



NEWSLETTER

MEETINGS: AMRA Hall, 92 Wills St, Glen Iris, VIC
Melways 59 H7 ABN 55 567 464 974

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APCS NEWSLETTER No.112 – April 2021

The next APCS event is the members-only auction on 18th April from NOON at the AMRA Hall – 92 Wills St., Glen Iris

Special Note – updates on previous announcements are shown in RED.

The members-only auction on 18th April will be a bit different in several respects, but we hope that this will be the only auction that will be significantly modified as a result of the Victorian DHHS COVIDsafe conditions. It will be impractical for the items to be laid out on tables and for pre-auction inspections. Likewise, it will also be impracticable for items to be seen close-up as they are offered. However you have the opportunity to look at high resolution photographs of every item on-line. See <http://www.apcsociety.com.au/auctions/April2021catalogue.pdf> to download the catalogue as a PDF – links to the individual photographs are active on-line links from the catalogue, but be sure to refresh the page as new details are included that were not on the version uploaded last month.

It is suggested that you save the catalogue PDF on your desktop and open it using a PDF reader like Acrobat Reader – that will stop the application of returning to the home page when you return after viewing an image.

During the auction, photos of each item will be displayed on a screen for all to see as the bidding progresses.

The items are all from estates –collections of mostly Kodak, Exakta and Voigtlander items from the period 1930 to the end of the film era and include micro-variants of many relatively common cameras. Many of the items on offer are considered to be scarce if not rare.

Usable items include a very nice Mamiya 645 group, a 50mm shift lens for the 645, an uncommon Reid III body, and a Nikkor 55mm f1.2 lens. There is also a Durst Laborator 138S enlarger with a range of condensers and lenses which will be “pick up only” from Blackburn.

While a lot of this auction is probably working, a considerable proportion of it has been in storage for many years and bidders should assume that “100% working” is not going to be the case. It is suggested that bidders assume that the items have cosmetic value and that those that work will be a bonus.

The latest version of the catalogue also includes expected pricing.

In a change from previous practices where a lot of guessing happened, the suggested prices this time are from a specific source – the upper limit of “average”

condition prices published in the on-line resource “Collectblend”, discounted in a couple of items that are clearly not working or damaged. Inflation-adjusted values have been given.

Absentee and phone bidding: Absentee bids may be sent by email indicating your MAXIMUM bid to president@apcsociety.com.au no later than THURSDAY 15th. If you wish to make a phone bid please also include your maximum as an absentee bidder in case we are unable to contact you by phone. We will endeavour to call you just before the lot is offered.

Bidders in attendance will be spaced in the room and when the items are knocked down they will be handed to the successful bidders.

Card payments will be able to be made using Visa, and Mastercard.

Under the COVIDsafe rules, PLEASE send an email to president@apcsociety.com.au if you wish to attend as a buyer.

As far as possible this will be a “normal” members-only event at the AMRA Hall – but it will follow the rules and procedures for a group of people in an enclosed space. Should a member of the committee ask you to do something, please comply – they will have name tags... We don't want the APCS to hit the news headlines as a COVID centre.

APCS event planning for 2021

The schedule for 2021 includes new changes, and further changes are possible. See the APCS webpages for late changes – make sure you “refresh” the page.

May – Adelaide market – Hungarian Club Norwood – Postponed

The previously scheduled Adelaide market (May) has been postponed to the second half of the 2021 year by which time COVID inoculations should be fairly universal in Australia. More details when a new date is finalised.

May 16 – 2pm Presentation and Social meeting AMRA Hall

We hope to be able to have a normal presentation meeting in May. This will be an illustrated presentation on the use of heritage lenses on digital cameras and will include examples of some very special lenses needing significant modification to make them usable. There will be some new information relative to some of the latest cameras that have the ability to exploit the capabilities of some very high-performance military surveillance lenses, and a few surprises concerning the use of projector lenses as high performance camera lenses.

June 20 – Members-only Market AMRA Hall

The members-only markets are popular events – and we will be holding another one in June – more details later, but we expect that it will run as outlined for the March meeting...

July 18 – 2pm Annual General Meeting AMRA Hall

Our AGM is for the purpose of receiving reports, electing a committee for the next year and dealing with specific items of business to be determined. A contingency plan for this meeting is to conduct it via ZOOM software on-line.

Plans for the second half of 2021

It is premature to be specific about the remainder of 2021. We are likely to be reacting to the Winter season of the COVID virus. We will also learn from the experience of the events in the first half of the year.

Communication with members

Thanks to the many who have sent us updated contact information, our database is now much more accurate. Many of those changes were due to transfer to the NBN etc – please keep us informed. Send us an email to web@apcsociety.com.au and we will ensure that the database is updated.

Whether we like it or not, communications is changing – maybe too rapidly for some – and the internet with its email services etc has all but replaced the 20th Century norms of the postal service. A key feature of the internet is that it is close to free and instantaneous whereas the postal service is now costly and commonly delayed by many days rendering notification of late changes to meeting plans for example to be useless.

Event for Adelaide people

On Saturday 22nd May, the Friends of State Library will present “Modern Media of 1951 – your morning paper” <https://festival.history.sa.gov.au/events/modern-media-of-1951-your-morning-paper/>

This is a documentary of The Advertiser's super technology of 1951 filmed by John Campbell-Dobbie. A rare colour print uncovered recently in State Library private collection. Also to be shown – two short film reports directed by Edmee Campbell-Dobbie from the same period – classic BW from the film collection of APCS member David Donaldson.

Showing in digital at Hetzel Room of State Library under COVID conditions. Bookings via History Festival. Inquiries can also be made by sending an email to David at filmart@dodo.com.au

The Internet – a Photographic Resource

Have you had a look at the on-line digitisation of the Journal of the Royal Photographic Society? See <https://rps.org/> ... That is the portal to a huge database that includes the 165 years of their journal as well as other photographic resources. The journal alone is some 30,000 pages and you can read each issue as a book or you can use their query system to search for specific subjects.

That is only an example of what is out there on the internet, and one of the things that has happened as a

result (maybe) of COVID is that organisations are making more and more material available on-line.

As collectors we were quite used to consulting McKeown as a means for camera identification and valuation but that is largely out of date now and the American resource “Collectblend” which you can access at <https://collectblend.com/Cameras/> has become the almost universal on-line replacement. Just be aware that the prices are in US\$ and there are examples of price manipulation as updates are provided by viewers. Some of the identifications are also a bit suspect. A feature of their pricing is that historical prices are adjusted for inflation and the current value of the US\$.

Back Focus

Back Focus can't exist without good articles. We are a collecting society... Write up your speciality and share your enthusiasm – you never can tell what might be hiding out there – it might bring you that elusive model or example that you have been chasing for years.

We are short on articles for Back Focus and the committee has decided to defer the production of the next issue until June when we can also include the APCS annual report.

The APCS does pay for full articles at a rate of \$30 a page, but the rate is currently being reconsidered by the committee in light of the new printing standards and the fact that the rate has not been revised for many years. There is also a thought that a higher rate might attract better articles.

A new feature of the APCS is that the whole archive of Back Focus and its predecessors is now available to members on-line. You can get access by going to: http://www.apcsociety.com.au/BF_ARCHIVE.html

Membership renewals

Membership renewals for 2020-2021 are now overdue, and thank you to the members who have already renewed their membership for the next year.

Subscriptions for 2021-2022 will be coming due at the end of May – not too early to get those in... The annual fee of remains at \$30 and can be paid by a direct deposit into the bank account:

Account name: Australian Photographic Collectors' Society. BSB: 083166 – Account: 515315423 and be certain to put your name or membership number in the reference field.

Or you can send a cheque (made out to the Australian Photographic Collectors' Society) to the Treasurer P.O.Box126, KANGAROO GROUND, VIC 3097

Any changes to your details can be sent to us by downloading the membership form from the website <http://www.apcsociety.com.au/membership.html> and including it with your cheque, or by emailing the changes to the Treasurer or to web@apcsociety.com.au

Magazine exchanges

The APCS has magazine exchange relationships with other societies of like nature and in the past, copies were usually located in the APCS library, but now we have introduced an on-line Library which you can see at www.apcsociety.com.au/Library.html . From that page members will be able to see:

- “Snap Shots” from the Photographic Historical Society of New England
- News and “Photographic CANADIANA” from the Photographic Historical Society of Canada
- “Photogram” from the Michigan Photographic Historical Society

Of course, we have permission from those societies to share their publications – just as they can share what we publish as well. The links have been checked and are virus free.

Classified Advertisements

With the social effects of COVID forcing us to cancel and modify markets and auctions for a while, this column is available to you to publicise what you wish to buy and sell.

To place an ad, send an email including all the details to adverts@apcsociety.com.au with a JPG photo if you wish. Rather than include your name and contact details we can add an enquiry code and pass information on to you – then you can deal directly with the responders. Please try to keep the text down to under 50 words per item. At present there is no charge for placing an ad but it is now requested that for successful sales you remit a fee of 3% of the sale value, with the fee capped at \$15 for items sold for \$500 and above. This is an honour system and you may electronically transfer such fees in the same way as for membership fees – just mark the reference with your membership number and the word “Sale”.

Wanted

Member Sandy Barrie is looking for Kodak Sepia Toner and Selenium Toner. If you can help send him an email at apbarrie52@dodo.com.au

Wanted – 11”x14” items

My lockdown project is to go LARGE and I have just bought an 11X14 camera. I need film holders (even Fidelity "medical" ones), lenses, film (expired or good), a contact frame or anything else specific to 11X14.



Just email what you might have to John Corneille hifexchange@hotmail.com Fair prices paid - I'm not looking for cheap.

For Interest

The Save Old Slides project... Small collections of old slides and negatives copied for free... See: www.lenslook.net for details.

For Sale

Copies of the British Journal Photographic Almanac (BJPA) 1940, 1947 & 1948 in poor condition (\$6 each), and 1951, 1954, 1955, & 1958 in fair or better condition (\$10 each) plus postage. Phone Rod on 0408173662 or email rod-reynolds@outlook.com All these are the Yellow cover version.

For Sale

Member David Donaldson has for sale Australian photography DVDs new in wrap:

- GIRL IN A MIRROR (Carol Jerrems)
- WILDNESS (Truchanas, Dombrovskis)
- PHOTOGRAPHERS OF AUSTRALIA (Sievers, Dupain, Moore)

Each \$20 in plain envelope, \$30 padded. Details on request. Phone David on (08) 8267 5069.

Wanted

Photos by Australian & overseas candid street photographers from the 1920s to 1950s, for an ongoing research project. Also photos taken at attractions such as Luna Park, St. Kilda and photo booth images singly or in strips.

I am also seeking information and insights into street and attraction photography practice and the photographers and firms (e.g. Leicagraph) active in those areas. Contact: Marcel Safier, Brisbane msafier@ozemail.com.au; 0411 238612



Free to a good home

A Meopta Opemus IIA Enlarger with a couple of Belar lenses and a few extras is in South Melbourne and is free to a good home. Phone Julian on 0408464471.

