



THE BIRTH OF THE AUSTRALIAN INSTITUTE OF PROFESSIONAL PHOTOGRAPHY LTD (AIPP)

formerly known as

THE INSTITUTE OF AUSTRALIAN PHOTOGRAPHY (IAP)

1986

formerly known as

THE INSTITUTE OF AUSTRALIAN PHOTOGRAPHERS (IAP)

until ---?----- formerly known as

THE PROFESSIONAL PHOTOGRAPHERS ASSOCIATION OF AUSTRALIA (PPAA)

until 1st July 1963

The following is a short history of the birth of what we now know as the AIPP. In researching the following, one thing became quite obvious. That our professional organization didn't get to where it is today just by people whingeing when 'things weren't going to well'. It grew to the strong force because a lot of people have dedicated their own personal time and effort to promoting something which, without, most of us would be wandering in professional wilderness.

It is to those people who saw beyond *the ground glass* to chase a better goal for the good of us all that we owe a vote of thanks for what has been done and what is continuing to be done.

In March 1944 as a result of increasing problems in the profession, brought about by conditions caused by World War II, a group of representatives of the state professional photographer associations of QLD, NSW, VIC, SA and WA met in Melbourne to discuss the possibility of forming an Australian Association to speak as a united voice and to represent the photographic profession throughout Australia.

As a result of this inaugural meeting, which was under the chairmanship of a Mr E.L.Sharpe of Vic., The Professional Photographers Association of Australia was formed.

Conferences were held as follows.

| | | | | | |
|------|---------|-----------|-------------------|-----|--------------------|
| 1945 | 1st one | Sydney | Sydney S. Riley | NSW | elected President. |
| 1946 | 2nd | Melbourne | C.Stuart Tompkins | VIC | elected President. |
| 1947 | 3rd | Perth | V.Penrose | WA | elected President. |
| 1948 | 4th | Adelaide | G.Meller | SA | elected President. |
| 1949 | 5th | Brisbane | A.Duryea | QLD | elected President. |
| 1950 | 6th | Melbourne | G.Meller | SA | elected President. |
| 1953 | 7th | Melbourne | R.Brock | VIC | elected President. |
| 1957 | 8th | Sydney | V.Waller | NSW | elected President. |



Mr Waller resigned on 1st Jan 1963 and Mr Claude McCarthy, QLD, was elected President with Mr D.Dimon, WA, Vice President.

The name was changed to "*The Institute of Australian Photographers*" on the 1st July 1963 by postal ballot.

On 25th, 26th and 27th May 1964 the 9th Conference was held in Melbourne.

This was the first meeting held under the new name of "*The Institute of Australian Photographers*"

The foundation member associations of the "Professional Photographers Association of Australia" at this meeting were:

The Professional Photographers Association of New South Wales.
The Institute of Professional Photographers of Victoria.
The Photographic Association of Queensland.
The Professional Photographers Association of South Australia.
The Professional Photographers Association of Western Australia.

A total of fourteen representatives from those associations were at that meeting plus the Federal President, making fifteen.

They were from:

| | |
|-----------------|--|
| Queensland | Mrs Anna Smith, Messrs Sidney Owen, Darcy Pforr, Claude E. McCarthy (President). |
| New South Wales | Messrs. Geoff O. Cummings, V.S.Waller, John S. Nisbett. |
| Victoria | Messrs. W.Waller, C.Shmith, C.Stuart Tompkins. |
| South Australia | Messrs. M.Farrell, John Walter, G.Mitchell. |
| West Australia | Messrs. F.Kos, R. Armstrong |

Life Memberships granted since the inception of the Professional Photographers Assoc. of Australia to 1964 were:
S.Riley, V.Penrose, C.Stuart Tompkins, G.Meller, R.Brock, A.Duryea and V.Waller.

As at the date of that May 1964 Conference, the names of the "Institute of Australian Photographers" member associations were:

The Institute of Australian Photographers, New South Wales Division.
The Institute of Australian Photographers, Victorian Division.
The Institute of Australian Photographers, Queensland Division.
The Institute of Australian Photographers, South Australian Division.



The Professional Photographers Association of Western Australia.

It was also decided that membership was to be open to all persons engaged in the profession of either employer or employee status, subject to such conditions as were to be established. Also a provision was to be made for representation of firms and others with associated interests in the profession.

This was the nucleus around which “Articles of Association” were formulated. After perusal by the state divisions and further discussion and approval, the first official Institute meeting and Convention of state and other invited Associations was held at Newport, NSW on 26th Sept 1965.

The “Articles of Association” were subsequently ratified on 26th Jan 1966 at a Federal Council meeting in Sydney.

Features of the “Articles” included.....

Confirmation of the existing title “INSTITUTE OF AUSTRALIAN PHOTOGRAPHERS”. (IAP)

Establishment of a Federal Council with a Federal President and other office bearers.

The state associations to be known as Divisions with a degree of autonomy on local matters.

The first Federal President was Claude E. McCarthy from Queensland.

The first Federal Secretary was John L. Walter from South Australia.

Foundation divisions were....

Queensland, New South Wales, Victoria, South Australia and Western Australia.

Subsequent admissions were....

Australian Capital Territory on 1st July 1966.

Tasmania on 1st Jan 1973.

On the (date)-----?-----, to better reflect the varied membership of the “Institute”, the name was changed to “Institute of Australian Photography”. (IAP)

Later on the (date)--?----- the name was changed yet again to the “Australian Institute of Professional Photography” (AIPP)

Past Federal Presidents

| | |
|---|-----------------|
| Claude McCarthy OAM, Hon. FAIPP, FAIPP, | QLD 1963 - 1967 |
| Geoff Cummings Hon. FAIPP | NSW 1968 - 1969 |
| Val Foreman M. Photog, Hon. FAIPP | VIC 1970 - 1973 |



| | | |
|---|-----|-------------|
| Max Farrell Hon. FAIPP | SA | 1974 - 1975 |
| David McCarthy OAM, Hon. FAIPP. | QLD | 1976 - 1977 |
| Ian McKenzie M. Photog, Hon. FAIPP, FAIPP | VIC | 1978 - 1979 |
| Peter Whyte Hon. FAIPP | WA | 1980 |
| Norman Danvers | NSW | 1981 |
| Peter Foeden M. Photog, Hon. FAIPP, FAIPP | VIC | 1982 - 1983 |
| Will Street Hon. FAIPP | QLD | 1984 - 1985 |
| Robert Gray Hon. FAIPP | QLD | 1986 - 1987 |
| Kevin O'Daly M. Photog, Hon. FAIPP | SA | 1988 - 1990 |
| Malcolm Mathieson M. Photog, Hon. FAIPP | NSW | 1991 - 1993 |
| Richard Bennett M. Photog, Hon FAIPP, FAIPP | TAS | 1994 - 1995 |
| Mark Fitz-Gerald Hon. FAIPP | SA | 1995 - 1997 |
| Greg Hocking M. Photog, FAIPP | WA | 1997 - 1999 |
| Marc Fenning AAIPP | ACT | 1999 - 2000 |
| Eric Victor M. Photog, Hon. FAIPP | QLD | 2000 - 2002 |
| Ian van der Wolde M. Photog, Hon. FAIPP | VIC | 2002 - 2004 |
| Philip Kuruvita M. Photog, FAIPP | TAS | 2004 - 2006 |
| Jackie Dean M. Photog FAIPP | NSW | 2006 - 2008 |
| Alice Bennett M. Photog | TAS | 2008 - 2010 |

Canon Australian Professional Photography Awards
(formally IAP Merit Awards and National Print Awards & APPA)

Up to the 1970's whenever a Convention/conference was held, the local Divisional membership was asked to display prints for the interest of the delegates. There was no judging or even discussion of the photographs they were merely an interest item.

At a Federal Council Meeting in SA in 1970, Peter Foeden (Vic Divisional Councillor) reported that Max Townsend had suggested that a "merit awards system" should be instigated, similar to the one held annually by the Professional Photographers Association of the USA which was very successful. It was initially received with a certain amount of disinterest, with some members commenting quite strongly that the AIPP was not a camera club and having issues with competition between members. Others thought it an interesting idea and deserved to be given more thought.

It took a number of years of hard work and devotion, spearheaded by Peter Foeden and others to get it off the ground.

The first "National Print Judging" was held in 1977 and the prints went on display at Hypo 77 on the Gold Coast. Seventy one members submitted 268 prints! QLD - 25, VIC - 20, SA - 7, NSW - 7, TAS - 5, WA - 4, ACT - 2 and NT - 1.



Until 1988, those who knew how the system worked were based in Melbourne and the Victorian Divisional Council were initially used as helpers so the seeds of an event team were already planted.

Under the successive chairmanships of Peter Foeden, Ian Hawthorne, Doug Spowart and Peter Eastway and the band of helpers behind the scenes which grew from a few volunteers to a highly organised but still volunteer professional events team. Evolving technology has also enabled advances in awards processes with all entries barcoded and tracked throughout the judging process, certificates are prepared for category winners and an AV presentation of the award winning images at the AIPP APPA dinner

The Awards were judged in various states as follows

| | | | |
|------|-----------|------|------------|
| 2006 | Sydney | 1990 | ???? |
| 2005 | Brisbane | 1989 | Adelaide |
| 2004 | Sydney | 1988 | Melbourne |
| 2003 | Melbourne | 1987 | Sydney |
| 2002 | Perth | 1986 | Melbourne |
| 2001 | Brisbane | 1985 | Sydney |
| 2000 | Sydney | 1984 | Melbourne |
| 1999 | Melbourne | 1983 | Melbourne |
| 1998 | Adelaide | 1982 | Melbourne |
| 1997 | Brisbane | 1981 | Sydney |
| 1996 | Melbourne | 1980 | Melbourne |
| 1995 | Sydney | 1979 | Melbourne |
| 1994 | Melbourne | 1978 | Melbourne |
| 1993 | Canberra | 1977 | Gold Coast |
| 1992 | Perth | | |
| 1991 | Melbourne | | |

National & State Conventions

These were held initially each year in a different State with the eastern States being most favoured because of the population base there, proximity of major suppliers and the most economical airfares available for the majority of attendees. The national Conventions were known as "Hypos" eg *Hypo '77, Hypo 79*, etc.

The Federal Council meetings were held at the beginning of these functions thereby enabling a better use of Institute finances. Institute finances at this country were never a strong point - mainly because of the small (by comparison to overseas



countries) population and the higher cost (by comparison) of mounting events on a grand scale.

Hypo Conventions were held every two years from 1969 to 1979 in conjunction with and at the same venue as the trade display with the majority of delegates staying at the hotel in which the function was held. (*Val Foreman was Convenor of the '69 and '71 events, and Ian McKenzie was Convenor for '73, '75, '79, and on committee for the changeover to trade based display / Conventions in '81*) Because of this combined production, specific times were allocated on the program for the viewing of the Trade Displays - they were generally closed (unmanned - security wasn't much of an issue in those days!) whilst lectures or demos were on - they were not open to the general public

Trade support was paramount to the success of the Convention as their financial input was considerable, with some of our major supporters regularly financing the attendance of major overseas speakers for the Conventions and subsequent workshops. This resulted in Institute members being able to learn from among the best practitioners in the world.

For some years this worked well until the Trade felt that because of the escalating costs of mounting these displays they needed to not only expand the size of the Display itself but that they must attract a larger audience and broaden the target market into the retail sector. The Trade formed their own professional organization which then became responsible for the running of these displays. Up until then the IAP was the only organizing body for the Conventions and trade shows.

This resulted in the Trade Shows being moved to separate locations and being open to the public.

State divisions were encouraged to hold a Divisional Convention in the 'off' year, with many Divisions holding Workshop/Seminars in country areas.

In 1983 the Trade decided that they needed to hold their big event annually.

At the end of the national Conventions it became traditional to hold a closing "dinner" function to thank everybody for attending and to thank the Trade. From very small informal functions with very few people at the beginning, they grew larger and larger and grander and grander to the extent that guest speakers were hired to be after dinner speakers and entertainers. It became not unusual for these dinners to be held in prestigious venues - the National Gallery of Victoria comes to mind as one such place.

It is important to understand all the members who sacrificed their time, energy, parts of their careers to ensure the success of the institute and the evolution of the awards process.

In such a synopsis of the Institute and the Awards we can only touch on the skills, leadership, insight and support of so many who took pivotal roles in the growth of the

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organisation, its professional recognition and acknowledge those who participate and learn from their legacy.