

# Shire Amateur Photographers' Society

*'Our aim is not to compete against each other – rather, to learn from each other'*

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S.A.P.S. (Shire Amateur Photographers' Society)  
<https://www.flickr.com/groups/saps/pool/>



Shire Amateur Photographers' Society (SAPS)  
<https://www.facebook.com/groups/shireAmateur/>

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NEWSLETTER No. 224 (2/11/2019)

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## STOP PRESS

Sunday morning 3<sup>rd</sup> November

# 'Sculpture by the Sea'

*(weather forecast is GOOD ...)*

Meeting at Jannali High School at **4.15am** (car-pooling)    Leave at **4.30am**

or

Meeting at Marks Park, Bondi at **5.15am**

**NOTE: This could be the LAST Sculpture by the Sea at Bondi, before moving to Manly next year ...**

**The Day:** Arrive at Marks Park just before dawn. Assess sculptures at Marks Park then start taking silhouette images as the morning sunrise back-lights the sculptures. After sunrise, walk along coastal walk to Bondi Icebergs capturing the sculptures dotted along this walk, then return past Marks Park continuing along the coastal walk to Tamarama Beach, before grabbing a coffee, then heading home around 9am *(before the crowds descend on the area)*.

**Car-pooling from Jannali High School** is worthwhile as there is limited parking at Bondi. Arrive at Jannali at 4.15am because we must leave **at 4.30am sharp!** *Suggestion is if you get a lift, pay the driver \$5 towards their fuel ...*

**PLEASE NOTE: Group Photo will be taken at main Sculpture at the point at Marks Park at 6.15am - Please join in the photo, thank you ...**

Sculpture gives us a unique opportunity to photograph something different – a once a year opportunity to shoot subjects that are removed for good, only weeks after being erected.

Back dropped by the sea, these Sculptures *(with a bit of luck)*, will be back lit with a pallet of striking vibrant colour, as sunrise approaches.

Each year this display attracts thousands of people, to see these sculptures, set in a beautiful, natural environment, between Bondi (Icebergs) and Tamara Beach.

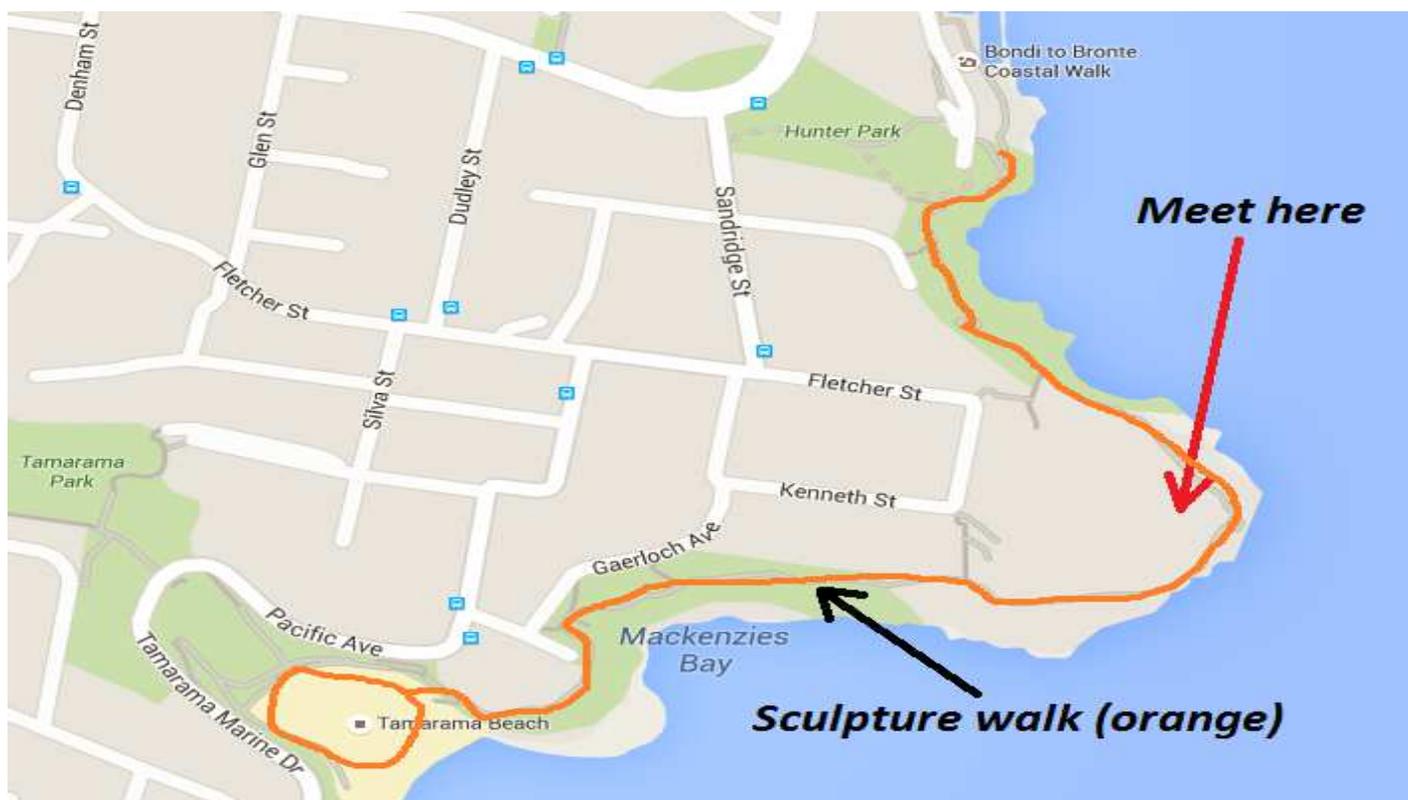
For most of the people that venture to the coast to view this experience, will be spoilt by the parking problems, crowds, and the difficulty of getting a clear view of the sculptures (through the masses), not including the difficulty in trying to get uncluttered photos.

This is why, for this outing, *(our earliest start of the year)*, we get there EARLY. Not to just avoid the crowds, but to get a close park & capture the coloured pre-dawn sky.

**Note: The light starts to fill the sky from 5.20am, so don't miss your best photo opportunities, for 10 min extra sleep.**

The idea is to photograph the Sculptures back lit by the pre-sunrise light. Once the sun breaks the horizon, it's time to recompose the shots of the Sculptures, so you're shooting **away** from the brightness of the sun.

**PLEASE NOTE AGAIN:** Group Photo will be taken at main Sculpture at the point at Marks Park at 6.15am - Please join in the photo, thank you ...



*There is only a 20 minute window for the best light. Check the 'How to Shoot' details below ...*

## **'How to Shoot' Sunrises with Backlit Subjects** *(summarized at the end)*

- **IMAGE QUALITY** – As with all your photography these days, don't compromise quality by using a lower quality (resolution) file size, or high compression, just to get extra images on a memory card. Those with post processing experience will benefit greatly by shooting RAW.
- **TRIPOD** – A necessity with the low light conditions like we will experience early in this shoot. As the light fills the sky, be aware of the shutter speed increasing. It will very quickly reach a hand-held shutter speed, where the tripod will not be required.

*Note – Figure 8 your camera strap while holding it above your camera (that is FIRMLY attached to your tripod). Drop the strap over the camera, then let it drop further onto the legs of the tripod. This prevents the camera from falling onto the ground if the quick release fails.*

**NEVER** assume that your tripod will support your camera in all weather conditions (wind), or different surfaces (uneven), especially if you are using a light weight tripod. In windy conditions, hold the strap lightly, when the camera is on tripod, to avoid wind blowing over your tripod. Another alternative is to set up your tripod with the legs only half extended (lower centre of gravity) or if your tripod legs can be set wider, this will stabilize the tripod. If there is wind, and the strap is blowing in the wind, it will slap against the tripod and camera, creating movement in the shot. Some tripods have a hook on the centre stem that allow you to attach your camera bag or other weight to stabilize it.

- **IMAGE STABILISER** - Always remember that, if you have a stabilized lens, turn OFF the stabilizer, when using a tripod. If you don't, it will CREATE blur ... !  
*(not a good look, especially if you got up at 3am to get it)*

- **ISO** - When using a tripod, use the lowest ISO setting on your camera. This will result in better saturation of colour, and less noisy images.  
*Note (exposure): If your camera requires longer than 30" (30 seconds) of exposure, it will show you by the 30" blinking on your screen.*  
*Note (blinking): If something is blinking (aperture setting or shutter speed) the camera is telling you that it cannot take what it thinks is the correct exposure, and it is going to overexpose or underexpose the shot.*  
*Note (noise): Noise is the small dots of various colours (RGB) that degrade the quality of the image, mainly due to high ISO settings or underexposure.*  
*Noisy pixels are produced when the pixel cannot accurately determine the light available, therefore the exposure – basically, it gets it wrong.*
- **METERING** - With landscape shots, use the default metering setting – Evaluative/Matrix metering. You want whole image to be metered evenly, so this is the best option.
- **MODE** – Generally, aperture priority (Av) A is the best option. Saying this, some of the Nikon users, will prefer Shutter priority (Tv) S  
 . For now, let's look at Av as a majority of people will select this option because of its success rate.

. Because you are trying not only to get the sculpture, but also the coloured sky background, an aperture setting of f5.6 should be adequate, when your about 8m (30') from the sculpture, and using a focal length (*on your zoom*) of around 35mm. This obviously depends on the size of the sculpture.

*Note: Remember, the more you zoom in, the less 'Depth of Field' (focus) of the background, when shooting from close distance.*

. For those with more experienced, M (manual) mode has the most flexibility and opportunity to create.

- **LENS CHOICE** – It's all up to you. Think about the subjects we are going to be shooting, and the effect you will be trying to capture.

*Note – You're on the coast! A little bit of on-shore wind – a little bit of sea spray – some airborne dust and sand – recipe for getting dust or spray on the sensor if you decide to change lenses. So perhaps choose well in the first place, and use a versatile lens with a good zoom range.*

*Note – Airborne sea spray can easily get on you filter or front element of the lens, blurring your images, and making the lens hard to focus. Check this periodically, and take reading glasses cleaner and a cloth, if it needs to be cleaned. Just wiping it with a hanky or tissue will only create a nice blur and smudge – it won't clean it!*

*Note – Something interesting to keep in mind! Super zooms (eg. 18 -270 Tamron) not only draw air in through the barrels as they expand (while zooming in), but also they draw air into the lens (so it can expand) past the back element of the lens (the part of the lens that fixes it to the camera. What this then does is actually draws air in from the door of both the battery compartment & the memory card compartment, past the sensor, and into the lens. If you don't keep these areas clean from dust, then the dust in these areas will find its way onto the sensor or inside the lens (permanently)!*

*Conclusion: Zoom in on subjects, when using super-zooms slowly, to avoid drawing extra dust into the camera or the lens, from these areas!*

- **FOCUS** - Make sure you get focus on the sculpture or you will end up with a blurred sculpture (foreground), and a sharp sky.

. To get that focus, get your centre focus point on an edge of the sculpture (*where the sky meets the sculpture*). When focus is attained, switch the AF/M switch on the lens, to M (manual), then recompose the shot, and take it. An alternative in low light conditions, is to light the subject with a torch. Again, when focus is attained, switch the AF/M switch on the lens, to M (manual), then recompose the shot, and take it.

*Note - Sometimes, it is still hard to attain focus (obvious when the camera does not seem to want to take a photo when you depress the shutter). If this happens, pick another better lit subject, that is a similar distance away, as the subject you want to take. Gain focus on that, then change AF switch on the lens to (M) manual. Recompose back to your actual subject, and take the image.*

*Note: Remember to reset the manual switch of the lens back to auto, to get the focus of the next sculpture.*

- **DRIVE MODE** – Use your timer to avoid camera shake. If you have a 2 second timer option, choose that. Even better, is a electronic shutter release, or corded remote.

- **FLASH** – When not trying to silhouette the sculpture, but light it, and get the colour behind as well, then flash is required. On Av, just push the button on the left of the in-built flash, to pop it up. Make sure that you remove your hood, for flash, or it will cast a shadow on the lower section of your image. Depending on the distance between the camera & the sculpture, it might be necessary to increase the ISO to 400 to increase the sensitivity of the light reaching the sensor. Try this after shooting at 100 ISO first. Also try shooting from a lower perspective, as the flash will light the foreground, creating a distraction, and shooting low will also let you include more sky in the image, especially if there is good colour in it.
- **SILHOUETTE** – After taking a photo, you find that the light recorded on your subject is too bright (not creating a good silhouette), take light away by using exposure compensation and moving the exposure meter towards – (minus) *Alternative* - If you have used exposure lock before, it is an invaluable tool when trying to increase the silhouette effect. Just aim the camera to a bright part of the sky (*not the sun*), press the exposure lock button on the camera, then while holding it down, recompose the shot, to include the subject you want to silhouette. Press the shutter ½ way down (*to get correct focus*), then take the shot. The exposure will be set to the bright part of the sky that you metered on previously.
- **EXPOSURE COMPENSATION** – Used to override correct the exposure that the camera suggested, and took. This exposure override function is invaluable, to get a better exposed image out of the camera, rather than in post-production. Take the shot – look at the result either as a Preview on the screen, or on the Histogram, then either add light (+) move slider to the right, or take light away (-) move slider to the left. As a rule of thumb, move the slider 2 clicks in the direction you want. Two clicks equates to 2/3<sup>rd</sup>'s of a stop. Reshoot the shot, composing the image the same way as the first – compare the results.
- **TORCH** – Don't forget to bring a torch to save camera battery, as well as for the low light shots, lighting the sculpture for focus.
- **CLEANING YOUR EQUIPMENT** – After being near the ocean and salt air, there will be some salt residue on your gear. It will feel gritty. When you get home, use a lint free cloth, wet it, then ring it out, and dry it a little more, by placing between 2 towels, and padding it together. Then gently wipe over your camera and lens ensuring NOT to squeeze it into seals or between the barrels. Rinse it and repeat the process.
  - . Then, slowly move the zoom in and out, transferring the air within the lens, with new air from your home.
  - Additionally, both in these conditions (*after a seascape shoot*), or a shoot where your camera has got a little wet, or has been used in damp conditions, open the inbuilt flash, the memory card door, as well as the battery compartment door, and leave the camera out to breath and dry out.
  - . Hey, don't decide to avoid a seascape shoot because you want to protect your gear from the salt air. Just be sensible and make sure you clean your gear afterwards.
- **SETTINGS SUMMARISED ...**

. Image Quality .....	Large / Fine jpg or/and RAW
. Tripod (figure 8 strap) .....	Necessity (for 1 <sup>st</sup> ½ hour)
. Image Stabilizer .....	Off
. ISO .....	Low (eg. 100)
. Metering .....	Evaluative / Matrix
. Mode .....	Av or Manual
. Lens .....	Good zoom range (wider gives better D of F)
. Drive Mode .....	Timer / Wireless / Corded
. Flash .....	No hood (pre sunrise) also increase ISO to 400 to boost Sensitivity to light (increasing effect of flash on the subject)
. Exposure Compensation .....	To override camera settings (correct for next photo)

Hope it helps, and comes in handy for any sunrise or sunset, with a foreground subject,

Greg

## **SOCIETY MEMBERSHIPS for 2020**

2020 Society Membership can be paid at the November or December meeting if you like ...

*Membership Form at the end of this Newsletter. Fill it in, and put it in envelope that is clearly marked with your name and Membership 2020. Also enclose the \$30 membership fee, thank you ...*

# **Next SOCIETY MEETING (Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> November)**

## **Club on East - 7.15pm**

1<sup>st</sup> floor 'Club on East' (previously Sutherland United Services Club - SUS Club) opp. the car park - western side of Sutherland Station. **7.15pm** start on 1<sup>st</sup> floor. Well-lit car park behind the club. Drive up to the boom gate, tell them you're coming to the Photographic meeting - they will let you in. At reception, tell them you're going to the Photographic meeting upstairs ...

*Arrive at 7pm for 7.15pm start*

### **Agenda (in-part)**

- Sell or give-away (see below for info)
  - Reviewing TASK – 'Shoes', Outing's and trip Away to Blue Mountains in October
  - Travel Segment
  - Other items of interest ...
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## **SELL or GIVE AWAY (camera gear only)**

At the November Meeting you are welcome to bring in photographic gear that you don't require any more.

You can give it away or put it up for sale – up to you ...

If you are wanting to sell something then put it on the '**FOR SALE**' table **clearly marked with your name, price, and mobile number**. You can ask me or one of the committee to point out the person, if you don't know them.

If you just want the gear to go to a good home, then put it on the '**FREE**' (give away) table ...

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## **UPCOMING TASKS** (set by the steering committee)

- **SPECIAL Task (photograph till meeting in February) 'OLD & NEW Comparisons'** (see info below)
  - **TASK for October – 'Shoes'**
  - **TASK for November – 'Fresh'**
  - **TASK for December (2 Tasks)**
    1. **Upside Down** – Submit something that is up-side-down to it's reality ...
    2. **Green**
  - **TASK for January – 'Ocean Waves'**
  - **TASK for February – 'Old'**
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## **IMAGES to submit for 7<sup>th</sup> November Meeting**

You can send your images by the 'WeTransfer program' **till Monday night (10pm) 4<sup>th</sup> November** to: [gphoto@optusnet.com.au](mailto:gphoto@optusnet.com.au)

**\*\*\* Please rename ALL images using the following format if you can:**

<b>TASK for OCTOBER – 'Shoes'</b> (5 images)	<b>your name</b> Shoes	<b>2019-10</b>
<b>OUTING – Shelly Beach Sunrise</b> – 6 <sup>th</sup> Oct (5 images)	<b>your name</b> Shelly	<b>2019-10</b>
<b>TRIP AWAY – Blue Mountains</b> – 8-11 <sup>th</sup> Oct (10 images)	<b>your name</b> Mountains	<b>2019-10</b>
<b>OUTING – Seacliff Bridge Sunrise</b> – 20 <sup>th</sup> Oct (5 images)	<b>your name</b> Sea Cliff	<b>2019-10</b>
<b>OUTING – Wombarra Pool &amp; Headland</b> – 20 <sup>th</sup> Oct (5 images)	<b>your name</b> Wombarra	<b>2019-10</b>
<b>OUTING – Illawarra Escarpment Walk</b> – 20 <sup>th</sup> Oct (5 images)	<b>your name</b> Illawarra	<b>2019-10</b>

OUTING (mid-week) – Australian Centre of Photography – 26<sup>th</sup> Oct (5 images)

*your name* Photo Centre 2019-10

OUTING (mid-week) – Taren Point Reserve SUNSET – 1<sup>st</sup> Nov (5 images)

*your name* Point Sunset 2019-10

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## **TASK for SEPTEMBER – ‘Shoes’**

Here are some wacky examples ...



Send up to 5 images to Greg by WeTransfer [by Monday night 4<sup>th</sup> November](#), thank you ...

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## **UPCOMING Activities (SAPS)**

### NOVEMBER

- 3<sup>rd</sup> Sun OUTING – Sculpture by the Sea  
(4.15am Jannali High School – Car Pooling or 5.15am Marks Park, Bondi)
- 7<sup>th</sup> Thu Society Meeting (Club on East) arrive 7pm for 7.15pm start

# Africa 2020

***It's time to show you might be interested ...***

Thinking you might like to go on one (or more) of Arne's planned trips to Africa in 2020?  
We need to know you might be interested ... **NO** commitment at this stage, just so we can start planning.

I need you to ring me with your interest so that we can discuss further (0415 412 244), Greg



## ***Arne presents NEW Safaris***

Since 2015, over 130 Society Members, family & friends have experienced Africa first hand with South African friend Arne Muller.

Arne has restructured the Safaris she now has on offer to AFRICA in 2020.

Here is an outline of the different trips available, and this will be followed up by a 'SPECIAL AFRICAN NEWSLETTER' that you will receive in the next couple of days, containing further info including links and itineraries ...

<b>'Southern Africa Safari'</b> (June) Zimbabwe – Botswana – Namibia – South Africa (24 days) <i>(plus Local payment US\$650)</i>	AU\$6,825
<b>'Uganda Gorilla Trekking'</b> (25 July – 1 August) Uganda (8 days)	AU\$4,260
<b>'Climb Kilimanjaro'</b> (25 July – 1 August) or (11 – 18 August) Tanzania (8 days)	AU\$2,615
<b>'Great Migration'</b> (1 – 11 August) Tanzania (11 days)	AU\$7,180
<b>'Zanzibar Spice Island'</b> (11 – 16 August) or (18 – 23 August) Tanzania to Zanzibar (6 days)	AU\$2,190
<b>'Victoria Falls &amp; Chobe N.P.'</b> (12 – 17 August) Zimbabwe – Zambia – Botswana (6 days)	AU\$1,770
<b>'Kruger National Park'</b> (17 – 21 August) South Africa (5 days)	AU\$1,750

*N.B. The prices are land content only – airfares additional*

*# Single supplement should be available (depending on numbers) Prices also in Special Newsletter ...*

Arne Muller Photography Tours

Phone: + 27 082 416 5162 | Email: [arnemullerphotography@gmail.com](mailto:arnemullerphotography@gmail.com) | Address: Mossel Bay, Western Cape, South Africa

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 **Bundeena House Society Xmas BBQ**

**Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> December, 2019 (10am - 4pm)**

This is a great way to socialise with fellow Society members. This day gives visitors and New Members, the opportunity to get to know others in the Society in a relaxed, social environment – Please come along ... Bundeena House is a large, veranda surrounded historic building right on the beach at Bundeena (5 min walk from the Bundeena Ferry). In the past 5 years we have enjoyed this location for our Xmas BBQ, enjoying the opportunity to sit back and socialise with our friends in the Society. Quite a few people catch the ferry over from Cronulla.



*Protection if it's raining*



*Access in from Bundeena Drive*





Easy walk round from the ferry (Cronulla Station to Bundeena)

Bring your meat and drinks. Plates, cutlery, bread rolls provided. Bring salad dishes to share and if some want to bring a sweets plate, it would be appreciated.

**📷 SPECIAL Task (to run till February 2020 meeting)**

Geoff Scott suggested to the Society Steering Committee, a Task that showed a lot of interest. It was to look for old photographs (of your own or from any source), that you could take a comparison (modern version) of the same location, by composing the shot, trying to copy where you take it, and how you compose it as a modern version, showing the differences in the location (Now & Then) ... It will take some time to find images where this would work, then to go and photograph them, so we decided to set the Task to run the rest of the year. *Should be fun ...*



So later, when you submit your images, they will need to be in sets of 2 (*Before and After*) cropped to the same size if possible (*as above*).

# Pilates Classes Bangor

- Small classes and friendly atmosphere



- Males and females, all ages welcome
- New 5 week term starts 18<sup>th</sup> November 2019
  - Mondays 6.30pm, 8pm
  - Tuesdays & Wednesdays 10am, 6pm, 7.30pm  
(all classes subject to minimum numbers)
- Price: \$75 for 5 week term. Once minimum numbers reached, casual rate of \$25 per class available
- Contact Kim for bookings or more information on [pilates2234@gmail.com](mailto:pilates2234@gmail.com) or 0434143160
- Bring along a towel and a mat

Pilates Classes are held in a private studio in Yala Rd Bangor with a maximum of 6 per class, allowing personalised attention to all participants to ensure maximum benefit. Therefore bookings are essential.

*Pilates is not just exercise, but a series of controlled movements engaging the body and mind, designed to stretch, strengthen, and balance the body.*

*Only 4 people are needed to make a class, so why not get some friends & neighbours together and have your own class*



**Louis Petrucco**

October 26 at 7:09 PM

Capertee National Park. Wildlife / Landscape, maybe even Astro photography (3 hours from Sydney)

Hi all, a couple of us are heading into the Capertee National Park in the second week of November. I have booked house accommodation and we have two spots available, (very reasonable fee when shared) if anyone is interested please message me.

(Please note, this is NOT a Shire Amateur Photographer's Society event and all risks and insurances are your own).

When: 12, 13, 14<sup>th</sup> November

*Ring Lou for more information (0416 142 092)*

## Participating in the 'Shire Amateur Photographers' Society' (SAPS) Activities

- Membership (2019) \$30 (calendar year)
- Meeting attendance \$ 5 (you can attend 2 meetings before joining)
- Society Outings/Outside Activities – Society must have a Risk Warning, Release and Waiver Form signed
- Unofficial Outings/Activities: These events are not formally run by the Society. They are activities that some of the Society members, friends, and families may join in together as private activities. These events may be promoted though on the SAPS Facebook site for anybody interested
- A Risk Warning, Release and Waiver form must be filled in if participating in a Society activity and will remain ongoing as long as you participate in Society activities.

# Shire Amateur Photographers' Society

<i>Joined</i>	<b>2020 Membership Form</b>				<b>\$30</b>
<i>Office use ...</i>	<i>Mailchimp</i>	<i>pages</i>	<i>email</i>	<i>name tag</i>	
<b>Name</b>					
<b>Address</b>					
<b>Email</b>					
<b>Contact No's</b>	<i>Mobile</i>				
	<i>Home</i>				
<b>Camera/s</b>	<i>Make/s</i>				
	<i>Model/s</i>				
	<i>Lenses</i>				
<b>Enter <span style="color: red;">NO</span> if you would prefer <span style="color: red;">NOT</span> to get SMS messages about Society Activities</b>					
<b>Social Media I USE</b>	<i>Facebook</i>	<i>Flickr</i>	<i>Other ...</i>		
<b>How did you find out about Society</b>					
<b>List your favourite photographic subjects</b>					
<b>What computer do you use? (Mac or PC)</b>					
<b>What program do you use to enhance your photos?</b>					

**Other info:** .....

1. Please fill out this form
2. Print your name on envelope – add this form, Waiver form & 2019 membership fee (\$30)
3. Hand in at next meeting you attend

<i>Office Use</i>	<i>Earlier</i>	<i>2017</i>	<i>2018</i>	<i>2019</i>	<i>2020</i>	<i>2021</i>	<i>2022</i>	<i>2023</i>	<i>2024</i>	<i>2025</i>	<i>2026</i>
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