



AUSTRALIAN PHOTOGRAPHIC SOCIETY

This body is generally known as the APS and is the Australia-wide body which exists to offer opportunities beyond those offered by each state's body, for example, the South Australian Photographic Federation (SAPF).

It has a committee comprised of members from each state and has subcommittees for each Division of photography. Anyone can belong to APS by paying the membership fee which entitles you to reduced fees for APSCON and subscription to the magazines *Australian Photography* monthly and *Image* (APS's own magazine) bi-monthly. *Image* contains information about APS and competitions across Australia and overseas.

There are seven Divisions: Prints, Projected Images (formerly Slides), Audio-Visual, Nature, Electronic Digital Imaging, Contemporary and Youth. There is an extra fee to join each of these. Each one runs some competitions during the year and shows the best of these images at APSCON. Four of these divisions (Projected Images, Print, Contemporary and Nature) run postal folios which are small groups of about 10 members who send each other images and comment on them, and may run their own competitions. There are also on-line folios (Electronic Digital Imaging, Nature, Contemporary and Youth). Each folio has a secretary who organizes the rounds.

The Australian Photographic Society Convention (APSCON for short) is held each year in a different state by a committee organized by that state. Each convention offers talks on photography-related matters, exhibitions of the best images from each Division, seminars, field trips and social functions, including the awarding of honours. There are usually about 300 photographers attending from all over Australia. There is always a mixture of novice and experienced photographers, so everyone can feel welcome and comfortable.

APS honours are earned by members either by submitting a folio of works or by accumulating points from acceptances in national competitions or merits and higher in state competitions approved by APS. You may have seen these letters after the names of judges or entrants in state competitions. These range from LAPS (Licentiate of the APS), for 100 points gained by acceptances, to AAPS, FAPS and MAPS. See the website for more details. Further honours may be awarded by the international photographic body: *Fédération Internationale de l'Art Photographique* (FIAP) of which APS is a member.

APS also holds various collections of photographs which may be borrowed by clubs.