



NEWSLETTER

MEETINGS: AMRA Hall, 92 Wills St, Glen Iris, VIC
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APCS NEWSLETTER No.94 – October 2019

The next event is the APCS Members-only Auction on 20th October

The next APCS Members-only auction is on Sunday next 20th October at the AMRA Hall. Viewing is from 2-4pm on Saturday 19th and from 10am on the Sunday – the auction starts at NOON.

This auction is a special one comprising about 280 lots. The majority of them are from the Estate of the late Ian Carron and they are on offer without reserves. The lots include many very fine and desirable cameras, and even items that are relatively common contain variants that make them special. Items of very special note include a couple of Tessinas, Tessina film loading kits, a couple of Minox B cameras, accessories for the miniature Minoxes, Bessamatic, including a Zoomar, a couple of Zeiss Contax cameras, Canon rangefinders, a fine Zeiss Contarex Bull's Eye with a 2/50 Planar lens, a Zeiss Kolobri, Exaktas of several kinds, books, advertising models and displays, a large lot of lantern slides, and so the list goes on. A slightly odd couple of items for a photographic auction are century-old cylinder and disc record players and records, but there is evidence of a disc player of this type being used in an early sound movie. Remember that Ian Carron was in the retail trade so had a lot of trade-ins to choose from for his collection!

The catalogue for this auction can be found at <http://www.apcsociety.com.au/October2019catalogue.pdf> and photographs of more than half the items can be accessed for those underlined and in blue by clicking on the name. For this sale, condition reports are not included for many of the items, and bidders should inspect to determine condition. Increasingly it is becoming difficult to determine the condition of older items and even unused items are being found to have sticky shutters etc. If internal condition is important to you, maybe assume that there are deficiencies when you are bidding. As we sort items for auction, we are reluctant to test older and frail items to avoid accidental damage.

Absentee bidding will be accepted if sent by email to president@apcsociety.com.au BEFORE close of business on Thursday 17th October. Telephone bidding will also be accepted by sending an email to the same address, but please also add your maximum bid just in case we are unable to contact you at the time.

Please note that payment on the day is preferred by cash or cheque. At the moment EFTPOS payments are not available other than via your own phone etc.

The results of the last auction on 21st July are now available as a download from the web address at www.apcsociety.com.au/auctions/July2019results.pdf

No Back Focus? – Membership lapsed?

Did you get a copy of Back Focus in June? If not, it is probable that you did not renew your membership last year (we continue to send newsletters for a year after members become unfinancial).

Thankyou if you have already renewed for 2019-20, but about 25% of members have not renewed this year. The annual fee remains at \$30 and can be paid by a direct deposit into the APCS 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 send a cheque to the Treasurer P.O.Box126, KANGAROO GROUND, VIC 3097

If any of your details have changed please let us know. Download the membership form from the website <http://www.apcsociety.com.au/membership.html> and include it with your cheque, or email the changes to the Treasurer or to web@apcsociety.com.au.

Back Focus – The next issue

With the passing of Ian Carron, the editor of Back Focus, issue #114 was delayed from September and is being released in the next fortnight. Members who attend the auction next week will be able to pick up their copies at that time – please do so as it will save on packing and postage. This issue will be the last for 2019, and contains special tributes to Ian.

Special General Meeting

The committee has been considering what the form of the APCS should be into the future, and while there seems to be a preference for not disturbing things too much, there have been some trends that may force the issues. Consequently, the committee has decided to hold a Special General Meeting at the AMRA Hall at the date and time of the normal November meeting on the 17th at 2pm to discuss the matters that are of concern. There are two central issues for discussion:

- The form and future of Back Focus, and,
- The nature of the APCS as a body of people.

Notes on these matters are as follows:

Back Focus has been published in essentially an unchanged form for 27 years, and if there are to be changes then this is the appropriate time as new editing policies are determined. The traditional pattern of 4 issues per year has become unsustainable, with a central issue being the cost of distribution, and there is a viable business case for 1 or 2 issues per year, each being significantly larger than previously, and in any case using

modern desktop publishing techniques. You will get some idea of the new presentation from the copy that will be in your hands in the next couple of weeks.

Members will recall that there have been very few monthly presentations in the last couple of years. That, and a couple of other pointers suggest that the nature of the Society is changing from “a group of people interested in collecting cameras” to “a group of people interested in trading cameras”. The fact that the annual program for the last couple of years included 3 public markets, 3 Members-only auctions and 2 Members-only markets points strongly towards trading.

Following the SGM, it is planned that your President will make a brief presentation on the use of mirror lenses in photography. Historically, mirror lenses have not been considered to be great performers, but is that really the case? “Lenses” on show will vary from a tiny mirror lens only 50mm in diameter to a massive unit with a focal length of 4,300mm – and no, these are not in general telescope objectives but lenses designed for precision photography – with demonstrations of course!

Committee vacancies

There is a vacancy for the position of Secretary of the Society and for positions in the general committee. This is an opportunity for members interested in the future of the APCS to be part of its management. Have a word with any of the current committee or indeed chat among yourselves, and let the acting Secretary know – secretary@apcsociety.com.au

Classified Advertisements

You can place classified advertisements in these pages. Send an email to adverts@apcsociety.com.au including 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 – your decision. At present there is no charge for this service. For the timebeing keep the text down to under 50 words per item.

For Sale: Leitz Focomat 1 auto enlarger

Leitz 'Focomat' 35 mm auto focus enlarger and Leitz masking board, clamps etc in beautiful cosmetic and operational condition. Fitted with Minolta Rokkor 50 mm enlarging lens in keeper and packaging. Included are a few accessories: Agfa safelight, dishes, stainless tongs, Smiths timer, Agfa Rondinax daylight loading 35mm developing tank and some Hypam fixer etc. Just mix some paper



developer, put a sheet of Bromide paper under the Focomat and away you go! Asking \$250 the lot. Situated Blackburn, Victoria. Call John Fleming 03 9877-7754 or email oldercarrepairs@bigpond.com

Expressions of interest – display cabinets

Ian Carron's estate includes a number of display cabinets which were all made by Ian to a high standard. Several have glass shelves and sliding fronts, but all are fairly large and in one case built in such a way that the only reasonable way of removal is to disassemble into components and then reassemble in a new location.

A few photographs are included below. Should you have any interest in these please send an email to the President president@apcsociety.com.au or phone on 0408173662 to arrange inspection etc.

