



Meritorious Service Award

Jen Fawkes

Jen has been a member of Benalla Camera Club since 2007. During that time, she has been active in entering monthly competitions and has won Image of the Year and annual aggregate awards.

In 2016, she held a solo exhibition 'Behind the Façade' at the Gellibrand River Gallery. She has submitted entries in the Benalla Show for many years and has been a finalist in the Regional Photography Competition at the Melbourne Show.

Jen's work has gained over 50 acceptances in national and international competitions and she has qualified for Licentiate in APS. This year she has applied for Associate in APS. She has submitted images for competitions with Wodonga Albury Camera Club and York Camera Club in the USA. In 2011, her work was displayed at the Benalla Art Gallery in an exhibition to celebrate 60 years of the Benalla Camera Club.

Jen has made an outstanding contribution to the administration of the Benalla Camera Club. She has been a member of the committee since 2010. She was Activities Coordinator in her first year and President from 2011 to 2014, and again in 2016.

She has represented Benalla Camera Club at VAPS meetings since 2012 and is a tireless advocate for rural clubs at state and national levels. She is a member of APS and the APJA, and is currently on the APJA Executive Committee. She commenced judging externally for rural camera clubs in 2016.

Jen has taught new techniques at club meetings, organised training courses and has undertaken one-on-one training with members and non-members on camera use and techniques, and on post processing software such as Photoshop and Lightroom.

Jen has organised the Benalla Camera Club's photographic exhibitions that have been held in conjunction with the Bald Archy Prize Exhibition at Swanpool, a 'Faces of Benalla' exhibition at a store in Benalla, and a permanent display of members' photographs at a local nursing home. She has obtained grants to develop club resources and has promoted the club through the local newspaper and on social media.

She has brought to her club boundless energy and a passion for welcoming, teaching and supporting new members and has developed a short course to teach newcomers the basic principles of photography. Her patience and knowledge as teacher, mentor and friend has assisted many new members to gain confidence and the skill to improve their photographic ability.

Her club wishes to honour her with the Meritorious Service award. VAPS confers it on her with thanks for her outstanding contribution to photography at both her club level and in rural Victoria.

Jan Rolfe

President

Margaret Gommers

Badges and Awards Director