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Creative Shots

Vol 55 - February 2012

We made it! 2012 is here ... and 2012 is going to be a fantastic year! New motivation, new inspiration, new challenges ... all based around our love of this wonderful thing called photography!

So, what does the world of photography hold for you in 2012? As always, we hope that you take the opportunities that are presented to you; that you take the good with the bad while remembering that "art is in the eye of the beholder" ... but most of all, that you enjoy your photography!

A note from your editor ... this year I am hoping to continue to promote Images in a professional and fun way, with one goal aiming to maintain one of the best "Dates To Remember" sections known to photographers!! To do this I need you all on board, so all I ask is a quick email from you if you hear of any competitions, exhibitions, conventions, etc. Thank you, in advance, for supporting your Editor and for supporting your club!

Summer Assignments

We hope that you're thoroughly absorbed in your assignment and having loads of fun putting together your submission - which, by the way, needs to be submitted to Committee on our February club night. Remember, your submission is required in print format; no digital entries will be presented for judging. And yes, judging is organised and we anticipate the awards to be presented on the March club night.

And just to clarify, your assignment must be printed at Harvey Norman Manukau, (our main sponsor), and you must get your Harvey Norman printing voucher signed, and then attach this to your assignment! And don't forget to think 'creatively' when it comes to your presentation of your assignment ... anything goes so we're expecting to see some beauties!!

PSNZ Honours

If you are intending to apply for your LPSNZ, APSNZ or FPSNZ photographic honours then you need to be well on your way to having your set complete. Applications close on 28 February. Please ensure that when submitting a set to the Honours Board for consideration, make sure you have the *new application forms* and information from the PSNZ website. Good luck ...

Club Housekeeping

Just a quick reminder that :

- club night commences at 7.45pm, with print submissions closing at 7.30pm
- digital submissions need to be emailed to digitalconv@images.org.nz by the Sunday immediately before club night
- set subject club nights = submit up to two images in either the set subject or the open category
- mini workshop club nights = submit one image in the open category
- supper is a valued part of each club night and you are reminded to check out this years roster (later in this newsletter); thank you for your contribution to a great club night!

Special thanks goes to our principal sponsors:



Images Photography Group
PSNZ affiliated



Your Committee:

Michelle McCarthy
(Immediate Past President)

Stu Braithwaite
(Treasurer)

Andy Young
(Secretary)

Liz Hamilton
(Editor/Webmaster)

Paul Vettoretti
(Digital Convenor)

Bill Fitzgerald
Lyn Pater
(Committee Members)

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Club Calendar 2012

- | | | |
|-----|----|---|
| Feb | 14 | Club Night <i>Set Subject = water</i> |
| | 25 | Workshop - Taking Control Of Your Camera |
| Mar | 13 | Club Night <i>open subject and mini workshop</i> |
| | 18 | Outing - Treasure Hunt |
| Apr | 10 | Club Night <i>Set Subject = Fruit & Vege's</i> |
| | 21 | Workshop - Auckland City (TBC) |
| May | 08 | Club Night <i>open subject and AGM</i> |

more information on your 2012 Calendar will be forthcoming - watch this space!

A wee verse ... from the archives of PSNZ ...

MEMBERS

Some are like trailers - no good unless pulled
 Some are like wheelbarrows - no good unless pushed
 Some are like footballs - you can't tell which way they will bounce
 Some are like blisters - they always show up when the work is done
 Some are like kites - if you don't have a string on them they will fly away
 And then some are like a good watch - open faced, pure gold, quietly busy, and full of good works.



Regardless of the kind of member you are, we value you!! However, this verse is a good reminder that AGM is coming up in May and it's your opportunity to contribute to the running of Images! So, have a think about what time and skills that you may be able to offer your club ... and we will keep you posted on the "what, when and how" over the next couple of months.

Dates To Remember

- | | | |
|-----|-------------|--|
| Feb | 28 | Natex entries close (PSNZ) Honours Applications close (PSNZ) Canon Online - Round 1 (PSNZ) |
| Apr | 20 25-29 | EPSON Int'l Pano Awards close 2012 National Convention - Invercargill (PSNZ) |



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Supper Roster 2012

- | | |
|----------|--|
| February | Sandy Newcombe Frank Wainwright |
| March | Alice Fitzgerald Jan Maree Vadonovich |
| April | Robyn Dickie Ross Muir |
| May | Mike Callaghan Shannon Wharfe |
| June | Heather Campbell Ross Johnson |

If you have any questions or queries about your roster duty, please contact Super Supper Sandy (Newcombe):

text/call 0272-853-358
 email sandyandbryan@xtra.co.nz

Please allow 48 hours notice (where possible).
 Thank you.



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Taking Control Of Your Camera

25 February 2012 - 10am to 2.30pm
LIMITED TO 15 PEOPLE

The purpose of this workshop is to a) provide an understanding of basic camera functions & settings, and b) learn how to use these functions & settings to obtain better overall results and different photographic effects.

Where: FACT Centre, Pukekohe (room tbc)

What to bring:

Camera and tripod, camera manual and an electronic shutter release (if you have one!) And any questions you might have!

Tea/coffee will be provided; lunch is at your discretion.

To book your place at this workshop:

Please email Stu on treasurer@images.org.nz to confirm your space. Stu will then let you know the details regarding payment, etc.

For more information on booking, please refer to our website link www.images.org.nz/workshops.html

Treasure Hunt - club outing -

18 March 2012 - 10am to 3pm

This club outing has been designed for two reasons - one, as an appropriate follow up to help you take advantage of the skills you learned in your February workshop "Taking Control Of Your Camera", and two, to have a fun day out with fellow photographers.

"Treasure Hunt" probably isn't quite the correct name for the workshop as you're not going to be going out looking for goodies ... well, maybe you are - looking for good photographs and hunting for that treasured image!

The format of the day is pretty relaxed - once you've picked your topic(s) for the day! No, you don't get to decide in advance what your subject will be ... you get to pick a random subject, from 'the hat', on the day; then off you go!! The idea is that you have to work with what you can find to come up with the best image you can. Work on your own, or work in groups - meet other photographers and help each other out with practice and learning. And have fun.

More details will be announced in due course, but make sure you book this date in your diary!



www.images.org.nz - sitemap

Your club website is a great place for information. The sitemap to the right sums up what's currently on offer.

If you have any suggestions or additions for our websites, please email your Webmaster, newsletter@images.org.nz.

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Tips & Tricks (*including Useful Links and Websites of Interest*)

For Sale

Contact Us



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For Sale

It's been a bit sporadic this year but summer is finally here ... so it's the perfect time to buy your club cap! Just \$20.

Please place your order with Stu (treasurer@images.org.nz) or purchase one on club night.

For Hire

Our Spyder3 has been popular over Christmas but is now back in the hands of Committee ready for the next booking(s).

The Spyder3 is available for weekly hire only - for a \$10 hireage fee (Tuesday to Tuesday). To make your booking, contact Liz on newsletter@images.org.nz.

Website Of The Month www.photographymonthly.com

An Angel In Our Midst

Jill Guillemin and her little dog Oscar were fundraising for the SPCA in November ...



Camera Equipment & Accessories

Cambridge In Colour is a particular favourite website of one of our members. Of particular interest, particularly for more recent members, is a comprehensive link to topics including camera lenses, lens filters, general camera care and maintenance. It also has tutorials and these are usually independent of camera type or brand.

<http://www.cambridgeincolour.com/camera-equipment.htm>

Please remember, Harvey Norman Manukau are our club sponsor (and a great sponsor!) and we would encourage any camera/equipment purchases to be directed here in the first instance. Thank you.





Points Table (Apr-Dec 2011)

INTERMEDIATE

- 1st "Busker" by Jill Guilleman
 2nd "Finite Loop" by Allie Hogg
 3rd "Brisk Walk" by Bill Fitzgerald

Honours Allie Hogg, Bill Fitzgerald, Jill Guilleman, Sandy Newcombe (x2)

Highly Commended
 Rebecca Callaghan, Sandy Campbell, Warwick Hoy

ADVANCED

- 1st "Watching You" by Ian Morecraft
 2nd "Times Past" by Don Campbell
 3rd "Harmony In Flight" by Anna White

Honours Anna White, Don Campbell (x2), Ian Morecraft, Pauline Muir (x2), Stuart Braithwaite

Highly Commended
 Heather Campbell (x2), Liz Hamilton, Lyn Pater, Paul Vettoretti, Ross Muir

| | Set Subject | Open Subject | Total Points |
|-------------------|-------------|--------------|--------------|
| Alice Fitzgerald | 26 | 49 | 75 |
| Allie Hogg | 62 | 73 | 135 |
| Andy Young | 40 | 21 | 61 |
| Ashleigh Loo | 18 | 26 | 44 |
| Bill Fitzgerald | 67 | 73 | 140 |
| Carole Johnson | 16 | 25 | 41 |
| Ian Stewart | 34 | 25 | 59 |
| Ingrid Linders | 13 | 7 | 20 |
| Jill Guilleman | - | 17 | 17 |
| Louise McKearney | 63 | 30 | 93 |
| Michelle van Mil | 23 | - | 23 |
| Mike Callaghan | 31 | 9 | 40 |
| Patrick Brown | - | 9 | 9 |
| Paul Braithwaite | - | 38 | 38 |
| Peter Pryor | 18 | - | 18 |
| Raewyn Lane | 70 | 44 | 114 |
| Rebecca Callaghan | 23 | 51 | 74 |
| Ross Johnson | 16 | 21 | 37 |
| Sandy Campbell | 40 | 61 | 101 |
| Sandy Newcombe | 39 | 12 | 51 |
| Shannon Wharfe | - | 21 | 21 |
| Warwick Hoy | 69 | 83 | 152 |

| | Set Subject | Open Subject | Total Points |
|---------------------|-------------|--------------|--------------|
| Anna White | 84 | 44 | 128 |
| Don Campbell | 52 | 57 | 109 |
| Heather Campbell | 52 | 54 | 106 |
| Ian Morecraft | 72 | 30 | 102 |
| JanMaree Vodanovich | 31 | 38 | 69 |
| Jennifer Belt | 13 | 45 | 58 |
| Liz Hamilton | 46 | 76 | 122 |
| Lyn Pater | 98 | 47 | 145 |
| Michelle McCarthy | 26 | 36 | 62 |
| Paul Vettoretti | 51 | 54 | 105 |
| Pauline Muir | 60 | 70 | 130 |
| Ross Muir | 59 | 53 | 112 |
| Stuart Braithwaite | 58 | 37 | 95 |



Points Allocation

Open Subject - Honours 12 - Highly Commended 9 - Merit 7 - Acceptance 4 - Entry 2

Set Subject - points as above plus one bonus point

First Place - an additional 5 points (per grade)

Club year is April to March so the points table above reflects points awarded since April 2011



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Sorry, no photo provided on this occasion ... but I did manage to find this in the archives. Just to be sure though, we will introduce Ian on February's club night !!!



Member Profile

Introducing ...

Member Name: Ian Stewart
 Suburb: Pukekohe
 Day Job: Truck Sales Consultant - Turners Auctions
 Other Interests: Rugby, Racing
 Spouse: Margaret
 Children: 5 children, plus 8 grand-children

Photography

How did you get involved?
 I've always been interested but too scared to get involved. I bought a Canon 300D about two years ago and away I've gone.

What is your favourite topic to photograph?
 None. I'm still at a stage where I like to photograph everything I see.

How long did it take you to discover what you liked photography most?
 Haven't yet.

What equipment do you use?
 Canon 60D and a variety of lenses - my favourite is my Sigma70-300.

Are you certified, eg - LPSNZ?
 No.

How long, on average, would you take developing one photo on the computer?
 3-5 minutes.

What is your current goal with photography?
 To be as good as I can be, maybe one day have an image good enough to sell.

What is your favourite photo? Where did you take it? When did you take it?
 Nil

For Fun

Favourite music?
 Country, Blues, Rock, Jazz, Classical - anything but rap!!

Favourite song?
 None in particular today!

Favourite TV shows?
 Fawlty Towers, Open All Hours.

Favourite books?
 Jack Reachers (Lee Child), Sharp (Bernard Cornwell).

Favourite meals?
 Hot.

Favourite drinks?
 Scotch, preferably malt.

Favourite holiday destinations?
 NZ and Australian countryside.

Favourite time of the year?
 Late summer/early autumn.

Favourite quotation?
 Nil



Cleaning Your Screen - The Do's and Do Not's

If you have a laptop or desktop computer with an LCD monitor (and almost all desktops sold in the last few years do), you have undoubtedly had to clean your screen. And some of you have seen and probably purchased those expensive LCD screen cleaning solutions - or pre-soak cloths to clean your screen. And no doubt a few of you have actually used Windex and paper towel to clean your screen.

LCD/TFT (Thin film transistor liquid crystal display) screens are very sensitive. They also attract dust and dirt. If you cough or sneeze without covering your mouth and nose, you know what gets all over your screen. From time to time you're going to need to clean your LCD/TFT screen, so here is the proper way to do it, without going out and spending money on special cleaning solutions or really expensive wipes.

Here are the don'ts:

1. Never use tap water on your screen. Tap water contains chlorine, minerals, and dissolved salts. Tap water can leave streaks on your screen.
2. Never, ever, use Windex, ammonia, solutions containing methyl chloride, acetone, ethyl alcohol, toluene, ethyl acid - or any other harsh chemicals sometimes found in glass and appliance cleaners.
3. Never use Kleenex, bath towels, or paper towels - these can scratch your screen and/or leave lint particles that will stick to your screen.
4. Don't use excessive pressure when cleaning your screen. Pushing too hard on an LCD or TFT screen can damage the pixels. If you damage pixels you won't be able to fix them.
5. Don't waste your money on expensive LCD cleaning solutions or wipes.

Here are the do's:

1. Use distilled water (rain water or water from the dehumidifier) and make your own cleaning solution using 1 part distilled water to one part vinegar (white vinegar is best, but ordinary will do).
2. Use a soft cotton cloth - a handkerchief, an old cotton t-shirt, etc.
3. Do not press on your screen. Treat it gently and use as little pressure as is necessary.
4. Use a dark (black is best) background on your desktop and temporarily remove all desktop icons. Windows XP, Windows Vista, and Windows 7 users can do this easily. Just right-click on your desktop, click "View" and uncheck "Show desktop icons". When you're done cleaning, you can re-enable them after you're done cleaning your screen, by repeating those steps, and checking "Show desktop icons." Then restore your previous wallpaper (if any). The reason for using a dark or black screen is that it makes it easier for you to see the dirt, dust, and other particles :-)) on your screen.
5. Clean your screen frequently. Don't wait until it's so dirty you can barely read it. Cleaning frequently also helps you resist the temptation to use more pressure than you should in order to remove junk that's been sticking to your screen for months.

A note about tablets:

Tablets have LCD screens protected by a layer of very strong glass. Many tablet computers use Gorilla Glass (which actually is a registered trademark of Dow Corning). You can clean Gorilla Glass with almost anything because it's a lot tougher than LCD screens. There are some videos floating around on the Internet showing people trying to scratch Gorilla Glass with razor knives, screw drivers and the like. We don't know if they're fake or real but Gorilla Glass is tough stuff and can be cleaned more easily and with less care than LCD screens. No one knows if iPad or Kindle Fire uses Gorilla Glass - Apple and Amazon aren't saying and Dow Corning isn't saying. But it's a safe bet that both the iPad and the Amazon Kindle Fire use Gorilla Glass or something very similar.