



FLASHES

MARCH 2023

Photographic Society of Queensland Quarterly
Newsletter

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PSQ Convention!

Are you excited yet???

Reset, Refresh, Refocus
in *Rockhampton*

PSQ CONVENTION 2023:
LABOUR DAY WEEKEND 29&30 APRIL, 1 MAY.



**Venue: Walter Reid Building, Cnr East and Derby Streets,
Rockhampton**

Thankyou to all who bought tickets

**The convention has now sold out...it's
going to be an awesome weekend!**

Is AI (Artificial Intelligence) Ruining Photography?

By Tryg Helander, AAPS PSQA

Artificial intelligence is a technology with applications in almost every area of industry, which uses computers to control processes. This is especially evident where you need a human element to optimise a program. AI is the process of machine learning. It is the simulation of human intelligence in a computer. These programs add to their previously learned information; in huge databases.

There are no programs that can perfect framing and composition, these are the bastions of human artistic abilities and understanding. But AI does cover many of the processes that would be tedious for the photographer to correct, therefore it improves our efficiency.

Some of these features are found inside your phone, mirrorless camera and some DSLR now; face detection, bird recognition, smile recognition and the like.

Photo manipulation has been around since the film era; photographers have always dodged and burned images with their hands on an enlarger. Superimposed negatives on another to create new images. Now, their contemporaries use AI in image manipulation software to make significant time savings; using plug-ins, employing copied settings for use on multiple images etcetera.

Then there are even more advanced forms of AI; those that completely create a scene from several commands from an end-user of the software.

“Just telling the AI something like ‘landscape photography by Marc Adamus, Glacial lake, sunset, dramatic lighting, mountains, clouds, beautiful’ gives instant pleasant looking photography-like images.” The image shown is not a photograph, but merely a computer representation of the commands given to the AI software. A compelling image nonetheless.



AI image generators open up a world of possibilities which is what makes the technology so exciting. But, it could also open doors for crooks, frauds, and shysters; especially when it comes to photography competition.

Images made completely of Graphic Design, those that make use of stock imagery (purchased or free), images adapted with the use of purchased brushes (like those that put a texture or outlines of photographed elements; leaves, snow etc), those solely derived from AI image software, or the use of another person's photography work are not to be used in the aforementioned competitions.

Use of replacement skies, not of your own imaging, too, is one area that has been popping up of late. Even though this is a feature of an editing program (such as Powerpoint) does not afford anyone the right to use this feature and claim it as their own work.

To do so shows only a lack of integrity of the entrant; the PSQ would suggest that we will not accept this in any form of competition.

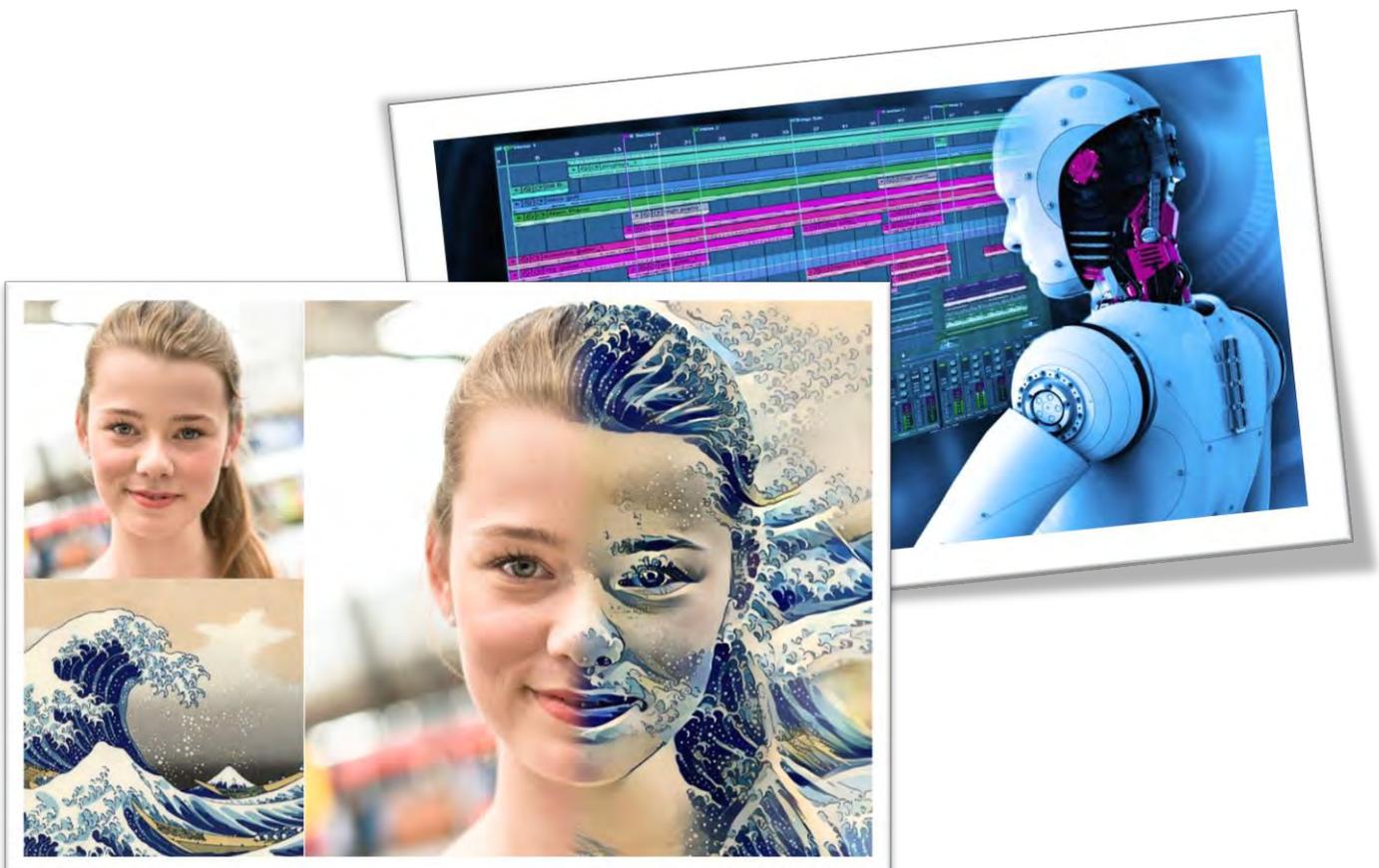
We can all agree that it is a wonderful advance in the creation of art and for the personal use of creatives, outside any photographic competition, is totally reasonable.

The desire to create ever-more-dramatic work is palpable amongst all of us in the amateur photographic world, but competition is a space that we must keep fair and a model of rectitude.

I hope this piece provokes thinking, discussion and brings attention to this future of image making.

We should however differentiate between the AI in common use in Photoshop (Photo Stacking, sky replacement, composites, etc), Topaz AI or noise reduction and word generated AI or AI called generative adversarial network (GAN) that uses digital photographs as input data to make new "photographs" of people or things that have never existed in the real world.

(last paragraph by Fran McFadzen).



PACT changes to a 9 point scale for competitions using MPC

Photo Arts Club Tweed

After discussions with many judges Photo Arts Club Tweed Inc (PACT) decided to introduce a new point scoring system in July 2022. This was to be a fairer way to award images a score that precisely tells members what their image is worth in our monthly club competitions. Instead of a 3-score system of Honour, Merit & Accepted there are now 9 scoring range, so members know where their image sits in a scoring range of 1 to 9. The 9 point system is divided as - 9 Honour, 8 & 7 Merits, 6 Highly Commended, 5 Commended, 4, 3 & 2 Accepted & 1 Rejected.

PACT uses My Photo Club (MPC) to run their monthly competitions and after discussion with Colin Woods at MPC the 9 point scoring system was adapted. The new system keeps track of the number of entries, their scores and an average score for each member in each of the club in the 3 Grades. The new system has been embraced by both members and judges. If your club is interested in using this new scoring system, please contact PACT or Colin Woods if using MPC.

PACT members are required to meet certain requirements to maintain their current grade. As this was a new system for PACT a 6-month trial period was chosen and then reviewed to determine the cut off score for each of the 3 grades. After the first review it has been decided to make the average score required to stay in "A Grade" is 6.5 points out of a possible 9 and 6.0 points to stay in "AB Grade". These scores will be reviewed again in 6 months, changed if necessary, until an even balance is found as a maintenance score for each grade. The average scores are also used for upgrading purposes. If a member in "B Grade" averages 6.0 points or higher over the 6 monthly period then the member will be upgraded to "AB Grade" or if a member in "AB Grade" averages 6.5 points or higher they will be moved to "A Grade".

To encourage members to be more involved members need to enter at least 6 images over the 6-month period or they will not be upgraded or relegated to a new level. As a bonus images that are awarded "Image of Month", Best Set Subject" or "Best Print" are awarded a bonus 3 points to help maintain there current grade or to upgrade.

Photo Arts Club Tweed Inc.

**c/o South Tweed Sports Club
4 Minjungbal Drive
Tweed Heads South
NSW 2486**

www.photoartsclubtweed.org



The last QIDC Digital Circuit competition...get your entries in!



Entries open 1st April, close 19th June 2023

Digital entries for our Circuit of four salons (Gold Coast, Maryborough, Mount Gravatt, Townsville) welcomed in four sections:

Colour Open

Colour Theme – Weather and Seasons

Monochrome Open

Monochrome Theme – Smoke, Fire, Fog or Steam

This will be our last Circuit. Be part of our final event!

www.queensland-photo.com

Print catalogue of 88-100 pages with images and listing of awards and acceptances

All enquiries: enquiries@queensland-photo.com

Approvals: FIAP 2023/147-150, PSA 2023-206, GPU L230055, APS 2023/06-09



Get-together with Gympie, Caboolture and Sunshine Coast clubs

On Sunday March 12th, three clubs from the Sunshine Coast decided it would be a great idea to have a combined outing. Wappa Dam was the decided destination, and approximately 40 people in total turned up!

Gympie Camera Club provided the morning tea, tea & coffee and lunch was B.Y.O. Gympie president Richard Bassett came up with a different spin on the usual "hunt & shoot" this time involving camera skills! Some on the list were; Fill light, Backlit, Macro/close-up...just to name a few. It certainly made everyone put on their thinking caps!

Below are a few phone snaps taken on the day.





Sunshine Coast Photography Club

Caloundra Camera Group recently changed its name and will be known in future as Sunshine Coast Photography Club. The club celebrated its 25th Anniversary at the end of 2022, having been established in 1997 and, to celebrate, the club entered the new Camera Club Category of the 7th Australian Photographic Society's annual Photobook Awards. The Club took out 1st Place in the Awards with their book entitled "Coastal Exposure". Judges awarded the prize-winning book for its "excellence and fitness for purpose in photography, as well as design, layout and typography, originality in concept and design and visual narrative".

The Judges noted that in creating their book, "the members of the Club took the opportunity to celebrate the club's anniversary with a compilation showcasing the work of their current active members and life members. The planning and preparation of the book was a truly collaborative effort. A team of seven club members, with varying levels of experience in photography and book-making, worked together to complete the design, preparation work and production processes." The Judges commented on the "clear intention, consistent design style, complementary text and balanced representation of club members." Overall, they considered the winning entry to be "a very worthy project with some exceptional photography."

At the club's end of year Awards Night, Di East, who was one of the seven members who assisted in the production of the book, took out the Image of the Year Awards for both DPI's and Prints - her trophies were presented by well-known local photographer, Andrew Goodall, staff member of Ted's Cameras, Maroochydore.

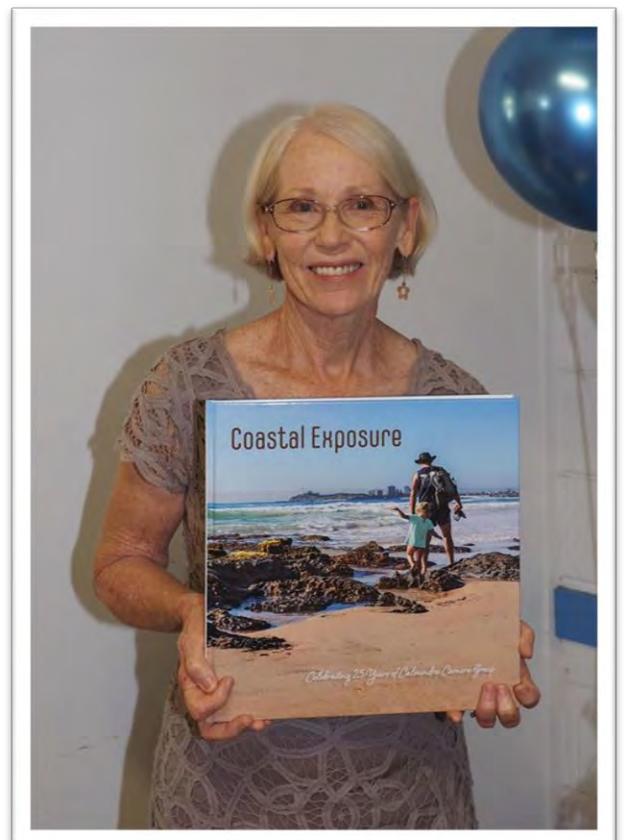
All members are looking forward to a happy and productive year in 2023, under the umbrella of our new name, not only on our usual Club nights, but also with days out and trips away already planned during the year.

Photo credit: Ty Fox



Di East with Andrew Goodall - Image of the Year Award (above)

Di East with Photobook Coastal Exposure (below)



PSQ 'Queenslander' Print Exhibition

The PSQ Queenslander Travelling Photo Exhibition is available for any PSQ affiliated clubs to utilise at club functions, workshops, exhibitions, or as a display at your club. If you would like to take advantage of this lovely collection of photographs, please contact PSQ to arrange delivery.

Join Other Clubs on Your Travels

Are you are travelling across Queensland throughout the year? Why not pop in and visit the neighbouring camera clubs while you're on your journey. If you would like to join them and meet some friendly like-minded people, get in touch and organise to meet up at their club meetings or get together and chat about all things photography.

You will find a list of all PSQ affiliated clubs on the PSQ Website below:

<http://www.psq.org.au/affiliated-clubs.html>

Photographic Society of Queensland

For further information for your club and members please visit www.psq.org.au

You will find information on:

- Affiliated clubs List - club Secretaries, please ensure your details are current.
- Judges List - contact details & accreditation information provided here.
- Judges manual - very informative
- PSQ Insurance Policy - information about what your club is covered for.
- Featured Club Images - Would like your clubs images featured on the PSQ website?
Please contact Web Admin, Fran McFadzen, for details at: psqweb@gmail.com
- Lecturers & Presenters Lists - This is updated regularly on the PSQ website

Share Your Club News in the PSQ Newsletter

Has your club been up to anything exciting? Have you got a photo/s you would like to share in the PSQ Newsletter?

Do you have a photography story that you would like to tell?

If you answered YES to any of the above questions, please contact me on the email address below.

Your club's exciting activities and outings can be seen by the other fifty plus affiliated PSQ club's by sharing your events, stories and photos! Written articles to be submitted as a 1 x A4 Word Doc or Docx. And photos attached separately, not embedded in the email.

Please ensure any photographs emailed through are your own or come with permission from the photographer. And submit photographs as Jpegs no larger than 800kb in size.

Note: *Articles for inclusion will be at the discretion of the Editor and/or PSQ Committee and may be edited and/or corrected if required. Advertising flyers for upcoming club events are required to be submitted in a PDF format that includes all details, with reduced sized images, A4 Portrait shape preferred, and no larger than 800kb in size.*

Contact the Editor: editor@psq.org.au

NEXT ISSUE JUNE 2023 ~ SUBMISSIONS BY 5th JUNE