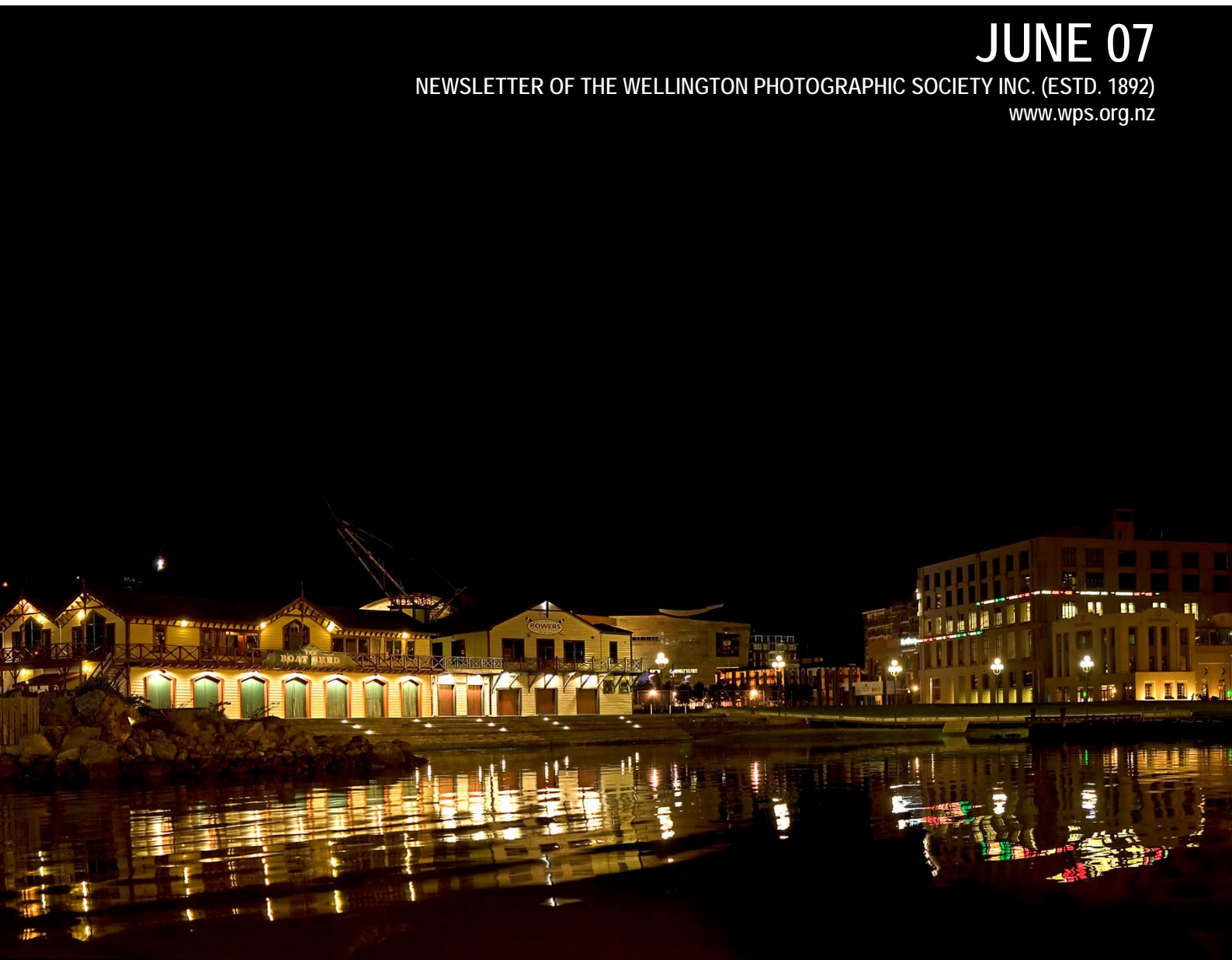




# ***IMPACT!***

**JUNE 07**

NEWSLETTER OF THE WELLINGTON PHOTOGRAPHIC SOCIETY INC. (ESTD. 1892)  
[www.wps.org.nz](http://www.wps.org.nz)



**in this issue.....**

**PRES SEZ ★ EDITOR'S NOTE ★ WHAT'S ON IN JUNE ★ WHAT'S ON IN JULY ★ COMPETITIONS ★ SHOWS & EXHIBITIONS ★ WPS NEWS & INFORMATION ★ SOCIETY CONTACTS ★**

Cover image by Neil Doherty

# PRES SEZ

The evening with Peter Bush on 8 May was a rare opportunity to hear one of New Zealand's foremost photographers and to see why he is so successful. Peter took his first picture on a Box Brownie camera in 1946 and has seen at first hand the extraordinary transition from glass plate cameras (used by reporters in the first half of last century) to the digital wonders of today. Peter recounted some experiences from those early days – such as his early assignment with a touring party travelling on horseback through the Hollyford Valley (which he likened to the Congo!) where he used a Graflex and didn't have the hassle of looking after glass plates!.

Peter is probably best known for his sports photography (although his interests go way beyond this) and he showed us some of the iconic images from rugby tours of France and South Africa that have become part of our national heritage. Some of Peter's anecdotes were the stuff of legend – such as his story about teaming up with the famed Vietnam war photographer Larry Burrows in Christchurch during the Royal Tour of 1963 and hiding in the bushes of Hagley Park to capture a unique shot of the Queen and Prince Philip; only to be thwarted by the rain which diverted the Royal Party along another path! Or the episode in Fiji, where he had gone to shoot images for a book on children. On completing the assignment, Peter's business contact and book sponsor in Fiji informed him that all the negatives and printing plates were destroyed in a landslide. Some years later, Peter was congratulated by a returning visitor from Fiji on his book about Fijian children, who showed him a copy of it. Since he has had a number of people notifying him of the book and is still waiting for his share of the profits! Years later, Peter met a young lawyer on the plane who informed him that his business contact was a well-known scoundrel, and undertook to see if he could help Peter – only to inform him some months later that he (the lawyer) was now working for the business man!

At our last meeting on 28 May, we were fortunate to have John Doogan along. Besides being a renowned New Zealand photographer, John is also the Adobe 'Ambassador' to NZ. As part of his introduction John showed a short AV of a recent trip to Italy where he deviated from his usual preference for landscape photography and took a long lens into the street and shot some superb candid monochrome photos of people going about their everyday lives.

John then gave us a brief but insightful rundown on Adobe Lightroom and Photoshop. While Lightroom is designed primarily as a database management tool to handle large numbers of images, it has some very appealing features, and subsequent versions might see more Photoshop features included (such as working with layers and the ability make local rather than global corrections). He also showed us how photo-stitching works in Lightroom to produce an image from a series of 35mm frames that has the same or better quality than an image shot in medium format – and can present a viewpoint that could not be achieved with a single shot.

Looking forward to our first meeting in June, which will be an opportunity to talk with three of our most experienced members about who they regard as their most significant influences, what these influences are, and how this shows up in their work. None of us make our images in complete isolation and we all draw on the work of those around us and those who have gone before. These influences might not all be photographers, but in most cases they are image makers. I have asked Simon Woolf, Syd Moore, and Jenny Dey to talk with us about their influences and their work. Unfortunately, I will be away from NZ on business and won't be at this meeting, but I hope you find it valuable and take the opportunity to ask our presenters lots of questions!

The second meeting in June is our Annual Print Competition. This is a chance to select your three best images and put them forward for comment by our judge, Mel Philips. This is a great learning opportunity – to receive comment on your images from a highly experienced photographer and educator, and to see what it takes to have an image accepted for one of the major events in the WPS calendar. While it's not a public event, it can be a useful prelude to the WPS Annual Exhibition coming up in November – a chance to put your work to the test and find out what else you might do to make further improvements.

contd.

Finally, a comment on the work of the current Committee, that has been developing a strategy for WPS for the next three to five years. The Committee has been working over the past few months to develop a long term vision for WPS and to identify priorities and actions that reflect the things that you as members want for and from the Society. We're nearly finished and I'll spell out the details of this at the meeting on 25 June. There will also be an opportunity for members to provide comment and feedback to this so we can be sure we're on the right track to deliver what you want.

In the meantime – keep those shutters clicking and those images rolling out!

**Brett Longley**

## Editor's Note...

Hello All!!

This issue of Impact continues from last month in featuring more images from the WPS Annual Projected image competition held in April this year. As many of you are in the process of selecting your best prints for the next round of competitions I hope these offer inspiration towards your decision making.

The last few meetings have been really exciting...as Brett has already mentioned, we were extremely lucky to receive talks by eminent image makers who were willing to share their process and stories with us. As John Doogan demonstrated, the possibilities of digital manipulation with Lightroom and other such softwares are endless. But somewhere deep down I couldn't help feeling a little panicked at the fear of losing the skill, luck and risk involved in taking images that couldn't be re-touched or replicated – such as those taken by Peter Bush. So while I support the thrills of digital touch-up, I would also strongly hang on to the nerve racking but oh-so-rewarding nature of film.

As an end note I would like to remind all old and new members to keep sending me your new, old, best and favourite images to be showcased in this newsletter. Images should be of good resolution (200-300dpi) and have a max size of 2MB. Please email these to [WPSimpact@gmail.com](mailto:WPSimpact@gmail.com).

Cheers  
Arti Sandhu

## What's on in June

### **Legacy and Learning: Influential Photographers**

- Tuesday 12th June
- The Arts Centre, 61-69 Abel Smith Street
- 7.30pm
- **Deadline for submission of prints for the WPS Print Competition**

Most of us have one or more favourite photographers whose work we admire and who influence our photography in one way or another. The legacy these photographers leave us is the basis for much of our learning.

In this meeting, we ask three of our more experienced members - Simon Woolf, Syd Moore, and Jenny Dey to talk with us about who their major influences are, what has influenced them, and how they have translated this into their own work. It's an opportunity to find out more about what makes good photographers tick!



*Dark Tone* by Jenaro Garita

## **\*\*WPS Annual Print Competition\*\***

- Monday 25th June
- The Arts Centre, 61-69 Abel Smith Street
- 7.30pm

Subject: OPEN and ACTION

### **Competition Guidelines:**

Images must not have been submitted in any previous WPS Competition  
Maximum number of prints per member: 3  
Each print can be entered in one subject only.  
Prints to be mounted but unframed.  
Maximum size of mat: 20"x16" (50cm.x40cm.)  
Minimum size of print: 8"x10" (20cm.x25cm.)

**Closing date for entries: Tuesday 12 June.**

Those members who are unable to attend the 12 June meeting may leave their prints at Wellington Photographic Supplies, 11-15 Vivian Street up to 5pm on 12<sup>th</sup> June.

A completed exhibition entry form must be completed for each print and attached to the back, top edge of the mat. Copies of this form are on the last page of this IMPACT. Write ACTION on the top LH side of the entry form when print entered in that subject.

**Judge: Mel Phillips** - has a wide range of expertise in Commercial Photography. And, in addition to his photography business, is the Director and Head of the Photo School within the Whitireia Community Polytechnic.

## What's on in July

### **Rob Suisted - Natural History Photography**

- Tuesday 10th July
- The Arts Centre, 61-69 Abel Smith Street
- 7.30pm

Outstanding nature photography takes a commitment to many things: patience, understanding the environment and subjects, and beyond all else, passion and sheer determination. Rob Suisted has used this commitment to strive for very special imagery. With a background in zoology, a professional career in conservation management and quality management systems, along with an extensive experience in remote/back-country areas and photography, Rob is a highly regarded outdoor photographer, whose work is used throughout the world. His pictures have appeared internationally and locally on billboards, stamps, postcards, covers of journals etc.

Rob has been very active in photographic instruction, speaking regularly on the subject, and writing his very own photographic instruction column for several years for the popular New Zealand Outdoor Magazine. Rob also regularly speaks publicly on photography and conservation.

Come join Rob as he shares his knowledge on natural history photography, covering subjects like techniques for getting crisp images in difficult lighting conditions, which is often the case in nature photography; and how to best capture birds, wildlife, scenery and flora.

To check out his work visit <http://www.naturespic.com>

### **Lighting for Photography – WPS Members**

- Monday 23rd July
- The Arts Centre, 61-69 Abel Smith Street
- 7.30pm



*Blue Seat* by Peter Rodgers,  
Image taken at Dviete Cemetery, Latvia

Image by Linda Strand



Light is crucial to the art of photography. How one can use, substitute and manipulate light always central to one's practise, hence making the understanding of this medium highly important.

In this session, we'll talk about lighting – using available light indoors, tungsten light, studio lighting and so on – drawing on members' experience.

**It is envisaged that this session will be a 'hands-on' one. So don't forget to bring your camera/s along!**

## Photographic Competitions

### **Bowron Interclub Landscape Slide Competition George Chance Interclub Landscape Print Competition**

We are now asking members to bring along their B&W or colour prints and/or slides of landscapes, whether taken in NZ or overseas, to the WPS meeting on **Monday 25 June**.

A WPS set of 4 prints and a set of 4 slides will be selected during the following week by a panel of senior WPS members from all images submitted.

Anyone unable to attend the WPS meeting on 25 June can leave their prints at Wellington Photographic Supplies, 11-15 Vivian Street up to 5pm on 25 June.

Image by Michael Hopping



### **Interclub Print Battle – 14<sup>th</sup> August 2007**

Subjects for images:

1. Repetition
2. Action
3. Weathered
4. Panorama
5. Seashore
6. Reflections
7. Shadows
8. Duet. (two of a kind)
9. Caught Unawares
10. Texture
11. Cityscape
12. Fantasy

*WPS were runners up in 2004 and 2005 and won last year. So make sure you contribute towards the Society's success by submitting your best images in each of the above categories!!*

**Selection for WPS entries will take place on 10 July (subjects 1 to 6), and on 23 July (subjects 7 to 12) at the WPS meeting.**

Any size prints from 4'x6' up can be brought along to the selection meetings. The prints selected by popular vote in each category will then be required to be enlarged to at least 8'x10' or A4 on good quality paper by the photographer – WPS will provide temporary matting.

## Exhibitions & Shows

### **Laurence Aberhart Exhibition**

- 12 May - 29 Jul 2007
- Cost: unknown
- Location: City Gallery ([www.citygallery.org.nz](http://www.citygallery.org.nz))

Laurence Aberhart has been at the forefront of New Zealand photography since the late 1970s, and is increasingly recognised as a major international figure. On 12 May 2007 City Gallery Wellington opened Laurence Aberhart, a landmark exhibition in New Zealand photography. "Over 200 iconic photographs will be displayed in the most comprehensive overview of Laurence Aberhart's work to date," City Gallert Wellington director Paula Savage says.

Aberhart's photographs of church interiors, marae, monuments and Masonic Lodges are not only an essential part of the nation's visual art; they offer a journey through the heart and soul of New Zealand . His subjects appear illuminated from within. "Aberhart's images are bathed in the light of photographic history, as well as that of the world around. In his exquisite prints, photography reclaims a magic often lost in the digital age," curator Gregory O'Brien says.

### **Newtown Nuances Photographic Exhibition**

- 14 Jun - 24 Jun 2007
- Entry: gold coin donation
- Location: Academy Galleries, 1 Queen's Warf, Wellington Waterfront

Newtown Nuances is a photographic exploration of 18 Massey University diploma students and their feature work on Newtown. This public showing offers a culturally diverse perspective of Wellington's oldest suburb through the photographer's lens. Artist features will include documentary, street, portrait, architecture, landscape, and night photography with special surprise art you won't want to miss.

### **Something from Nothing**

- 20<sup>th</sup> June 2007
- Organisation: New Zealand Book Council
- Entry: Book Council members \$10.50, Students/unwaged \$13.00, Non members \$16.00
- Location: National Library Auditorium, Aitken Street, Thorndon
- Hours: 6:00pm - 7:00pm

How does the creative process work and what does it mean to be an artist in New Zealand?

Based on Gareth Shute's latest book, Insights: New Zealand Artists Talk About Creativity, writer/musician Gareth Shute discusses creativity with photographer Ans Westra, writer Jo Randerson, and painter Jason Secto.

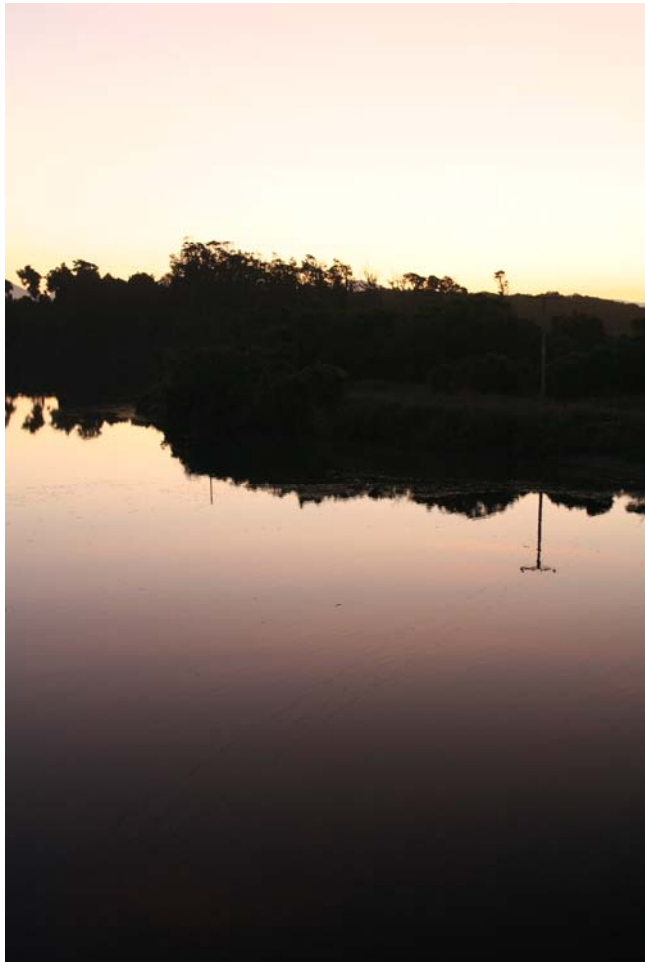
### **Flowers and Foliage - Photographs by Peter Black and Robert Mapplethorpe**

- 22 Feb - 31 Aug 2007
- Cost: Unknown
- Location: Ilott Room, Level 4, Te Papa

Flowers and Foliage showcases two portfolios of photographs, each containing images of controlled and restrained nature. One is by the celebrated and often controversial American photographer Robert Mapplethorpe, the other by Wellington photographer Peter Black.

Robert Mapplethorpe, best known for his sexually explicit images of men, made portraits of his friends and celebrities in the arts and entertainment fields – and took still lifes of flowers. His photographs are composed in a rigorously precise style that recalls the dramatically lit high-fashion studio photography of the 1930s.

In contrast, Peter Black documents how trees and plants are used and constrained in the wider urban environment. The nature he portrays is more untidy than Mapplethorpe's, but his images reveal that people's everyday treatment of plants is no less controlling than that of a studio photographer like Mapplethorpe.



*Like Ink* by Arti Sandhu  
Image taken at Jackson Bay, South Island, NZ

## NZART101 Contemporary New Zealand Photography

- Thursday 14 June, 6 - 7.30pm
- Entry: \$15 (\$12) \$10 for Friends of City Gallery Wellington

Join writer, poet and critic David Eggleton, author of *Into the Light: A History of New Zealand Photography* as he discusses the contemporary history of photography in New Zealand.

A partnership between City Gallery and Victoria University Continuing Education. For more information and to book, visit the VUW website [www.vuw-ceed.ac.nz](http://www.vuw-ceed.ac.nz) or call 04 4636556 for bookings.

## Lev Melikhov Exhibition - NZSO Foundation

- Friday 8 June - Tuesday 12 June 2007,
- Entry Fee: Free
- Location: Fletcher Challenge Foyer, Michael Fowler Centre
- Hours: 8am - 6pm daily

Lev Melikhov was born in 1951, and was brought up in an ancient, small town near Moscow. He started taking pictures when he was 8, and at the age of 12 taught photography at his school. At the age of 15, having finished secondary school, Lev went to Siberia for a romantic experience. After a year in Irkutsk, he returned to Moscow to continue his education.

Lev graduated from Architectural and Construction College and after military service worked at the Architectural Design Institute, continuing his studies in architecture as the only education close to photography. Lev describes architecture as the 'mother of arts' and it taught him a lot for his creative work in photography.

"Photography is just my life, the air I breathe. My style is my vision of the world that I did not create or open. I simply perform as any other artist with the only exception that I produce pictures using the light and a camera instead of the paintbrush."

Exhibited in Russia and abroad since 1978, including USA, UK, Germany, France, Austria, Italy, Belgium, Holland, Hungary, Poland, Israel, and Thailand.

## Constructs - Lisa Darlington

- Friday 15th June – 7th July
- Entry: Koha (donation)
- Location: Photospace Gallery - 1st flr, 37 Courtenay Place.
- Gallery Hours: Monday-Friday 10am - 4.30pm, Saturdays 11am - 3.00pm, closed public holidays

"The images in the Construct series are beautifully nostalgic. Dark, sombre and haunting, they depict a variety of Homelands (that most nostalgic of places). These Homelands, however, belong in the historical past rather than any specific geographical location. They belong to — are very much part of — a pre-Modern world, a world which no longer exists. These pictures are postcards from the past, each one self-consciously a construct, a fictional picture of another place in time."

Liz Darlington is a photographer from New Zealand currently residing in the United States. Her work has been exhibited extensively in the US and also in France. Coming from a background in the television and new media industry, her work often combines a digital process with traditional photographic methods and is frequently cinematic in nature. The images often fall somewhere between 19th Century daguerreotypes and 1940s film noir. She is currently employed as a Professor of Photography at Savannah College of Art and Design in Savannah, Georgia.

*You are invited to the opening of Constructs, an exhibition by US-based expat artist Liz Darlington on Friday 15th June, 5pm-7pm. Liz will attend the opening, and will be in Wellington from 4th July. See <http://www.photospace.co.nz/expo118.htm> for more.*



Image by Helena Fierlinger

Image of paddy fields by Paula Kerslake



# WPS News and Information

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**Webmaster:** Keith Miller

## **New Members..**

WPS welcomes new members – Angela Maude, Duncan Babbage, Emily Efford, Grant Newton, Karen O'Reilly, Lesley & Peter Moyes, Linas Jakucionis, Malachy Carey, Matthew Henderson, Monvelo V. Monreal, Nicola Schaab and Rose Pemberthy

## **Congratulations to the following WPS member..**

**Andrea MacLean** on being awarded the Licentiatehip of the Photographic Society of New Zealand for her portfolio of 10 prints, and is now entitled to have LPSNZ after her name.

## **Membership Secretary Position – VACANT**

The role of membership secretary is vacant. Anyone interested in taking on this position can contact Fred Wotton or Alistair Owens for more information.

## **Photographic Trip to Cape Turnagain**

Any member interested in a 3 day /2 night photographic trip to Cape Turnagain, please contact Syd Moore – ph. 5891919, or Fred Wotton – ph. 4785294. Dates are flexible, partly depending on the weather forecast.

✂ -----

<b>WPS Annual Print Competition - Entry Form</b> (affix to reverse of prints)	
Name:	
Telephone or email:	
Title: (optional)	
Hanging instructions	<input type="checkbox"/> Vertical <input type="checkbox"/> Horizontal For abstracts write TOP on reverse
Please note that while absolutely every care will be taken with your images should any damage occur WPS accepts no liability	

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