly the prophet who made the prophecy is no longer with us. If he was, I would have great pride and joy in inviting him to our 25 year club celebrations.

The second reflection is the Great Debate but let me put you in the picture. Our founding father and first president, Ross Lawler, was very much in favour of commercially produced prints being allowed in club competitions. This was a proposal that was hotly debated at the time. The position was that colour prints were being done in members' darkrooms with expensive colour-head enlargers and a collection of colour filters. It required considerable experience and expertise to create an acceptable print and the printing paper used was horribly expensive. This precluded a great number of members from exhibiting prints in competitions.

Ross Lawler believed that this situation precluded many talented photographic artists from showing their efforts. This was an opinion I strongly supported. After a bitter debate with the then president of the Peninsula Camera Club, of which Ross was a member, after Ross had proposed that commercially produced prints be allowed in competition he failed to gain a great deal of support and therefore was facing failure.

But Ross, being the person he was, rather than sit on his hands, decided to form a new camera club where these prints would be accepted. And so, the Aspley Camera Club was born.

It is interesting to note that in the early years we did sometimes have great difficulty in getting people to judge our competitions, so bitterly was the camera club movement divided on the matter. On reflection now, the whole matter seems like a storm in a teacup, but then it was all out war. We did hear some similar echoes of dissent in the early digital debate but fortunately that one was settled without a great deal of noise.

The Aspley Camera Club like all institutions of humans has its bad days at the office. There were occasions in the past when the club has stood on the brink of disaster, when it looked like the doors would close never to reopen, but the Gods be thanked in that it has never occurred, and I feel sure it never will. I make this statement because at each crisis in the past there were always those dedicated members who put up their hands to be counted, who brought to bear their experience and expertise, and who gave of their time and energy so that the Aspley Camera Club went to greater heights of achievement.

Our club has a very great reputation amongst our peers so that when Aspley organises an extended function or any function involving other clubs, we always do it in very commendable style. So in our 25th Year let us all take

pride in our achievements.

Last but not least, let me reflect on what we are about – the Art of Photography. I know from my experience as a P.S.Q. judge that our artistic achievements are held in very high regard and sometimes with envy by our peers and to me, this is what it is all about, the Art of Photography.

Do you realise that our next big club celebration will be in 2031, when we have our fiftieth, and I shall be there to have my piece of birthday cake. I know beyond doubt the Aspley Camera Club will be there.

HAPPY 25TH BIRTHDAY ASPLEY CAMERA CLUB

I THINK YOU ARE THE GREATEST

Till 2031

*Alan P Fritz
President*



OUR FIRST TWENTY YEARS

In setting out the history of the Club, I have drawn heavily on any records that I have been able to find. Unfortunately, like so many organisations, the records are not complete and a certain amount of detective work has been undertaken to attempt to fill in the gaps in those written words that have been preserved. Included was a hand-written history of the early days of the Club (which, unfortunately, is not identified as to the author), notes by the then Club Archivist (David Prince), old minute books, newsletters and newspaper clippings

An interesting bit of background to the formation of the Club was one of the important reasons for forming a new club.

Ross Lawyer, the founding spirit, was at the time a member of Peninsula Club. That club, like all of the camera clubs then in existence, would not accept commercially produced prints for competition entries. All prints had to be the work of members produced in darkrooms they had or could get access to. This prohibited the entry of the members who wanted to enter prints but did not have any darkroom facilities. The answer was to form a club which would be prepared to accept commercially produced prints for competitions and this was a major reason for forming Aspley Club. Most clubs now have followed suit and commercially produced prints, particularly in colour, are now considered to be quite normal in club work. So, in this respect, our new club was something of a groundbreaker.

The history starts with the re-printing of the first year of the previously mentioned history of the Club. This first year gives us a good idea of the formation of the Club and its early activities.

1981 In late March 1981, Ross Lawyer inserted an advertisement in Saturday's Courier Mail Photographic Section inviting persons interested in joining a camera club to phone him. The first call was from Veronica Doyle and others soon followed, a total of six in all. The next step was to approach the Principal of the Aspley State High School to ask if a meeting place could be made available. Use of a classroom was given to us on Monday nights.

Our first meeting was on Monday 4th May (a Labour Day public holiday). Those attending were Ross Lawler (Convenor) who took the chair, Sue Willett, Jessica Banks, Dick White, Carol Bamsworth and her friend Debbie, surname unknown. After some discussion as to the Club's direction, Dick White gave a talk and assessed the work others had brought. Veronica Doyle attended our next meeting for the first time along with a visitor whose Christian name was Gavin. Peter Edwards (from Peninsula Club) lectured on the 'History and Basics of Photography' and indicated his interest in joining the Club.

Our first outing followed on Saturday, May 30th and was a BBQ atop the Glasshouse Mountain lookout. Ross Lawler attended along with his mother, Sue Willett, Jessica Banks, Peter Edwards and visitor, Stan Bowles with his two children. The theme of the outing was landscapes and children's outdoor portraiture. Young model Katrina Andrews, of Petrie came along (with Mum, Dad and family) to model for us. Participating photographers gave her \$1.00 each as a small token of our appreciation.

Our third meeting was postponed owing to the fact that Ross Lawler (who had the keys) was called out to work a few minutes before setting out for the meeting. At this time, our membership was standing at five (surely membership wasn't too high?) and included Ross, Sue Willett, Jessica Banks (whom we subsequently lost), Veronica Doyle and Peter Edwards. Ross then compiled and issued a press release to all the local newspapers, the Courier Mail and both the Sunday Mail and the Sunday Sun.

Good coverage was given to us by the Northern Times, the Sandgate Echo, The Suburban (Nundah), the Pine Record (now defunct) and the Tuesday night supplement to the Telegraph (also now defunct). The others ignored us. However, due to this publicity our membership soared and we consolidated our membership at 13.

At the **1981 Metropolitan Interclub Competition** hosted by Mt Gravatt on June 13th, Ross Lawler handed a letter to the host club asking that Aspley be nominated, at the next delegates' meeting, as a participating club.

At our meeting on June 20th (our fourth meeting) we approved office bearers, these being

President: Ross Lawler

Secretary: Sue Willett

Treasurer: Alan Fritz

Catering Officer: Mrs Joan Clark

Entries Officer/Projectionist: Peter Edwards

We decided to approach the Photographic Society of Queensland with the intention of affiliating with them. At this meeting, Derek McNally spoke on the subject of composition and assessed our members' slides and prints.

But, alas, we still found that our member count wasn't quite high enough to have good numbers at each meeting so Alan Fritz compiled a leaflet to be handed to photographic stores in town and for some to be placed in the pharmacy where Sue Willett worked. This way, we would get people continually hearing about the Club. As you can see, everyone was welcome.

At our fifth meeting (July), Veronica Doyle became our Librarian with lots of books to read that had been donated or which were on loan. Graham Jurrott lectured and showed samples of his work. Membership subscription became due and members began to give a financial affirmation of their club membership.

Our sixth meeting on July 20th was informal with members bringing along their photographic accessories, explaining and demonstrating them for the other members. Also Don Clarke and Trevor Payne entertained us with their holiday slides of Europe and Norfolk Island.

On August 3rd we assembled at the Imagery Gallery (South Brisbane) to view the Kodak International Exhibition of Photography. This was most interesting and an eye opener of the scope of photography. Not only my chemist-developed coloured shots but black and white in all shades, colour, large and small and also slides with a running commentary. All very intriguing to the amateur photographer.

Being affiliated with the P.S.Q. had many advantages. One of these was that we heard of many competitions outside the Club, which enabled club members to find out how their work compared with other photographers. One of these was the War and National Exhibition of Photography organised by radio station 4BK. How many entered I'm not sure but the competition at this stage would have been fairly high. Also, our affiliation allowed us to attend PSQ meetings. So, on the 3rd September, our selected delegates Veronica Dale and Alan Fritz attended the PSQ Annual General Meeting. On their return, they reported the notes that were made and that Alan had been elected to the Council.

Seeing we were a new Club, it was thought that we should have different lecturers at our meetings who specialised in specific subjects to lecture us so that we could become competent in these fields. With this in mind, we asked John Black to lecture to us on flash techniques. This was very interesting and informative. On September 21st we had two slide lectures done by President Ross Lawler, one on portraiture and the other on railways. Also we viewed slides from Sylvia Kliver, photos from Trevor Bayne's overseas trip and some from Joan Clarke.

Our second outing was on October 3rd, this trip being to Mount Nebo National Park. Those attending were Ross and his mother, Sue Willett, Alan Fritz and wife Elva, Don and Joan Clarke, Trevor Payne, Keith Bagley and his daughter Allison. For those who were adventurous, there were BBQ facilities, otherwise we took a packed lunch. Photography wise this was a successful day.

On October 5th, Eric Drury was good enough to come along and assess our slides and prints. A limit of five items or work had to be made to ensure the judge had something to comment upon. This meeting we also had our first raffle. Joan Clarke crocheted a tote bag and all members donated groceries (Value \$15.00). By this time we all had the Club spirit. Veronica designed a club emblem that would be appropriate to print onto a T-shirt and her sister volunteered to print them onto any shirt for anyone who would like one for only \$1.00 (shirt supplied by the member). The design was of a camera and a combination of the words 'Aspley' and 'Photographics'.

Setting your holiday slides to music so as not to bore your audience may not be as easy as it seems. On October 19th, Ted Warren, President of the Queensland Colour Group, showed us what to do and what not to do in an interesting lecture on this subject and I'm sure everyone went home enthusiastic about organising their holiday slides into a masterpiece.

In November, we had Bill Smit judging open and set subject entries on one night and the other meeting saw a lecture on working with models by Ross Lawler using two young models who had volunteered their services. Katrina Andrews and Jan Flatman, local girls, were the models.

December 7th, 1981 saw the holding of the **first Annual General Meeting of the Club**. Twelve members were present. The meeting mainly discussed the Rules and Constitution and the election of office bearers, changes made to the Rules and Constitution and it was agreed unanimously that they be put in force.

The new office bearers and committee members for 1982 were:

President: Ross Lawler
Vice President: Peter Edwards
Secretary: Veronica Doyle
Treasurer: Alan Fritz
Programmes Officer: Keith Bagley

Entries Office: Don Clarke
Committee Members
Catering Officer: Joan Clarke
Librarian: Veronica Doyle
Projectionist: Peter Edwards
Publicity Officer: Les Brown
Editor: Alan Fritz
History Officer: Sue Willett
Raffle Co-ordinator: Trevor Payne

1982 The first meeting of the year was held at the home of Alan Fritz to discuss what the programme should be for the New Year. One momentous decision was to start something new for the Club and this was to be competition photography. It is interesting to note that the first set subject was to be Landscape/Seascape and it was decided that a landscape had to be a picture featuring the natural scenery of the terrain. A tree or trees, people or buildings may be included but should not dominate. A seascape had to be a picture in which the sea or waves predominate. Coastal features of the shore line may be included to a lesser degree. (Interesting that in 2001, this is still the advice being given).

Also interesting was a comment passed at the time. Always be tolerant of those (being the judges of course) who disagree with you. After all, they have a perfect right to their ridiculous opinions. (So what changes with the passing of time?)

On February 18th, we had as a guest speaker, talking on "Nature", one Nev Male.

May 3rd saw the holding of the **Club's first birthday** with a cake and candle provided by Joan Clark. In June it was recorded that there were 21 members attending the regular Club meeting so numbers had evidently built up.

Photographs of a display mounted by the Club at the Bray Park State School Arts and Crafts Exhibition in July 1982 are retained in the Club records and it is apparent that the Club was able to mount an impressive collection of prints and a slide presentation was also shown.

In September, the Club had a weekend outing to O'Reilly's and a total of 12 attended. This was recorded in the Club records as the "first adventure the Club had ever had". In October, 1982 it was announced that the Club had grown to 29 members who were listed as:-

Ross Lawler, Trevor Payne, Christine Bentley, Veronica Doyle, Manfred Shaefer, Barbara Ness, Sue Willett, Alan Fritz, Frank Finn, Keith Bagley, Jim Wellstead, John Hall, Sylvia Kliver, Geoff Blake, Betty Hazeldean, John Aithison, John Ness, Gwain Goller, Don Clark, Joan Clark, Cheryl Stevenson, Peter Clarke, Gwendy Longford, Marie Hayes, Eric Hinton, Eric Dunn, Nick Bentley, Peter Edwards and Lesley Downie

(As you can see, four of those 1982 members are still going strong as members in 2006, Alan Fritz, Geoff Blake, Barbara Ness and Betty Hazeldean.

Our thanks are due to the unknown author of the story so far who had taken the trouble to record as much as he or she had done. We take up the Aspley story from there.

The **1982 Annual General Meeting** was held on December 6th and resulted in Ross Lawler being re-elected as President, Peter Edwards became Vice President and Alan Fritz became Treasurer. By this stage, Alan Fritz had become known as the 'Keeper of the Piggy Bank'. No Secretary could be found at that meeting so Ross Lawler said he would also assume the secretarial responsibilities as well as also acting as Programmes Officer. What a glutton for punishment!

At the end of 1982, a "BBQ and Trophy Night was held on December 11th at the home of the outgoing secretary, Veronica Doyle. Of interest in the report of this night, which was published in "The Suburban" of 2nd February, 1983, the winner of the Highest Overall Points score was a smiling member, Alan Fritz. Best Slide of the Year went to Barbara Ness. These two stalwarts of the Club are still winning awards.

1983 Having started the year with a less than full committee, Ross Lawler found it necessary sometime between March and May to issue a warning that if all positions were not filled on the committee, the Club would have to be disbanded. So, early on, the Club had found the same problem that most organisations have, the lack of willing volunteers to fill all of the jobs that need to be done. This problem must have been overcome though as the Club carried on during the year and extra members were inveigled into becoming committee members including a gentleman by the name of Geoff Blake.

There is a break in records of the Club for the early part of 1983, the first recorded meeting being one at

which Cherie Arch (described as a hospital photographer) lectured on many facets of her work. In May of that year, Ivan Pierce gave the Club an interesting talk on 'Stage Photography' illustrated by work Ivan had done on members of the acting profession. He must have got around as examples of the pictures he had made of actors included those of Ingrid Mason, Diane Cilento, Andrew MacFarlane, Freddie Paris, Warren Mitchell and Noel Ferrier.

The "Echo" of 22nd June, 1983 carried a story about well known sports photographer Jack Dale having lectured at the Club on sports action photography.

The President's report at the Annual General Meeting in 1983 reported a 'year of mixed fortunes. Membership had dropped owing to job transfers, work loads and a lack of interest. However, a call to strengthen the committee had seen three new committee members become involved and this heralded a revitalisation of the Club.

Involvement in inter-club competition was also a bag of mixed fortunes. At the PSQ and SEQ competitions, the Club had received average, but encouraging, results. We had performed above expectations at the Peninsula Interclub taking out second place and coming within six points of being outright winners. However, at the Metropolitan Interclub on the Clubs first venture into this competition, Aspley took out 12th position out of the twelve competing clubs. This seemed to be a kind way of saying that Aspley had not been all that successful. A comment was added that the only consolation was that 'we can only improve'. Aspley, of course, now has a stranglehold on the Three Way competition and in the year 2000 competition won it for the fifteenth consecutive year. Aspley also broke through in the Metropolitan Interclub, winning it in 1992, being narrowly beaten into second place by Mt Gravatt in 1994 and achieving a tie with Queensland Colour Group in 1995.

Three outings had been conducted during the year and a portraiture sub-group had been formed. This group started well but was not capitalised on and interest flagged. Discussion groups were also held on a monthly basis and had done a lot to revitalise the Club's growth.

One of Ross Lawler's dreams, and this was shared with Alan Fritz, was that one day the Club would have its own premises. While bringing this idea forward, Ross admitted that it would take a lot of work and involvement, a lot of fundraising and financial and legal problems. To date, this dream has not become reality and with the tremendously high costs involved nowadays, it is doubtful that it could be tackled. The 1983 activities were wound up with a **gala barbecue and presentation of trophies** held at the Old Bakehouse, Strathpine.

1984 The first lecture meeting of the year had Geoff Blake giving a talk on flash units and taking pictures of a model and then Peter Edwards demonstrated development of Geoff's film. Negatives and prints were shown at a subsequent meeting.

In the first quarter of the year, a new publication hit the newsstands. It was called "Aspley in Focus" and at the foot of page one was a statement that the editor's name was Alan and his phone number was 264 2631. (Note: To this day, if you ring that number (or now 3264 2631) you will have an Alan also called Fritz answer.) This publication contained a series of articles of things of interest to members and one of these was headed "An Impossible Dream". The impossible dream was one had by the Treasurer of the time that all members would pay their subscriptions within one month of them falling due. The Treasurer at that time was also a Fritz called Alan.

March 25th was the occasion of a Club outing to Bellevue National Trust Homestead at Coominya. Peninsula Club joined with Aspley for that bus trip.

The second quarter issue of "Aspley in Focus" had the editor waxing lyrical about the results being obtained by members in Club competitions. As he put it, PSQ judges never award honours and merits unless they are truly earned. His joy was because not only had there been a flood of merit awards but for two meetings in a row, for the first time ever, there had actually been honour awards earned.

One of the major activities of the year was **the hosting by Aspley of the South East Queensland Association of Camera Clubs Salon of 1984**. The formidable task of organising this event had been accepted by Geoff Blake at the end of 1983. To this day, Geoff insists that that decision to accept that responsibility determined the fact that he is now grey headed. There were 28 clubs participating. This was the 23rd time that the Salon had been held and only the second time that a metropolitan club had undertaken to stage it. Bear in mind that Aspley was only a very young three years old at this time.

Possibly the best way to describe the event is to fall back on the words of the then Club Archivist, David Prince, who wrote:- "The Salon started early for Aspley. Geoff Blake's team was engaged in receiving entries and cataloguing them. The committee, of course, had the job of organising with other clubs for venues and

entertainment for the event. Friday night before the Salon commenced, the team came to black out the large Aspley High School Hall for the following day. Unfortunately, a ladder slipped and President Ross fell hitting his head violently on the floor. He wasn't out of action for the Salon but it was felt he was at a marked disadvantage because of the shaking he had had. Vice President Peter Edwards took over for the night and efficiently had the hall blacked out on schedule.

The teams were ready early next morning, registrations proceeded and judging commenced and went through the day and night. Particular merit to Geoff Blake's "classroom" team who assessed scores although the noblest A.C.C. member of us all might be considered to be the cool headed Peter Edwards who tirelessly projected slides.

Sunday arrived and Ross Lawler's careful organising of entertainment and displays was apparent and this went on until 3 p.m. The official dinner was held at Tafe College and was well catered for. All seemed to enjoy the atmosphere. We returned for the Official Opening by Alderman Lee and the screening of accepted slides. Prints were also on display. The raffle was drawn and supper had.

The Salon went into Monday but the A.G.M. of S.E.Q.A.C.C. was for delegates only so the Club largely bowed out at that stage. After an audio visual presentation was screened and much replacing of furniture and tidying up was done. A sigh went up!

The remainder of 1984 seemed to be fairly routine with no outstanding outings or other events. In his President's Report for 1984, Ross Lawler pointed out that the Club was then in its first three and a half years of life and owing to the Club's constitution, he and Peter Edwards and Alan Fritz would have to retire from their present positions having served three years. The election of officers took place and then the new officers were Peter Edwards (President), Alan Fritz (Vice President) Geoff Blake (Secretary) and Barbara Ness (Treasurer). The **Annual Dinner and Presentation of Trophies** was held at the Coffee Lounge, Space City, Kallangur. Alan Fritz was the 'man of the match', having won the Highest Score for Slides, The Highest Overall Points and Slide of the Year.

1985 A new Club Newsletter edited by Lyle Thomas appeared in May of 1985 and was called "Watch the Birdie". In it, Lyle introduced us to Dick E Bird which appeared to be the first time that the birdie we were to watch was featured. To me it looked like a slightly startled seagull with spindly legs. Lyle said that he had been asked to hang a camera around its neck and hey presto, in the next issue in June saw a much improved bird, as we know it today, with the camera at the head of the "Watch the Birdie". A cartoon strip showing Dick E Bird being branded with an "A" on one wing also was printed but the "A" did not persist.

That terrible word 'subscriptions' got a mention with a reminder that Treasurer, Barbara Ness, would like to see members become financial. Of interest, the half-year subscription at that time was the princely sum of \$5. Another item drew members' attention to the fact that from the following month, the Club's new accommodation would be the Aspley Special School. The move actually took place on June 17. Jim Psaltis got written up as a young inventor who had won a Pentax Super A camera in a competition calling for inventions which would help a photographer at work. What the invention was did not get a mention. Pity!

The August issue reported that we did not come last in the **Metropolitan Interclub** but it modestly did not mention how far from last the Club had actually been. The September issue overcame this modesty and admitted that we had been one step removed from last, which had been an improvement on the previous year. A membership list attached to this issue recorded 26 souls who were financial.

The October issue reported the Club decision to purchase a Leitz Pradovit projector. Around the same time in 1995, the Club had acquired Kodak Carousels and the Leitz was only a back up item, which had been giving problems. Not a bad life all the same for an item of equipment.

At the November 18th meeting members voted on the Slide and Print of the Year. Betty Hazeldean won Slide of the Year and Print of the Year went to Gaven Deneen.

No President's Report had been prepared that year but President Peter Edwards reported verbally that the Club had not had too many problems during the year. The move from Aspley State High to Aspley Special School had taken place in June without any problems. A motion was passed that the annual subscriptions should increase to \$20.

The 1985 Election of Officers produced the following major office holders. Geoff Blake (President), Lyle Thomas (Vice President), Gaven Deneen (Secretary) and Barbara Ness (Treasurer)

The Annual Dinner was held at a Chinese Restaurant at Taigum. David Prince recorded that it was a wonderful night with a Chinese banquet. Those attending were waited on hand and foot. A complementary chocolate filled with liqueur was offered to all present and a red rose and calendar given to the ladies.

1986 This was not a year with outstanding highlights although all of the monthly meetings were held in the normal way. An outing was conducted to St Helena Island on April 5th with about 25 attending. When all assembled at the Manly Boat Harbour, it looked doubtful to begin with that all would fit on the launch but this was not the case and all made it aboard safely. It was apparently a very successful day.

The March issue of "Watch the Birdie" reported the arrival of a new member, one Neil Rostron. In August, the "Watch the Birdie" carried an item that Lyle Thomas had retired from both editorship of the Newsletter and, unfortunately, the Club owing to ill health. He must have been missed together with his cartoon strip of Dick E Bird. Jim Psaltis had stepped into the breach as editor.

We have the minutes of the **1986 Annual General Meeting** and in these it is mentioned that the President read his report (copy attached). Unfortunately the attached copy is not attached so it is not possible to quote from it. From the minutes, though, I find that Geoff Blake went on as President, Betty Hazeldean became Vice President, John Hunter became Secretary and Barbara Ness continued as Treasurer.

1987 This again is a difficult year to handle in the continuing history of the Club for, again, while it was an active year for the Club with a full programme of competitions and lecture/discussion nights, there are no really outstanding points of interest on which the story can be built up.

The "Watch the Birdie" of October 1987 carried a par explaining that Jim Psaltis had resigned from the Club although he hoped to keep in touch and this had meant a change of editor. Lyn Hunter had taken over the responsibility for this and was looking to buy a typewriter. Her December 1987 issue included a membership list showing a total of 27 financial members.

The end of the year documentation was also a little sparse until I located the Minute Book, which ran through to November 1990. There is a copy of the agenda for the **A.G.M.**, there are copies of the financial statements and a copy of the Treasurer's report. This latter document showed the Club to be in a healthy financial state and one figure, which really stands out, is an investment which had been made of \$500 at the Commonwealth Bank. At the time of investment in April, the interest rate being paid by the bank was a staggering 14.25%. By the time of the A.G.M., this rate had fallen to 10.75% Just as well the Club had not been operating on an overdraft, the thought of what bank loans cost then would have been frightening. Most of us have probably forgotten the roller coaster ride that interest rates were on in the late 1980's.

The Annual Dinner that year was held in the C.W.A. Hall at Kallangur and someone had apparently been really energetic with a camera and there were no less than 17 photographs taken at the dinner pasted in to the records. My impression is that most of the male members who are still in the Club in 2001 had longer and thicker hair than they do now and the colour also was darker. The ladies, bless them, do not seem to have aged at all.

While the photos have been kept, there is a lack of captions so it is difficult to describe what they are of. However, one does have a caption, which seems to indicate that John Hunter won trophies for Slide of the Year, Best Nature Print and Best Landscape Print. Lyn Hunter must also have been a steady worker as she got trophies for Best Portrait Slide, Highest B Grade Score and Highest Overall Points. Darryl Nash won Best Nature Print.

1988 An outing was held to the Lost World on March 20 with around 10 people attending. It was reported that the 'boy scout' of the day was Darryl Nash who carried one of the members across a creek.

At the April Committee meeting mention was made of the possibility of the Club becoming incorporated. At the May meeting it was decided to form a Club library and a motion was passed to spend \$100 on library books. The June meeting recorded the receipt of Incorporation Rules, which were to be read and discussed further.

Another outing was conducted to the Jondaryan Wool Shed on August 28th but no record of its success or otherwise is recorded other than a note in the minutes that there was no need to add money from Club funds to pay for it so it must have been at least self funding.

The September Committee meeting reported that a copy of the Incorporation Act had been received and was to be studied.

The end of the year documentation included the minutes, a set of the financial statements and a list of members. The membership at that time totalled twenty five. Of the members in that list, it is interesting to find that there are still a fair representation attending the Club who were members then, These are Shirley Clark, Alan Fritz, Betty Hazeldean, John and Lyn Hunter, Alex McRae, Darryl Nash and Barbara Ness.

1989 While I have been bemoaning the fact that the records for the past year or so have been rather

sparse, at least they did to some degree exist. There appears to have been a breakdown around this time to keep records, which form part of the Club's history. The Newsletters, which have been mentioned up to date, have been used as a basis for my reporting of the Club's activities during this period.

The first issue of the Newsletter has a par from Alan Fritz saying that the wheel must have turned a full circle as he was back, after a period of some years absence, as editor of the Newsletter

Club outings were arranged for Ormiston House, Hilliards Creek, on 16th April and to Moggerah Dam and Fassifern Valley on May 21st. At the May Committee meeting suggestions were made as to how to increase membership. One suggestion was that displays should be placed in shopping centres and banks. It was subsequently decided to arrange a display at the Bank of Queensland at Westfield shopping centre.

Fay Makin was reported in June as having been awarded a Silver Medallion at the S.E.Q. at Maryborough in the Creative Slides Section. The award had been made for one of Fay's montage pictures, a medium where she has established quite a reputation. Congratulations were passed to Fay as this is reputedly one of the toughest competitions around. The August issue recorded that Aspley had come third in the Metro Interclub. Mt Gravatt had won it with 107 points and as Aspley scored 104 in third place, the results had been incredibly close.

The November issue carried a par headed "The Reason Why!!!" It read, "Perhaps you have wondered why your Newsletter has become a little irregular in the past few months. Well, the question can be answered in one word - wogs!! Not only have they struck me down, but also those people who do the typing, copying and distribution. Actually, I only write the original; there are other folk who do all the hard work. Add to this football grand finals, holidays, work and family affairs, and the occasional photographic activity and things soon get a little behind. But rest assured, we are working on the problems, well at least we are trying to.

Signed: A struggling Editor and his valiant heroic staff"

An outing to F-Stop Laboratory (with a maximum of 20 people) was arranged for July 11th. At the July meeting discussion was held on establishing an 'AB' Grade and it was decided to hold this until after the end-of-year competition.

The Annual General Meeting was held on December 4th and there is some doubt as to the accuracy of the report of the election of officers. Betty Hazeldean did go on as President, John Hunter as Vice President, Alan Fritz as Secretary and Shirley Clark as Treasurer.

The end of the year Dinner was held at the Golden Ox Restaurant at Redcliffe. Slide of the Year was awarded to Lyn Hunter and Print of the Year went to Edith Prince. Highest Overall Points Scorer was Darryl Nash.

1990 The first mention I have found of the **Hunt and Shoot** was at a Committee meeting in February 1990. It was to be held on March 17th and each participant was to be issued with a roll of 24 slide film on which to record 12 different subjects. A BBQ was to be held on March 31st at Alan Fritz' home in conjunction with the judging of the Hunt and Shoot. At that meeting, Betty Hazeldean circulated copies of the new draft constitution that she had spent quite some time typing. At the April meeting, it was resolved that the Club's ninth birthday be celebrated on May 7th.

In the February Newsletter among a list of five new members were two names, which still appear on our list of members. These were John Murray and Terry Patterson. In the April issue, the Editor apologised for having missed out welcoming another new member, Carole Nash. He said that he was sure she was going to be an active member and how right he was!

At the June Committee meeting, Betty Hazeldean reported that she had finished typing the new constitution and the documentation and cheque would be forwarded to the Justice Department within a few days.

Aspley came second at the Gold Coast in the **1990 Metro Interclub**. The Editor of the day was obviously so excited at reporting Aspley's success that he did not get around to saying who had come first. Membership of the Club must have remained constant for quite some time as a list had been circulated with the October Newsletter which showed that there were 27 financial members.

For the first time, the **Annual General Meeting** was held in July (on the 9th) and the election of officers resulted in John Hunter (President), Jim Keys (Vice President), Alan Fritz (Secretary) and Darryl Nash (Treasurer).

On November 9th, the **Club's Certificate of Incorporation** was received from the Justice Department and the Club became an incorporated association.

1991 Our Historian at that time, (May '91) David Prince had included a note in the records explaining that there had been a lapse of three years in recording what had happened at monthly general meetings owing to pressure of other work. so the only record held on 1991 is the agenda for the A.G.M. and the financial statements, which were presented at the meeting on August 12th.

In May, two new members were welcomed, these being Sue Pottinger and Michael Bevis.

In talking to members, I have been able to establish that at the **A.G.M.** John Hunter became President, Edith Prince became Vice President, Alan Fritz was Secretary and Darryl Nash continued as Treasurer.

In February 1991 John Hunter was invited to join the Photographic Society of Queensland Executive Council, a real feather in Aspley's cap.

1992 The first meeting for the year was a workshop conducted by Brian O'Leary, Alan Fritz, John Hunter and Darryl Nash on "Closeups Made Easy" and "Print Mounting". Members were invited to bring along their closest focussing lens, diopters and tubes for the closeup session. Darryl Nash then demonstrated the art of mounting.

February 9th, the Club had an outing to the Model Live Steam Railway Track with the theme being 'Smoke and Steam' for a future set subject competition. I recall the fact that as the engineers who build and operate these miniature locos jealously guard their equipment from dirt and corrosion they use specially obtained smokeless coal. This made it somewhat difficult in getting the required subject as far as smoke was concerned but it was an excellent day regardless. The annual Hunt and Shoot was held on May 23rd with the consequent Hunt and Shoot BBQ being held at the School on June 13th.

At the **A.G.M. on July 13**, John Hunter and Edith Prince were re-elected as President and Vice President, Alan Fritz retained the Secretary's portfolio but as his third full year would be completed in December, Geoff Blake agreed to understudy Alan for the remainder of the year and then to assume the position when Alan retired. Darryl Nash assumed the Treasurer's position. At that meeting, Roy Anderson became Publicity Officer/Newsletter Editor and the following month saw the first issue of the new Newsletter. Never having seen a Club Newsletter before, Roy was unaware that the old Newsletter had been called "Watch the Birdie" so the new publication missed out on that masthead. One of the earliest paragraphs written by Roy was a reminder that some members still had not paid their subs. This seems to have been an annual request from the Treasurer to the Editor to include this plea.

Jim Smith became Programmes Officer, a position he was to fill for some time into the future. Each year he threatened to retire but to the date of our 15th birthday, he had been prevailed on to retain the position he had made his own.

August 29th was a date to remember. For the very first time, Aspley won the **Metropolitan Interclub** by an amazingly small margin of one point from Mt Gravatt. Ours 180, theirs 179 points. Our workers were John and Lyn Hunter, Win Cairns, Brian O'Leary, Darryl Nash, Shirley Clark, Jim Psaltis, Terry Patterson, Betty Hazeldean and John Murray. Aspley won the Three Way Competition again with a total of 406 points against Peninsula's 364 and Caboolture's 301. Brian O'Leary's slide entitled 'Damsel' won Champion Slide of the Night.

In September it was announced that Alan Fritz had received his accreditation as a PSQ Judge, our very first Club judge. In October, it was decided to purchase a small public address system to make it much easier for speakers to be heard by members during meetings.

In December, we were back at the Golden Ox for the Annual Dinner and Presentation of Trophies. This night should be well remembered by Darryl Nash who went home with eight of the twenty trophies presented that night.

1993 This year proceeded with normal meetings twice a month without any dramas. Attendances at meeting were good and Jim Smith provided an interesting list of guest speakers. For January we had club member, Des Dimmick, give us a look at his slides on a trip he had done along the Rhine River. Des had used his camera well. In March, John May of Brisbane Camera Group gave us a talk on making black and white negatives from colour transparencies.

The Club had an outing to Brisbane Forest Park in March (13 people attending) and the Park staff did a lot to look after the members who were present. Seventeen members fronted up for the Hunt and Shoot on May 23rd and the subsequent BBQ was well attended. A fairly new member, Murray Thompson, worked like the proverbial galley slave over the BBQ plate. What a meal of steaks and snags!!

Our Audio-Visual group did quite well in the **A-V Competition** held on May 29th. Betty Hazeldean took out

third place in Individual B Grade, winning the Aspley Perpetual Trophy with her entry "The Spider by the Gwydir". In the Group Section, Aspley gained second place with the entry prepared by Betty, Coral Nielsen and Barbara Ness. Valuable assistance had been given by Geoff Blake, Jim Psaltis, Brian O'Leary and Lyn Hunter.

The PSQ Convention Competition that year in June was won by Mt Gravatt. The Newsletter records that Aspley was 'way down the list'. Not our best effort. The June speaker was Geoff Higham on "Tabletop and Close Up Photography".

Our major committee positions were filled by Alan Fritz (President), Edith Prince (Vice President), Geoff Blake (Secretary) and newcomer Bevan Roberts (Treasurer). Annual subscriptions were increased at the **A.G.M.** from \$20 to \$25. Our August issue of the Newsletter carried a brand new column on page 4. This was "The President's Roadshow" which became a regular feature of the Newsletter. The Editor's life had been made a lot easier by having copy handed to him religiously by Alan each month at least a week before the issue went to press to fill page 4. It was well read and it is great to think that the President utilised this medium to keep in touch on a frequent basis with all of our members.

After Aspley's one point win in the 1992 Metro Interclub, we went back to the **1993 Metro** hoping to repeat the previous year's success. This wasn't to be the case as Mt Gravatt managed to turn the tables by very narrowly pushing Aspley into second place (180 points to 178) Though a disappointment, it was at least fair that if we had to lose we lost to the club which we had narrowly beaten last time.

In September, the Club outing to Caloola Waters was well attended and included some of the Bribie Island members who joined with Aspley for this outing. Glen Male of Quest Newspapers gave us a talk in October about the coming changes to press photography with the intended move to digital imaging. Glen had been to the U.S. to learn something of this new technology and it was a most interesting and thought provoking talk.

The Annual Dinner and Presentation of Trophies moved venue this year with the Club moving to the Everton Park Bowls Club for the night. Our Audio-Visual group entertained with a number of audio-visuals thanks to some hard work by Betty Hazeldean, Barbara Ness and Coral Nielsen. The Nash tradition was continued with 8 of the 20 trophies going home to their place but this time Carole joined Darryl in helping to amass this total.

1994 On Friday night, February 25th, quite a large group of our members had a most interesting experience going on a conducted tour of the Queensland Police Photographic section. Apart from a tour through the highly automated processing laboratories where around 30,000 rolls of 35mm film are processed annually, we saw a lot of the work that these officers produce and also had a good look at the computerised identity-kit picture set-up. This, we believe, is one of the most modern and progressive in the world. It was uncanny seeing an image of a suspect come up on the monitor and then see how appearances could be quickly changed by changes of hair style, spectacles, moustaches etc.

In March we had the well-known authority on landscape photography, Warren Viewers, along as a guest speaker on this subject. He had brought a fair amount of his black and white prints and some slides which the members present were then able to see.

There was no news in April as the Editor sneaked off to have a quadruple heart bypass done and as he had also retired from his business to coincide with the surgery, he was no longer able to provide photocopies of the Newsletter each month. Someone suggested he should talk to John Goss, the local Liberal M.P. which he did and since then, the Newsletter has been copied each month on John's office copier. This has been a great assistance to the Club.

Updated technology was appearing around this time as well. The Editor had bought a new computer and the software package "Microsoft Publisher" so the Newsletter changed in format somewhat. At the same time, Geoff Blake had bought himself a scanner and he kindly scanned Dick E Bird and added the 'Inc' to the logo and Dick is now a digital bird.

Sunday 22nd May was the time for the **Hunt and Shoot** and around a dozen members turned up for the event which this year was confined to the grounds of Southbank. Alan Fritz won it, Jim Psaltis came in second followed by Dirk Dokmanovich in third place.

The **Annual General Meeting** was held on 18th July and saw a new recruit for the Secretary's job. Martin Wright accepted this position and Alan Fritz, John Hunter and Bevan Roberts were back as President, Vice President and Treasurer. The President's Report brought attention to the fact that owing to the constitution, some serving officers, having completed three years in their position, had to retire. Special mention was made of Edith Prince who, it was said, had served for so long on the Committee in different positions and John Murray who had just finished his stint as Entries Officer.

Another success story reported was that of the effort of the Audio-Visual group's first entry into an International. They received an acceptance. There were a total of 77 entries and of these, 11 were rejected. This result was a very pleasing one for the members concerned.

The Club was not able to repeat its successes in the **Metropolitan Interclub** for the previous two years. In 1994, we were only to place equal fourth with Peninsula Club. Mt Gravatt won it for the second year in a row.

Our August speakers were Eric and Cherie Arch who gave us a fascinating insight into the trials and tribulations of photographing fungi in the rain forest. This talk was amply illustrated with excellent examples of the work, which has gained them a very high reputation in this field. Sunday 28th August saw the Club repeat its outing to Caloola Everglades. A good day except for the very rough ride in the bus over badly rutted roads. Picture taking opportunities were not as profuse as would have been liked as time was a problem to overcome to get to all the places on the agenda.

The **1994 Three Way Competition** win by Aspley was its ninth in successive years. In October, the Club approved the production of a small leaflet entitled "Welcome to our Club" to contain information about the Club which was to be made available for visitors and anyone enquiring about joining.

Darryl Nash was hobbling for some time having broken his ankle and we were surprised to find that he had not lined up all the pretty nurses at the hospital while he was a patient for portrait sessions. In our October issue we reported the successes that some of our members had been having in outside competitions. Darryl Nash had the incredible number of 13 awards in one show, the Pine Rivers Agricultural, including Champion Slide. John Murray had a first, a third and two highly commendeds at the Samford Show and Peter Lund had four acceptances at the RNA Show with three of these being highly commendeds.

November's issue carried a newspaper story about the success that Michael Bevis had been having with his artistic representations of sick and injured animals, which he and his wife nursed back to good health. He creates his pictures by placing thousands of dots on paper and the results are most realistic. So much so, that Roy and Val Anderson have bought some for themselves and have also provided American friends who have met some of our wildlife with copies as well.

The Annual Dinner was again held at the Everton Park Bowls Club and around 40 attended. A most enjoyable evening and, of course, the highlight of the evening was the presentation of the end-of-year trophies. There was one glitch to the evening when an inconsiderate possum crawled into one of the local electricity transformers and plunged the area into darkness minutes after Alan Fritz had commenced the presentations. Fortunately the staff at the Bowls Club were on the ball with emergency lighting and we were able to proceed fairly quickly.

1995 In February we had an excellent talk by Jim and Brenda Amos on how they travel around Australia practising photography and importantly what they take and why. Having people like this who have done so much in producing great slides on their travels pass on their wisdom is great for those of us who have a lot still to learn.

In March, we had a return visit by Cherie Arch who talked on "Good things come in glass" and gave us a remarkable talk and demonstration of how she makes slides with a minimum of equipment which are things of art. As she pointed out, it's a great way to fill in a rainy day or an evening when TV is not worth watching.

The first outing for the year was to Mt Warning over the weekend of April 1/2. Accommodation was in two man tents. Instruction in erecting these provided a lot of laughs but eventually everyone managed. Jim Smith reported that it was a good weekend.

The members of the **Audio-Visual group** were congratulated on the magnificent job they had done on Aspley's behalf hosting the A-V Interclub which was Aspley's responsibility for 1995. The evening and its organisation went off without a hitch and was a credit to Betty Hazeldean, Barbara Ness, Carol Nielsen, Geoff Blake and Jim Psaltis. Good support was given by the members, with 17 being there on the night to add support. Betty's entry gained a 3rd in B Grade and Barbara's entry won the encouragement award.

The **Annual General Meeting** saw another change of Secretary. Martin Wright was no longer able to act in this capacity and his place was taken by Corena Bell, a comparatively new member. Alan Fritz, John Hunter and Bevan Roberts were re-elected as President, Vice President and Treasurer.

It was a good year again for Aspley in the hurly burly of inter-club competition. **Aspley was Champion Club in the Small Print Competition at the PSQ Convention.** Aspley tied for **first place in the Metropolitan Interclub** and for the tenth successive year won the Three Way. Alan Fritz described it as a Grand Slam.

Club member, Peter Lund, gave us a practical demonstration of developing black and white film and

producing a print at our October lecture/discussion night. This was of interest to all present but particularly so for anyone who had never seen a print being developed.

December came along and with it the **Annual Dinner**. This year we went to the Banyo Tavern and it was so successful it looks like we might go there again in 1996. Highest Overall Point Scorer for the year was Bevan Roberts.

1996 January of this year saw Alan Fritz (our own Club judge) giving a talk on 'Judging'. This is a subject which will always bring contentious points into discussion but Alan used his talk to try and help members understand why the judge does not always agree with the maker of the entry, or vice versa.

John Daniels did our judging in the February competition with the set subject being "Shadows". The March set subject was "Railway Study" and our judge was John Lomax. Geoff Blake had offered his services to the school in preparing photographs of the re-cycling efforts of Harry Johnson, the teacher running this unit, and his pupils. These photographs accompanied Harry and one of the pupils to Britain for a re-cycling conference. The school presented Geoff with a 'Certificate of Appreciation'.

At our March 18 meeting, Warren Viewers of Mount Gravatt Club was our guest speaker. During his long service leave, Warren and his wife had done a 20,000km trip around Australia and Warren brought slides and prints, which illustrated where they had been.

Ken Peters adjudicated over the set subject of "A Touch of Red" at our April 1st Meeting. During April, Darryl and Carole Nash were on an extended van trip, which at the time had them at Lawn Hill after visiting Victoria. Jim and Annette Smith were photographing in Tasmania and the Rostrons were doing the same in the Northern Territory.

April 13 was the occasion of the '**Hunt and Shoot Spit Roast**'. There was something of a hiccup on the day when the caterers arrived in good time to do a slow roast to find that they were locked out of the school grounds but this was overcome some frantic manoeuvring and 16 people saw the slides judged and then ate a hearty roast meal off the spit.

Saturday, 11th May was quite an auspicious night when a large number of members, their families and friends met for our **15th Birthday Dinner** at the Banyo Tavern. The celebrations were most congenial and a good time was had by all attending.

In May, the **Metropolitan Audio-Visual Interclub** was held. Betty Hazeldean and her energetic group were well represented on the night. Aspley was successful with a first for their entry of "My Scene". Barbara Ness had a second place in the B Grade Individual Section.

Our June guest speaker was John Lomax who brought along some of his own work and also prints which had been made by Jim Fenwick, the ex-chief photographer of the Courier-Mail.

Members, at this time, were saddened to hear that our very popular Carole Nash was in hospital with a recurrence of her earlier cancer problem.

As usual, the month of July brought us once again to the **Annual General Meeting**. To begin with it looked like we might not have a meeting. We needed a quorum of 23 but at the appointed time only 20 were present. Then one more straggled in and finally Beth Roberts and Coral Nielsen sauntered around the corner and we made it. Two women never came closer to being soundly kissed.

This AGM was to be a slightly unusual one. Because of our constitution which says that an officer may only fill one of the major offices for a maximum of three years, we were faced with losing the incumbent President, Treasurer and Programs Officer all in the one hit.

However, willing volunteers stepped into the breach and the election of officers saw our new President being Bevan Roberts, John Hunter remained as Vice President. Craig Gibson became Secretary and Beth Roberts took on the Treasury.

The Club had a treat on August 19th when **Graham Burstow** from Toowoomba was our guest speaker for the night. Graham had brought some of his own work, and some examples of entries in international salons to illustrate his philosophy on photography. At the conclusion of his talk, Graham then showed us the results of his shots taken recent trips to Nairobi and Malaysia. The Club is fortunate to have access to speakers of Graham's international standing.

John Murray and Martin Wright had been successful in having work they had done accepted for inclusion in the Lord Mayor's project, "**Nature of Brisbane**", a beautiful booklet printed for distribution.

The Metropolitan Interclub 1996 was hosted by Toowoomba and was not to be Aspley's best result to date. Brisbane Camera Group won it, Queensland Camera Group was second and Gold Coast was in third position. The left us trailing along in number four positions. Our party of 12 who attended took copious notes as Aspley was set to host this event in 1997.

Sunday 15th September was the date for the **Club outing to St. Helena Island**. Organiser Jim Smith was disappointed at the attendance although 11 made the trip, which was described, as more social than photographic. One member who shall remain nameless was organised enough to take a golf buggy along to transport her equipment. Didn't you Carol Nielsen?

Friday, Saturday 27th September was the night of the annual joust known as the **Three-Way Competition**. For the 11th consecutive year Aspley galloped home with the bacon. Our 440 points topped Peninsula's 396 and Caboolture's 362. We won four sections out of the six contested, Bevan Roberts had 'Champion Slide of the Night', Lyn Hunter won 'Pictorial', Reg Savage won 'Nature' and John Hunter won 'Lines and Squares'.

Carole Nash lost her very courageous battle with cancer on Tuesday 1st October. All who knew Carole will remember this lovely young woman with gratitude for the time we were privileged to have with her. The end-of-the-year trophy for the 'Highest Aggregate Points for Slides and Prints Combined' has been re-named the 'Carole Nash Trophy' to help preserve her memory at the Club.

Our Audio-Visual Group put a show on for the benefit of members at our meeting night on November 18. The group, led by Betty Hazeldean, presented no less than 11 A-V's. This had been a long awaited treat and many members saw audio-visuals for the very first time. It was great for members to see, at first hand, what A-V was all about.

Then it was time for the **Annual Dinner and Presentation of Trophies** which was held at the Gaythorne RSL on Friday 29th November with no fewer than 46 at the gathering. The venue was great, the meal was great, and the company was superb. 'Slide of the Year' went to Lyn Hunter. 'Print of the Year' went to Dirk Dokmanovich and the 'Highest Overall Aggregate Points from Prints and Slides' was justly earned by Bevan Roberts.

1997 In our first Newsletter issue for the year, President Bevan devoted some of his column on page 4 to the resurgence of black and white work being done by members. More entries and of higher quality are now evident at Club competitions. Bevan also touched on another development in photography. This, of course, was computer-produced images. He quoted examples of the work being done by Brian O'Leary. While this new technology might be controversial to some, it was with us and will be here to stay.

At our March 3rd meeting, our judge for the night commented that it was not like coming to a camera club meeting as there were so many people present. We had over 40 people attend that night and the car park was bulging at the seams. In that competition, the set subject was "Music Makers" and Brian O'Leary had entered the very first digitally produced print at one of our competitions.

And talking of Brian O'Leary, he was our guest speaker at the March 17 meeting when he gave us a talk on how to shoot what Jim Smith would call, 'wee beasties' and birds. Brian is an acknowledged master of both subjects and gave us some of his secrets for success.

The Newsletter carried a report that at the SEQACC Salon held 3/5 May, our people had some successes. Carol Nielsen had won the Encouragement award for her Audio-Visual entry and Betty Hazeldean had a merit for her entry. Craig Gibson was first in 'Social Documentary' and Martin Wright was second in the same section. Martin also had a first in 'Pictorial, Nature and People', Champion B Grade Slide and also most points scored in B Grade.

Our May guest speaker was Daryl Fisher who had recently done a 26 day trip trekking through the mountains of Nepal. We were fortunate to be shown an excellent selection of prints made from the negs that Daryl had shot on that trip. Most of the trip was at altitudes of 4000 metres or more. He returned with asthma and had a brush with Legionnaires Disease through this effort but was nevertheless glad that had gone.

Dirk Dokmanovich, the then Entries Officer, reported that for the very first time the June competition would feature more print entries than those for slides. 53 prints and 38 slides had been entered.

John Hunter fronted the meeting of May 19 to give us some very welcome tips on how to shoot landscapes. If there is a subject that immediately springs to mind when one thinks of John's work, landscape would be it.

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disappointed at the attendance although 11 made the trip which was described as more social than photographic. One member who shall remain nameless was organised enough to take a golf buggy along to transport her equipment. Didn't you Carol Nielsen?

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For the second year in a row, Aspley's A-V Group won the Club Section at the **Metropolitan Audio-Visual Competition** held on Saturday May 31. Coral Nielsen also kept the Aspley flag flying by winning the 'Encouragement Award' on the night. Around 20 Aspley members went along to support our A-V group, which was made up of Betty Hazeldean, Coral Nielsen, Shirley Clark, Geoff Blake, Jim Psaltis and Bevan Roberts.

The Annual General Meeting of 1997 was held on July 21. Bevan Roberts went back in as President, Jim Psaltis replaced John Hunter as Vice President, Craig Gibson stayed on as Secretary. Murray Thompson took over the Treasury. New blood on the committee was that of Renate Hottmann-Schaefer, always in the awards lists at competitions.

The Hunt & Shoot for the year was held on Sunday July 27 with a total of 12 members participating.

Our September issue recorded the sad passing of ex-member David Prince who had been the Club Archivist for many years and had done a sterling job. Sympathy went to Edith, who had been Vice President of the Club for some years.

This issue also carried a request to members for the standardisation of the way slide entries were marked for projection. This is one of those items, which seemed to crop up regularly and, no doubt, will always be something of a problem area.

Editor Roy Anderson switched to the spoken, rather than the written word when he accepted an invitation from the Queensland Genealogical Society to go to their meeting and show them how to photograph old photographs. He took along his home-made copy stand that he left with them so they could copy it. He understands two were made by their members and they have been as far away as Victoria being used to photograph old prints.

The Metropolitan Interclub of 1997 was held on September 6th and was hosted by Aspley. For some reason, the Newsletter did not record what Aspley's final position was although President Bevan's report which was in that issue said we had remained in the top four clubs. The running of this event had been taken very seriously by the Club and it was gratifying to have many favourable comments on the organisation passed by members of other clubs.

The Three Way Competition. Not only did we win, we won in a canter. Darryl Nash had Champion Slide of the Night and Aspley won five out of the six sections contested. These winners were:

'Pictorial'	Tony Fish
'Nature'	Reg Savage
'Water Movement'	Darryl Nash
'Legs'	Dirk Dokmanovich
'Suburban Life'	John Hunter

Adrian Shekell of Peninsula won the one remaining section, 'People'.
Peninsula Club did their usual spot-on job of hosting the night.

The Cherside Municipal Library Exhibition of prints made by members from October 22 to November 20 was our first foray into this type of display and was highly successful. Members provided 125 prints to be hung. There were no restrictions on subject matter and what we were looking for was a good

representation of prints which members of all grades made, not just from those who had been successful in competition.

The Beaudesert Photo Trek drew entries from at least two of our members. Beth Roberts won a third in their 'Commercial' section and Renate Hottmann-Schaefer won a third in 'Creative'. However Renate really scored by winning with her entry in 'Fauna' and this gave her a free weekend at Binna Burra for two.

The Annual General Dinner was held on December 5, again at the Gaythorne RSL. We had an excellent attendance with 48 sitting down to the dinner. Our ladies and recently joined members almost stole the night with five of the eleven trophies going to ladies and three of those to fairly new members. Reg Savage took home Slide of the Year, Peter Lund won Print of the Year, and Renate Hottmann-Schaefer won Black and White Print of the Year. The Carole Nash Memorial Trophy was suitably won by.....Darryl Nash.

As well as winning the Faces and Places Trophy, Martin Wright also walked off with the first prize in the Xmas Hamper Raffle.

Just before the Xmas break, the Club received a call from **St. Paul's School** at Bald Hills asking us whether we would be prepared to handle a **course in photography at their Summer School**. Without hesitation we said we would be delighted and then started wondering where the photography course was that we would use. To cut a short story long, Bevan Roberts and Roy Anderson got their heads together and not long after had a nicely bound course all ready to go and this would have resulted in earnings of a couple of hundred of dollars for Club funds.

Unfortunately, this did not come to fruition as St Paul's were not able to get sufficient enrolments to make it worth while. Never mind, at any time in the future we now do have a course in print for whenever or wherever it is needed.

1998 In January, members had a pleasant night seeing the slides that had been produced by Barbara Ness, Alan Fritz and Bevan Roberts on a trip they had done in 1997 up through the Tanamai Desert.

Having produced the Basic Photography Course at the end of 1997, it was decided we should do something with it. So it was thrown open for interested members to enrol. Corena Bell, Dorothy Wilson, Gordon Baildon and Brian Keir and a friend of one of the members enrolled and for the next five weeks, Bevan, Roy and the group met in Roy and Val's lounge one night a week while we got to work and we all found this to be most enjoyable as well as, hopefully, being instructive. Val provided a welcome cuppa at the end of each lesson.

Our March issue gave a welcome back to the Club to John Murray who had been away for some time with health hassles. In April we welcomed two new members although one of them was actually an old/new member. Frank Finn told us that he had at one time been Publicity Officer for the Club. Our other new member was John Adamson.

An item of interest in the April issue was that the **A-V Group** had been at it again, In a recent competition conducted under the auspices of the **Australian Photography Society**, their club entry had won the major award. Betty Hazeldean had also earned a merit with her individual entry.

SEQACC98 was conducted at Toowoomba over the weekend of May 2/4. Aspley members who were successful were Craig Gibson with an acceptance in Pictorial Slides and Martin Wright with acceptances in both Pictorial and Social Documentary Slides. Betty Hazeldean's A-V entry gained a merit and the club's entry won second place.

Two of our members, President Bevan Roberts and Geoff Blake were very active over that weekend learning as much as they possibly could about how to organise and run a SEQACC. The reason being that Aspley had agreed to host **SEQ99** and there was a lot of preparation to know about before we got to that happening.

Tinchi Tamba Outing. Alan Fritz and Jim Psaltis led a group of about 20 members for an early morning shoot and BBQ breakfast on Saturday 25th April. Resulting prints and slides were set down to be shown after the AGM had been closed.

Saturday May 23 was a very important night for our A-V Group for this was the night that had been set down for them to host the **Metropolitan Interclub A-V Competition 1998**. It was a team effort from Aspley, headed by Betty Hazeldean. Coral Nielsen was our projectionist ably assisted by Barbara Ness on audio control. Val Roberts and her helpers made sure our hospitality reputation stayed intact. While it was not to be a very successful night for Aspley, competition wise, it was certainly a success in organisation and the crowd of 50+ were most appreciative of the efforts of our gang.

The Annual General Meeting of 1998 took place on Monday July 20. As distinct from the previous two

AGM's there was not a lot of change to the major offices of the Club. Bevan Roberts and Jim Psaltis were returned as President and Vice President as were Craig Gibson and Murray Thompson in their positions of Secretary and Treasurer. Dirk Dokmanovich became a committee member.

Arrangements were made to form a sub-committee to handle the preliminary arrangements necessary for Aspley to host SEQ99. Martin Wright agreed to become Secretary/Treasurer of the sub-committee and Bevan Roberts was to head it. For this reason, Bevan asked that he be able to drop writing his very popular Page 4 column in the News to allow him more time for the extra work involved. To fill this gap, it was decided to ask members to supply us with their details so we could print a 'Portfolio' of them on Page 4. Jim Psaltis was the first willing contributor and featured in the August issue.

Worthy of mention was the acceptance by the **1998 Queenslanders** of three prints by our members, two from Dirk Dokmanovich and one from Alan Fritz. Our September Newsletter reported that we had not done so well in the **Metropolitan Interclub**, having tied for fourth place with Nambour Club. Queensland Colour Group was first with Gold Coast second and Peninsula third.

The Club for the second time had been invited by the **Chermside Municipal Library to enter an exhibition of members' work**. We accepted this invitation and a very worthwhile exhibition resulted which attracted quite a lot of attention from the public using the library. It also resulted in a number of enquiries for membership in the Club including one from Paul Skehan who was later to play a significant role in our activities.

Aspley just managed to retain its winning hold on the **Three Way Competition** for the thirteenth year in succession but with an aggregate of 425 only narrowly edged Peninsula out with their score of 419. For the first year, Caboolture had joined forces with Bribie Island Club to help bolster their entry. This combined effort of those two clubs produced a very credible score of 398 so it was an excellent close competition all round. John Hunter had 'Champion Slide of the Night'.

In November we had for the first time, to my knowledge, an auction of photo goodies. Over the past year or so, we had been fortunate in having donations made to the Club of gear that people no longer wanted. These donations came from non-members and were largely because the donors had either become too old to use them or had acquired them from departed family members. We decided to hold an auction to make them available to members and, at the same time, to raise some funds for the Club. It proved to be a lot of fun and Roy Anderson got some unusual experience as the auctioneer. All told it raised about \$150 for Club coffers.

The 1998 Annual Dinner and Presentation of Trophies was held on December 4th at the Gaythorne RSL with 48 attending. Black and White Print of the Year went to Renate Hottmann-Schaefer and Print of the Year went to Peter Lund. Keith Hine collected Slide of the Year and John Hunter was awarded Champion Slide of 1998. The evening got some good publicity in the local press with one of the Editors photos being reproduced.

St Pauls School at Bald Hills again made a request of the Club to run a course in photography at their 1998/99 Summer School. We dug out the course we had written during 1997 and got ready to go into action. However, like the previous year, the School was not able to attract sufficient interest to make the course worthwhile so we bombed out for the second year in a row.

1999 As Bevan Roberts had begged off doing his Page 4 "From the President" because of other work he had to do for the Club, this page had been filled for some time from two different sources. The first was the printing of a "Portfolio" of club members and this introduced a number of members in detail to the Club. Portrayed had been Jim Psaltis, Alan Fritz and Reg Savage. Renate Hottmann-Schaefer had also proved to be just as good at producing word images as she was at producing visual images and had helped the Editor no end by producing some very entertaining and funny stories about her photographic activities.

In March we were lucky enough to have as our Guest Speaker, Colin Campbell of Gardening Australia, a presenter on TV, Radio and Magazine, who took us along on trips he had done through famous gardens of the world via his slide collection. Even though Colin decried his ability as a photographer, it was apparent that he is just as good with a lens as he is with a trowel. Green thumb members were in raptures.

Also in **March** the Club was fortunate in having a workshop put on by **Fotospeed** who demonstrated their products for our black and white workers. Not only had they put on the show, but they had also kindly donated around \$150 worth of papers and chemicals for a raffle prize for SEQ99 as well as further donations to help fill the sample bags which we would be producing for that same event. A most generous effort from a distributor of photo products.

SEQ99. The culmination of a lot of hard work by the committee who organised this event was a very successful weekend over **May 1st / 3rd**. Bevan Roberts and his large team of workers could take a bow for the running of this event, which had taken a lot of time and effort over a period of quite a few months. Someone who

earned the gratitude of the Club was Jim Bradford of Nambour Club who had brought along his computer loaded with software he had produced for this event. Jim worked tirelessly for the whole weekend. We would have been hard pushed without him and his efforts were greatly appreciated. It was pleasing to hear quite a few favourable comments from members of other clubs about Aspley's performance.

On a down note, because of the time and effort spent on SEQ99, we did not have a club entry in **PSQ99 held in June**. Greater efforts will be required for 2000.

Lyn Hunter's Portfolio was printed in our May Newsletter.

Alan Fritz made a second attempt to have a **Dawn Patrol at Nudgee Beach** but again, foolishly, picked a very wet day. He also tried to organise a **Sunset Safari** at Pine Rivers Dam. This also had to be cancelled owing to the fear that the dam was going to overflow because of rain. What a weather man!!

Our 1999 A.G.M was held on July 19th and meant the loss of our President, Bevan Roberts, owing to him having to retire because of the 'three year rule'. We also lost our Treasurer, Murray Thompson, who was planning a caravan trip around Australia with wife Joy in the coming year. For the first time, we did not manage to elect a President. Alan Fritz saddled up as Vice President and agreed to act as President until someone else could be found to take the position. At our August Committee meeting, Alan said that he could see this arrangement was not workable and said that he would move to President. Renate Hottmann-Schaefer was voted in as Vice President. John Adamson took on the Secretary's portfolio and Brian Keir took up the keys to the petty cash box as Treasurer. At the conclusion of the meeting, Auctioneer extraordinaire Roy Anderson flogged off another \$100 worth of goods we had accumulated since the previous auction.

The Hunt and Shoot was held on July 18 and was well attended. The judging night was held on September 16 with Darryl Nash, Lyn Hunter and Reg Savage acting as our judging panel. Bevan Roberts was awarded Champion Slide but was edged out by Martin Wright for Highest Aggregate Points. Paul Skehan got third in aggregate.

Metro Interclub 1999. Response from the members was initially so poor that it looked like we were not even going to have an entry. John Matthews and Renate started twisting arms and we did finish up with an entry that almost won the night. Peninsula finished with a score of 230 to our 229. Nambour came in third with 221 points. The event was held at the Mousetrap Theatre in the Redcliffe Showgrounds. Shirley Clark starred for Aspley, winning two of the sections and also being awarded Champion Slide.

Digital Prints. Alan Fritz, John Matthews and Roy Anderson went to the PSQ A.G.M. in September as Club reps. One of the items discussed was how to treat digital prints in competition. Clubs were asked to report back to PSQ on their attitudes to digital work so that PSQ could formulate a policy for the future. At our September committee meeting this subject got a good airing and the conclusion was that Aspley would be in favour of conventional and digital entries being judged in separate sections in PSQ competitions. However, in our own Club comps, they would continue to be judged together.

1999 Annual Dinner and Trophy Presentation. And so we came to the last of these gatherings for the century. For the first time, we exceeded fifty attending and it was an excellent night. Entries Officer, John Matthews, was very much on the ball and had a complete computer printout of the results of the end-of-year competitions ready for President Alan Fritz to go ahead with the presentations. We provided the local press with suitable photographs of the night and members were to see themselves gazing out of the pages of the Bayside Star in the following week.

Renate Hottmann-Schaefer had excelled with the provision of three tremendous hampers for the Raffle Prizes. First prize stayed in the Club with Daryl and Lyn Fisher having the pleasure of lugging it home that night.

Black & White Print of the Year was won by Dennis Ryan. Print of the year was made by Renate Hottmann-Schaefer and Slide of the Year was an entry by Craig Gibson. The Aggregate Points Score for the Year was won by Renate as well with 355 points but she was almost overtaken by John Matthews whose work added up to 352 points.

John Matthews and Libby Hanley were up-graded to AB in Prints and John also went to AB in Slides. Jess Burke and Murray Thompson joined the A Graders in Prints as did Betty Hazeldean and Renate H-S in Slides.

2000 This should have been the year when all of our computers fell apart or, at least stopped working for this was the dreaded 'Year 2K' that was the beginning of a new century. Airliners were supposed to crash but we all got through without any dramas despite the predictions.

The photographic year started with a challenge from the **Rochedale Photographic Society** in England

to enter into a competition for slides. Each club is to produce 20 slides. Aspley is to send their slides to Rochedale and a judge over there will grade them and provide a critique. Then all 40 slides come back to here with our appointed judge will do the same. Subject matter is to be 'open' and this should produce a very interesting competition. Club members, Irene and Arthur Keane had a connection with Rochedale and this challenge came out of a recent visit they had to Britain.

For the first time, we were to hear the captions of slide entries in the monthly competitions read out as the slides were projected. Strangely it had always been done with prints but for some reason not with slides. It was felt that the captions often had a bearing on the acceptance by the audience of the entry and this innovation will be continued in the future.

Alan Fritz, who never gives up, had meantime organised **The Great Cedar Creek Photographic Expedition for Sunday morning, February 27th**. Guess what? It did not rain!! Seven members came home with some lovely shots of running water after having enjoyed a bbq lunch.

At our February 21 meeting, Adrian Shekell took us down the **Canning Stock Route** via the collection of slides he had made during a recent 4WD trip down the Canning he had made with his son and some friends. This was real hair on the chest trip, 2000k through some very inhospitable country with nary a garage or shop along most of its length. Special arrangements have to be made for a drum of fuel to be left at a point along the route to overcome the lack of service points along the way. If this is not done, travellers could well expire on the track.

A former member, Terry Patterson had rejoined the Club after his travels around the world. One of his interesting occupations had been a stint as a carer for the orphaned **Orangutans of Borneo**. On March 20, Terry brought along a pile of slides he had made of these amazing primates and gave us a most entertaining evening.

Another innovation surfaced in April. Programs Officer, John Hunter, had organised an evening in which members of the Club could have **15 Minutes of Fame** during which they could address the meeting on a subject of their choice assisted by their slides. Six members took advantage of this offer and those present were entertained by Alan Fritz taking us through the Boondall Wetlands. Renate had a session on Flowers. Des Dimmick spoke on Topaz Fossicking, Reg Savage presented Swans, Bevan Roberts took the meeting into some of his Favourite Desert Places and John Hunter showed Canadian Scenes.

Betty Hazeldean had been keeping the A-V Group's name in lights by gaining a merit in the **A.P.S National Audio-Visual Competition** and a merit in the B Grade **SEQACC A-V Competition**.

The **Club's 19th Birthday** was celebrated at our **May 1st** meeting with Catering Officer, Libby Hanley, outdoing herself with a sumptuous supper spread. We were all looking forward to the 20th in 2001.

Murray and Joy Thompson had sent a postcard from Kununurra in W.A. which was just about half way on their around Australia caravan epic. Both were well and enjoying the experience.

The Metropolitan Audio-Visual 2000 Competition was held in May and Aspley, for the first time, won the Club Award. A very fine entry entitled "Jack" told the story of Jack the Lovable Larrikin ably played by Alan Fritz. The rest of the cast were club members who were portrayed in a variety of characters.

Club Lighting . After some deliberation, the committee had decided to lash out and purchase a full studio type lighting set which was to be available for hire to members. It was felt that the provision of this kit could help members become proficient at portraiture and other subjects requiring artificial lighting. Darryl Nash, no stranger to working with lights, ran a workshop on July 3 to give the members information on how to use and care for the equipment.

The 2000 A.G.M. New members at the A.G.M. were Michelle Lehr and Chris Abbott. Alan Fritz had his last "President's Roadshow" published in the July issue of the Newsletter as he had indicated he was not able to stand again for President. Renate Hottmann-Schaefer had also let us know that she was standing down as Vice President so we started the A.G.M. with some trepidation about the top positions of the Club being filled.

Fortunately our fears were not realised. Paul Skehan (the gent who had joined after seeing our Library Exhibition two years earlier) took on the Presidency and Libby Hanley put her hand up for Vice President. John Adamson went back in as Secretary and and Brian Keir as Treasurer. Membership at that time stood at a total of 62.

A motion was passed at the A.G.M. that a new annual award be instituted to be known as the **A Grade Challenge Shield**. This was a brain child of John Matthews and was designed to give our A Graders a challenge for something other than the normal set subjects they had probably photographed a dozen times

before.

In August we had our **third Library Exhibition at Chermiside**. We had 100 prints on show and the library staff was already asking us to do it again in 2001. This is a great opportunity for the Club to show the general public the sort of work that camera club members do. Who knows, maybe another 'Paul Skehan' could have been attracted by this year's display. The local media was kind to us in response to our Press Releases about the event and even sent a photographer out to shoot pictures of President Paul for inclusion in their story.

The Hunt and Shoot attracted a dozen members in July with the judging night taking place on August 21st. Martin Wright was the clear winner with both the Highest Aggregate Points and Slide of the Night, winning a couple of rolls of Kodachrome. Martin, John Matthews and Renate Hottmann-Schaefer all won three out of the twelve subjects. Brian Keir won two and Michelle Lehr won the other one. Shirley Clark was featured in Australian Photography's August edition with seven of her images illustrating how to shoot landscapes.

For the first time, Aspley entered into international competition by accepting a **challenge from Rochdale Photographic Society in England**. Slides were exchanged and judging organised on both sides of the world. History will record that Rochdale were the winners with 297 points to Aspley's 289½.

The Three Way Competition of 2000 was held on October 27th and Aspley was to win it — for the fifteen consecutive year. We won four of the six sections with 446 points in total. Peninsula was second with 424 and Caboolture/Bribie Island was third with 413. Lyn Hunter's slide 'Great Ocean Road' won Pictorial and Champion Slide of the Night.

Audio-Visual Night. On October 16th, our very active audio-visual group entertained our members with a full program of no less than ten A-V's. This introduced their medium to many of the newer members who had not previously experienced it. The program was made up of A-V's which had been made by individual members of the group, group efforts and one made by the Bidfest Group. The latter one had just returned from Britain where it had been viewed by a dozen U.K. clubs.

Our November 20th meeting had Daryl Fisher as our guest speaker. Daryl had done a trekking trip though the mountain country of Peru earlier in the year and he presented a really interesting talk, supported by lots of photographic images, on this trip. Daryl had obviously enjoyed this very strenuous trip and we were most appreciative of his expert commentary and his excellent images. As a matter of interest, Daryl had managed to sell sixteen of these images to the tour company, which conducted the trip.

The **Annual Dinner and Presentation of Trophies** was held at the Gaythorne Services Club on Friday, 8th December with just on 50 attending and this was a most enjoyable night. Earlier in the year, John Matthews had suggested at a committee meeting that the Club should look at granting **life membership** to some of our long-time and very active members. Consequently, a sub-committee was formed to investigate who should be eligible for this honour. Their deliberations brought a recommendation that life membership should be bestowed on Betty Hazeldean, Alan Fritz and John Hunter. A postal ballot was held to confirm their recommendation but a certain amount of secrecy had to be maintained as it was not intended that the proposed recipients should know anything of this until it had been decided so ballot papers were not sent to the nominees. It had also been decided that the ideal time to announce these honours would be at the annual dinner.

So, on that night, President Paul Skehan and Vice-President Libby Hanley had the pleasure of presenting suitable plaques to Betty and Alan. John Hunter had not been able to be present so his was to be held until a suitable occasion presented itself.

The presentation of the end-of-year trophies was made to those who had won them. John Matthews won both the Slide of the Year and the Print of the Year. Darryl Nash was the winner of the Aggregate Points Trophy for the year with 477 points and Jess Burke was runner-up with 403 points. Darryl Nash won Black and White Print of the Year and Adrian Shekell won both Nature Print and Nature Slide of the Year.

Daryl Fisher, Paul Skehan and Irene Keane were upgraded from B to A-B in Prints, and Jess Burke and John Adamson from B to A-B in Slides. In Prints, Libby Hanley moved to A Grade from A-B and in Slides, Dorothy Watts and John Matthews went from A-B to A.

2001 We started off the new century well on January 15th with John Daniels and Darryl Nash giving us a workshop on how to use electronic studio lights for portraiture. John Daniels, an expert in digital prints had brought along his digital camera and a TV monitor and used this equipment to show members the images he was capturing digitally straight onto the monitor.

In February, we had John Daniels, ably assisted by Darryl Nash, along as a guest to talk to us and at the same time to demonstrate what he had been doing with digital photography. Using his Canon digital camera and a TV monitor, John photographed our model, Jacinta, under lights and then we saw the results on the monitor.

To overcome problems that we had experienced with our existing projectors, the Club had placed an order for a new Elmo projector, which we will look forward to seeing in action. This was felt by the committee to be a good use to put some of the accumulated funds to for the benefit of members.

Aspley is to be the host club for the Metropolitan Audio-Visual Competition for 2001 and this was set down to be held on May 26th.

The Club had been invited by the Committee for the Mountains to the Mangroves Corridor to photograph within this area. The intention was to produce a number of prints, which would be used in public displays to be held later in the year. The Club saw this as being a very worthwhile community project and was looking forward to playing this part in the project. In fact, we had as our guest speaker at our February 19 meeting Karl Cvelbar from that organisation to tell us quite a bit about the wildlife and recreational areas between Camp Mountain and the Boondall Wetlands and how he hoped that our members might be able to help in recording these areas photographically. They want us to photograph the flora and fauna, the historic aspects and the beauty of the parks. The prints that members produce will be used for future displays to be mounted to publicise the area.

One of the important items of business discussed at the March committee meeting was the arrangements which were being put in place for the 20th Anniversary Dinner which was to be held on Friday, May 4th at the Gaythorne Services Club.

A long association came to an end at this time as John Goss MP, the Liberal Member for Aspley had lost his seat in the recent election. John had kindly allowed us the use of his office photocopier to produce the Newsletter. The Editor had called on the new electoral officer, Kerry Hackett, who will be looking after the new Member, Bonny Barry who now holds the seat for Labor. Kerry assured him that the previous happy arrangement would continue for the production of the Newsletter.

Sunday 29th April had been set down by Alan Fritz for our first Club outing to get photographs of the Mountains to the Mangroves project and after photographing has finished, there will be a breakfast BBQ. This was to be the first outing to be arranged by Alan for this project. Five members reported for action, but Alan pointed out that we would need greater support to make the project worthwhile.

Our May Newsletter carried the unhappy news that the Birthday Party that we were to have held on Friday, May 4th had been cancelled owing to lack of support. We needed bookings of at least 50 to 60 to cover the cost of the proposed party. Unfortunately only 26 members were prepared to put their money up front and this would not have covered expenses.

President Paul, in his column 'Snapshot' reminded members that our Annual General Meeting would soon be held and asked that members put some thought into standing for some of the positions so that they would be able to help the Club in its work

At our 21st May meeting, we were entertained by three of our members who had volunteered to be guest speakers for their 15 minutes of fame. John Matthews talked about his attitude towards competitions. He says he has a healthy attitude like that in the song 'Showboat' towards judges and competition rules. He said his attitude was 'that no matter what you says, I still suits me'. He said this might have explained his non-acceptance rate in our competitions. Brian Keir then told us about his experiences in photography from his earliest days, His early handicap was that as a young married man he had problems affording the photographic equipment he felt he needed. However, he has persevered and now that his family is self-supporting, he is able to splash out and get some of that lovely new equipment. And Brian has been showing us that he is able to use it with skill. And then Daryl Fisher took us on another walk through the world of the Incas in Peru. I commented at the time that Daryl impresses me as having a brain like blotting paper that traps and soaks up facts by the barrowful.

Betty Hazledean had asked the Editor to include words of thanks to those who had helped set up the Metropolitan Audio-Visual competition and then cleared it away again. Also to Shirley and Libby for organising supper, and to Dorothy Wilson who locked herself away to write all the certificates and last, but not least, to the members who attended and supported the night. Betty put in a sterling effort to organise the whole night. Our members were not without their share of successes, Barbara Ness had a third in B Grade Individual and Barbara and Graham Foster won the Group Award and the Club entry was 2nd in the Club category.

Our old friend, Warren Vievers, came along as our guest speaker at the June 18 meeting and provided a program he called "The Corner Country and the Flinders Ranges". His slides had been shot on three different trips into this area and it was obvious that he has a real affinity for the area. His knowledge of the area was almost encyclopaedic and we all benefited from his talk.

On August 20, we had a visit from Bonny Barry MP, Member for Aspley, who is trying to visit all community groups in her electorate. Bonny is a tireless worker and she says that she can possibly help us should we seek a grant from the Gaming Commission to buy new equipment.

Since the A.G.M. Brian Keir had suffered a heart attack and it was found that he needed a triple heart by-pass. He has had it and is recovering well. It just goes to show what pressure there is on anyone who takes on the job of Treasurer. We must try and make life easier for him in future. In his President's report at the A.G.M., President Paul reported that we had replaced a number of items of equipment. The old projector had been replaced, and a set of studio flash units and ancillary equipment had also been purchased. Aspley had come third in the Metropolitan Interclub. and we had been closely beaten in our first International competition by English Club, Rochdale. For the fifteenth successive year, the Club had won the Three-Way Interclub Competition between ourselves, Peninsula and Caboolture/Bribie Club. Chermshire Library had again hosted a display of members' prints so that members' work had been exhibited in a public venue.

At our A.G.M., Paul "Skehan went back in as President, John Adamson assumed the Secretary's position and Brian Keir stayed on as Treasurer.

Our September issue carried thanks to Eileen Savage who had been bringing along home bakes for our meeting suppers. Adrian Shekell had led a group of members up onto Highgate Hill to photograph the fireworks over the city. At our next competition, Adrian had an entry of an F111 in full afterburn over the city. Rumour had it that Geoff Blake had reached his three score and ten. And Jim Smith was recovering in Royal Brisbane Hospital from a broken pelvis, the result of a fall down his back stairs.

Somehow or other, the planning had not been done in time and we would not be having our annual exhibition of members' prints at the Chermshire Library.

It had to happen sooner or later. After having won the **Three-Way Competition** for 15 years in a row, we not only did not win it in 2001, we actually came last! Peninsula Club had taken the trophy off us in a well-deserved win. Our entry had simply not been good enough and our domination of this event was at an end.

We had also come in last in the competition that had been held this year between Rochdale, in England, Richmond in Canada and ourselves. Rochdale won with 153 points, Richmond was second with 144 points and we brought up the rear with 141 points.

Because of the very heavy workload that our Entries Officer has, it was decided to appoint a separate Entries Officer for the external competition in which we are involved. Renate Hottmann-Schaefer volunteered to take responsibility for this new position. It is hoped that the Entries Officer will now find it a little easier to carry out his many jobs. That issue of the Newsletter also carried what has become almost an annual request for members to observe the correct procedures for marking their slides when they are entered into competition. The Entries Officer was told by the committee that should slides be received that were not correctly marked, they were to be returned to the maker for correction.

At our September 17 meeting we were shown slides by a number of our members who had earlier been on a trip to Borneo to photograph the orangutans where they were being held in safe keeping prior to release. Those members were Libby Hanley, Jess Burke, Dave Best and Terry Patterson. Terry, who works at Flight Centre, had organised the trip and there is talk that a similar one will be on during 2002.

Richmond Club in British Columbia had sent us some information about themselves. They are just one year older than Aspley, having been formed in 1980. That means we are both only pups compared to the other club in our international competition, Rochdale in England. Rochdale has been operating for 100 years!

We celebrated another year of work and play at our Annual Dinner and Presentation of Trophies at the Gaythorne RSL Club in December with 47 attending. This night, we also used to celebrate our 20th birthday. The Overall Points Aggregate winner for the year was Jess Burke with 344 points and the runner up was John Matthews with 310 points. At the meeting it was announced that two of our members, Geoff Blake and Roy Anderson had been granted Life Membership in the Club. This was a real surprise for both of these members and they were both, uncharacteristically, stuck for words.

2002 On Monday 21 January, we were let down by the guest speaker who had been advertised as being with us. Adrian Shekell stepped in at the last moment and gave us a most interesting practical demonstration of how to photograph small animals and plants in the field with a minimum of equipment, some of which had been made by Adrian. Adrian was assisted by two other members who like to get in close to photograph small items, Brian O'Leary and Jim Smith.

Our competition night on Monday, March 4 was so well attended that it showed us that the problem we had been feeling of being overcrowded at our meeting place at Aspley Special School was becoming acute. So the committee had decided to poll the members as to whether they would like to change venues to have more room and more comfortable surroundings. Libby Hanley had made a booking for a club weekend at Binna Burra for the weekend of July 26-28 and was calling for deposits for intending attenders.

Dave Best and Libby Hanley were congratulated on their recent marriage on April 27. On the question of a change of meeting venue, Brian Rice had reported on the possibility of us using the campus of the Queensland University of Technology at Carseldine. Unfortunately as time moved on, it was discovered that the University was going to use the area that had been offered for their own purposes so we were still looking for suitable quarters. Gordon Baidon in the meantime had been following up on the possibility of us meeting at the Craigslea School.

In May we had as our guest speaker, Gary Osborne who teaches at the Brisbane College of Photography and Art. He came along to talk to us about Tabletop Photography and a very interesting night it was. Two of his students at the College were Libby Hanley and John Marshall. I would have to comment that with the success those two members have been having, Gary must do his job well.

Alan Fritz had about a dozen members join him on Sunday, April 14th to shoot the sunrise. Alan does not have a wonderful reputation as a weather forecaster and, as luck would have it, no sun made an appearance that day. Anyway, those who attended really enjoyed their BBQ breakfast.

The June 10 meeting had a really unusual subject for the set subject. This was 'One Umbrella', and while a number of members had trouble with it, we also had some extremely good entries and those members were reminded to keep the entries handy, as one of the subjects in the Three-Way Competition is that very subject. One of our long time members, popular Annette Smith had passed away on Thursday, May 30. Annette was laid to rest at the Pinaroo Lawn Cemetery on Wednesday June 5th. The service was very well attended as there were friends from many different parts of her life including her garden clubs and the camera club.

Alan Fritz had arranged a night out on Tuesday 28th May for members to see how a Mini Lab produces prints. Alan had arranged this with John Pringle who runs the Paramount Lab at the Hypermarket. Members were amazed to see that a film was fed into the processing machine and this produces dried negatives in about 10 minutes. Four minutes after that, prints are being produced from those negs. John's staff was most helpful and made quite a few suggestions that might help members in the future to get the prints they want.

Aspley had had a better year, competition wise, than the previous year. Aspley had second place in the large print section in PSQ0202. In Metropolitan Audio-Visual, the club had also had second place and Betty Hazeldean's individual entry was first in B Grade. Our July issue warned members that at the A.G.M. there would have to be serious discussion about our future subscriptions and also the proposed move for the club meetings. We have come to hear about what could be suitable premises at the Aspley Respite Care Centre in the grounds of St Dymnias Church in Robinson Road.

Our August 5 competition night was a good one although it was to be the last in which Brian O'Leary would compete in the club before he and his wife, Val, left Bribie Island to take up residence in Ulladulla. We will miss Brian and his very high standard of entries in the nature sections.

Our 2002 Annual General produced an almost completely new committee, Brian Rice became President, Wendy Avery took on the Secretary's job, Renate Hottmann-Schaefer became Treasurer and John Marshall accepted the Entries Officer's seat of office. It had been decided at the A.G.M. that the club would move to the Aspley Care Respite Centre although we had not arranged for a firm date for the first meeting we would hold there.

Great comments were coming back about the weekend away the Club had in July' Jim Smith reported that it was not so much a photographic weekend (although plenty of film was shot) but rather a weekend of eating and laughter. Like most of our outings, this had been arranged by Libby Hanley and she had done her usual first class job.

Roy Anderson reported that after ten years of religiously buying tickets in the Club raffles, he had FINALLY won something. Not only a tin of biscuits but also a beautiful book, "The Spirit of Australia" a coffee-table type photography book of Australian landscapes. This had been donated by Jim Smith and is a great reminder to Roy of places he has been to but is not ever likely to get to again. Thanks, Jim.

Eighty four of our members' prints had been on display at the Chermside Library from August 17 to 31 and the exhibition had been most successful. In fact, I felt that our members could have been quite proud of the batch of prints that the general public got to look at. The library staff had assisted by scattering around samples of the sorts of books they have in their photography section of the library.

At this time, Adrian Shekell and John Matthews were reporting that they were getting very solid interest from members about the new digital group they were trying to get going in the Club. There were eight members at that stage and they were meeting in members' homes for the time being. As we move into digital competitions and the changes becoming more prevalent and more rapid in technology, we will need to keep moving to not be left behind as a Club.

Our September 16 meeting was to be a somewhat historic one as it was to be the last the Club would hold at the Aspley Special School before we move to the Respite Centre and I felt that there was quite a lot of nostalgia displayed. And so, we would enter a new era. We had an unusual personal month. A funeral notice for Roy Anderson had appeared in the press, but the poor fellow was not THIS Roy A, later in the month Roy received a sympathy card on the passing of his wife. But Val was still very much in the land of the living as well and they were to celebrate their 50th Wedding Anniversary later that month.

Betty Hazeldean had been up-graded to A Grade in Audio-Visual. She has worked very hard to gain this acceptance from her peers and we congratulated her. Our October Newsletter carried a report of a trip that four of our members had done to Tenterfield to photograph the area. They were Christine Taylor, John Marshall, Jim Smith and Renate Hottmann-Schaefer. The trip had been organised by PSQ and about 40 people altogether had attended. It was nice to see our members interacting with members from other clubs and enjoying themselves in this way.

At the **2002 Annual Dinner and Presentation of Trophies**, a new trophy is to be included for the very first time. This would be the Annette Smith Memorial Award and it had been donated by Jim Smith in memory of his wife. In keeping with Annette's wishes, the award will go to the most improved novice for the preceding year and will be open to B Graders who have no more than two years membership.

Our October 21 meeting, our second at the Respite Centre, had the screening of the slides that had been entered in our recent International competition between Rochdale in England, 'Richmond in Canada and ourselves. And Brian Rice was able to announce that Aspley had actually won the competition. I could really not have been a much closer tussle though as the final scores were Aspley 139, Richmond 137 and Rochdale 135. After supper, Brian Keir showed a selection of the slides he had taken on the trip to Canada that Denise and he had done. Altogether, Brian shot 19 rolls and Denise shot 11, so we should be able to get a couple more nights out of that lot.

Starting with the **January 2003 Images**, the newsletter will change to an eight-page spread and it is planned that the digital group will be supplying suitable images that will be able to be printed month by month. Ex-member, Brian O'Leary had written asking that his good wishes be passed on to our members. Part of his letter said that he and his wife were outside watching a colony of four sugar gliders come and go from a hollow tree. Other friendly neighbours include squirrel gliders and ring tail possums. He had had an article on the Tiger Quoll published in "Australian Wildlife". It is all happening at their new place of residence near Ulladulla.

A total of 41 members, family and friends got together on Friday, December 6th at the **2002 Annual Dinner** at the Gaythorne Services Club. Hard-working Entries Officer, John Marshall cleaned up a huge swag of awards during the course of the evening. Darryl Nash won Slide of the Year and Jess Burke was our Print of the Year winner. Francesca Ruxton was the inaugural winner of the Annette Smith Memorial Award.

Our **January 2003 issue** of Images reported that the Digital Group were getting themselves together and currently there were about twelve active members. The newsletter also commented on the increase in the sale of digital cameras against the falling sales of conventional cameras and the fact that digital photography was not only here, but it was here to stay with a vengeance and much more of this form of photography would be seen in our activities.

Dave and Libby Best were pleased to announce the arrival of a new photographer in their household. That was Reegan, a fine bouncing 6lb 14oz who will no doubt be one of the most photographed children in Brisbane. This issue also carried the news item that Renate Hottmann-Schaefer had managed to set up an email address for the Club and that she is already sending emailed information to members who have advised her of their email addresses.

Our first meeting for the year was on January 20 and it started off with a delayed Annual General Meeting. Our earlier A.G.M. had not been valid as the financial statements had not been signed off properly by the Auditor and this was to ratify what had been done in 2002. Betty Hazeldean showed samples of club shirts that she had been investigating. Quite a lot of interest had been shown and orders would soon be called for.

Cameron Attee then presented a selection of slides that he had made during a trip to Africa in 1999. His work was excellent and he showed a real talent for making great landscapes of this wild area.

Darryl Nash had taken a group of no less than 15 members on Monday night, January 27, on an expedition to photograph the lights of Brisbane from Kangaroo Point. Then they finished up at a Chinese restaurant before heading for home.

Our meeting on February 17 had another old friend of the Club, Jack Dale, come along to give us a very interesting talk on sports photography. Rather than just showing us the sort of work that Jack shoots himself, he

leant instead towards telling us how to approach sporting bodies to seek approval for shooting at their fixtures. He gave us a lot of very useful tips about how and when, and importantly when not, to try for shots. Jack is a past master in this medium so we should all have come away from his talk with a lot of helpful information.

Our Digital Group had produced a program of meeting to take them through to June. They were still meeting at this time on Sunday mornings, alternating between members' homes. They were calling for new members. Betty Hazeldean had volunteered to help an organisation called 'Coffee Classics' who want to project slides at the same time as they broadcast classical music to bring the classics to as many people as possible. Betty was asking members to consider helping her to provide the necessary slides.

Our April issue told us that John Daniels had joined Aspley. John is a highly respected worker of very long experience and has just moved to within walking distance of the Club, which prompted John to join us. He has been a colour print worker, a monochrome worker, a slide worker and is now very much involved in the production of digital prints. John says his quality of digital prints is around 90% of his conventional prints but he is working to make that 100%. John is a Fellow of the Australian Photographic Society, has a Special Services Award with APS and is a Licentiate of the Royal Photographic Society. We look forward to John sharing his vast experience with us.

On March 17, Cynthia O'Gorman of Brisbane Camera Group gave us a talk on 'Landscapes'. Most of the sample work she had brought along had been shot on Fraser Island, a place that Cynthia has apparently come to know well and to love to photograph.

The Club lost a very old member when John Murray was laid to rest on Wednesday, 26th March after a long battle with cancer. His service was very well attended with a lot of our members being present.

The Editor had attended a meeting of the Digital Group at the home of Barbara Ness on March 23 and had come away with a couple of impressions. First, that the members of this group are all intense about their quest for more knowledge about digital photography. And second, that any stories you may have heard about how easy it is to do digital prints are way from the truth. Some critics of digital work have said if you have a computer, all you have to do is push a button and 'Hey Presto', instant perfect prints. My suggestion is to try it and find out just how much you will need to learn before you are in a position of printing anything at all, let alone perfect prints.

In April, we had two new members. One of these was a young lady by the name of Patricia Diefenbach. Watch for later reports about Trish as we move further into the decade. She is truly an interesting young lady.

On April 21, Jess Burke retraced her travel steps by showing us a selection of the work she had done on a trip to Vietnam. This was a most interesting night and we were able to see something of the people who now live there in peace as against the images we were not too long back being bombarded with each nightly news broadcast. Thanks, Jess.

We had a copy of the catalogue that had been produced after the holding of **SEQ2003**. Six of our members had done very well in the competition and had made a name for Aspley. These were Renate Hottmann-Schaefer, John Marshall, Wendy Avery, Shirley Clark, Alan Fritz and Betty Hazeldean.

In **June 2003**, Renate Hottmann-Schaefer reported that her email service was really up and running now and that she had been advised of the email addresses of 42 members, a surprising number when thinking of the total membership of the Club. Members were able to be emailed on a variety of club matters as an information service.

The **2003 Metropolitan Audio-Visual Interclub** had come and gone in June and Betty Hazeldean reported that our results had been quite disappointing although she was sure we would do better next year. Peninsula Club joining the competition for the first time had been a bonus. For the first time, audio-visuals of the digital variety were shown. These had been originally produced conventionally in the 1970's by Eric and Cherie Arch and then recently converted to digital format for display at the Interclub.

What happened to the **2003 Hunt and Shoot**? Only six members turned up to enter so the day was not a resounding success. The judging for the event will be held on August 18th. The Club will soon be moving further into the world of technology. Renate is coming close to having our webpage up and running. There is still a problem to be overcome with the Internet service provider.

Our **August Images** carried the very happy report that a full team of officers had been elected at the **Annual General Meeting**. Also included in that issue was the report of just how well Aspley members had done at the **2003 R.N.A.** At least twelve members had all had good acceptances or awards. John Stein won Champion Slide as well as 1st place in Colour Slide Restricted. John Marshall had first place in Colour Slide Pictorial and Murray Thompson had a 1st Place in Mono Prints Restricted. Even though our members had done

so well, it was Rockhampton Club who won the Camera Clubs Section.

Dave and Libby Best had organised a photo shoot of the Ekka fireworks and this had attracted about ten of our members. Interesting shots should start appearing soon in competition. There was also a write-up by Alan Fritz about the weekend that Libby Best had organised at Mindginbil Hill over the **25-27 July** weekend. It really did seem to be a wonderful weekend of fun and food and fotos.

September saw Renate Hottmann-Schaefer step in at a moment's notice and finish off the newsletter as Editor Roy had finished up in hospital with pneumonia. Thanks, Renate! We had our Wine and Cheese night at the official opening by Bonny Barry MP of our Chermside Library Exhibition. Christine Taylor had done a magnificent job of catering for the event. Alan Fritz had done a report on the Metropolitan Interclub Competition. He said that we were not in the top three places, but that the competition was tough. But from the report, I cannot tell how far out of the first three places we were. Alan had also led an expedition on Sunday September 7, of the mostly lady members of our Club into the Chermside Hills Nature Reserve to photograph the grass trees and other interesting features. Unusually, it did not rain and there were plenty of opportunities for good shots to be produced.

In **October 2003**, the Editor had something happen that he has been wanting to happen for some time. Renate Hottmann-Schaefer came over to his place and guided him onto the Internet and an email connection. So now he was starting to catch up with the present century.

On a sadder note, Russell, husband of Trish Diefenbach, passed away on October 2nd. He had inspired many with his positive outlook, his zest for life, his uncanny humour and his exceptional writing skills. The Club mourned with Trish.

And this was the month that Kodak had announced that they would be making no further investment in film as they were swinging their research and development behind the digital camera and the software and hardware required for digital printing. They said that their sales had dropped \$US1 Billion in just two years owing to the shift to the new technology.

And so we rolled on to the end of 2003 as we approached the **Annual Dinner** again. Just over 50 of our members, their families and friends graced the evening at the Gaythorne Services Club for a night of fun and the presentation of trophies to the worthy workers of the Club who were going to bear trophies home. As had happened the previous year, a Marshall called John was forced to arrange for a truck to come along to collect the swag of trophies he had won. Do you ever notice that it seems to be the members who also do a lot of the administrative work, like being Entries Officer, as John is, who are so much into the winners circle?

2004 came along and our first guest speaker was to have been old friend, Jack Dale. Jack, unfortunately finished up in hospital with a heart condition and had to give us a miss. A last minute call went out for speakers from our own midst and, we promptly had three, not just one, speaker ready and willing to take the floor. First Renate Hottmann-Schaefer who spoke on two subjects. The first on how to make sure you keep fungi out of your slide collection and second on how to prepare images for efficient sending over the Internet in emails. Then Peter Clark told us about a proposed plan to supply new members with a 'mentor' system such as providing them with advice about how to go about competing and so on. And finally, Alan Fritz gave us his philosophy on judging. Why he is a judge, what judges look for, how they think and how they would like to be regarded by members. A most interesting, though impromptu, program for the night.

A change had been announced to one of our end-of-the-year competitions. The Faces and Places competition had called for 2 slides, 2 prints or a slide and a print. This had created real problems for the judges who were trying to judge entries of a slide and a print at the same time. So from 2004, we will be restricting the entry to 2 slides OR 2 prints.

Our February 2004 Images had the interesting note that no fewer than thirteen new members had joined during the past two meetings and that Betty Hazeldean was taking orders for Club shirts. These shirts are most attractive and more and more of our members are buying them and presenting themselves at the Club and other venues in them. It looks good and helps to promote our image abroad.

The Club is always conscious of the need for members to be able to get advice and help. Two of our 'home-grown' judges, Alan Fritz and Peter Clark had announced that they would be available to look at members' work and to advise on how members could proceed in the future. At the same time, Renate Hottmann-Schaefer had announced a 'mentor scheme' she was trying to get off the ground. The plan would be for older members to put their names down as potential mentors so that when new members looked for help, they could be paired with the 'oldies'. Renate reported that so far the response 'had been less than enthusiastic' by our experienced members.

On **March 15** another old friend of the Club, Ken Peters came along and showed us a whole lot of images he had produced on a trip to the Amazon River. As well as the stunning images, Ken had gone to a great deal of

trouble to also inform us on facts and figures about this amazing waterway. We were held enthralled as his images went up on the screen. He had also brought along some of his albums of prints so we could see something of what he was doing in printing. Ken's visit is always a night to remember.

Not all news in Images is photographic. This issue carried the following Zen Buddhist text on "The Successful Person". *The successful person in the art of living makes little distinction between their work and their play, their labour and their leisure, their mind and their body, their education and their recreation. their love and their religion. They hardly know which is which, they simply pursue their vision of excellence in whatever they do, leaving others to decide whether they are working or playing. To them they are always doing both.*
ZenBuddhist Text

The results of the **PSQ Competition 2004** had been printed and had been rather sad. Had it not been for the fact that Renate Hottmann-Schaefer had been successful on a personal note, Aspley just would not have been represented at all. What happened to our other members? Renate has been working as the External Competitions Officer and has been trying to get members more involved but it looks like she was left to do it all on her own this year.

Popular Jimmy Smith's 80th Birthday was well and truly celebrated at the Kedron-Wavell Services Club on Thursday May 20th. Shirley Clark had told Jim she was going to take him to lunch that day and omitted telling him that she had passed the word around the club for other interested well-wishers to come as well. So when Jim and Shirley arrived for their 'lunch date' there were already two tables of members gathered waiting for the fun. It was a lovely lunch and Geoff Blake was banging away with his digital camera. To such good effect, that a photo of Shirley giving Jim a peck on the cheek appeared on the June issue.

Our June issue also carried a very interesting report on the trip that a number of our members had made to go to the PSQ2004 Convention and the fun that they had had there. This had been organised by the Caloundra Camera Club who had done a great deal to make it a weekend to remember for those who attended. Sunrise on Bribie Island, a visit to a farm owned by one of their members, a look at the Glasshouse Mountains and plenty of cowpats to walk in or photograph.

Another name mentioned that month was that of Trish Diefenbach. Editor Roy had announced that he was like a cheap cigarette lighter - the spirit was still willing but the flash was weak! Trish had volunteered to become Assistant Editor of Images and Roy was really looking forward to working with Trish.

Among new members of the Club was a 'family' called the Prestons. There was Grandad Barry, his son David and David's daughter Katinka. Does anyone know of another three-generation family not only belonging to a club, but also ALL being involved very actively in a competition sense and ALL winning their fair share of awards each night in competition. Katinka is already working in the supper provision area at meetings and I am sure the whole family will become involved in working for the Club.

Our own judge, Peter Clark, officiated at our August 2 meeting and judged 'On the Street' and Open. Being on his feet gave him the opportunity of announcing that Aspley Camera Club had been judged 'Champion Camera Club' at the recent R.N.A. Exhibition. This was a first for Aspley and a real thrill for those members who had supported the Club by entering their work in the 'Ekka'.

Our **August Images** bore a long article by our new Assistant Editor, Trish Diefenbach for just the second time. Trish had agreed to act as Editor and has been working with Roy for the past couple of months. And in a special 'From the Editor' page, Roy Anderson had written his notes for the last time. After exactly twelve years of producing the newsletter, Roy will be able to gracefully retire at the coming Annual General Meeting, knowing that Trish was to take the job on with enthusiasm and with a great fresh attitude.

Another long-serving worker for the Club was Dorothy Wilson who has been writing award cards for twelve years with her special skill at calligraphy. How many would Dorothy have written in all of that time? Dorothy has finally decided to give this job away and she will be replaced as from the A.G.M. by Christine Taylor.

Renate Hottmann-Schaefer had an article in Images about the recent Club trip that had been done to Elanda Point. It had been well attended by members and it was obvious that those who went had a great deal of fun.

The **September Images** was the first issue completely put out by Trish as the new Editor. The issue had Trish's covering of the A.G.M. Trish said that it was sad to see that not many were prepared to put their hands up at the meeting for positions on the committee until someone pointed out that if the committee could not get elected representatives, the Club would have to close. The hands then did start to go up. Brian Rice had agreed to go on again as President. Daryl Fisher had become Vice-President, Doug Inall had accepted Secretaryship and Don Masters was the new Treasurer. Brian Keir had lined up to become Programs Officer but we were still scratching for an Entries Officer.

The Metropolitan Interclub 2004 was held on Saturday August 21. This was not to be a very successful competition for Aspley, we came in fourth out of nine clubs. On Thursday September 2nd, about 25 members gathered together at the Chermside Municipal Library for the drinks and nibbles at the official opening of the Club Exhibition in the Library. Brian Rice said that the exhibition had been successful with about 80 prints being hung for public scrutiny.

The Hunt and Shoot had come back from the poor response in 2003 and about 26 members took on the challenge. This year, instead of members using their own cameras, it had been decided to equalise the equipment opportunity members had by having all entrants use a single-use throw away camera. As well as those members who had entered, there were family and friends who came along as well and this resulted in a happy picnic lunch under a shady tree. The night for judging and showing the results was set down for 18th October.

The **October Images** was very much involved in matters digital. Adrian Shekell had given the Club a talk on digital working on September 20th. And then after Adrian had finished, he was supported by three more of the Club's digital workers, John Stein, John Daniels and Geoff Blake. All of these gentlemen are now working very actively in digital and are in an excellent position to help newcomers to the medium in their early stages. Renate had also published the set of rules she had drawn up for email procedures for club members.

The Three-Way competition with Peninsula and Caboolture/Bribie Island had been held and Aspley this year was to win it again. Renate Hottmann-Schaefer had the Champion Slide of the Competition. She mentioned that though this slide had been entered in one of our monthly competitions, it had only got as far as having an Acceptance granted at that time. It just goes to show that it pays to enter soon and enter often if you want to find out what people think of your work. In his 'President's Ponderings' page, Brian had a report on the meeting that had been held with the other clubs after the 3-Way and the proposed move to all entries being projected digital images at next year's competition. This is also happening at the Metropolitan Interclub and the Audio-Visual competitions will be similarly affected. It is apparent that the move to digital and away from conventional is building in pace.

And talking about new technology, there was a real change with the issue of our **November Images**. This issue, rather than being our traditional photocopied 8-page spread, had been put out as an email document and was available for downloading by any of our members from the webpage of the Club. So not only did we have a new Editor, but we also had a new format completely and we were now well into the 21st Century. It had to come and it will be interesting to see what other changes we will find along the way.

The **Hunt and Shoot** judging was held on October 18 with Alan Fritz and John Daniels acting as judges. Third place was won by Tony Brady, second place was a tie between Brian Rice and Shirley Clark and the outright winner was no other than Trish Diefenbach

A Grade Gold competition will be operating and the top five A grade winners will be eligible to wear the A Grade Gold badge for a period of one year.

Our **January Images** reverted to our 8-page print out style while some further planning was done to make the email version a permanent feature. Doug Inall had written a very interesting story about the first camera he owned, A Thornton Pickard USA quarter plate folding bellows wood and metal job. A friend taught him how to process the sheet film that it used for fodder and he then worked in the family kitchen. Doug owned a number of these older style cameras and obviously had an engineer's love of the way that they worked with such precision.

The **2004 Annual Dinner** on Friday 3rd December had been a very good night. John Marshall had taken home truckloads of trophies the past two years, but this year was to be for another John, John Stein. John collected no fewer than nine trophies on the night. Doug Inall and Geoff Blake had shot quite a lot of digital images and our Editor was able to fill the back page of Images with photos of the guests and award winners.

The President's Ponderings mentioned the speeding up of the change to digital imaging in inter-club competitions and the fact that Aspley, like the other clubs, would have to move along with the flow and make plans to become a digital club as well. It would be necessary to investigate obtaining funds to purchase the necessary hardware and software to enable this change to be made.

2005 Our February 2nd meeting was to have an unusual thing happen. For some time, we had been having a large influx of visitors at meetings and on this particular night, no less than eight of the visitors had made the move to join as members. We welcome them and look forward to a long association with them.

Our Digital Doings column carried a most interesting story taken from the Courier-Mail about the industry changes from conventional to digital photography. For the first time, the sale of digital cameras had passed the sale of conventional ones. Sales of digital cameras had doubled since 2002 to 700,000 units while film camera

sales had fallen from 633,000 to 538,000 in the same period. The article also carried a warning that many users were doing little or not enough to safely store these images and in the event of a computer crash, they could be lost forever. From the figures quoted, it was amazing that Australians, with a population limited to 20 million could have purchased around 1,200,000 cameras in just one year.

We had another 'home' guest speaker on February 21 when Jim Psaltis gave us a most interesting talk on an old love of his, macro photography. He showed us how he set up his equipment to get the results that he does and then gave us a great slide show of the frogs, butterflies, cicadas, spiders and fungi that he has shot over the years. I am sure Jim would have inspired others to get out there and give it a go as well.

'President's Ponderings' from Brian raised the truth that nothing changes like change. He pointed out that we would be faced with considerable changes when our move towards digital photography became more urgent and that this would mean extra costs for the Club. The committee felt that there was not time to wait for trying to get grants from Government and that it may need to spend our accumulated funds plus extra to be raised to provide for the hardware we would need.

Our Entries Officer, John Marshall, had been pleased to find that the recent plea for help for him to do this enormous job had borne fruit. Anne Mackay had volunteered to be Assistant Entries Officer. Anne will collect entries and recording them before she hands them over to John who will arrange for their attention by the judge for the competition. Our February competition had attracted over 100 entries. Only a few entries had been received for the new A Grade Gold competition but Brian felt that this would build up quite quickly.

Our **March Images** remained as a printout booklet but this time it had increased to a 12-page spread, our largest ever. The Digital Group had announced that they would, in future, be meeting at the Respite Centre on the 4th Monday of each month. That means we now have every Monday booked at the Centre except for a 5th one where it occurs from time to time. First Monday is competition night, 2nd Monday is committee meeting, 3rd Monday is Lecture/Discussion night and now the 4th goes to the Digital Group.

The meeting on Monday 18th April was something of a groundbreaker for Aspley. It had been decided to make this the very first trial digitally projected image competition. This was partly because Aspley would be hosting the Metropolitan Interclub later in the year and there would be a section in it for digitally projected images. We had a total of 32 digital images entered and Geoff Blake had volunteered to handle the technologies required to make the night possible. Geoff announced that we would probably have a couple of digital screening nights each year from now on and we should look forward to this happening. And Geoff could be happy that his efforts on the night had been most successful.

By our **June issue of Images**, we were back to having our issues on the webpage as electronic files that could be downloaded by members instead of our previous hard copy booklet. Minor problems that had been experienced seemed to have been overcome and the newsletter was now fully online. One of the big advantages is that Editor Trish can now insert pictures in glowing colour to her heart's content and the work that had to be done previously to write, have copied, staple, fold and then post to those who did not turn up to get their copy at the club meetings was now almost completely a thing of the past for her.

In this issue, members were being urged to get their entries into the RNA Show to try and see if Aspley could win Camera Club of the Year for a second year in a row. The committee had decided to try for a grant from the Queensland Government Gambling Community Fund to allow the club to purchase the necessary equipment to carry out the stated purpose of bringing the club into the digital era in competition work. A webpage had been put on the Internet for the Club and it was being refined and was working well, Not only our members, but anyone who wants to know about the Club (like intending new members) can get a lot of information from the Internet before they ever visit the Club. The Webmaster is Doug Inall.

The Hypermarket at Aspley had offered the Club use of some space in their mall and the Club had taken advantage of this opportunity and mounted a display for the general public.

President Brian in his 'President's Ponderings' raised some very thoughtful points about how the swing to digital imaging has affected the slide workers in our, and other clubs. To date there has been a very steady decrease in the number of slide entries finding their way into club competition. The Three-Way competition for 2005 will be exclusively by digital projection. There will be a significant number of the entries in the 2005 Metropolitan Interclub that will be digitally projected ones. The International Interclub between ourselves, Rochdale and Richmond very nearly folded because one of the clubs just could not raise enough slide entries to participate. Brian likened the revolution that was taking place to the way 'talkies' affected silent movies, television affected radio and the advent of the Internet on communications. In the meantime, Brian was encouraging slide workers to continue to push their cause, to ensure that they maintain their presence.

The front page of **Images September '05** had a charming shot of our Editor, the former Mrs Diefenbach who is now the present Mrs Trevor Jackson, with her brand-new husband, Trevor, and her daughter, Erin after their recent nuptials. The Club wishes the happy couple all that they could possibly wish themselves in the

future. Trish had also written an 'editorial' saying that she was proud to be Editor again this year and explaining some of the changes that had been made to Images since she assumed the helm, and more importantly, why they had been made. She mentioned that she had been having some criticisms from those who were not happy with the changes that had been made. Maybe a little tersely, Trish concluded by saying, "I am doing my best, it it's not good enough for you, then I'll gladly hand the reins over to you. Trish". Not a soul rushed forward and asked for the reins!!!

In the Good News Department, Aspley had for the second year in a row been named as **Champion Camera Club 2005** at the RNA Show. While this is a Club honour, it only happens because of the excellent results a fair number of our members obtain in their entries to the EKKA. Another item of good news was that at the **A.G.M. of 2005** a full and energetic team had been elected to tend to the running of the Club for the next twelve months. Alan Fritz should either be congratulated or sent off to the psychiatrists as he has lined up yet again to be President of Aspley. Alan's name appears almost all the way through this history and it will be very fitting that one of our older members by years of membership will be in the President's chair we get to the birthday celebrations for our 25th birthday which are due on May 1st.. His first official job was to accept the RNA Champion Club Ribbon 2005 from Peter Clark.

It was nice to see hard-working John Marshall accept the position of Vice-President (as well as still doing the major part of the Entries Officer's job). All three of the Preston family, Barry, David and Katinka are also now on the executive or non-executive committees.

Renate Hottmann-Schaefer had written a very complimentary article about the **Metropolitan Interclub Competition 2005** that she described as being 'one of the proudest moments in the Club's near 25 year history. Under Geoff Blake's leadership and with a lot of hard work by him and those who helped him, the competition progressed like a charm despite the added challenge of having to deal with slides and digital images competing against each other for the first time in the history of this interclub competition. Even though Geoff had only a limited time to study the software and hardware involved in this exercise; he produced a result that was amazing. Mt. Gravatt won with a score of 256, followed by B.C.G. with 254 and Gold Coast with 246. Aspley came in a 'polite centre position' in 5th place but must have won many points from the other clubs for the professional running of the competition.

On a more sombre note our Treasurer, Don Masters, published a sobering report in October's Images about the rather disturbing state of the Club's finances. While our move to the Respite Centre has been a thing of wonder and delight as far as the comfort, the facilities and the surroundings have been for us, the increased costs of meeting rents and our drop in membership have made it something of a squeeze by Don to keep things on an even keel. Don found it disappointing that there were complaints from some members that fees and meeting charges were higher than in past years. He asked members to realise that all of the expenses the Club is faced with have gone up and remain the same regardless of whether 60 or 10 members actually attend a meeting.

Don finished his report with a slightly blunt warning that if the members wanted to stay in the very comfortable surrounding, either membership would have to increase or they would have to be prepared to pay the extra cost. The Club is lucky to have a Treasurer as conscientious and thorough as Don looking after our funds.

(The personal thought of the History Author is that we really had it too good as far as costs were concerned when we were still meeting at the Special School and were charged a pittance by the School. Those of us who were regular attenders there will remember the cramped and uncomfortable meeting room, the necessity of having to set out the furniture each night and return the room to how we found it before we left. And I am also sure that one of the lasting memories of that meeting place would have been the multitude of cockroaches roaming all over the floor as the meeting progressed.)

A gentleman by the name of Neil Reeves had recently joined the Club and was doing very well in competition as well as being something of a whizz with digital imaging. That same issue carried an article by Neil about how he went about preparing digital images so they could be accepted by judges in competition. This again showed that the changes in technologies were important to members and we needed people like Neil who had delved deeply into the subject to help tyros in the art to become familiar with what they had to do.

Even a diehard like Reg Savage who had bluntly stated that he would **never** go to digital had succumbed and to the surprise of all, especially his wife, Eileen, had gone off and bought a digital camera. So had Jim Smith and Betty Hazeldean, just to mention a couple more

The Club had been offered some free space at the Aspley Hypermarket and had decided to try and stimulate a membership drive by offering to take photographs of shoppers with prints to be done by Paramount Photos at a discount rate. This was to happen between October 5th to 8th.

It was also announced that with the introduction of digital competitions in 2006, member's gradings would be taken from their slide grading. If they had not been entering slide competitions, they would be regarded as B Grade. If they felt that they were working at a higher level, they were able to prepare 10 images (in the digital format) and these would be appraised by a panel appointed by the committee and the member graded from that appraisal

The **2005 Hunt and Shoot**. That girl has gone and done it again for a second year in a row. Maybe last year's win was not an accident after all. Editor Trish won with 30 points, John Stein was second with 28 points and Alan Fritz and Phil Newell tied for third with 27 points. This was a fairly tough competition as the 14 members who competed had all to use the same one time disposable cameras to shoot the selected subjects. This meant that no one had any advantage because of sexy top of the line cameras with all sorts of auto programs. To win it, you really had to shine above the others. And to come in ahead of competition like John Stein, Alan Fritz and Phil Newell really does say something to me.

On **Saturday 14 January 2006** the Courier-Mail carried the amazing news that Nikon, a giant of camera manufacturers and the company that always claimed to be the top producer of 35mm film cameras for the professional photographer, had ceased manufacture of just about their entire range of film camera. Henceforth they will concentrate on the digital market. This follows a similar move by Kodak in October 2003. Again, the 'bottom line' has showed that digital has been replacing film cameras at such a rate that it is no longer economically viable to keep producing them as the market is shrinking so fast. Digital on the other hand, has been going forward in leaps and bounds. As the technologies improve dramatically, the prices for it fall just about as quickly.

As I have been writing the last five years' history of the Club, the word 'digital' has appeared more and more, our competitions are now, at least, part digital. Many of our old stalwart slide and film users have converted or are converting to digital. So I thought we might look at the progression that we have been through to reach the present stage.

I can recall some members saying that they could not see that digitally produced prints or images would ever be good enough to stand in competition against our conventional processes. I can also recall members saying that they should not be in competition anyway as anyone with a computer can produce a perfect print by just pushing the magic button. Computer produced prints would be cheating as the maker could do what he or she liked with the image and this would be unfair to the 'real' workers who had to be good photographers to get a winning image. With the benefit of increasing knowledge, we can now see that not one of these statement is true or even makes sense.

I do recall quite some years back forecasting that these changes were on the way, although I never dreamed that it would happen so quickly. I used to say that I could see a generation of photographers coming along who would take up photography never having once owned or used a conventional camera. Even I, though, am amazed at just how many of these people I have actually talked to. And they are not only using digital cameras, they are nonchalantly producing images that they either send around the world by email or that they print out for themselves at home. I feel a cool wind blowing for those in the photographic retail industry who have not been forward-looking enough to change their business to keep up with the changes.

If you have read this history up this point, you may have noticed that there has been a thread running through it that shows the changes needed to incorporate digital work. Brian O'Leary entered the very first digital print in March 1997. Our Club representatives who attended the PSQ AGM in September 1999 had discussions at that meeting about how to treat digital entries. In January 2001, John Daniels had brought along some of his gear to present a display of the digital work that he had been doing. In April 2003, Aspley had been fortunate in having join us as a member. His digital expertise will be invaluable. Apsley's Digital Group was not only operating but had produced a program that was going to occupy them right through to June 2003.

In **February 2005**, there had been an industry press release to the effect that for the very first time, the annual sales of digital camera had exceeded the sales of film cameras. And Aspley had announced that with the beginning of digital club competitions from the beginning of 2006, members could either use the same grading they had for slides or they could submit a quantity of images for appraisal and grading by judges appointed by the committee.

Then a short year later, in **January 2006** two more press releases rocked the photographic world. The first came from Nikon who announced because of falling sales and profits, that they were leaving the ranks of film camera manufacturers with the exception of a small number of their top of the range models. In the same month, Konica Minolta also announced that they were about to depart from manufacturing film cameras altogether as well as photo minilabs and film and photographic paper. Their reason was the same as that of Nikon, the falling demand for their film products and the subsequent losses that would accumulate if they did not quit at this time.

But the news had not all been bleak. Most of the camera and accessory manufacturers were going flat out

to improve their current digital products and it was inevitable that their customers would find a bigger and better range of wonderful products waiting for them at lower prices than ever before.

As you have read this history, has it occurred to you that a number of the names that started appearing very early in the Club's existence have gone on appearing all the way through it. And, almost naturally, those names have been the ones who have been what could now be called the 'movers and shakers'. What a power of work those like Alan Fritz, Betty Hazeldean, Geoff Blake, Jim Psaltis, Barbara Ness, John and Lyn Hunter and others have done to make the present strength of Aspley Camera Club what it is.

As the Club moves rapidly to the date of our twenty-fifth birthday, the Committee has decided that the first of the celebrations will be a 'sunrise photo shoot' early on the morning of May 28th to be followed by a Birthday Breakfast at the Full Moon Hotel at Sandgate. Then a birthday cake will be provided to be ceremoniously cut at our meeting on Monday June 5th. The actual date of the birthday is May 1st but as our first meeting in May falls on a public holiday, it was decided to delay the cake cutting ceremony until the following month.

From personal knowledge, a number of the names that have appeared in this discourse are those of ex-members who would now be in that Great Camera Club in the Sky. It would be nice to think that, like on earth, they have banded together in good fellowship in shared enthusiasms just as they did when they joined Aspley. This should not be surprising for an organisation that has been in existence now for a quarter of a century. How many of us will still be around when the 50-year birthday comes along? Don't laugh, the way life expectancy has increased there will be a number who will be there. I'll bet that Alan Fritz will be one of them and he will probably be acting as President for the 20th time. Whoever, and it won't be me, writes the next twenty-five years of history to take it up to our 50th Anniversary will probably be using a thought processor rather than a word processor.

Roy Anderson
April 2006

**List of Financial Members of
Aspley Camera Club Inc. in May 2006**

Roy Anderson (Life Member)	John Ness
Gordon Baildon	Phil Newell
Jess Burke	Evelyn Pidcock
Jodi Chard	Barry Preston
Peter Clark	David Preston
Shirley Clark	Katinka Preston
Paul Davis	Jim Psaltis
Neil Davis	Neil Reeves
Dirk Dokmanovich	Brian Rice
Linda Durbidge	Dennis Ryan
Elena Fernandez	Eileen Savage
Daryl Fisher	Reg Savage
Graham Foster	Darren Sellars
Alan Fritz (Life Member)	Adrian Shekell
Coral Gray	Patrick Sheppard
David Greve	Paul Skehan
Betty Hazeldean (Life Member)	Jim Smith
Julie Hooi	Rita Smith
Renate Hottmann-Schaefer	John Stein
John Hunter (Life Member)	Jennie Stimpson
Douglas C Inall	Christine Taylor
Patricia Jackson	Joy Thompson
Brian Keir	Murray Thompson
Dan Kelly	Donald Thomson
Anne Mackay	John Wall
John Marshall	Derek Warren
Don Masters	Dorothy Wilson
Mary Moore	Lauretta Woodward
Barbara Ness	Darren Woodward

**The Committee of the Aspley Camera Club Inc
at the date of the 25th Birthday**

Executive Committee

President	Alan Fritz
Immediate Past President	Brian Rice
Vice President	John Marshall
Secretary	Vacant
Treasurer	Don Masters
Programs Officer	Brian Keir
Entries Officers Team	John Marshall, Anne Mackay and Christine Taylor
External Entries Officer	Shirley Clark
Committee Members	Trish Jackson Barry Preston

Non Executive Committee Members

Projectionist	John Stein
Assistant Projectionist	Brian Keir
Editor	Trish Jackson
Publicity Officer	Vacant
Catering Officer	Katinka Preston
Archivist	Trish Jackson
Raffles Organiser	Shirley Clark
Print Display Officer	John Marshall
Assistant Print Display Officer	Phil Newell
Visitors' Host	David Preston
Awards Scribe	Christine Taylor
Librarian	Barry Preston
P.S.Q. Delegate	Brian Rice