

Melbourne Photographic Society Programme Secretary's Report Session 2017-18

AGM April 2018

As the Autumn and Winter programme comes to a close, it's that time to look back at the speakers and events that have entertained us over the previous 12 months. The season has been one of the most successful with some very good speakers; this success is down to the hard work that retiring Programme Secretary Ian Pettit put in before he stood down. I would like to thank Ian for his hard work and excellent handover. The new approach to the Members Welcome Night was very well received and proved more interesting and provided members, both new and old with a lot more information

Summer Programme & workshops etc.

During this year we have had some very interesting "Practical/Technical Nights" that generated a lot of interest and helped members with some of the theoretical aspects of photography. Next year's programme will include more of this type of event. During the summer, members enjoyed a rather damp trip in the evening to Lumsdale Falls that concluded the night with a visit to The Hollybush at Makeney. Then later a trip to Salford Quays also proving popular, with members returning home with some excellent images. The two weekend outings have proved popular; the first, a trip to Swansea, with a good number of attendees. Then the trip to Riga, although very cold, was enjoyed by ten members. There are still opportunities for more members to come along on these trips, especially as they prove an invaluable source of photo opportunities, learning and most importantly social and fun times.

Speakers

We have had a number of excellent speakers throughout the winter. The more successful and interesting speakers have been found as a result of our policy to look further afield and speaking to other Society Programme Secretary's. There have only been a couple of minor hiccups with speaker arrangements this season. The first happened when the speaker cancelled at extremely late notice due to illness, but I managed to secure an alternative on the day. He has now been booked to attend next year. The second was a misunderstanding between our Society and Melbourn Society in Ely, but we were able to work around this.

Judges

Overall the quality of judges has, I believe, been much better this season with some valuable comments made. We are now building a list of judges who we know offer good constructive criticism and give us good variety. Simon as Competition Secretary may well have further comments on Judges in his annual report.

Season 2017-18

As I write this report the programme for the next 12 months is complete. As each year progresses, the better speakers are booked well in advance some up to 2 years ahead, so it becomes vital to contact these as early as possible.

John Zahorodnyj
Programme Secretary 2018

