



# The History of BCG

## “BCG’s Telegraph Exposure – August 1950”

The minutes of the Brisbane Camera Group on the 7<sup>th</sup> August 1950 made a brief mention of Brisbane’s evening newspaper, the Brisbane Telegraph. Beside the word Telegraph the minute taker had written – *“submit 10 x 8 inch glossy prints to Harry Clements by next Wednesday. Garth Grant-Thompson making the final choice.”* Images by BCG members were to be published in the Brisbane Telegraph. The Telegraph was arguably at its zenith. Official surveys of the time reveal that the home penetration of the Brisbane Telegraph in the Greater Brisbane area was 75%. Everybody read the Telegraph. It was a great achievement for a club not yet one year old to have member’s work published in a major newspaper.

On the 28<sup>th</sup> August 1950, images by BCG members were given a two page spread (pages 14-15) in the Telegraph. Here <https://trove.nla.gov.au/newspaper/page/23804906> is the digitised archive of those pages. The heading was **“Brisbane Amateurs Took These”**. The “these” are eight prints – *“Jolly Australian Bushman”, “Nature’s Artistry”, “Gothic Artistry”, “Death March”, “Winter”, “Sunrise at Jumpinpin”, “Mother”, and “Youthful”*. The authors were not tabled. The copy associated with the images read *“The photos on this page are the work of the members of the Brisbane Camera Group. The aim of the 40 members of the group is to further the art of photography in Brisbane”*

In the very same edition of the Telegraph on page 19 beside the Casket results and under the “Cameras, Supplies” heading was the Don McInnes advertisement for a same day developing and printing service through his chemist shop in the Valley. In fact, this advertisement was placed every day in the Telegraph. Don was the founder of BCG, the first President and by August 1950 was the BCG Patron. Don had generously donated in early 1950 a camera or 100 Golden Casket Shares (winner’s choice) for a raffle to aid the club’s finances. Don, in conjunction with Publicity Officer Garth Grant-Thompson, were pivotal in promoting BCG in the early years. The Telegraph article on the 28<sup>th</sup> August 1950 ensured that a significant part of the Brisbane population would now be aware that the Brisbane Camera Group existed. It was the only “non work related” camera club in the Brisbane area at that time.

As for the Brisbane Telegraph, it ceased publication on the 5<sup>th</sup> February 1988.

**LISTEN TO THIS**  
**MONDAY EVENING**  
 5-30  
 6-15  
 6-30  
 7-15  
 7-30  
 8  
 8-30  
 8-45  
 9  
 9-30  
 10  
 10-30  
 11  
**TUESDAY MORNING**  
 5-30  
 6-15  
 6-30  
 7  
 7-30  
 8  
 8-30  
 8-45  
 9  
 9-30  
 10  
 10-30  
 11

**Brisbane Amateurs Took These**



"Jolly Australian Bushman"



These: "NATURE'S ARTISTRY"  
 Right: "GOTHIC ARTISTRY"  
 Left: "DEATH MARCH"  
 Below: "WINTER"





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BRISBANE TELEGRAPH, MONDAY, AUG. 28, 1950

The Brisbane Telegraph August 28<sup>th</sup> 1950 pages 14-15.

**CAMERAS, SUPPLIES**

FOR Sale. H116 m.m. Projector. 1.500 t. Film, guaranteed Spools, &c., 1 Battery Hand 16 m.m. Projector, new, lot £70 or nearest offer; X2154, **PATHE** 9.5 m.m. new Projectors, from 8 guineas; Movie Cameras from £24/5/-; Accessories, 9.5 & 16 m.m., Library Films: at Music Masters, 209 Queen St.

**SELL** Graflex ¼ Plate F/4.5 Cooke Lens, also 12 in. Dallmeyer lens D.D. 3 1/2 in. lens-holder, leather case, &c.; VV166, Telegraph.

**SAME-DAY** Developing & Printing Service, films brought in by 9.30 a.m. ready by 5 p.m.; McInnes, the Chemist, opp. Rex Theatre, Valley.

**WANTED** Flash Unit, Paalex  
 other: VV122, Telegraph.

The Brisbane Telegraph August 28<sup>th</sup> 1950 page 19.